

0001

1

YUKON KUSKOKWIM DELTA SUBSISTENCE
REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

2

PUBLIC MEETING

3

VOLUME I

4

5

TELECONFERENCE
October 6, 2021
9:24 a.m.

6

7

8

MEMBERS PRESENT:

9

Raymond Oney, Chair
Thomas Alstrom

10

John Andrew
Jackie Cleveland

11

Norma Evan
James Landlord

12

Myron Naneng
Henry Parks

13

Phillip Peter
Alissa Rogers

14

Richard Slats

15

16

17

Regional Council Coordinator, Eva Patton

18

19

20

Recorded and transcribed by:

21

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

22

23

24

25

0002

1

P R O C E E D I N G S

2

(Teleconference - 10/6/2021)

3

(On record)

4

MS. PATTON: Good morning, welcome
everybody. Of course our first announcements are about
our telephone lines. So that everybody is able to hear
and we don't have background noise and interruptions,
while you're on teleconference please keep your phones
muted unless you're speaking. And you can do that by
hitting the mute button on your cell phone or you can
push star six to mute. And then the other challenge
is, and this is most especially with agency Staff, to

5

6

7

8

9 make sure if you have an incoming call, disconnect from
10 the teleconference, don't put the teleconference on
11 hold because then we get the Muzak, that we can't
12 remove. So please just remember, if you have another
13 incoming call while you're on the teleconference,
14 disconnect from the teleconference and then you can
15 call back in. So we'll keep providing those reminders
16 but it really helps to make sure everybody's got their
17 background noise eliminated by keeping your phones
18 muted at all times unless you're speaking. And, again,
19 you can hit the mute button or you can hit start six
20 mute and star six to unmute.

21 MR. SLATS: Eva, a quick note.

22 MS. PATTON: Yes, go ahead, Richard.

23 MR. SLATS: Yes, sometimes even if they
24 have the mute button they still need to do the star
25 six.

26 REPORTER: That's correct. So if you
27 don't find that it's working for you then you will need
28 to use the star six. That all kind of depends on a
29 carrier situation. But thank you, Richard.

30 MS. PATTON: Thank you for those tips
31 and pointers. So sometimes, you know, we can tell, you
32 know, who it might be, sometimes we hear sweet little
33 kid voices who we know in the background or, you know,
34 sometimes somebody's typing so we'll just keep
35 reminding folks to mute phones and that'll help a lot
36 to keep that background noise down so everybody can
37 hear okay.

0003

1 For the Council members, you know,
2 since we're meeting by teleconference and can't see you
3 in the background, if you're having difficulty hearing
4 or, you know, need to bring anything to our attention
5 just go ahead and speak up otherwise we don't know if
6 you need help with anything or address us. And, again,
7 Council members, you can always text me if you are
8 having any challenges, like you get disconnected from
9 the teleconference and that number is 444-4851.

10 And would like to welcome everyone to
11 this meeting, we have a full Council once again on the
12 Yukon Kuskokwim Delta Subsistence Regional Advisory
13 Council and meeting in teleconference but hope all are
14 doing well, your families and communities. And with
15 that I will turn the meeting over to our current Chair,
16 Raymond Oney.

17 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Thank you, Eva.
18 Looking at the agenda we could go ahead and get started
19 with an invocation. At this time I'd like to request
20 Richard to lead us in prayer.

12

(No comments)

13

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Good morning, Richard.

14

MR. SLATS: Good morning, were you
calling on me?

15

16

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Yes, I was going to ask
you if you could lead us in prayer to get our meeting
started. Give an invocation.

17

18

MR. SLATS: Yes.

19

(Invocation)

20

21

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Thank you, Richard. Go
ahead and call the meeting to order, the time now is
9:24 a.m., today October 6, 2021. Welcome to the Yukon
Kuskokwim Delta Subsistence Regional Advisory Council.
If we could go ahead and ask Richard to do a roll call.

22

23

(No comments)

24

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Richard, could you do a
roll call to see who is on teleconference.

25

0004

1

MR. SLATS: Can you hear me?

2

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Yeah, I could hear you.

3

MR. SLATS: Okay. I'm going to go down
the roster. Yukon Kuskokwim Delta Subsistence Regional
Advisory Council. Henry Parks.

4

5

MR. PARKS: Here.

6

MR. SLATS: Norma Evan.

7

MS. EVAN: Good morning, sir. Good
morning from Marshall.

8

9

MR. SLATS: John Andrew.

10

MR. ANDREW: Here.

11

MR. SLATS: Thomas Alstrom.

12

13

MR. SLATS: Thomas Alstrom here, good

14

morning.

15

Jacqueline Cleveland.

16

MS. CLEVELAND: Here.

17

MR. SLATS: James Landlord.

18

(No comments)

19

MR. SLATS: James Landlord.

20

(No comments)

21

MS. PATTON: Thank you, Richard. James
was planning on being in on the meeting here and I'll
text him again and see he's able to join us in a little
bit here.

22 MR. SLATS: Okay. Yeah, we can make a
note of that when he gets on.
23 Alissa Nadine Rogers.
24 MS. ROGERS: (In Yup'ik) I'm here.
25 MR. SLATS: Phillip Peter, Sr.
0005
1 MR. PETER: Good morning, Richard.
Here.
2
3 MR. SLATS: Wasillie Alexie.
4
5 (No comments)
6
7 MS. PATTON: Thank you, Richard. Yes,
I just spoke with Wasillie Alexie yesterday. The
community of Russian Mission is experiencing challenges
with Covid and he is part of the emergency response
there in the community so unfortunately he is not going
to be able to join us for the meeting this week. So
excused absence for Wasillie Alexie.
8
9 Thank you.
10 MR. SLATS: Thank you. Ray Oney.
11
12 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Ray Oney here.
13
14 MR. SLATS: Myron Naneng, Sr.
15
16 MR. NANENG: I'm here, Richard. Good
morning.
17 MR. SLATS: Robert Aloysius.
18 (No comments)
19 MS. PATTON: Thank you, Richard. And
this will be Robert's last meeting prior to his
retirement and we had hoped to be able to meet in
person to honor him. It's too hard to hear on
teleconference so he won't be joining us for this
meeting but we will be recognizing him under our
Council member awards. Thank you.
20 MR. SLATS: Okay. And Richard Slats is
here. We have -- Mr. Chair, we have 10 present and one
I would like to call on the body to excuse the
gentleman from Russian Mission. 10 present, Mr.
Chairman.
21
22 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Thank you, Richard. So
noted. As we go on hopefully James Landlord will be
able to participate during our meeting.
23
24 MR. SLATS: Mr. Chair, when he calls in
0006
1 we can make a note of that and I'll mark him off.

Thank you.

2

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Thank you, Richard.

3

MR. LANDLORD: Mr. Chair.

4

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Go ahead.

5

MR. LANDLORD: This is James Landlord.
I just called in.

6

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Thank you, James, for
coming on. For the record we'll note James being
present. Thank you.

7

8

9

MR. SLATS: 11 present, Mr. Chairman.
11 present, Mr. Chairman.

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

51

52

53

54

55

56

57

58

59

60

CHAIRMAN ONEY: So noted, 11 present,
thank you, Richard. At this time I could go ahead and
go through who may be on teleconference from different
agencies. I'd like to welcome you and if you could
introduce yourself and who you represent.

Thank you.

MR. MASCHMANN: This is U.S. Fish and
Wildlife Service, this is Gerald Maschmann in
Fairbanks. I'll be giving a Yukon River fisheries
report today.

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Hi, Gerald.

MS. JALLEN: Hello. This is Deena
Jallen, the summer season manager with the Alaska
Department of Fish and Game. Yeah, I'll just be on to
help Gerald with his report if there's any further
questions.

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Hi, Deena.

MR. MCDEVITT: This is Chris McDevitt
with Subsistence Division, Fish and Game in Fairbanks.

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Hi, Chris.

MS. TRAINOR: Good morning, members of
the Council. This is Alida Trainor from the
Subsistence Division at Fish and Game in Fairbanks.

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Good morning, Alida.

MR. BURCH: Good morning, this is Mark
Burch.

MS. MCDAVID: Good morning, Mr. Chair
and Council members. This is Brooke McDavid with the
Subsistence Division also in Fairbanks.

6

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Welcome.

7

MR. BURCH: Hello this is Mark Burch
with the Department of Fish and Game in Palmer.

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Good morning, Mark.

10 MR. GRAHAM: Good morning. This is
Cory Graham with the Office of Subsistence of
Management in Anchorage.

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Good morning.

13 MR. MERIZON: This is Rick Merizon with
the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in Palmer.

14

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Good morning.

15

MS. MONCRIEFF: Hi. This is Catherine
Moncrieff with the Yukon River Drainage Fisheries
Association. And Serene Fitka will also be in and out.
She had to jump off right now to attend a competing
meeting. We look forward to your meeting.

18

(Teleconference interference -
participants not muted)

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Good morning.

21 MR. JONES: Good morning, Ray. This is
Patrick Jones, Keith Oster and Phillip Perry with Fish
and Game in Bethel.

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Good morning.

24 MS. KLEIN: Good morning, Ray. This is
Jill Klein. I'm with Fish and Wildlife Service as the
Regional Subsistence Coordinator joining in today.

0008

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Good morning, Jill.

Good to hear you.

2

MR. LIND: Good morning, Ray. This is
Orville Lind. The Native Liaison for the Office of
Subsistence Management.

4

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Good morning, Ray.

5

MS. ESQUIBLE: Good morning, Ray. This
is Janessa Esquible with ONC, Natural Resources
Director in Bethel.

7

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Good morning, Janessa.

8

UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: (In Yup'ik)

9

KYLIE: Good morning, Ray. This is
Kylie with ONC in Bethel as well. I'm the Natural

10

Resources Technician.

11

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Good morning, Kylie.

12

13 MR. MOSES: Hey, Ray, this is Aaron
Moses, Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge.

14 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Good morning, Aaron.

15 MR. ADERMAN: This is Andy Aderman with
the Togiak National Wildlife Refuge.

16

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Okay. Good morning.

17

18 MR. TULIK: Good morning, Ray. This is
Chris Tulik with the Yukon Delta Refuge.

19 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Good morning, Chris.

20 MR. NICORI: This is Dennis Nicori, the
new RIT here in Bethel.

21

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Good morning, Dennis.

22

23 MS. JONES: Good morning. This is
Paige Jones with Association of Village Council
Presidents.

24

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Good morning, Paige.

25

0009

1 MS. GLEASON: Good morning. This is
Christy Gleason with Alaska Department of Fish and Game
in Fairbanks.

2 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Good morning, Christy.

3 MS. HOOPER: Hi, Ray. This is Jennifer
4 Hooper also with AVCP in Bethel. I'm going to have to
5 also, like Serena, jump back and forth between the
North Pacific Council meeting today just in case AVCP
6 gets called on something.

7 Thank you.

8 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Okay, thank you,
Jennifer.

9

10 MS: HOLLINGWORTH: Good morning, Ray.
This is Savannah, the Western Regional Coordinator for
the Department of Fish and Game, Board Support.

11

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Welcome Savannah.

12

13 MR. PLANK: Good morning. This is Tom
Plank, Wildlife Biologist for the Office of Subsistence
Management.

14

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Good morning, Tom.

15

MR. SMITH: Good morning. This is
16 Nicholas Smith with the Alaska Department of Fish and
Game.

17

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Good morning, Nick.

18

MS. PETRIVELLI: Good morning. This is
19 Pat Petrivelli with BIA in Anchorage.

20

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Good morning, Pat.

21

MR. MCKEE: Chris McKee with BLM out of
Anchorage.

22

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Good morning.

23

MS. LAVINE: Robbin LaVine with the
24 Office of Subsistence Management.

25

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Good morning, Robbin.

0010

1

MS. LAVINE: Good morning.

2

MS. DECKER: Sam Decker with Alaska
Department of Fish and Game in Fairbanks.

3

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Good morning.

4

MS. SCHOMOYI: Good morning. This is
5 Terese Schomogyi with the Kuskokwim River Intertribal
Fish Commission in Bethel.

6

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Good morning.

7

MR. PATTERSON: Good morning. This is
8 Dillon Patterson with the National Park Service
Regional Office.

9

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Good morning. Do we
10 need to have any more that need to introduce themselves
at this time.

11

12

(No comments)

13

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Hearing none we could
14 go ahead and move on with the agenda. Next on the
agenda we have election of officers. Since we had only
15 four Council members at our winter meeting we decided
to go ahead and do election of officers with a full
Board and at this time I'll turn it over to Eva.

16

MS. PATTON: Thank you, Ray. And, yes,
17 just a little background since we have many new Council
members who were just appointed to the Council this
18 spring and it's a first meeting for all of them. We

19 did have an extended delay in appointments from the
Secretary of the Interior, which not only delayed new
20 Council appointments but reappointments of previous
Council members. So at the spring meeting with just
21 four Council members present as voting members seated
for that meeting, we did want to hold election of
22 officers once we had a full Council present. And
normally we do this in the winter/spring meeting, but
23 since we now have our full 13 member Council we'll hold
election of officers today. And Ray Oney was elected
as the Chair at our spring meeting.

24

I will open the nominations for Chair
25 and that is open to all Council members, and then once
0011

1 our Chair is elected I will turn it back over to the
Chair to continue with elections -- nominations and
2 elections for Vice Chair and Secretary.

3 Since we're on teleconference, you
know, oftentimes the Council may prefer to do, you
4 know, little stickie note confidential votes but since
we're on teleconference we'll have to make a call for
5 all those in favor say aye and all those opposed same
sign. So we may need to go through the roster just to
6 count everybody that's voting.

7 REPORTER: Eva.

8 MS. PATTON: Yes, go ahead, Tina.

9 REPORTER: I'm sorry, I thought you
were done. And, Council members, when you do come on
10 to give a motion or a second, I know most of you but
some I do not, so if you could please just state your
11 name I would appreciate that so I have your name down
correctly in the transcript.

12

Thank you, Eva.

13

MS. PATTON: Thank you, Tina. Please
14 do, as we go through the meeting, identify yourselves
when speaking so we know who to attribute your comments
15 and also, in particular, a motion and a second so we
can record that for the record. Thank you for that
16 Tina.

17 And with that I will open up the floor
to nominations for Chair of the Yukon Kuskokwim Delta
18 Subsistence Regional Advisory Council.

19 MR. ANDREW: Eva. This is John W.
Andrew from Kwethluk, I nominate Ray Oney.

20

MS. PATTON: Thank you, John. We have
21 a nomination for Ray Oney.

22 MS. EVAN: Hi Eva. This is Norma Evan

at Marshall. I nominate Ray Oney.

23

MS. PATTON: Thank you, Norma. And do

24 we have any other nominations that anyone would like

to.....

25

0012

1 MR. CLEVELAND: Yes. Hi, this is

Jacqueline Cleveland and I nominate Myron Naneng, Sr.

2

MS. PATTON: Thank you, Jackie.

3

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Ray Oney here, nominate

4 Alissa Rogers.

5 MS. PATTON: Thank you, Ray.

6 MR. PETER: This is Phillip K. Peter,

Sr. I close the nomination.

7

MS. PATTON: Okay, thank you everyone

8 for the nominations. And if there are no further

nominations at this time we will close nominations and

9 go to a vote. So our first nomination for Chair was

Raymond Oney of Alakanuk. And if we could, please, to

10 have everyones vote in favor of Raymond Oney.

11 (No comments)

12 MS. PATTON: And since we're on

teleconference if you would like to support that

13 nominee please go ahead and speak up and say a yes vote

for Raymond Oney and I will record that.

14

MR. LANDLORD: Eva. James Landlord,

15 yes.

16 MS. PATTON: Thank you, James.

17 MR. LANDLORD: Okay.

18 MS. ROGERS: Alissa Rogers, yes.

19 MS. PATTON: Thank you, Alissa.

20 MR. ALSTROM: Thomas Alstrom, yes.

21 MS. PATTON: Thank you, Thomas.

22 MR. ANDREW: John Andrew, yes.

23 MS. PATTON: Thank you, John. Any

other yes vote for Ray. So far I have James, Alissa,

24 Thomas and John.

25 ALAKANUK: Yes from Alakanuk.

0013

1 MS. PATTON: I'm sorry, who was that?

2 ALAKANUK: (Indiscernible) from

Alakanuk.

3

MS. PATTON: Thank you, Mr.

4 (Indiscernible). And for the election of officers vote

is for the Council members but thank you for your

5 support.
6 And just wanted to check in, Norma, I
7 know you had also spoke up to nominate Ray Oney, did
8 you want to vote Ray Oney as Chair?
9 MS. EVAN: Yes, I would like to vote
10 for Raymond Oney as Chair. Thank you.
11 MS. PATTON: Okay, great, thank you,
12 Norma. And.....
13 MR. PETER: Eva.
14 MS. PATTON: Yes.
15 MR. PETER: Eva.
16 MS. PATTON: Yes, go ahead.
17 MR. PETER: This is Phillip K. Peter.
18 Phillip K. Peter, Sr. votes for Raymond.
19 MS. PATTON: Okay, thank you, Phillip.
20 Okay. And one last call, I know it's a little bit hard
21 for folks to hear and to get off mute so one last call,
22 any other votes for Raymond Oney as Chair.
23 (No comments)
24 MS. PATTON: Okay, thank you everyone.
25 And next we have.....
26 (Teleconference interference -
27 participants not muted)
28 MS. PATTON:Myron Naneng, Sr.
29 Nomination for Myron Naneng, Sr., for Chair.
30 MS. CLEVELAND: This is Jacqueline
31 Cleveland. I vote yes for Myron Naneng, Sr., for Chair.
0014
32 MS. PATTON: Thank you, Jackie.
33 MR. PARKS: Eva, this is Henry Parks
34 from Nunapitchuk voting for Myron Naneng.
35 MS. PATTON: Thank you, Henry. And do
36 we have any other votes for Myron Naneng, Sr., as
37 Chair.
38 (No comments)
39 MS. PATTON: Okay. And then we move on
40 to our next.....
41 MR. SLATS: This is Richard Slats.
42 MS. PATTON: Yes, go ahead, Richard.
43 MR. SLATS: This is Richard Slats. Yes
44 for Myron Naneng.
45 MS. PATTON: Okay, great, thank you,
46 Richard. And one last call for nomination for Myron

Naneng, Sr., for Chair.

13

MR. NANENG: As a Council Member maybe
I'll vote for myself.

14

(Laughter)

15

MS. PATTON: Sure, Myron votes for
Myron. Okay. And if no more votes at this time for
Myron Naneng, Sr., then we will move on to our nominee
Alissa Nadine Rogers.

16

17

18

MS. ROGERS: Eva.

18

19

MS. PATTON: Yes, go ahead, Alissa.

20

MS. ROGERS: Eva. Hi. I didn't speak
fast enough when Ray had made the nomination but I
decline the nomination for this season.

21

22

MS. PATTON: Okay, thank you, Alissa.

22

23

MS. ROGERS: Thank you.

24

MS. PATTON: Thank you for that. So
our current vote for Raymond Oney, Sr., -- I'm sorry,

25

0015

it's not Raymond Oney, Sr., it's Raymond Oney, is six
votes in favor of Raymond Oney of Alakanuk as Chair.
And our vote for Myron Naneng, Sr., is four votes for
Chair. So Raymond Oney, congratulations on your role
as Chair.

1

2

3

4

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Thank you. Thank you,
Eva. Thank you everyone for your vote and your
confidence in me in leading this organization so
appreciate your vote. I guess on the next election of
officers would be the Vice Chair. So at this time I'll
go ahead and open the floor for Vice Chair nominations.

3

4

5

6

7

MR. ALSTROM: Hello, this is Thomas
Alstrom. I nominate Myron Naneng, Sr.

7

8

9

CHAIRMAN ONEY: There's a motion on the
floor to nominate Myron by Thomas Alstrom. Any other
nominations.

9

10

11

MR. SLATS: Mr. Chairman, this is
Richard.

11

12

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Go ahead.

12

13

MR. SLATS: I make a motion to close
the nominations for Vice Chair.

13

14

15

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Thank you, Richard.
There's a motion on the floor by Richard Slats from

14

15

16 Chevak to close the nominations. I believe at this time
17 we ask for unanimous consent to have Myron Naneng as
18 the Vice Chair.

19 MR. PETER: Second the motion. This is
20 Phillip.

21 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Okay, second by Phillip
22 Peter. I ask for unanimous consent to have Myron as
23 Vice Chair for YKRAC. All those in favor say aye.

24 IN UNISON: Aye.

25 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Opposed, same sign.

26 (No opposing votes)

27 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Hearing none, Myron,
28 you're the Vice Chair. Welcome aboard. Glad to hear

0016
29 that you're on the YKRAC.

30 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Yes, welcome aboard.
31 And going down the list we have Secretary nominations,
32 I'll go ahead and open the floor for Secretary.

33 MR. ANDREW: Mr. Chairman. This is
34 John Andrew of Kwethluk. I nominate Alissa Rogers.

35 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Motion on the floor by
36 John Andrew to nominate Alissa Rogers.

37 MR. PETER: Mr. Chairman, this is
38 Phillip.

39 MS. EVAN: This is Norma Evans. I'm
40 nominating Raymond Alstrom -- I mean Raymond Oney for
41 Vice Chair -- sorry about that.

42 MR. NANENG: Mr. Chairman, this is
43 Myron. I nominate Richard Slats.

44 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Okay. There's a motion
45 on the floor by Myron to nominate Richard Slats. Any
46 more nominations.

47 MR. PARKS: Mr. Chair.

48 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Go ahead.

49 MR. PARKS: Henry Parks calling in
50 making a motion to close the nominations.

51 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Okay. There's a motion
52 on the floor by Henry Parks to close the nominations.
53 At this time we have Myron Naneng and Richard Slats.
54 So all those in favor of nominating Myron.....

55 MR. NANENG: Mr. Chair, I was just
56 voted in to be the Vice Chair so I'm.....

21

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Yeah, my mistake. So Richard, we have Richard at this time, and Alissa Rogers as Secretary. At this time I will ask if there are any votes for Alissa to be the Secretary.

22

23

24

25

0017

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

0018

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

MS. ROGERS: I decline the nomination for this season.

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Okay, thank you. Thank you, Alissa, so noted. So at this time we only have one nomination which is Richard. Is there a motion on the floor for unanimous consent. I'm asking for unanimous consent for Richard Slats to be the Secretary.

MR. LANDLORD: Mr. Chair, James Landlord.

CHAIRMAN ONEY: James, go ahead.

MR. LANDLORD: Ask for unanimous consent for Richard Slats as Secretary.

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Okay, there's unanimous consent by James Landlord for Richard to be our Secretary.

MR. NANENG: Second.

MR. ALSTROM: Second. Thomas Alstrom second.

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Second by Thomas Alstrom. All those in favor say aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Opposed, same sign.

(No opposing votes)

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Hearing none, motion carries. So Richard you're our Secretary so thank you. Thank you for that.

MR. SLATS: Thank you. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN ONEY: And next on the agenda we have review and adopt the agenda.

And on the agenda we have review and approve previous meeting minutes.

Reports. Council member reports and

the Chair's report.

Service Awards.

Public and tribal comment on non-agenda items. This is what we usually do every morning when

4 we take comments from the tribes or organizations that
5 may want to address the Council.

5

Old Business.

6

A. .805(c) report.

7

B. Board FY2020 annual report reply.

8

C. Annual report reply process
9 revision discussion.

10

D. Special actions.

11

New Business.

12

Proposal presentation procedure.

13

Wildlife proposals.

14

Regional proposals WP22-41, WP22-42 and
WP22, 43/44 combined, and WP22-45.

15

And there's crossover proposals which
16 is WP22-47 and statewide proposals which is WP22-01 and
WP22-02.

17

2022 Fisheries Resource Monitoring
18 Program.
19 Identify Issues for FY2021 Annual
Report.

20

Fall 2021 Council application/
21 nomination open season.

22

Mulchatna Caribou Herd conservation
strategy discussion.

23

Agency reports to be limited to 15
24 minutes.

25

Future meeting dates.

0019

1

Closing comments.

2

Adjournment.

3

Do we have any additions to our agenda.

4

MS. PATTON: Thank you.

5

MR. PETER: Mr. Chairman, this is
Phillip.

6

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Phillip.

7

MR. PETER: I'd like to add to put the
8 two tribal Council seats for North Pacific Fisheries
Board.

9

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Okay. There's a
10 comment by Phillip Peter to include an agenda item,

11 which is to include two nomination seats to North
12 Pacific Fisheries Management Council.

13 MR. PETER: And the other one, Mr.
14 Chairman, to put False Pass/Area M for chum salmon.

15 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Okay, Eva, where do we
16 include these two agenda items on the agenda?

17 MS. PATTON: Thank you, Mr. Chair and
18 Council members. If the Council would like to discuss
19 writing a letter to the North Pacific Fisheries
20 Management Council, probably a good point on the agenda
21 to address that would be when the Council is discussing
22 topics for annual report and the Council also -- which
23 is a report to the Federal Subsistence Board, but the
24 Council can also write letters and recommendations
25 to.....

0020 (Teleconference interference -
participants not muted)

21 MS. PATTON:other agencies as
22 well. So that might be a good point on the agenda to
23 discuss this when the Council is bringing up issues of
24 concern for subsistence in the region and we can work
25 through a letter if the Council wishes to at that time.

The False Pass/Area M is not an
information topic that we had currently on the agenda.

1 There may be Staff online. I know there was quite a bit
2 of discussion about Area M management that the
3 Kuskokwim Salmon Management Working Group meetings over
4 the summer. So I'm not sure, some of the Staff who are
5 online to address Yukon River and Kuskokwim River post
6 season salmon reports might have some information on
7 Area M, but, again, we weren't prepared to address that
8 directly. We can, certainly, plan to get more
9 information for the Council for the winter meeting. If
10 the Council wanted to, you know, make any
11 recommendations on that area at this time, we may not
12 have the information to provide you at this meeting.
13 But we can check in with the Staff that we have online,
14 if there's any information that can be shared under the
15 post season salmon reports which are coming at the end
16 of the meeting under the agency reports.

17 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Thank you, Eva.

18 MR. NANENG: Mr. Chairman.

19 MS. PATTON: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

20

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Go ahead, Myron.

13

MR. NANENG: Yeah. I know that the coastal areas as well as the Kuskokwim and the Yukon River were closed throughout the fishing season and just recently Fish and Game and Fish and Wildlife Service opened fishing 24 hours, seven days a week without mesh sizes and this was after all the salmon has passed through. I know from previous meetings with State Board of Fish as well as other meetings that I have attended, we know that Area M has an impact on returning chum stocks to the Kuskokwim and the Yukon River as well as other coastal area fisheries. I think the point should be made that if any known impact, or fishing impact of those chum stocks should be closed if all of Western Alaska fisheries are closed for that species. There should not be any exemption because it's a commercial fishery or because the State of Alaska is managing that. I did call the Commissioner of Fish and Game and asked him why are they allowing commercial fisheries down in Area M that is known to have impact on returning chum stocks to the Yukon, the Kuskokwim and Western Alaska tributaries. There really was no response. And I think that we need to make a point that if there is a concern about chum stocks returning to the river systems that we had this past

0021

1 summer, all fisheries that impact those fisheries, those salmon stocks in those fisheries should also be closed, even if they're far away from the area. It's known that they impact the returning stocks to the tributaries in Western Alaska.

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Thank you, Myron. Yeah, I think that's something that needs to be addressed. So I don't know at this time if there's any agencies that would -- I would request that we include that in our agenda, or should we go ahead and put this in the winter meeting. So I'd like to get direction on who we could address this.

MR. NANENG: I believe it should be started right now because I know that the Board of Fish will probably have winter meetings even before we have our next meeting. So that would be my recommendation.

10

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Okay, thank you.

11

MS. PATTON: Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Chair and Myron. Yes, and we do have both our Federal and State fisheries biologists and managers online and I can follow up to see if we might be able to gather some information by the time we get to the -- both the

13

14 Yukon River post season salmon report, and the
15 Kuskokwim post season salmon reports, which will most
likely come on Friday. So between now and then I'll,
16 you know, try to gather what information I can and see
if our State and Federal biologists might be able to
provide some information at that time.

17

The Council can, of course, you know,
18 discuss this and make a recommendation and draft a
letter on this issue. And probably a good time to do
19 that would be while we are discussing the management --
the salmon management on the Yukon and the Kuskokwim so
20 we can be sure -- you know, the Council has that
opportunity to discuss writing a letter and
21 recommendation and I will try to see if we can get some
more information specific to Area M by the time to we
22 get to that on the agenda on Friday.

23 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Okay, thank you, Eva.

24 MS. PATTON: Thank you.

25 CHAIRMAN ONEY: We'll keep that in our

0022

1 mind as we move along on our agenda and hopefully we'll
get to it before Friday. Is there any more additions
2 to our agenda.

3 MS. ROGERS: Yes, Mr. Chair, Alissa
Rogers.

4

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Alissa, go ahead.

5

MS. ROGERS: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I
6 would like to bring this under new business after Item
F, and I would like to bring up the topic of what is
7 known as the Donut Hole. The Donut Hole is a high
fishery that is not regulated nor is it run by anyone,
8 it's clearly non-operational, it's both territorial and
international waters. This fishery is a practice and
9 widely known as illegal, unreported, and unregulated
fishing in our waters. And the Donut Hole is in the
10 area between Russia and Alaska and the region is --
it's sparking a crises and it's not being notified,
11 it's not being brought out, and I highly doubt anyone
on this conversation knows what I'm talking about.
12 That's how little is known about this Donut Hole. It's
where anyone and anyone of anyone of whatever country
13 can go fish unregulated and only the Coast Guard can
like, how do I put it, only the Coast Guard can be the
14 ones to enter the vessels of these trawlers out in the
Donut Hole. And the reason why I'm bringing this up is
15 because that Donut Hole out in the Central Bering Sea
in the 1980s is the most spectacular fishery that
16 collapsed our North American history of our famous

17 fisheries and no one's talking about it. So we need to
18 bring this back up. It's going to take an
19 international moratorium to ban fishing in the Bering
20 Sea but it will also need to take a minimum of
21 international support to preemptively ban the fishing
22 again. Our numbers are so low, both in chum and any
23 type of salmon and now we're hitting halibut and all
24 these other fisheries that are being -- that are a part
25 of this huge ecosystem that we're looking at and we're
0023 looking at this at a thousand foot level.

26 So if it's okay with you, Mr. Chair,
27 I'd like to bring this back up as an action that we
28 write a letter to -- a specific letter about this to
29 the Federal Subsistence Board, to the Alaska
30 Legislators, to our Congress in regards to this issue
31 and we need to bring this back up.

32
33

34 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

35 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Thank you, Alissa.

36 Thank you for that. Where do you want to include it in
37 the agenda?

38 MS. ROGERS: Under new business after
39 Item F.

40 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Okay. Under statewide
41 proposals under F.

42 MR. SLATS: Mr. Chairman, I second
43 Alissa's motion to include G.

44 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Okay. We're still
45 working on the agenda, I haven't heard anyone mention
46 that if there's anymore items that need to be included
47 in our agenda. We're still working on it right now.
48 So if there's any other additions or comments, at this
49 time, please say so.

50 MR. NANENG: Mr. Chairman, this is
51 Myron.

52 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Myron.

53 MR. NANENG: Yeah, I'd like to hear a
54 report from our Refuge managers on law enforcement of
55 trespassing by sportshunters. Most of the village
56 corporations lands were selected for subsistence
57 purposes, and this is getting to be an issue that needs
58 to be addressed because it competes with people from
59 the villages as well as other business opportunities
60 that the village corporations are looking at with the
61 wildlife that's going on. I know that they may be
62 private lands, but the majority of the villages within

20 the region selected their lands for subsistence
purposes. So I recommend that we hear a report from
21 the Refuge managers to advise the Board -- or the
Council on what they're doing in terms of law
enforcement on trespass with that.

22

Thank you.

23

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Thank you, Myron. Eva,
24 is there anywhere we could put this on the agenda?
25 (Teleconference interference -

0024

1 participants not muted)

2 MS. PATTON: Thank you, Mr. Chair and
thank you, Myron. We do have representatives from both
3 Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge and Togiak
National Wildlife Refuge online and will follow up with
4 them to reach out and see if they might be able to
address these issues of law enforcement. Again, we'll
5 probably be getting to the agency reports, including
the Refuge reports, on Friday, and so hopefully we can
6 get connection and maybe law enforcement
representatives on to speak to that question of
7 trespass.

8 Thank you.

9 (Teleconference interference -
participants not muted)

10

REPORTER: Okay, excuse me, this is
11 Tina. So somebody has their phone unmuted.

12 CHAIRMAN ONEY: We're still working on
the agenda, is there any more additions to the agenda?

13

REPORTER: Excuse me, Ray. This is
14 Tina. Somebody has their phone not muted and we're
getting office conversation in the background. If you
15 could -- if everybody could please check their phone so
we could hear the Council talking.

16

Thank you. Go ahead, Ray.

17

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Yeah, thank you, Tina.
18 And as a reminder to always mute your phone when you're
not speaking, star six and star six to unmute. Thank
19 you. Thank you, Tina.

20 And, again, we're still working on the
agenda. Is there any more additions to our agenda.

21

MR. PARKS: Mr. Chairman.

22

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Go ahead.

23

24 MR. PARKS: Henry Parks calling in from
25 Nunapitchuk. I would like to include the Bering Sea
0025 trawl fish fisheries down in the Bering Sea. The
reason why I bring this up is I really don't know when

1 they start fishing, trawl fisheries down in Bering Sea.
The reason why I bring this up is this year, 2021, we
2 had a really low chum run, both in Kuskokwim and Yukon
so I want to include this. I want to know exactly when
3 they start fishing and how long they fish down in
Bering Sea. If that can be included on our agenda.

4

Mr. Chair.

5

6 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Thank you, Henry. I
think we could include that in the agency reports when
we get to either the Kuskokwim or the Yukon salmon
7 reports and keep that in mind when we get to the agency
reports that you could bring that up.

8

MR. PARKS: Thank you.

9

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Thank you.

10

11 MS. EVAN: This is Norma Evan at
Marshall. I'd like to make a comment.

12 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Right now we're working
on the agenda, Norma. We're trying to get our agenda
13 approved in order to do our business. So at this time
I'm asking if there's any more additions to the agenda.

14

15 MS. EVAN: Thank you, Mr. Chair, I'll
wait.

16

MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair.

17

18 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Right now if we could
get a motion on the floor to adopt the agenda with the
additions.

19

20 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council. I
do have just a couple of amendments to the agenda, some
updates on our agency reports. And also as we
discussed at our pre-meeting, moving the Mulchatna
21 Caribou Herd discussion which is under new business, F,
to the beginning of the wildlife proposals. And the
22 reason for that is we have, prior to the wildlife
proposals, we will be receiving the latest updates, you
23 know, the latest data that can be shared on each of the
proposal subjects prior to the proposals. And that
24 conversation on the Mulchatna Caribou Herd will lead
into our first proposal, WP22-41, on the delegation of
25 authority for the management of the Mulchatna Caribou

0026

1 Herd. So if the Council concurs, we would like to move
2 that Mulchatna Caribou Herd discussion to the beginning
3 of the wildlife proposals.

3 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

4 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Thank you, Eva.

5 MR. BURCH: Mr. Chair and Eva, this is
6 Mark Burch, may I interject on that subject?

6 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Go ahead.

7
8 MR. BURCH: Yeah, this is Mark Burch
9 with the Department of Fish and Game and it looks like
10 I'll be part of that discussion about the Mulchatna
11 prior to that proposal. And my availability is limited
12 to the mornings. I'm also hoping that that item could
13 be on the agenda for perhaps tomorrow morning if that's
14 possible.

11 Thank you.

12 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Eva.

13
14 MS. PATTON: Yes, thank you, Mr. Chair,
15 and thank you, Mark. And I'm guessing, a rough
16 estimate of how we move through the agenda that this
17 will most likely come up tomorrow morning that we would
18 be starting on the wildlife proposals and discussion of
19 Mulchatna Caribou Herd at that time. If we do move
20 along a little more quickly, we can move on to other
21 proposals first so that we can take this up in the
22 morning when we have your input, from ADF&G, which is a
23 big part of this discussion and then we'll have our
24 Federal biologists and managers on too. So I think
25 that should work fine, either way if we get to it prior
26 to the end of the day today, tomorrow morning will work
27 well.

21 Thank you.

22 MS. ROGERS: Mr. Chair and Eva.

23 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Thank you, Eva. Go
24 ahead, Alissa.

24
25 MS. ROGERS: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I
26 was going to propose that we move Item No. 11, old
27

1 business to after Item No. 12, new business, so we can
2 start with our proposal presentation as -- that we
3 switch old business and new business; that old business
4 will come after the new business for time management-
5 wise.

4 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

5 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Thank you, Alissa.
6 Eva.

7 MS. PATTON: Thank you, Mr. Chair. We
8 may, depending on the timing because I think we have a
9 number of folks presenting for the wildlife proposals,
10 prior to the old business we do have our Council member
11 reports and public and tribal comments on non-agenda
12 items, so it might end up being late in the afternoon
13 anyway by the time we get to wildlife proposals and I'm
14 not sure how that timing will work out for Mark and the
15 other ADF&G Staff that were going to be presenting the
16 wildlife updates. Maybe we'll just check in with those
17 Staff presenting the wildlife updates.

18 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Yeah, we heard from
19 Mark and he said he's only available in the morning so.
20 MR. BURCH: Hello, this is Mark Burch
21 again.

22 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Go ahead, Mark.

23 MR. BURCH: We can certainly check in.
24 You understand I -- since I just mentioned it, is that
25 my availability is limited to the mornings. The other
26 proposals are related mostly to Unit 18, I think, and
27 we have Staff that are prepared to do that from Region
28 5 with our Division and I believe -- or with our
29 Department and I believe that they're available as it
30 comes up on the agenda so I think that that would work.
31 And I'm in communication with them, if otherwise, they
32 can let me know.

33 Thank you.

34 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Thank you.

35 MS. PATTON: Great, thank you, Mark.
36 Thank you, Mr. Chair. Yep, so if folks are available
37 for discussion on the other wildlife proposals we could

0028
38 certainly take up wildlife proposals prior to old
39 business and then we'll just ensure that we have the
40 caribou discussion tomorrow morning. So I think that
41 should work fine with everybody's availability.

42 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Okay. So we'll go
43 ahead and do new business here before we go into old
44 business.

45 MS. ROGERS: Mr. Chair, Alissa Rogers.

46 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Go ahead, Alissa.
47

8 MS. ROGERS: Thank you, Mr. Chair. If
9 there's no more changes to the agenda I make a motion
10 to close the agenda and motion to adopt the agenda with
11 the amendments.

12 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

13 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Okay, thank you,
14 Alissa. If there is no other additions to the agenda
15 there's a motion on the floor for Alissa to adopt the
16 agenda as written. Do I hear a second.

17 MR. SLATS: Second, Mr. Chairman. This
18 is Richard.

19 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Second by Richard. All
20 those in favor say aye.

21 MR. NANENG: Mr. Chair.

22 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Yeah, go ahead.

23 MR. NANENG: Mr. Chairman. Yeah, this
24 is Myron. I believe North Pacific Fisheries Management
25 Council is meeting right now and if there is an
26 opportunity to recess for some of the Council members
27 to testify to the North Pacific Fisheries Management
28 Council I would recommend a recess to give an
29 opportunity for Council members to make -- to give
30 testimony at the North Pacific Council. We have to
31 sign up. And I think Mary Peltola and her Staff will
32 be helpful in signing up -- giving an opportunity for
33 people to sign up through her office to provide
34 testimony. And this is regarding fisheries, you know,
35 that we experienced this past summer here in the
36 YKDelta.

0029
37 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Okay, thank you, Myron,
38 so noted. Eva, where can we put that in there.

39 MS. PATTON: Thank you, Myron. Thank
40 you, Mr. Chair. What might work as we -- as you noted,
41 Myron, if Mary Peltola or others are engaged in the
42 North Pacific Fisheries Management Council meeting to
43 alert Council members when comment opportunity comes
44 up. I know having participated in those meetings
45 online it's a very fluid agenda and so very difficult
46 to know when that public comment opportunity comes up
47 but if Mary or others would be able to help alert you
48 to that comment opportunity then, you know, we can
49 provide a brief recess when that opportunity comes up.

50 MS. PELTOLA: Mr. Chairman, this is
51 Mary Peltola.

10 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Go ahead, Mary.
11 MS. PELTOLA: Yeah, Myron, thank you
12 very much for sharing that and, Eva, thank you for the
13 suggestion. I'm more than happy to send when they're
14 willing -- or when they begin testimony. The only
15 thing is we will need to know is the names of the folks
16 who want to testify so we can register them. Their
17 phone numbers and emails. We'll need their name, phone
18 number and email to sign them up to testify.

19 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Okay, thank you Mary.
20 And the dates, do you have the dates and everything?
21 MS. PELTOLA: It's later this
22 afternoon.

23 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Oh, later this
24 afternoon. Okay, if there's a way we could make that
25 work for our Council, would that be possible?

26 MS. PELTOLA: I think if you could
27 recess, and we'll have your names registered so you can
28 -- and it's a three minute time limit.

29 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Okay, thank you.

30 MS. PELTOLA: You're welcome.

31 CHAIRMAN ONEY: We'll make a note of
32 that Eva. There was a motion on the floor by Alissa to
0030 adopt the agenda with additions. We need a second to
1 the motion.
2
3 MR. NANENG: Myron, I second it.
4
5 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Okay, there's a second
6 by Myron Naneng to approve the agenda with additions.
7 All those in favor say aye.
8
9 IN UNISON: Aye.
10
11 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Opposed, same sign.
12
13 (No opposing votes)
14
15 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Hearing none, motion's
16 carried. So we have adopted our agenda. We could go
17 ahead and move down to the next agenda item, which is
18 review and approve previous meeting minutes. If you
19 look on Page 5 you could see the meeting minutes on
20 March 3 and 4.

12 MR. ANDREW: Mr. Chairman. This is
13 John Andrew from Kwethluk. I move that we adopt the
14 minutes of March 3 and 4 of 2021. Thank you.
15 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Okay. There's a motion
16 on the floor by John.....

17 MS. ROGERS: Second.

18 CHAIRMAN ONEY:Andrew from
19 Kwethluk to.....

20 MS. ROGERS: Alissa Rogers.

21 CHAIRMAN ONEY:accept the March 3
22 and 4 winter meeting, 2021, seconded by Alissa Rogers.
23 All those in favor say aye.

24 IN UNISON: Aye.

25 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Opposed, same sign.

0031 (No opposing votes)

1 (Teleconference interference -
2 participants not muted)

3 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Hearing none, motion's
4 carried. Going down to Item No. 8, reports. We have
5 Council member's reports and the Chair's report. At
6 this time I'll turn it over to Eva to get the Council
7 member's reports.

8 Thank you.

9 (Teleconference interference -
10 participants not muted)

11 MS. PATTON: Thank you, Mr. Chair and
12 Council. And maybe before I begin here just one more
13 reminder to folks on teleconference to please mute your
14 phones, star six, or your mute button to eliminate that
15 background noise so we can hear the Council. I do want
16 to note again that we have Sophie Evan on
17 teleconference with us today and tomorrow and she is
18 available to provide Yup'ik translation or English to
19 Yup'ik translation. So if any Council members would,
20 or public would like to speak in Yup'ik and have
21 translation, please, just let us know. Sophie is
22 available and online to translate. Thank you so much
23 Sophie.

24 And for Council member reports, this is
25 a really important part of the Council's work and
0031 Council meeting. We take time to hear from each of the
1 13 Council members. Your report for your community and
2 your region, subsistence and observations of the
3 environment and how your community is doing with
4 subsistence activities. This is a really critical part

17 of the Council's work and sharing that information and
18 your local knowledge and track record throughout the
19 years to understand how subsistence is for communities
20 throughout the YK Delta region, changes that are
21 occurring, you know, challenges and issues that
22 communities want to have addressed. So we welcome
23 everyone to share from your experience and your
24 community. And we can start with maybe some of our
25 long-time Council members so those of you who are new
0032 have an opportunity just to settle in a little bit and
looking forward to hearing from everyone.

23 And, maybe, Ray, if you don't mind, we
24 would begin with you as the Chair and then we'll work
25 through each of our Council members then from the top
of the roster.

25
0032

1 Thank you.

2 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Yeah, thank you, Eva.
Thank you, Eva. And thank you everyone, especially the
3 new Council members that are on board for the YKRAC,
4 look forward to working with you guys all during this
meeting.

5 And, again, my name is Raymond Oney.
6 I'm from the village of Alakanuk. I've been here for a
good number of years. Married to a lady from here. I
7 have two grown children and I have maybe about seven or
eight grandchildren at this time. I've been a
8 subsistence user all of my life. I've lived a semi-
nomadic lifestyle pretty much all of my life up until I
9 started going to high school.

9
(Teleconference interference -
10 participants not muted)

11 CHAIRMAN ONEY: I'll go ahead to ask
12 people to mute their phone with star six. We're still
hearing a lot of background noise. So if you're not
13 speaking can you please press star six to mute your
phone. Thank you.

14 And, again, following through, I've
15 been a subsistence user all my life, utilize the
resources throughout the seasons, spring, summer,
16 winter, fall. And like I mentioned I lived a semi-
nomadic lifestyle pretty much all my life up until the
17 time that I started high school and that was my first
experience leaving the village to go out of my area to
18 attend high school. As you know we relied on the
resources throughout the seasons, the four seasons.
Whether it be fishing in the summer or trapping in the
19 winter, we followed the seasons. And that's how our
community was as I was growing up, and that's how I

20 remember it, how the seasons changed from time to time.
That's what I recognized growing up.

21

22 But for the village of Alakanuk, as you
23 know, we've been experiencing really hardship on
24 salmon. As you heard throughout the summer from YRDFA
25 teleconferences and radio talk shows and everything
about the decline of the salmon, chinook and chum
salmon. Really the crash of the salmon on the Yukon
River. We didn't get no opportunity to even fish, not
even once, other than using small four inch net. And

0033

1 as you know we use these other species of fish
throughout the other seasons because we look forward to
2 the salmon when it comes. As I mentioned we utilize
the seasons throughout the year and summertime comes,
3 we look forward, we prepare, prepare ourselves to go
out to fish camp and spend the summer, all summer
4 there, until it's time to go back, and it was after
Labor Day when we went back to school. Like I
5 mentioned, I utilized the resources through the
seasons.

6

7 There hasn't been too many people
fishing even though they used a four inch net. And
earlier this summer when the season opened there was a
8 lot of people going up north to try and get their
harvest of salmon. From what I was told there was a
9 number of villages that went up to that area in hopes
of bringing back salmon. But I guess when they made
10 that trip there was so much nets out there I guess
people didn't have an opportunity to try and set out
11 nets but people came back with some fish.

12

13 And it's been a wet season for us. At
the beginning of the spring, it was a warm hot spring,
but as the summer came it became cooler and it stayed
cool pretty much all through the summer and rain. It's
14 still continuing to rain today.

15

16 People are out getting their moose. I
guess people are -- I've been getting moose from people
so you hunters who aren't getting your moose we still
17 have a lot of moose that are still running around in
our area. People are out getting birds and also the
Bering cisco.

18

19 Other than that I think it's been a
really wet, wet, wet summer for us. Even right now
it's still wet so I don't know what the winter's going
20 to bring.

21

I'll conclude this as my report.

22

Thank you.

23 (Teleconference interference -
participants not muted - line put on hold)

24

CHAIRMAN ONEY: And if John or Richard
25 would follow.

0034

1 MR. ALSTROM: Hello, this is Thomas
Alstrom from Alakanuk.

2

3 MR. ANDREW: This is John Andrew from
Kwethluk.

4 MR. ALSTROM: Oh, go ahead, John.

5

6 MR. ANDREW: Yeah. Starting this
spring a lot of our salmon fisheries over here they
7 were late coming in. The water was too high. and on
the first part of June they gave us one opening per
8 week for the month of June only, right around the
weekends, two, five and nine was the set net opening
9 and hardly anybody went out because the water was too
high where we are by the big Y. And starting the
10 following week we got a few, getting short -- set net
out -- no, a drift opening, but set and drift openings,
still not too many people go out until the middle of --
after the middle of June.

11

12 The chums were barely non-existent.
They were hardly catching any chums but catching a very
13 few sheefish and mostly small jacks. But when the reds
picked up, they did good. Personally, I think I had
14 over 300 reds and I gave practically all of them away
to the community. And what chums I got, I think I gave
them to the old ladies at the village. But when the
15 reds picked up we did good but.....

16

(Teleconference interference -

17

18 participants not muted - line put on hold)

MR. ANDREW:when the fall came,
19 it's like Ray said, it was raining all the time. I
never put any up until the latter part, during the
20 rainy season, they didn't dry well and had the same
complaints from our neighbors, some people I know,
better than half of them had weather-related spoilage.

21

22 And the brown bears were raiding our
camps, some of the smokehouses were hit twice.

23

24 And then during the moose season, first
time we see lots of moose out but the bulls were hardly
25 moving because the weather was too warm and mild. The
ones that do get some they were catching mostly very
young bulls, hardly any bigger bulls. The bigger bulls
always start moving after the first frost.

0035

1 And they said most people did good on
2 berry picking. And not too much on whitefish. I tried
3 whitefish where my relatives -- and where I usually go
4 is the water was too low and we were catching too many
5 pikes. I had to pull my whitefish nets out early.

6 And it was just about the same
7 everywhere, water -- on the moose part, we did not do
8 too well on moose. And on Zone 2, Zone 2 water was too
9 low. But up there all the people with the jet boats go
10 up there and make it and I have neighbors complaining
11 about big jet boats going up the Kwethluk, Kasigluk and
12 Kisaralik and the other day, they were saying jet boats
13 coming down with the antlers but it looked like they
14 had no meat in the boat. I think the sport outfitters
15 are taking hunters up there.

16

(In Yup'ik)

17

Thank you.

18

19 MS. EVAN: Hi, this is Norman at
20 Marshall, is it comment time?

21

(Teleconference interference -
22 participants not muted - line put on hold)

23

24 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair, did we lose
25 you?

26

(No comments)

27

28 MS. PATTON: John, did we lose you, it
29 sounded like you got cut off there?

30

(No comments)

31

32 MS. EVAN: GCI is having difficulties
33 in our region and I'm pretty sure it's a GCI problem.
34 We're actually lucky to have phone this week. Last
35 week we weren't having any line to cell phone usage.

36

37 MS. PATTON: Thank you, Norma. Yes,
38 and I know some other communities were also having
39 challenges with GCI. And it sounds like.....

40

MS. EVAN: Well, are we on.....

41

MS. PATTON: Let me check with folks

0036

1 online and just check in to see who we still have from
2 the Council connected at this time.

3

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Ray Oney here.

4

MR. NANENG: I'm still on.

5

5 MS. CLEVELAND: This is Jackie, I'm
still here too.

6 MS. PATTON: Okay, great, thank you,
Ray. Okay, great, thank you, Jackie.

7

8 MR. ALSTROM: Thomas is still here.

9 MS. PATTON: Thank you, Tom.

10 MR. SLATS: Richard's still here.

11 MS. PATTON: Thank you, Richard.

12 MR. PARKS: Henry's still on the air.
Henry Parks.

13 MS. PATTON: Great, thank you, Henry.

14 MR. LANDLORD: James Landlord's here.

15 MS. PATTON: Wonderful, thank you,
James.

16

17 MR. PETER: Phillip Peter.

18 MS. PATTON: Great, thank you, Phillip.

19 MR. NANENG: Myron's still on.

20 MS. PATTON: Great, thank you, Myron.
And Norma is on with us. John, did we lose you, you
got quiet all of a sudden.

21

22 MR. ANDREW: Yeah, Trapper John's still
here.

23 MS. PATTON: Okay, great, thank you,
John.

24

25 MS. ROGERS: Alissa Rogers is still
here.

0037

1 MS. PATTON: Great, thank you, Alissa.
Okay, we do still have the full Council on. My
2 apologies, it got really quiet and I thought maybe John
had gotten dropped there. Okay, yes, Ray, we can
3 continue with our Council member reports here.

4 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Okay, thank you, Eva.
I believe Thomas was going to speak right after John
5 and then after Thomas we could go ahead and take
Richard Slats and then we'll follow through with the
6 rest.

7 MS. PATTON: Thank you, Ray.

8 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Go ahead, Thomas.

9 MR. ALSTROM: Yes, hello, Eva, Mr.

Chair. This is Thomas Alstrom, Alakanuk. I'm here to
10 give my report. Just kind of a follow up, there was
11 this past spring and summer, like Mr. Oney said there,
12 there was no harvesting of salmon here on the Yukon,
13 Yukon Delta, no commercial, no subsistence opener.
14 Nobody was able to harvest their salmon this year.
15 However, the Fish and Game has the test fisheries and
16 at one point they were harvesting -- I believe they had
17 a run of kings there, a pulse of kings and they did
18 catch quite a few kings during that time and
19 individuals were able to go up to Emmonak and pick up
20 some kings to distribute out to the villages and I was
21 lucky enough to receive, you know, a couple of kings
22 from the Fish and Game test net.

17 Due to no harvesting of salmon here on
the Yukon the local tribe here in Alakanuk.....

18

(Teleconference interference -
19 participants not muted - line put on hold)

20 MR. ALSTROM:they were able to
21 distribute Bristol Bay -- frozen Bristol Bay salmon so
22 then my parents were able to receive a box, I believe
23 it was frozen chums -- if I recall they were chums.
24 But then when I took a look at them they looked nothing
like the Yukon salmon that we have here. I did get a
-- you know, get to try the Bristol Bay salmon and they
taste a lot different from the local salmon, maybe from
packaging and processing the fish to be sent up here.
Maybe that's the reason why they taste different.

25

0038

1 But as far as harvesting this spring
2 and summer, something I seen different here on the
3 villages on the Lower Yukon was several individuals
4 were taking up -- taking up rod and reeling and sport
5 fishing, maybe 20, 30 miles off shore out there on the
6 Bering Sea. You know people were coming back say late
7 June, early July, they were bringing back halibut, you
8 know, and they weren't much, maybe they'd catch a
9 halibut or a couple of halibuts per boat. And you know
10 they were also catching Pacific cod, I'd say, you know,
maybe a dozen each time they went out. I did see and
hear some individuals catching salmon sharks, what I
believe they are -- I believe they're salmon sharks but
due to no salmon fishing this summer, you know, I think
several individuals going off shore and, you know, as
groups and doing off shore rod and reeling trying for
halibut, from the villages of Kotlik, Emmonak,
Alakanuk, Nunam Iqua and all these lower villages are
going out trying for halibut. In fact I got me a
couple of halibut rods but I'm pretty sure there's a

11 certain way of rigging that line because it has to go
12 directly down to the bottom because halibut feed off
13 the bottom of the ocean floor.

14 As far as moose, I wasn't able to get
15 my moose this fall due to relatives catching moose and
16 all our freezers are full and I didn't get my chance to
17 catch a moose and I've been calling, you know, friends
18 and family asking if they need moose and everybody's
19 coming up with the -- telling me their freezers are
20 full with moose so I believe a lot of people have
21 moose.

17

(Teleconference interference -
18 participants not muted - line put on hold)

19 MR. ALSTROM: About a week ago I took a
20 ride around this island, the south mainland -- or the
21 south side, being Alakanuk is on an island, so it maybe
22 was a half hour or 45 minute boat ride around the
23 island, I took a ride with my uncle and we seen five
24 bull moose -- five bull moose all in different
25 locations and three cows. In fact they were right
26 there at the river bank and, you know, due to everybody
27 having their moose I wasn't able to shoot any moose or
28 anything, just seen the moose right there. So came
29 back around and I was surprised to see that they were
30 all fairly nice sized bull moose. So just in that
31 little half hour, 45 minute boat ride, you know, seeing

0039

1 five bull moose -- five bull moose during that little
2 short drive was showing that there's a lot of moose
3 here in Unit 18.

4 But other than that I hear of a lot of
5 people all up and down the coast line, Kotlik and all
6 the way down to Scammon are starting to see snow geese
7 come from the Russian Siberia side heading back down
8 south for the winter. So a lot of people have been
9 going out bird hunting -- snow geese hunting, except
10 for staying for weeks, several -- a couple of -- and,
11 you know, doing their bird hunting for snow geese.

7

8 And let's see I was planning to go out
9 and try for (In Yup'ik) this past Tuesday in between
10 our potluck on Monday and today, but due to the
11 weather, we've just been having rainy, rainy weather,
12 cold rainy weather, slushy snow off and on, so I wasn't
13 planning to head out in that terrible weather. And
14 it's still raining off and on as of right now. I
15 wanted to go out for (In Yup'ik), a lot of people have
16 been going towards the coastline harvesting (In Yup'ik)
17 for the winter.

13

Let's see, yep, and they haven't --

14 there hasn't really been any sightings of bears down
15 this way on the Lower Yukon. I know in the past year
16 or two, usually during this time of the year, right
17 before winter, we start seeing bears coming into town
18 or, you know, along the rivers but there really hasn't
19 been any sightings of bears yet, but maybe within the
20 next week or two we might hear people sighting bears.
21 So we got to be on the look out.

22 Other than that, I hope I didn't miss
23 anything, that pretty much wraps up my report.

24 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

25 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Thank you, Thomas, for
26 your report. Moving down to Richard Slats.

27 (Teleconference interference -
28 participants not muted - line put on hold)

29 MR. SLATS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

30 Since this thing has started back in 2020, the summer
31 before this, this summer was iffy again. For, you
32 know, like being a life long subsistence user, after
33 0040

34 1 the summer before this past I was leery about heat
35 2 because the -- because of the high temperatures this
36 3 past spring when we finally got our snow back, but now
37 4 I'm leery about the cold for this winter because of the
38 5 tall and thick grass that's out in and about my lawn.

39 6 The ptarmigans made their way back so
40 7 we did, you know, get some ptarmigans. Not as many as
41 8 there were when we were young but there were ptarmigans
42 9 and it was good to have ptarmigan soup again.

43 10 It was -- our rivers were closed for
44 11 fishing so, you know, like we were closed for fishing
45 12 and this has been going on after my whole life of not
46 13 ever being closed. Because, you know, when I used to
47 14 -- you know, like fishing -- subsistence issues in our
48 15 community -- I've always attended those things out of
49 16 curiosity and concern. But it was letting it be known
50 17 that our Councilmen, the tribal councilmen before me,
51 18 before us, before our time when we were sitting through
52 19 their meetings they had an agreement with the Fish and
53 20 Wildlife that because we allowed them to build on our
54 21 traditional rivers and waters, that they were never
55 22 going to interfere with our subsistence fishing. And
56 23 that was one of the -- like an agreement that was not
57 24 written, there was, you know, no MOA, none of that.
58 25 But, you know, after this summer without any
59 26 forewarning they closed our fishing on our rivers and
60 27 not only that they didn't consult with the tribe and

16 so, you know, that causes for us to have these types of
17 concerns about the need for tribal consultation, things
18 like this. And now it's open, you know, it's after the
19 fishing is done and gone it's open now, and we're not
20 going to go back out and fish just because they say
21 it's open.

22 So the fish are gone and now they want
23 to open it. So this is something that I'd like the
24 rest of this Council to understand that these things do
25 go on, even from right under my nose, and I, you know,
0041 people look at me like I sit on this Council and then
they look at me like I'm not doing what I need to be
doing, raising all these concerns with whoever I need
to.

26 But, you know, the effects of Covid are
27 still with us. Our community is still going through
28 lockdown and things like this. But then it's also the
29 need for going out and getting whatever we need for our

0041

1 -- for the winter.

2 I wanted to also make it a point that
3 when -- as we were growing up when we would set our
4 whitefish nets, I don't know what the biological names
5 for it but they are not (In Yup'ik), you know, what
6 those baby little, they look like halibut but they're
7 just small, the size of your hand, are no longer in our
8 whitefish no more. Tom cods, we call those Tom cods in
9 our smaller rivers, they're not around anymore. And
10 those things that used to always get on our whitefish
11 nets, (In Yup'ik), I don't know, you know just like I'm
12 saying, I don't know the biological name for them. But
13 those things, those small fish that we would still, you
14 know, some of us would still keep those just to boil
15 them and have them. Those smaller fish are no longer
16 abundant in our whitefish nets, or we're not catching
17 them no more.

10

11 So this is -- to me that's a sign of
12 things to come. Just like we raised things in our past
13 meetings that times of hardship are coming upon us
14 because of, you know, global warming, and it seems like
15 these things that are going on in the world. So these
16 are things that I'm going to make a plea to this
17 Council, to consider the hardships when we're making
18 our decisions. I appreciate how we've always, you
19 know, like made it work that we were trying to -- or
20 we're trying to make for getting more moose because of
21 the hardships because some of the hardships that we're
22 facing with the fish. Because we're fish people. We
23 rely on fish, that's always been part of our diet. And

17 whenever we -- like we go out to our fish camps, we dry
18 fish and then we dry them so they can keep for the
19 harsh winters ahead.

20 So these things, what we do, and it's
21 kind of like our tradition and our heritage, what we
22 pass on to our children. These things that we have
23 witnessed in our lifetime, we may not even be -- our
24 children, or their grandchildren -- our grandchildren
may not even witness because of what has been going on
to this day and age. So, again, like I wanted to ask
the rest of this Council to consider the hardships that
the villages are raising and to consider subsistence
uses of our resources, first and foremost.

Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

25
0042

1 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Thank you, Richard.
2 Good report. Move on to Alissa Rogers, then James
3 Landlord.

4 MS. ROGERS: Thank you, Mr. Chair. If
5 you'd just give me a minute I'm going to close my door
6 real quick. Okay. Where do I start.

(Teleconference interference -
participants not muted - line put on hold)

7 MS. ROGERS: Hi, my name is Alissa
8 Nadine Rogers. I am the granddaughter of John and
9 Alice Hanson, the daughter of Marty Hanson, the
10 granddaughter of Bridget and (Indiscernible) Joseph of
Hooper Bay, the daughter of Allen Joseph of Hooper Bay.
My name is (In Yup'ik) from my mom's side and (In
Yup'ik) after my grandpa.

11 It's been a tough year this year. We
12 had a huge loss of (In Yup'ik), that was her
13 grandchild, my aunt. We lost him on the New Year's
14 Day. And then just this past week we lost my Uncle
15 Willy, Wilfred Rex Hanson, John and Alice Hanson's son
16 of Alakanuk. Since the beginning of this year it has
17 been very difficult but we're making through it as the
18 best as we can. But due to this on both my mother and
19 father's side of my family it's been very hard to go
subsistence gathering for my family this year.

20 This spring, egg hunting, Leland had to
21 drag me out of the house to take me out egg hunting and
22 so we were able to go for a few hours and sure enough I
23 lucked out and Leland was able to find a Loon egg for
24 me in my backyard while we were gathering greens and it
was a huge blessing. We were able to put a lot of
spring food gathering food away. The unusual part was

20 that the tundra was full of tundra cotton for miles and
21 miles and miles, nothing but tundra cotton, like it was
22 snow in spring, but it was nothing but tundra cotton
23 everywhere for miles and miles and miles and it stayed
24 that way for months, which usually they only last until
the first real rain and it didn't. It continued to
stay regardless of the rain and the storms we were
having in springtime. I only remember seeing it like
that when I was younger, which is not a good sign.
Also there was high heat in the springtime, which was
unusual.

25
0043

1 There were lots of successful egg
2 hunters spring green gatherers, and waterfowl hunting.
3 The waterfowl hunting was very successful. The birds
4 were coming in in unison of order and they were right
5 on time which hasn't happened in a few years. There
6 were a lot that were flying over this year and in large
7 bulks at a time. And then it was like, oh, was that
8 it, no, there's another flock of them flying right
9 over. We even had snow geese flying really low this
10 year headed out to the coast. I thought they were
11 seagulls because they were flying so low and then I
12 really looked at them and I heard them and I was like,
13 nope, those are snow geese.

14 For smelts this year, they came in
15 heavy and short, it only maybe lasted maybe six to
16 eight hours at the most. After that it was nothing but
17 chicklings. They were big though. That was -- they
18 were big, big smelts.

19 This summer fishing, me and my family
20 had opted out to go fishing at all for any salmon this
21 year during the summertime. There was just too few
that my heart was not in it to go fishing when I know
there is many other (indiscernible) out there that rely
on those salmon more heavily than I do. I cried lots
this year. Listening to people's hardship of not
putting fish away and seeing all the empty fish racks
and someone's begging for salmon both on the Yukon and
Kuskokwim almost broke me this year as I was already
dealing with so much, I had to step back a lot this
year so I can heal. And also because I don't want to
reinfect my sorrow to the wildlife. As my Hanson
grandparents had taught me, not to go if my heart is
hurting, the animals, fish and birds will see my crying
and they will not want to come to me so I didn't go out
this year.

22 But one thing I will say, I was very
23 disappointed this year in how the fishery was handled
24 on the Kuskokwim. I was really hoping the State would

22 take over because their fishery had limited openers
23 versus U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Kuskokwim
24 River InterTribal Fish Commission with how low in
25 abundance our fishery has declined, was projected, and
0044 what we were hearing from the villages, I am very
disappointed that we were not being more conservative
and fishing in more abundant reds with smaller gear.
Everyone is going to say that we made escapement but I

1 honestly know and do not believe that. No matter how
2 you put it in your science gages and how you want to
3 put it in your graphs, I know in my heart and I feel
4 that we could have done better at managing this fishery
5 this year.

6 The weather this year was horrible,
7 this summer. There was rain, it was cold, it was wet,
8 it was humid, it was stink, and there was so much mold.
9 There was no thunder clouds or lightening, which I have
10 not seen happen in many years. There was a lot of
11 tornado tunnel formations but none of them touched the
12 ground. There was a lot of water spouts. There was a
13 lot of wind tornados or tunnels, if you want to call
14 them, and there was like right after the other.

15 This fall silvers came in a huge bulk
16 and were very spotty and heavy in abundance. There was
17 so many people that were fishing, maybe five minutes at
18 the most, and completely sunk their nets. I've watched
19 video clips of this from multiple people, and even my
20 neighbors. They went fishing for less than five
21 minutes, sunk their net and had to pull out as fast as
22 they could and they caught 120 or more salmon, silver
salmon. That run only lasted 24 hours before people
were going back out and going where's all the fish that
everyone's talking about, we're not catching any. In
those catches there was silvers mixed in with reds,
mixed in with whitefish, which was really odd, because
the whitefish usually run right after the kings but
there wasn't very many this year, which was really hard
to catch any this year, even with a rod and reel, which
is one of my pastime favorites that I've been doing
since I was a little kid. So if I'm not catching any
on a rod and reel there's something rather -- wrong
with the fishery or I'm just a bad fisherman this year.

23 The blueberries were really, really,
24 really small. A lot of the (In Yup'ik) didn't grow
25 this year, they stayed green and they tasted funny.
The blackberries were bigger but they didn't have
flavor. The cranberries are really sour.

26 But for waterfowl hunting this year

23 there was lots and lots and lots of baby birds. I can't
24 even count on -- in my thoughts of how many more baby
25 birds I've seen this year flying south than I've seen
0045 in many years so I know for a fact that it was a
successful hatching year for those birds out there. We

1 caught quite a bit of little bird -- younger birds this
year, so.

2

Thank you, Mr. Chair, that's my report.

3

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Thank you. Thank you,
4 Alissa. I'd like to send condolences to the family.
At this time I'll go ahead and ask James Landlord to
5 give his report.

6

MR. LANDLORD: Yes, good morning. Thank
you, Ray. My name's James Landlord. I'm from Mountain
7 Village. I have five children and five granddaughters
-- grandkids.

8

Break up, because the ice was about
9 five feet in some areas, it seems like it was solid but
weather -- warm weather came in there and break up was
10 kind of early this year. Water gradually came up. As
soon as they could people started saying their nets --
11 they usually setnet for sheefish and whitefish and
others, I heard they were catching sheefish but I
12 didn't hear too much, they -- they started drifting
right away with their seven inch because hoping they
13 would catch some early kings and chums. I heard some
caught kings but there weren't that many. I don't
14 remember when the river got closed down, maybe first
part of June.

15

We were expecting a lot of wood to come
16 down but there were not that many wood floating down
compared to the past. Because we gather wood in
17 springtime for the winter. We had south wind and a lot
of the wood were on the north side. I heard there was
18 a lot of wood coming down -- I got a friend in
Grayling, he said they were bank to bank and even up, I
19 think, in Russian, but we didn't see them here. My
brother went up to around Pilot this fall a couple
20 times to get wood. Compared to when the wind was calm,
that's the reason that -- that's the reason why we had
21 no fish, no chums, you know, fall chums coming to the
Yukon because the mouth of the Yukon has to (In Yup'ik)
22 have really strong winds for the fish to come in so
it'll stir up the mouth. Compared to last year, this
23 year we had some wind but it wasn't very strong. The
(In Yup'ik) down at the mouth, but we didn't have any

24 -- we had the driftnets at Emmonak, Mountain and up
25 river, I was very -- very surprised that the counts of
0046 the kings and chums were very, very low compared to --

1 I was really surprised that hardly any fish came in.
2 Very disappointed wondering why, why, why, where --
3 where's all the fish.

4 I have a daughter that lives up -- she
5 has a boyfriend from St. Michael, we picked her up the
6 first week of June, and then she wanted to go back
7 early so we brought her up, I think middle -- second
8 week of July, it was kind of windy, we had to wait for
9 calm conditions to go up and I heard that through that
10 time, the month of June and July that down river
11 communities, Kotlik, Alakanuk, Emmonak were setting
12 nets, Point Romanof, around that area, they said that
13 we could -- it was open so we swung over -- when I
14 brought her up I brought my driftnet, six inch, with me
15 so when we got there my daughter's boyfriend wanted to
16 set the net at his grandpa's fish camp so they took the
17 boat and the net out. They set it overnight, they
18 caught only eight chums. And I thought we were going
19 to go back that day but the weather was kind of choppy
20 so we stayed another night and he reset the net
21 overnight and I think we caught another eight chums so
22 altogether we had about 16 chums. So the other people
23 that set their net, I don't know how they did from St.
24 Michael. And on our way up from Mountain to St.
Michael we saw a lot of nets set from down river
communities. I estimated there might have been about
15 nets with boats behind it and setnet and watching
their nets. I was really surprised that people went
all the way up to that area searching for fish.

16
17 My wife froze a few, not many, but I
18 think with the rest we have like chums because we
19 wanted to half dried -- there were too many to dry them
20 completely so we just half dried them. We're grateful
21 for that.

22
23 We did hear that Bristol Bay wanted to
24 donate some fish for the Yukon River villages. We did
pick up about four chums, I think, with pollock -- I
guess pollock. The first fish we had were -- they did
dinner was pollock and it tasted different. It -- I
thought it was good, tasted okay. I enjoyed the fresh
fish. And maybe about three weeks ago the tribal
office also was passing out fish and I think they were
more -- a couple more chums for the winter. And other
people also got -- I don't know how much fish came in
but I think there was enough to pass out.

25
0047

1 Regarding the moose, there were a lot
2 of moose. They had plenty. Everybody that went out
3 caught moose. I didn't go out this year, or my sons
4 didn't go out this year because people kept giving us
5 moose and pretty soon we had enough for the winter so
6 we were very grateful for the people that gave us moose
7 because we didn't even have a chance to go out and
8 hunt. But I did receive a call from -- we have a
9 couple of guys that have a camp down at the Nanook
10 River, one of them came up, they called me right away
11 and said there was a hunting guide -- moose hunting
12 guide from St. Mary's that passed their camp and the
13 boat looked really light, there was four horns in a
14 boat and right away they said that they thought those
15 hunters left the meat because the boat was so light
16 with four horns and it should be very heavy but the
17 boat was very light and they called me right away and I
18 didn't know what to do, I didn't know who to call so I
19 emailed Ray and CC copy to Eva. There were other
20 guides that, I think from Mountain that also went to
21 Thirtymile, the river they call Thirtymile and a lot of
22 Mountain Village people hunt and maybe from down river.
23 Anyways one of the Mountain Village people posted on
24 Facebook that he heard that St. Mary's -- Andreaafsky
25 River tribes up there, community up there closed down
Andreaafsky north and south fork to no more guides
should be moose hunting there. You know, so Pilot
Station -- I was told that they also closed down the
(In Yup'ik), they call it (In Yup'ik), a river right
above Pilot. And that person suggested that Mountain
should also close down Thirtymile because a lot of
people from Mountain hunt there in the falltime and
wintertime for moose, they get their whitefish, a lot
of (indiscernible) set there for whitefish. That was a
suggestion made by whoever from Mountain, he wanted to
look for how, how, how it can be done.

19
20 It's been a wet, wet summer. Like
21 right now, like Alissa said, too, there's a lot of
22 cotton balls out on the tundra. We went up to St.
23 Michael, Point Romanof on top is white, a lot of cotton
24 balls, we thought there might be a lot of
25 salmonberries. We were planning to go down to Kotlik
-- that's where we pick our salmonberries from Kotlik
because there was hardly any here and we usually pick
our salmonberries between here and St. Mary's on the
road but there wasn't very much berries as last year so
we went down to Kotlik. But this year there was
plenty. We picked up enough salmonberries and enough

0048

1 blueberries but there were hardly any blackberries or
2 cranberries on the road this year. There were a lot of
3 blueberries and salmonberries and so we picked.

4 It feels different not to have dryfish.
5 I grew up with dryfish and king salmon dinner every
6 once in awhile. We have leftover dryfish from last
7 year, my wife and I have been conserving those, so
8 every now and then we have one or two pieces of dryfish
9 so that we can stretch it.

10
11 (Teleconference interference -
12 participants not muted)

13 MR. LANDLORD: But it feels very, very
14 different, I don't know. Since a lot of people are
15 fishing for whitefish and sheefish and I don't know how
16 it's going to affect the fish later on in the future.

17
18 People, they really (In Yup'ik), I
19 don't know how it will be next year.

20 Doi.

21 That's it. Quyana.

22 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Thank you, James. Good
23 report. Go down to Jacqueline Cleveland and Phillip K.
24 Peter.

25 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair, this is Eva.

26 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Eva.

27 MS. PATTON: Yes, hi, Mr. Chair.

28 Jackie was able to board her flight this morning and
29 she's on her way back to Quinhagak. So we'll circle
30 back around to Jackie at the end, hopefully she'll be
31 able to join us back online.

32 Thank you.

33 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Thank you. Thank you
34 for letting us know. Phillip Peter, then Henry Parks.

35
36 MR. PETER: Yeah, thank you, Mr.
37 Chairman. (In Yup'ik) Mr. Chairman, interpreter.

38 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Eva.
39

0049

1 MS. PATTON: Yes, thank you, Mr. Chair.
2 Thank you, Phillip. Yes we have Sophie Evan online and
3 so she can translate for you.

4 MS. EVAN: (In Yup'ik)

5 MR. PETER: Yeah, Quyana, Sophie.

6 MS. EVAN: All right.

7 MR. PETER: (In Yup'ik)

8 (Teleconference interference -
9 participants not muted - line put on hold)

10
11 MR. PETER: (In Yup'ik)

9

MS. EVAN: Okay. Phillip Peter. He is going to make his report. From spring to fall. At this spring there was plenty of waterfowl and was excellent waterfowl hunting.

After the river broke up there was a lot of water. It was okay to use a small mesh net and not only him but other fishermen as well used the small mesh net and caught plenty of sheefish and small whitefish. And then with the first opener -- oh, wait, he forgot smelting, that the smelts were so plentiful people were giving him gifts of five gallon buckets each full of smelt. Then when the first setnet opener came he did not set a net but during the second opener he used a herring net, 60 feet long, and he took his nephew who he is teaching how to subsist and set the net five miles down river from his village, set it and watched it for two hours until at the end of two hours they caught 18 and brought it home and his wife cut it up and passed it out to the elders. During the next opener, since the time starts at 6:00 a.m., he went by himself and moved the net, his setnet further down river and caught six more kings and took it out and went home. And then at the next tide he went ahead and set his net again and got six kings. And then an officer stopped by asking him permission if he could check Mr. Phillip's net. He told the officer that he is legal and once he left he did not set the net again. But when this thing opened he went out drifting and that was a good fishing day. And that people got enough fish with red, but that he only caught seven chums.

0050

1 The Federal and State regulators were
2 conserving and when he was heading home from his fish
3 camp he saw men out fishing on his way home so he
4 stopped by each of them and asked them why are they
5 fishing and they said that the State had opened -- made
6 an opener and they had called the State recording line
7 and confirmed the opener. So he gassed up and headed
8 down river to join the other fishermen. And two
9 Troopers stopped by -- or he heard that two Troopers
10 were in his village and had arrested two fishermen from
11 Akiachak even though they had confirmed the State
12 opener with the recording line. And that the Feds were
13 saying that we couldn't fish. What is bothering him,
14 why Federal and State regulated confused -- made
15 fishing confusing. The Troopers arrested two fishermen
16 and took their fish and gear, what is going on. As a
17 fisherman I wait for the KYUK announcement, what
18 happened here. And he further added that subsistence

10 isn't the same as commercial fishing. That the Yup'ik
11 law says that when there are animals around and they
12 come in their season that they cannot sit around. That
13 that is the Yup'ik law. That when there are animals
14 that are gifted us, do not sit around.

15 The next part, the connection got
16 pretty bad but he started to talk about the
17 difficulties of the summer during this Covid epidemic
18 and that people have been helping each other even
19 though they are not their direct family members.
20 Helping each other go through Covid and that we will
21 pull through this epidemic and continue our fishing
22 ways. But it breaks his heart and it's so
23 disheartening when everyone stops fishing after those
24 two men got arrested, everyone went back up on land
25 because they were scared after listening to the State
26 recording line. Please don't repeat this confusion
27 again.

28 Thank you, that was Mr. Phillip.
29 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Thank you, Sophie, for
30 interpretation of Mr. Phillip's report. Thank you.
31 I'll go ahead and move on to Henry Parks and Norma
32 Evan.

33
34 (Teleconference interference -
35 participants not muted - line put on hold)
36 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Can you hear me?

0051
37 MR. PARKS: Mr. Chair, quyana. Am I on
38 the air, just to make sure?

39
40 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Yeah, you're loud,
41 thank you.

42 MR. PARKS: Okay. Quyana. Quickly I
43 will introduce myself. My name is Henry Parks. I'm
44 from the Native Village of Nunapitchuk and I'm a Yup'ik
45 Eskimo. I will try and make my report short because we
46 have a lot of agenda items to discuss.

47 Anyways, I'm a longtime subsistence
48 fisherman, hunter, trapper in my village. And I do a
49 lot of harvesting on like salmonberries, or any kind of
50 berries or greens, whatever we eat. And do seal
51 hunting down on the coast, coastal areas during the
52 springtime, and other subsistence activities.

53
54 Right now during the past summer, it's
55 a long trip from my village, tundra villages to the
56 Kuskokwim River to go fishing. It's like about 30,
57 maybe 40 miles or more by boat to go down river to
58 Kuskokwim to fish. We did some -- first of all I want
59 to thank the State for giving us an opportunity to fish

14 this past summer for drift fishing. I did catch a few
15 kings, not very much, but reds were lots this past
16 summer. But the chum run returns were so low I hardly
17 caught chums. And I was wondering why the chum run was
18 so low. But the reds return were in abundance.

17 The most important impact that we're
18 facing right now is salmon fishing. Other than that,
19 like moose hunting or waterfowl hunting, we're pretty
20 good on that, moose hides. But salmon returns are
21 number 1 priority that's been affecting our subsistence
22 fishermen in the YK Delta region.

20 This past summer, like I said, since
21 we're from the tundra villages, most of us used to go
22 down river, below Johnson to fish, which was good. But
the other comment that I want to make is.....

23 (Teleconference interference -
24 participants not muted - line put on hold)

24 MR. PARKS:what was stated
earlier, was there was a conflict between Fed and State
25 and it really, really was somewhat uncomfortable for us
0052
1 because I thought that the State and Federal were
working together on subsistence related issues.

2
3 Right now other than those reports I
4 don't have much to report. Like I said I am a newly
5 appointed Council member so I have a lot of things to
6 learn ahead of me and work with my other Councils.

5 Quyana.

6 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Thank you, Henry.
7 You're doing good, welcome aboard. Next one will be
8 Norma Evan and then Myron.

8 (No comments)

9 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Remember to press star
10 six if you're going to talk and star six again to mute.
11 So Norma if you're on, can you give your report.

11 (No comments)

12 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair, this is Eva.

13 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Eva, go ahead.

14 MS. PATTON: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I
15 just got a text from Norma that she's disconnected
16 right now so maybe we'll move on to Myron and come back
to Norma after that.

16
17 Thank you.

18 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Okay, thank you. So at
this time I'll go ahead and ask Myron to give a report.
Thank you.

19

MR. NANENG: Yeah, quyana, Mr. Chair.
20 I'll make my report (indiscernible) for the last.....
21 (Teleconference interference -
participants not muted - line put on hold)

22

REPORTER: Okay, hang on a second,
23 Myron. This is Tina, the reporter and I am not picking
you up. So folks, please, if you could check your
24 device and make sure you're on mute, we're having a lot
of scratching noise and I'm not picking Myron up right
25 now. So thank you and, somebody, of course has put us
0053

1 on hold. All right, Myron, please go ahead.

2 MR. NANENG: Okay. I keep hearing that
beeping sound from somebody's phone.

3

REPORTER: Correct. Somebody has put
4 us on hold and since we're on hold, I can't tell them
to mute their phone. I'll correct that at the lunch
5 break.

6 MR. NANENG: Okay. Good afternoon,
it's almost afternoon and almost time for lunch. But
7 I'll make my report short.

8 For the last few years out on the
coast, just like my home village of Hooper Bay, they
9 have not really had good opportunity to go subsistence
fishing because of lack of fish and the closures that
10 they've had because the runs they consider to be going
up towards the Yukon River so it impacts Hooper Bay,
11 Chevak and Scammon Bay.

12 And for my background, I'm originally
from Hooper Bay, my name is Myron P. Naneng, Sr., I
13 have had eight kids and now down to five and we adopted
five kids to the family. I've been living here in
14 Bethel since 1979. I worked for AVCP as the president
for 24 years and now working for village corporation,
15 Sea Lion Corporation as the Chief Operating Officer.
I've been dealing with subsistence issues throughout
16 most of my life as well as being a subsistence
fisherman in the village of Hooper Bay, Scammon Bay and
17 Kuskokwim and the Yukon. I've also fished commercially
and subsistence for herring fish out on the coast as
18 well as fishing rod and reel for halibut and catching
mostly the other type of fish that we're not
19 necessarily targeting but they're good eating.

20 But this year, as you know the Yukon
River was completely shut down and closed because of
21 lack of returning chum salmon as well as the reduction
in the king salmon returning to the river systems.
22 However, I fished here on the Kuskokwim River and if it

23 wasn't for effort I probably wouldn't have gotten any
24 fish but we had to invite relatives from Hooper Bay as
25 well as Scammon Bay the last two summers to help fish
0054 -- to help them being able to put up fish for the
winter. Last year it was Hooper Bay, this year it was
also Scammon Bay. So we supported the family members

1 out there for trying to catch salmon that they
2 otherwise weren't given the opportunity to subsistence-
3 wise.

3 On the moose hunting area I went to
4 Black River, which is by Kusilvak area. All the
5 hunters that I know that went up there from Scammon Bay
6 came back successful with at least a moose or two and
7 there are a lot of moose running around when we were up
8 there.

6
7 (Teleconference interference -
8 participants not muted - line put on hold)

8 MR. NANENG: And we have village
9 corporation land up by Kusilvak and we have a guide
10 authorized land use permit to bring in sports hunters
11 as a guide because we're getting concerned about the
12 big population of moose in the area and hopefully they
13 don't deplete and we also notice that moose are
14 relocating on their own.....

12 (Teleconference interference -
13 participants not muted-driving and line on hold)

13
14 MR. NANENG:to Kuskokwim area as
15 well as the coastal area as well as Nelson Island and
16 towards the Kuskokwim. Like I reported.....

15 MS. ROGERS: Myron.

16 MR. NANENG:waterfowl.

17 MS. ROGERS: Myron.

18 REPORTER: Wait a second Myron.

19 MS. ROGERS: Mr. Chair.

20 REPORTER: Myron, please hold up.

21 MS. ROGERS: Mr. Chair, I can't hear
22 him.

23 REPORTER: Somebody who just got in
24 their vehicle and is driving, and unless that's you,
25 Myron, with all the background noise.....

25 MR. NANENG: Yes.

0055

1 REPORTER: whoever's driving can
2 you please put your phone on mute because all of a
3 sudden we can't hear him and we'd like to be able to
4 hear what Myron has to say. Please look at your device
5 and put it on mute.

6 MR. NANENG: (Indiscernible) If you
7 hear it it's because I'm on my way to the food
8 (indiscernible) maybe I can make a report later after
9 somebody else makes their report because I'm driving.

10 REPORTER: All right, I see, okay.

11 (Laughter)

12 MS. PATTON: Yeah, Myron, that would be
13 fine. We'll try to connect with Norma and Jackie and
14 we'll hear back from you after you're done driving.

15

16 MR. NANENG: I'll put myself on mute
17 and give my report when I'm done driving.

18

19 (Laughter)
20 MS. PATTON: Thank you, Myron. Have a
21 safe trip.

22

23 (Laughter)

24

25 MS. PATTON: Myron, you're not on mute
26 yet.

27

28 REPORTER: Hey, Myron, you're not on
29 mute yet.

30

31 MS. PATTON: Myron. Hey, Myron, this
32 is Eva, you're still loud and clear with your driving,
33 if you could hit mute on your phone.

34

35 (Laughter)

36

37 MS. PATTON: Well, everyone, I'm
38 wondering if at this juncture if maybe the Council
39 would like to recess for lunch so we can have a clear
40 telephone line when we come back on -- oh, there we go.

41

42 Okay.

43

44 (Laughter)

45

46 MR. ANDREW: Mr. Chairman.
47 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair, are you still
48 online with us
49 ?

50

51 MR. ANDREW: Eva, this is John Andrew.
52 I need to be at excused right now, I got to go to

5 another meeting this afternoon and as soon as I get off
I'll try to get back with our group.

6

MS. PATTON: Okay, great, thank you so
7 much, John.

8

MR. ANDREW: Yeah, thank you.

9

MS. PATTON: I can keep in touch with
you by text on updates when we're back on lunch -- or
10 after lunch this afternoon.

11

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Yeah, Eva, my call got
dropped but I'm back on.

12

MS. ROGERS: Eva. Mr. Chair.

13

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Yes.

14

MS. ROGERS: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I
15 make a recommendation that we move to lunch.

16

CHAIRMAN ONEY: There's a request by
Alissa to take a lunch break at this time.

17

MR. ALSTROM: Thomas Alstrom seconds.

18

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Second by Thomas. So
19 we'll go ahead and take a one hour lunch break, would
that be okay, or what time should we come back. Eva.

20

MS. ROGERS: 1:15.

21

CHAIRMAN ONEY: 1:15 it is. So we'll
22 come back at 1:15 and hopefully Myron and Norma will be
able to finish their reports. So, thank you, we'll go
23 ahead and take a recess. And keep in mind there's that
teleconference that will be going on. I believe
24 there's some people that are going to that so we'll
come back to our meeting at 1:15 so we'll go ahead and
25 take a lunch break.

0057

1

Thank you.

2

(Off record)

3

(On record)

4

CHAIRMAN ONEY: I'll go ahead and call
the meeting back to order. The time now is 1:21 p.m.,
5 and we're back to our meeting. I'll go ahead and turn
it over to you, Eva.

6

MS. PATTON: Thank you, Mr. Chair and
7 Council members. First off, we just want to make a
friendly reminder to everyone calling in on
8 teleconference to please mute your phones. So I hear
some background noise right now and I know every time

9 Council members speak it's hard to remember to remute
10 your phones. But for everyone on teleconference please
11 take a moment to check the mute button on your cell
12 phone or you can push star six to mute your phones and
13 that'll eliminate the background noise. And the other
14 reminder is, especially for all the agency Staff that
15 are calling in, please do not put the line on hold,
16 that creates beeping and Muzak that we can't get rid of
17 because we can't get a hold of you. So please, folks,
18 if you're getting a call coming in while you're on the
19 teleconference, hang up from the teleconference in
20 order to take a call.

21 Thank you.

22 And a reminder, again, for both the
23 Council members and the public, we have Sophie Evan on
24 teleconference with us today and tomorrow and she is
25 available to provide Yup'ik translation. So please do
0058 request at any time if you would like to speak Yup'ik
1 to have Sophie translate for you, or, as we're going
2 through the reports and especially the wildlife
3 proposal analysis, if you would like translation at any
4 time, please just speak up, and ask Sophie if she can
5 translate. Thank you, again, Sophie.

6 And, I want to make an announcement
7 about the wildlife proposal regulatory process. So we
8 will be getting to both public and tribal comment on
9 non-agenda comments after Council member reports, and
10 then when we get into the wildlife proposals there is
11 an opportunity for public and tribal comments on each
12 proposal. And there's also a new process for

13 submitting written comments if anyone would like to
14 submit written comments. And I'm going to read that
15 process here now and I'll go back over this again when
16 we get to the wildlife proposals as well.

17 So this is an announcement of
18 opportunity for written public comments. At the
19 beginning of each day and at the start of the proposal
20 presentation, we'll let everyone know about this
21 process. So the council meetings provide an
22 opportunity for the public and tribes to provide oral
23 and written testimony and comments and there will be
24 several opportunities for these throughout the meeting.
25 At the beginning of each day there is an opportunity to
0058 provide testimony on non-agenda items, and the Council
1 Chair will announce these. And, again, that will
2 happen a little later this afternoon today and then
3 tomorrow morning in the morning again. There is also

10 an opportunity to provide oral comments on the wildlife
11 proposals and closure reviews after the analyst
12 presents the proposal analysis. And the order of
13 receiving the comments is outlined on Page 46 in the
14 meeting materials book, and that can be found online.
15 I think most who are in the meeting right now have
16 received the emails with the link for the meeting
17 materials. And to let you know, too, all the
18 supplemental materials have also just been uploaded to
19 the web page. So everything that's coming before the
20 Council is available online as well. And the Council
21 Chair will call for public oral testimony after we walk
22 through each individual proposal analysis. And there's
23 also an opportunity to submit written public comments
24 on the proposals. If you have a written comment that
25 you would like to provide to the Council, please email
0059 it to subsistence@fws.gov, and indicate the number of
1 the proposal that you are commenting on in the title of
2 the email. And the comment -- written public comments
3 need to be emailed prior to the proposal that you're
4 commenting on, presenting to the Council. And then
5 we'll have the process, if there's a lot of comments
6 submitted we'll walk through that.

7 So just want to make sure that
8 everybody that's online is aware that there is an
9 opportunity to submit written comments in addition to
10 addressing the Council verbally at this teleconference
11 meeting and, again, those written comments can be
12 submitted to subsistence@fws.gov. And we'll be walking
13 through that proposal process for each proposal so
14 there's an opportunity for tribal and public comment
15 for each proposal.

16
17 And, all right, again, the meeting book
18 and all the supplemental materials are available on the
19 OSM website. And if anybody needs that link again -- I
20 think most folks that are on with us have received a
21 couple emails with that link, you can just reach out to
22 me and let me know if you need that again.

23 Thank you, Mr. Chair. And maybe we can
24 do a quick roll call to see who we have online and
25 we'll resume with our Council member reports.

26 Thank you.
27 (No comments)

28 MS. PATTON: So far we've had everybody
29 join us back on teleconference, we were just missing
30 Jacqueline Cleveland. Have you joined us yet Jackie.

31 MS. CLEVELAND: Hi, Eva, I've joined.
32 Thanks.

33

14 MS. PATTON: Wonderful, thank you. And
15 Norma Evan.

16 (No comments)

17 MS. PATTON: Norma mentioned they were
18 having some challenges with GCI and so I'll try and get
19 through by text and see if she's able to join us. And,
20 again, John Andrew and Richard Slats are excused this
21 afternoon. They both had tribal council meetings to
22 address. So hopefully they'll be able to join us back
23 in about an hour or so.

24 Thank you, Mr. Chair. I think we left
25 off with Myron Naneng, Sr., as he was driving off. Did
0060 you have anything further to add to your report, Myron.

1 MR. NANENG: Yeah, I just want to say
2 sorry about driving off when I was making the report. I
3 thought I was being quiet as I was moving along.

4 However, like I stated before, I'm
5 originally from the Native Village of Hooper Bay, born
6 and raised there. I attended the University of Alaska

7 and I've also worked for AVCP for over 20-plus years
8 and I also served on the negotiating team of the
9 Yukon/Canada Treaty when they first started back in the
10 early '80s, and also sat on the WaterFowl Conservation
11 Committee Chair for a long time, as well as a member of
12 the Alaska Migratory Bird Comanagement Council. I've
13 attended many Board of Fish meetings as well as some
14 North Pacific Fisheries Management Council meetings
15 providing testimony as well as the Federal Subsistence
16 Board.

17 I'd like to start off with what's been
18 going on out in the YK Delta, especially out in the
19 coast of Hooper, Chevak and Scammon. For the last
20 three years around Hooper and Chevak there hasn't
21 really been much subsistence fishing because of lack of
22 fish coming into the bay and also the closures that
23 have been imposed there for fish that are bound to the
24 Yukon River. And as a commercial fisherman I fished on
25 the Yukon for salmon from 1985 up until 2016, even
though I kept my permit active, I haven't fished since
2016. But for the last couple of years I went out to
Scammon Bay to go subsistence fishing except for this
summer where I didn't go out there but had family
members come here to Bethel from Hooper Bay and Scammon
Bay to fish with me so they can have at least some
salmon put aside for their winter food source. It's
been a tough few years in terms of salmon fishing. I
know that once upon a time chinook salmon fishing on
the Yukon was a lucrative one but no longer exists
because of lack of chinook salmon returning to the

17 spawning grounds, as well as the requirement that the
18 Yukon River salmon fishing groups have to face
19 regarding the Yukon/Canada Treaty and the escapement
20 objectives that they have to meet.

21 On the Kuskokwim, for a few years,
22 there was also restrictions where there was four inch
23 mesh size fishing allowed for awhile to try and
24 maintain good healthy returns on the river system,
25 however, this summer there was hardly any chum salmon
and I'm not sure if we can contribute that to a couple
of years ago or a few years back when the river systems
were hot and the water was hot and there were a lot of
dead salmon that were floating on the river because of
the warm water. However, the bycatch and the Area M
fisheries are still a concern that we have to contend
with. So I think that the State of Alaska really needs
to start monitoring Area M as well, if they're going to

0061

1 close subsistence fishing on the Yukon/Kuskokwim side
2 that they ought to be included because they do impact
3 returning spawning salmon to the river systems. There
4 shouldn't be favoritism shown to one area of the state
5 when a lot of people that rely on salmon for
6 subsistence fishing and food -- for their winter food
7 source rely on it and with the prices of food going up
8 -- as one elder made a comment the other day, our
9 people are going to have to rely on both salmon and
10 meat that we harvest off the land to survive because
11 the price of store bought foods are going up
12 substantially. And on top of that another comment that
13 he had was that we haven't had any recalls of some of
14 the subsistence foods that we've gotten for some kind
15 of potentially health hazards or ecoli or other things.

16 So that is one concern that was passed
17 on to me by one of the elders recently.

18

19 The salmon fishing was okay this summer
20 for me because I made an effort to go out fishing both
21 here on the Kuskokwim (indiscernible - muffled) trip
22 down to Quinhagak to check out more fishing. And one
23 of the things that I observed is that many of the
24 coastal people along the Kuskokwim as well as the
25 coastal area people do go to Quinhagak to go
subsistence fishing. And I don't know, I counted quite
a large number of boats and that was the first time I
ever went down there to check it out.

26 But we still have a concern about the
27 lack of the -- the escapement objectives and I was
28 concerned when both the State and the Feds were in
conflict and opened the summer, where the State
announced an opening for fishing and the Feds were

19 saying we can't go fishing. And I believe that
20 decision was political on the part of the State to try
21 and challenge Title VIII of ANILCA. That's my belief.
22 If anybody thinks that I'm wrong I'd like to hear from
23 them and give me another reason why I shouldn't have
24 that concern. Because we do have subsistence priority
25 and also escapement goals and objectives that need to
0062 be met.

23 On the moose hunting areas. I went
24 over to Black River, which is between Scammon Bay and
25 the Yukon River by Kusilvak Mountain and there's plenty
0062 of moose that I saw this summer. I probably counted at
least 16 and 17 moose. And one of the other

1 observations that we've seen for the last few years is
2 that more moose are showing up down by Hooper Bay as
3 well as down in Nelson Island and some of them are
4 moving down through towards the Kuskokwim because right
5 below here, below Bethel about 10 miles down river,
6 this fall I've seen at least five moose in the area,
7 pretty much three cows and two calves. And I've seen
8 some bulls running around every once in awhile, but not
9 this year. Moose hunting on the Kuskokwim for many of
10 the people in the region has been pretty sporadic
11 because a lot of people have not been able to harvest
12 their moose like they had in the past or they harvest a
13 moose in the Kuskokwim area, especially in the Lower
14 Kuskokwim area has been lower than before per the
15 reports that we've heard.

9 So I hope that with the Federal
10 Subsistence concerns that we pass on to -- some of
11 these fisheries impacts that we'll be able to make a
12 difference to see better returns as well as monitoring
13 of our own fisheries within the river systems.

12 One of the other things that I observed
13 out at my village at Hooper Bay is the (indiscernible)
14 Project to prevent impact on the nested grounds. Back
15 in 2003 we had only 400 nesting pairs of black Brant
16 and the following year after a community meeting with
17 village residents, the nesting pairs were 1,400 and has
18 been increasing since then. (Indiscernible -
19 background noise) impacts on our lands so that we can
20 have a good harvestable natural resource within our
area.

17 And one observation that I had this
18 summer, earlier this summer, usually that whitefish are
19 plentiful during the early summer after the chum and
20 chinook salmon have returned to their spawning grounds
but this year they seemed to be a little later than
usual because there was hardly any chum salmon that

came into the tributaries to spawn.

21

But, Mr. Chair, that's the extent of my
report.

22

23

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Thank you, Myron. I
believe at this time we have Jacqueline Cleveland that
could give her report, if you're still on. Jacqueline.

24

25

0063

Chair.

1

2

(In Yup'ik)

3

So, hello, my name is Jacqueline
Cleveland. And in Yup'ik, I'm (In Yup'ik). I'm from
the Native Village of Quinhagak where I was born -- or
no I was actually born in Bethel, but where I was
raised in Quinhagak by my late grandparents Abraham, or
Ham, and Katie Cleveland.

4

5

6

So I'm very honored to be a new member
of this YKRAC and I look forward to getting to know the
ones that I haven't met yet. I know some of you and
good to see you on here.

7

8

9

So a little bit about my background
since I'm a new member. So I went to school for media,
theater and arts, but the focus was in documentary
filmmaking and photography, mostly environmental and
cultural topics. I still do freelance but with Covid
it's kind of sporadic. But I would say I first
identify myself as a lifelong subsistence hunter,
fisher, gatherer. And I kind of -- I won't really go
into my past jobs and things like that. And before I
start I wanted to just mention that a couple times I
was dropped on the call so far so if that happens, you
know, I'll call right back and I apologize ahead of
time and that I was out of sorts because I was
traveling during this first part of the morning because
we missed the flight yesterday but I'm hoping now it's
-- I'm happy to have made it, but I'm going off my
notes that I quickly wrote at the airport and I have
the worst handwriting.

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

So I'll start with although our
subsistence and hunting activities seem to be in
numbers not as good as last year overall for both
fishing and hunting. Quinhagak still met their needs,
or we met our needs for both salmon and moose, in
particular. Waterfowl was the same, it seemed like it
wasn't as good as last year.

19

20

21

22

So starting with salmon, this season
was overwhelming for me because all three fisheries

23

24 were in full operation without any type of monitoring
except for one aerial survey, which we all know that's
25 not 100 percent accurate. So after having a year of
Covid and not having, you know, all the sportfish

0064

1 traffic, it just seems like a bit overwhelming to have
it all in full force this season when everyone else is
2 suffering in the other rivers. And like I said,
unmonitored.

3

So for my personal harvest, you know, I
4 only -- we made sure we only took what we really needed
and didn't really exceed or go extra like we do some
5 years for our extended family to send fish to. And
that's fine and that's something I'm going to practice
6 more of from now on based on the numbers.

7 So all three fisheries, in general,
from observations and collecting, I guess, indigenous
8 knowledge and some sportfish numbers, too, they're all
generally saying kings are in lower numbers and chums
9 are in even lower numbers than that. Aerial surveys
show that -- so the kings met the escapement
10 goal, the chums did not meet the escapement goal and
the sockeye exceeded the escapement goal, and I don't
11 have the numbers in front of me but that's what I know
from talking to some of the biologists and this is for
12 the Kanektok River. We also have Arolik River where we
harvest salmon and moose and everything, and berries
13 and everything.

14 Sockeye, I wanted to mention, you know,
there'd be such a thing as over escapement, but there
15 is where in the past -- I'm not sure if it's five years
yet but we have had an over escapement of sockeye
16 escapement so we would go for around 35,000 as a goal
and that's the high end, I believe if I'm not wrong.
17 And for maybe at least we've been getting around
350,000 in that mark. So I was told that what happens,
18 you know, maybe five years or more of this going on at
the headwaters, at the lake (Indiscernible), that they
19 could, you know, run out of -- you know, have an over
escapement up there and run -- either run out of food
20 or other species, go lower numbers. I'm not a
biologist by any means, so sorry if that sounds so
21 generalized. But I know that could be becoming a
concern in the future and maybe the near future.

22

23 Another concern was, you know, like
Myron mentioned he seen a lot of boat traffic in our
bay during subsistence fishing and we get a lot of this
24 traffic from all the closures happening everywhere else
and we do very much feel for the other rivers. We

25 can't even -- I can't imagine not being able to fish or
0065

1 just putting away six kings for the whole year or
something like that, that makes me very sad for you
2 guys. But, you know, we are also feeling the pressure
over here since we're not monitored or unregulated, not
3 to say that we want to be very regulated, but we did --
the Native Village of Quinhagak, in fact, did pass a
4 resolution to self-restrict on our subsistence fishery
in the bay W4 to match, kind of match Kuskokwim, like
5 six inch mesh, 45 depth and -- but our main concern was
some of these boats had two and three nets. People
6 would call me and they would have concerns about -- you
know, because we don't fish like that and we wanted to
7 ask for -- yes, we want to share our resource but
maybe, you know, just one net per boat and six inch
8 mesh because, you know, based on these other
observations our numbers are not as great anymore
9 either, at least for kings and especially chums now.

10 So about that resolution, the State did
not honor the resolution, so subsistence fishing
11 continued in full operation for the rest of the season
and we had no way of knowing, you know, how many kings
12 leave, even in the subsistence surveys there's not a
question in there, you know, where are the kings coming
13 from, but that is something I have suggested and wished
for future surveys to include that, since there's no
14 way of us knowing what's leaving our bay, maybe one way
that could be collected is put a question in there
15 that, you know, like how much of this fish came from
Quinhagak. And like I said we want to keep sharing
16 because we are a sharing tribe and in the past, you
know, we share resources. You know our people go down
17 to the -- across the bay to get walrus or egg hunting
or -- so we understand the sharing. And then sometimes
18 for the, you know, hardcore people that go to Upper
Kuskokwim or Kwethluk or somewhere to get the good
19 wood. So we, too, go out and collect other resources
-- resources from other parts of this region. So not
20 to say that we don't want to share, but we do just want
to put a minimal fair, you know, self-restriction but
21 it wasn't honored. Not everybody feels the same way but
I know the tribe did and the elders also felt that.

22
23 And let's see, the -- so while I'm on
the fish subject, and I don't mean to kind of go back
and forth but I wanted to touch up a little bit on the
24 sportfishery here. As a lot of you guys know, within
this whole region we probably get the most traffic of
25 sportfish because of our -- the Kanektok River and, you
0066

1 know, our rich resources in salmon and trout, and that
2 was also in full operation this year and there are
3 users and outfits that are very, you know, key into the
4 environment and very careful and also respect our
5 community and our culture, but, of course, not everyone
6 is that way. And, you know, when we're trying to count
7 the boats it's at least 60-plus boats and those are
8 just the operations, not including the private and not
9 including the floaters. So in a given season with
10 sportsfish on this river alone is, you know, at least
11 60 or more boats that this river has to have and we
12 share. The community does have concerns and these
13 concerns have been there for decades. Of course the
14 over populated -- the over population of just boats and
15 motors that are on the river that could affect the
16 ecosystem and with, you know, also the waste and toxic
17 chemicals that come out of them. If you put it all
18 together and think about it that way, that's a lot of
19 toxic chemicals and grey water that could be going into
20 the river, and our river is fragile and it's small and
21 it's also, you know, going through a lot of erosion
22 through -- we have kind of a swift river when the water
23 is high so every year in the spring there's so much
24 erosion and with these 60 or more boats I see going
25 back and forth and back and forth, just one boat's wave
will crumble so much gravel back into the water and I'm
not saying they're the only contributors but there's a
lot of factors here in that. And then, of course, the
mortality rate of the catch and release when there's
that many, you know, if you put three people in those
60 boats so then, yeah, that's a lot of people fishing
and catching and releasing.

18 And then another concern that I've
19 heard is how it affects the big game on our water
20 system and even that there's, you know, a lot of big
21 game they stay close to the water for food source and
22 drinking. This year we noticed like the big game,
23 yeah, we do see some along the river but they've kind
24 of been pushed off way further inland than usual. And,
25 again, all done without monitoring. And then of course
for commercial we won't know those numbers until -- the
exact numbers until they come out with a report, I
believe in January. But I know from talking to
commercial fishermen this summer here and there, they
were saying the same about kings being smaller, less
and almost no chum at all.

25 So I'll maybe move on to another

0067

1 species. For those of you who don't know we now have
pike in our river but they're more in these land-locked

2 (indiscernible) and lakes and ponds. It's interesting.
3 You know I've never gone pike fishing here before and
4 this summer -- or fall for the first time I went out
5 rod and reeling in one of these land-locked
6 (indiscernible) and got eight pike right away. And,
7 you know, going up we'd have to go get those from Eek
8 or the Kuskokwim. So that's a new one. Some community
9 members are concerned about that is it could threaten
10 the trout population and some have even said that maybe
11 it already has. But talking to some biologists
12 throughout the past they claim that maybe it's not a
13 threat at this time with the small numbers so far.
14 But, you know, if they became more and more and more
15 then that could be a threat in the future.

16 So I'll leave it at that with fish. I
17 know Quinhagak has a lot of fish business and like I
18 said it was overwhelming and we're really feeling for
19 the rest of the region pretty much not having a
20 fishery, or a subsistence fishery at that.

21 So as far as moose go, this fall was a
22 bit slow of a start. The first two weeks were very --
23 the weather was so bad, it was raining and blowing
24 sideways wind and nothing was moving. Just for days
25 and days, we'd sit there and nothing really moved
26 except for some bears of course and at least they're
27 entertaining to watch. So we had a season for all of
28 September for one antlered bull. The first two weeks
29 were slow but the second half of the month I believe
30 people met their needs and started getting them then.
31 And even some first catch -- first catcher kids getting
32 some moose I saw, including my nine year old nephew got
33 his first moose this year so that was exciting.

34 But I've always wanted to say, quyana,
35 and thanks to the communities who have chose to or
36 follow along with the moratoriums on moose in the
37 surrounding villages and it's because of these -- your
38 efforts that we now have a moose population that's
39 growing and growing here in Quinhagak and the
40 watersheds of Arolik and Kanektok Rivers.

41 Let's see, predators. I guess I'll
42 touch up on a little bit of predator stuff. We still
43 have an increase in wolves in the past couple of years,
44 and even coyotes have been seen. In fact a rabid

0068

1 coyote came here and fought with my dog last spring but
2 my dog was vaccinated and he lived and he's good now.

2

3 And for the people I know, I'm a plant
4 person and a berry person as well, so I make sure every
5 year I collect my edible and medicinal plants while in-
6 season and berries were abundant this year. Not as much
7 cranberries as years before but there's still some and
8 enough.

9 I wanted to maybe end with a piece of
10 traditional indigenous knowledge that I was taught and
11 to be so true about salmonberries, in particular. So
12 Joshua Cleveland, my other grandpa, his wife, she's a
13 plant and berry expert and she said during the
14 salmonberry season to always watch the cotton grass,
15 and I know this was mentioned earlier, she said if the
16 cotton grass are spread out then that's how the berries
17 will grow, spread out and evenly, but if they're in
18 bunches and then, you know, sporadic and bunches that
19 that's also how the berries will be. And low and
20 behold, that's how they were, the salmonberries were
21 more in bunches and then you wouldn't see any for
22 awhile and then suddenly see a healthy bunch again. So
23 I thought that was something so cool.....

24 (Teleconference interference -
25 participants not muted)

MS. CLEVELAND:to learn this
year. And, you know, I could go on about climate
change and we're all going through it and we all know
we're affected here so maybe I'll save that for another
time.

Quyana.

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Thank you, Jacqueline.
Thank you for a good report. I believe we have Norma to
give a report if she's on.

(No comments)

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Are you on Norma.

(No comments)

MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair, this is Eva.

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Eva, go ahead.

MS. PATTON: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I
did try texting Norma and I didn't get a response and
so I'm assuming they're having challenges with GCI
right now. So hopefully Norma will be able to call
back in and when she does we can hear from her and her

report.

5

Thank you, Mr. Chair.

6

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Thank you, Eva. Moving on, I believe the next item on the agenda is the Chairman's report and I'll turn it over to you Eva.

8

MS. PATTON: Thank you, Mr. Chair. For the new Council members, often the Chair's report is kind of a recap of the regulatory process, the Federal Subsistence Board meeting and the Council's actions over the past year. And we will have a report, what is called the .805(c) report on the Board's actions from the fisheries regulatory cycle last year. So that's coming up next on the agenda. And, Mr. Chair, you may want to update the Council on last spring when the Council met, winter/spring meeting, the Council did submit a special action request to increase the moose harvest, Unit 18 remainder in the Lower Yukon River. And that request was supported by the Board. And the harvest increased from two to three moose for the remainder of last season. And that concluded in April/May of 2021. And there is an opportunity, I know we did get some inquiries from the public and Council members about another special action for the Unit 18 remainder moose and that is fully an option for the public or for the Council at this meeting. Public can submit a special action request at any time and if the Council wishes to submit a special action request you can do so at this meeting. Maybe a good opportunity for discussion about that might be under the wildlife proposals. One of the proposals the Council submitted that's in your meeting book is to make that increase in harvest limit permanent in regulation so that will be coming before the Council under the wildlife proposals. But that would not take effect until next summer of 2022. So if the Council does want to revisit the special action request for this current moose season, the Council has that opportunity to submit a special action request either for that Unit 18 remainder moose or any request out of cycle.

0070

1

So that was a big part of the Council's work. The Council also did submit a letter to the North Pacific Fisheries Management Council.....

2

(Teleconference interference - participants not muted)

3

4

5

MS. PATTON:relaying concerns about.....

6 REPORTER: Hold up, Eva. Eva, hold up.
7 MS. PATTON:chum salmon bycatch.
8 REPORTER: Eva, hang on just one
minute.

9
10 MS. PATTON: Yep, we're going to have
to ask, it sounds like maybe Aaron Moses, if your line
is unmuted, if you could please mute.

11
12 REPORTER: Yes. If we all could take a
second and just look at our device and make sure we're
muted so we can continue listening to the report.
13 Thank you. Sorry, Eva.

14 MS. PATTON: Thank you, everyone. And,
15 yes, so the Council did submit a letter to the North
Pacific Fisheries Management Council and it was
presented to that Council during their summer meeting
16 session on the agenda addressing the Bering Sea
fisheries. And that letter wasn't included in your
17 supplemental materials. All the current Council
members at the time received a hard copy in the mail.
18 But I will be sure to forward that to those of you who
are new here.

19
20 So those were some of the primary
actions of the Council from the previous meeting and,
again, we'll have a report on the Federal Subsistence
21 Board action, what's called an .805(c) report where
they report back to the Council the proposals that they
22 concurred with and justification for any proposals that
they did not concur with the Council's recommendation.
23 And that'll be coming up under old business.

24 And, Mr. Chair, I turn it back to you
if there are other Chair reports that you'd like to
25 provide to the Council.

0071

1 Thank you.

2 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Yeah, thank you, Eva.
3 The reason why we submitted the special action request
last spring was because of the Covid that was going on
4 and we didn't know what was really going on and people
were kind of concerned about food security. And as you
5 know at that time the airlines had to shut down and
there was hardly any freight coming into the villages
and at that time we submitted the special action to try
6 and get extra food into our freezer. And that's how
the special action came, to try and ask for a third
7 moose because of the over population of moose we have
in Unit 18. And I'm thankful that the moratorium is,
8 you know, spreading, and hearing people seeing moose
for the first time and that's really, really good and

9 I'm thankful for the people that put on the moratorium,
10 both on the Yukon and Kuskokwim, which really helped
11 out the growth of the moose population. And as you
12 heard from Eva, we still have an opportunity now to
13 include that as a permanent third moose if the Council
14 wishes to do so. We'll keep that open.

15 I think that pretty much covers it.

16 Thank you, Eva.

17 MS. PATTON: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

18 CHAIRMAN ONEY: And then moving on, if
19 there's no other questions or comments, we'll go down
20 to Item No. 9, Service Awards.

21 MS. PATTON: Thank you, Mr. Chair and
22 Council. OSM and the Federal Subsistence Board
23 recognizes the volunteer service of all our Regional
24 Advisory Council members. Recognizes the lifetime
25 dedication to subsistence and advocating for
26 communities in your region. Yeah, amazing, it's been a
27 lifetime of service for many.

28 First up for service award is Raymond
29 Oney, 20 years of service on the Yukon Kuskokwim Delta
30 Subsistence Regional Advisory Council. And, Ray, I
31 want to say, personally, it's just been an honor and a
32 joy to work with you so thank you so much.

33 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Thank you. Thank you,
34 and I accept this award and I thank OSM for recognizing

0072
35 that. 20 years doesn't seem to be that long, it seems
36 just like it was a few years ago. But when I first
37 came on, oh, boy, there was a lot of elders on there
38 that I don't see here today. And just recently James
39 Charles and Charlie from Eek, they'd been on there for
40 a long time and they just recently retired last fall,
41 so those were the people that I recognize from the time
42 that I volunteered my time to the YKRAC. And there's a
43 lot of knowledge that I got to learn from the elders
44 that were there at the time, the late John Hanson, late
45 John Thompson, Billie McCann, Phillip Moses, James
46 Charles, those people that I worked with when I first
47 came on.

48 So I thank you for the recognition,
49 thank you, appreciate it. And hopefully that we
50 continue to work on subsistence for our people in hopes
51 of rebuilding what we're losing and we need to pay

10 close attention to what we're doing as far as trying to
11 rebuild the stocks that we're seeing declining, both on
12 the Kuskokwim and Yukon and the coastal villages. So
13 appreciate the recognition, thank you very much.

12

MR. LANDLORD: Congratulations, Ray.

13

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Thank you, James.

14

15 MS. PATTON: Thank you, Mr. Chair. And
16 we do have a framed plaque and service award. We had
17 hoped to be able to meet in person this fall and honor
18 each of you in person and have our big celebration
19 potluck, but we will be mailing your service award
20 plaque in the mail and I'll be in touch when it's on
21 its way. We've got to package it carefully. Thank
22 you, Mr. Chair.

18

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Thank you.

19

MS. PATTON: Next.....

20

MS. ROGERS: (Indiscernible)

21

22 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Thank you, Alissa. I
believe the next one we have is John Andrew. Eva.

23

24 MS. PATTON: Yes, thank you, Mr. Chair.
25 John Andrew is also being recognized for 15 year
service award. And I believe John is probably still in
his tribal council meeting right now. John, are you

0073

1 online with us.

2

(No comments)

3

4 MS. PATTON: Yeah, I believe he is
still in his tribal council meeting. So when he's able
to rejoin us later this afternoon we'll circle back
around and recognize John Andrew for his 15 year
service award.

5

6 And we also want to recognize Bob
Aloysius of Kalskag. And Bob has served on the Yukon
7 Kuskokwim Delta Subsistence Regional Advisory Council
for 18 years. And he will be retiring from the
8 Council. Again, we had hoped to be able to meet in
person and be able to gather with Bob and have a
9 potluck. It's a little hard for him to hear on
teleconference so -- but we will be reaching out to Bob
10 and recognizing him for his 18 years on the Council and
wishing him well. So big recognition for Bob Aloysius.

11

Quyana.

12

13 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Thank you. Okay, that
concludes our service awards, we'll go down to Item No.
10, public and tribal comment on non-agenda items.

14 Eva.

15 MS. PATTON: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
16 Again, we have this opportunity in the morning on each
17 day of the meeting and this is our first opportunity
18 today, this afternoon. So if there's any public or
19 tribes participating in the teleconference that would
20 like to address the Council on any subsistence issues
21 that aren't on the agenda already. Again, we'll be
22 getting into the wildlife proposals and there's a
23 process there for public and tribal comment on each of
24 the proposals. But now is the opportunity if there's
25 anyone online who would like to address the Council.
0074 And, again, we do have Sophie Evan online if anyone
wishes to speak in Yup'ik Sophie is available to
translate as well.

22

Thank you.

23

CHAIRMAN ONEY: So do we have anyone
24 that may want to give public comment on non-agenda
items at this time.

25

0074

1 MR. WASKA: Hello, Mr. Chair, Evon
Waska.

2

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Evon Waska, go ahead.

3

MR. WASKA: Yeah. I'm in Bethel.
4 Hello to my Native brothers and sisters, if you're new
to Alaska, welcome to my land and waters.

5

6 Quyana. (In Yup'ik) to Myron. I heard
him this morning and verifying what's affecting to us
the most. And, quyana, Jackie, those were very
7 informative on commenting.

8

9 Just I'd like to comment on the three
minute but it was too short and you're supposed to give
your name, and my cell number's 545-2471.

10

11 My comments could be taken towards
proposals and I welcome that. And why I say high cost
of living, October 2021, Alaska Commercial Company,
12 there was pot roast beef, cattle, 66 bucks, gallon of
milk 9 bucks, stick of butter 8 bucks, why I say that,
13 Myron already said it and that's what we're meeting
for. Subsistence hunting and fishing. I don't trap no
more but my people do. They need to. Even we haven't
14 said that, Bethel is the hub, I'm just sharing the
Bethel prices. St. Marys a hub. Fairbanks. And the
15 buck doesn't stop there, they have to ship them out,
they barge them out and that causes tripling of the

16 prices. And what Myron said, me and my people, we're
17 going to go subsistence, for millennium, generations of
18 generations, subsistence is our life, it's not a way of
19 life. The high cost of living here, that's why we need
20 it. It's our cultural identity. Through these stupid
21 restrictions, you outsiders come to my land and waters,
22 fish in State -- Federal and Fish and Game, you
23 restrict us, harass us, police us. What about -- why I
24 say that, quyana to my Kuskokwim and Fed and Tribal
25 Fish Commission for giving us this opportunity to fish.
0075 My heart is heavy for the Yukon fishermen and the rest
of the -- they closed the Black River coastal
fishermen, just like that. I'm angry. Why. May,
June, Copper River, gussuk fishermen over there in
Anchorage, they had access for themselves, and I watch
the 10:00 o'clock news every evening, they had over a
thousand kings already and them two show off, Alaska
Airline pilots get off the jet and give them to Seattle
restaurants. You put restrictions -- four inch stupid

1 restrictions on my people just to let us eat whitefish.
That's not right. That's discriminatory.

2

3 Since when does commercial fishing have
4 a priority over subsistence, you got it backwards.

5 I read in that AVAC or monthly magazine
6 on the back page, our Congressman Don Young was
7 supposed to -- he was asking the National Oceanic
8 Administration why are -- we're not getting fish here
9 on the Kuskokwim and Yukon and Norton Sound fisheries,
10 I only say this -- we used to have delegates, our
11 bygone delegates, and I'm going to give you the fact,
12 they're gone now but they were the late Harold Spark,
13 Dr. John White, Frank Charles, Evan Fox, and there was
14 someone from the Yukon and Norton Sound. Every winter,
15 mid-winter they would go to Anchorage and go fight the
16 Area M and False Pass fisheries were allocated
escapement for chum salmon. Why I know, Harold Spark
used to come back and write in our -- he used to put
articles in our local newspaper. Still you come to me
and my people and you restrict the hell out of us,
discriminatory, undue hardship. Why I say that, I
asked my relative on the Yukon, during the closure, if
you put your net out you'll catch fish, you will catch
salmon, he said, yes, that tells me a lot. So now the
time to acknowledge and I'll quote my Native brother
from Kwig, it's not us, we've been on restrictions, we
follow the rules and regulations; that's what he said.
Our Yukon people, they followed it more. It's time to
acknowledge and say it's not the Yukon and Kuskokwim
Native people, all the river comes from the sea. Back

17 then, it's not the first time it's happened on the
18 Yukon, I've read it in a book, I forgot who the author
19 was, but it was a missionary, he noticed they were
20 intercepting the king salmon on the Yukon at the bay,
21 at the mouth, there's three mouths, Black River, Middle
22 Mouth, and North Mouth. How I know, my father-in-law,
23 he take me out and show me the start of the Yukon. And
24 that missionary saved them. He contacted the
government and told them what the gussuks were doing
out there, interception, bycatch -- now it's bycatch.
It's time for our Fish and Game to acknowledge and say
it's not us. It's time for you to go police them
bycatch, high seas trawlers and False Pass and Area M
fisheries, you got to equal it out.

25 Yeah, overfishing. I see all them,
what you call them, halibut, gussuk halibut, they bring
0076 out their clients and make money, overfish halibut.

2 And on these hunting TV guides, they're
already hunting our sea birds. As Myron stated,
3 trespass. On moose, we need to keep these tributaries
on the Kuskokwim and the Yukon Rivers closed to these
4 what I call the horn hunters, sport hunters, I see them
flying around.

5 Trapping. My people they know sound
6 management. They know -- they -- they trap them to
extinction, how I know I see their snares and traps
7 still out there, they leave them. We need to do more
policing on that. They even -- I see them on the
8 Yukon, I bet they don't even ask the Native
corporations over there while my people are trying to
9 make a living off of trapping.

10 But in closing, quyana, to them, they
just gave awards, Ray and Bob and John, I don't know
11 who I missed. Quyana, (In Yup'ik) for helping our
people. Keep it up and for being on the Board. And I
12 don't know but -- like I said you could take these as
proposals and add them on, I don't know if I'll take
13 that opportunity to call again.

14 But, quyana, Mr. Chair.
15 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Yeah, thank you, Mr.
Waska. That was good to hear from you. Is there
16 anyone else from the public that may want to give
comment on non-agenda comments at this time.

17 GABRIEL: Good afternoon, Ray.

18 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Gabriel.

19

20 GABRIEL: Yeah.

21 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Go ahead, Gabe.

22 GABRIEL: I remember that one time
23 there was a lady from, I think, from the old area and
24 they were talking about, you know, where to store the
25 chemicals, you know, after they're done and I just
0077 wanted to know, you know, where would they store -- I
1 remember they were talking about storing it over in
2 the Canada area in the mountains and I forgot to ask, are
3 they going to store them where the water runs through
4 the Upper Yukon and way in the future, you know, that's
5 going to be a hazard and poisonous too.

6
7 And right now, you know, it seems like
8 we've been fighting for this fishing, you know, what we
9 have right now, but I don't see regulations with the
10 bycatch. And it's going to be going on and I think we
11 should partnership with those people and I think it's
12 the only way that we can -- you know, bring our elders
13 there too.

14
15 And the most scary part is, you know,
16 the global warming, I think it's all our fault, you
17 know, too much going on in this world right now.

18
19 I'm worried about way later on, you
20 know, all them things they're storing up in the hills,
21 way up on the Canada area. And if we can get
22 information of where they're storing all that waste.
23 And congratulations to all of you guys
24 there, thank you.

25
26 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Thank you, Gabe. Is
27 there anyone there that can comment on your question
28 but hopefully we'll get someone on as we move along.
29 So at this time is there anyone else from the public or
30 tribal members that may want to comment on non-agenda
31 items at this time.

32 MR. WASKA: Mr. Chair.

33 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Mr. Waska.

34 MR. WASKA: Yeah, he brought up a good
35 point, I forgot to mention the mines. These Canadians
36 are opening up the Donlin and they have in the Flat --
37 opening a mine in Flat. Here on the Kuskokwim, this
38 Donlin Mine will be a disaster waiting to our food
39 source. Why. They'll leave that tailing behind.
40 They've got all these chemicals coming in, cyanide and
41 all that, and that guy's right about the Yukon River.

22

Quyana. (In Yup'ik).

23

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Thank you, Mr. Waska.

24 Is there anyone else from the public or tribal members
25 that may want to comment on non-agenda items at this
time.

0078

1 (No comments)

2 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Hearing none, we'll go
ahead and move on to Item No. 11, old business. I'll
3 go ahead and turn it over to Eva.

4 MS. PATTON: Thank you, Mr. Chair and
Council. And thank you to all the public participating
5 in these meetings. I know it's a difficult time and
challenge all by teleconference, so just wanted to say
6 thank you to everyone for being on today and sharing
with the Council. Thank you.

7

8 And, Mr. Chair, we had decided at the
beginning of the meeting when we were going over the
9 agenda, there was a request to switch the order of old
business and new business. I'm wondering, though,
because we're missing several Council members at this
10 time, again, both John Andrew and Richard Slats had
critical meetings with their tribal councils this
11 afternoon that was scheduled in advance, so they are
not on the line at this time. And we've also lost
12 Norma Evan. GCI is having some outages in a number of
villages on the Yukon is my understanding and it sounds
13 like challenges there in Bethel, too, with many dropped
calls. So I'm wondering, if at this time, because the
14 wildlife proposals are really critical Council work and
I think each of the Council members would want to be
15 present for the discussion and the vote, wildlife
proposals, if maybe we do take up the old business at
16 this time so that hopefully we would have our full
Council quorum when we get to wildlife proposals.

17

Thank you, Mr. Chair.

18

MS. ROGERS: Mr. Chair.

19

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Go ahead.

20

21 MS. ROGERS: Thank you, Mr. Chair. At
this time I would like to make a friendly amendment
22 that we propose to take up old business instead of
taking up new business at this time because we are
lacking Council members, and I really don't want to
23 leave them out while we're going through the discussion

and voting on these proposals.

24

Thank you, Mr. Chair.

25

0079

1

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Yeah, thank you, Alissa. Do I hear a second to her motion.

2

MR. ALSTROM: Thomas Alstrom, second.

3

CHAIRMAN ONEY: There's a motion on the floor by Alissa to do a friendly amendment to put back on the agenda the old business because of several Council members that aren't present if we do go over the proposals. So at this time all those in favor of putting back the agenda to its original state please say aye.

7

IN UNISON: Aye.

8

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Opposed, same sign.

9

(No opposing votes)

10

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Hearing none, motion carries. So we're back to the original agenda, if we could go ahead and start off under 11, old business. Eva.

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

MS. PATTON: Thank you, Mr. Chair and Council. So first up under old business, Item A, is the .805(c) report and you'll find that in your meeting books on Page 16. And .805(c) is in reference to .805(c) of ANILCA. And it provides that the Board will accept the recommendations of a Subsistence Regional Advisory Council of take for the proposals for fish or wildlife, unless the recommendation is not supported by substantial evidence, or the recommendation violates recognized principles of fish and wildlife management, or adopting the recommendation would be detrimental to the satisfaction of subsistence users. So when a Council's recommendation is not adopted by the Board, the Board is required by Secretarial regulations to set forth a factual basis in the reasons for their decision. So that's what the .805(c) report is.

21

22

23

24

So every time the Board takes action, so alternate years, the Board is reviewing and taking action on fisheries regulatory proposals and then in the other alternate years they're taking action on wildlife regulatory proposals. Federal Subsistence fisheries and wildlife regulatory proposals.

25
0080

So the Board last met and it was a

1 fisheries regulatory cycle and the Board took action,
2 either adopting or rejecting Federal Subsistence
3 fisheries regulatory proposals from throughout Alaska.
4 And so this report is to respond to the Council to let
5 you know which of the proposals the Board did align
6 with the Council's recommendation, and in the case
7 where they did not.

8 So there were three proposals that were
9 directly related to the Yukon Kuskokwim Delta region,
10 and those the Board concurred with the Council's
11 recommendations in every case. So the Board adopted
12 Fisheries Proposal FP21-01, which was to eliminate
13 Federal regulations that describe when and where the
14 salmon subsistence fishery will close around commercial
15 openings on the Kuskokwim River. So now those closures
16 due to any commercial fishery are now removed from
17 regulation. And the Board adopted Fisheries Proposal
18 21-03 which is to clarify that drift gillnets are legal
19 gear in Kuskokwim River tributaries. And the Board
20 rejected Fisheries Proposal 21-02 which the Council had
21 recommended rejecting, and that was a proposal
22 requesting decreasing the distance between set gillnets
23 on the Kuskokwim River and tributaries from 150 feet to
24 75 feet, and the Council had recommended rejecting that
25 proposal due to concerns that it would end up corking
0081 people and that those eddies would get filled up and it
1 would end up maybe being a detriment to everyone rather
2 than more opportunity. So the Council's recommendation
3 was to reject that and the Board also voted consistent
4 with the Council's recommendation so that distance
5 between setnets on the river remains at 150 feet.

6 (Teleconference interference -
7 participants not muted)

8 MS. PATTON: There were two proposals,
9 what we call crossover proposals. The proposals are,
10 in this case fisheries closure reviews that were in
11 other regions, but because communities within the Yukon
12 Kuskokwim Delta region have customary and traditional
13 use determinations, in that they may fish in those
14 regions, so the proposal does come before the Council.
15 And often times the Council decides to defer to the
16 home RAC region, those that are closest to the resource
17 or who more frequently use the resource. And so there
18 were two proposals that came before the Council that
19 are closure reviews. And these are review of closures
20 to Federal subsistence fishing and hunting, and they're
21 reviewed every so often to take a look and see if those

2 closures are still necessary for conservation reasons
or if the closure is to non-Federally-qualified users,
3 if that is still necessary.

4 So there were two proposals. One was
in the Eastern Interior region, the Jim River. And
5 another, the Western Interior region, Nome Creek. And
these are tributaries to the Yukon River. And these
6 areas had been closed to Federally-qualified
subsistence users due to conservation concerns and they
7 were being revisited as to whether those areas should
be opened to subsistence. And the Council deferred to
8 the other RAC regions on those proposals. And actually
the Board kind of had a mixed response to those
9 Councils. So there were some modifications that were
suggested by both the Western Interior and Eastern
10 Interior Councils that will take some follow-up.

11 But those are the proposals that came
before the YK Delta RAC at the fall meeting last year
and the actions that the Board took. The Board did
12 vote consistent with all the Council's recommendations
for the YK Delta region fisheries proposals.

13 And just want to check with the Council
14 if there's any questions on that report.

15 (No comments)

16 MS. PATTON: Okay. Thank you. And
then similarly, come your -- well, actually the Board
17 meeting cycle for the wildlife regulatory process comes
in the spring and so they will not have met yet by the
18 time the Council meets in the winter but you'll get a
similar report for the wildlife proposals as well.

19 (Teleconference interference -
20 participants not muted)

21 MS. PATTON: And if there's no
questions on the .805(c) report we can move on to old
22 business Item B, the Board's fiscal year 2020 annual
report reply.

23 REPORTER: Okay, but, Eva, hold up.
24 Before you go on to the next subject, we're getting
some background noise. Could people look at their
25 device, please put yourself on mute so we can continue
0082 listening to Eva's report. Thank you.

2 We've got some sweet
2 little voices in the background there so, yeah, just go
3 ahead, everybody take a moment, take a look at your
cell phone and hit the mute button or star six to mute.

4

REPORTER: Thank you so much.

5

MS. PATTON: Thank you. So you'll find the annual report reply on Page 21 of your meeting books. And this is actually the Board, the Federal Subsistence Board replying to the Council's 2020 annual report. And the annual report is an opportunity for the Council to address the Federal Subsistence Board on any subsistence issues that are outside of the regulatory proposal process that affect subsistence users in your region. And this now is the Board replying to the Council's annual report from 2020. And later on in the meeting we have on the agenda development of this year's annual report. So we'll be walking through the process of identifying topics that the Council would like to address to the Board for this year. But this is the reply from last year and we want to make sure that the Council is -- that the reply is addressing the Council's concerns. If you have any follow-up questions or there were issues that are not addressed and need to be further addressed. If you haven't had an opportunity to read the annual report in full, or the reply in full, I would encourage you to do that tonight or tomorrow and bring any follow-up questions or concerns up at the meeting so we can follow up on it. We can either add it to this year's annual report, or follow up directly if there's further information that the Council would like.

And so you'll see in the report, first comes the Council's request and that's in italics, and then following each request is the response from the Federal Subsistence Board.

21

And the topics that the Council had brought before the Board were support for rural subsistence priority and highlighting what that means fully.

Concerns about food security issues and the need for the Board's awareness and support addressing food security.

0083

1

And the third topic was consideration for traditional ecological knowledge when making subsistence resource management decisions.

2

3

And the fourth topic, youth and science cultural camps, and ongoing support from the Federal Subsistence Program for those efforts in the region.

4

5

And, five, was the Mulchatna Caribou Herd and inventory and monitoring studies the Council would like to see ongoing.

6

7 And the sixth topic was climate change
8 effects on subsistence resources, activities and safe
9 access and possible mitigation measures.

10 And the seventh topic was the hardship
11 on the Council and communities to participate by
12 teleconference only, which we all know how difficult
13 that is. And here we are still at this meeting by
14 teleconference only.

15 So please do take the time to review
16 the Board's reply. So if there's any further
17 information the Council would like, follow-up, then we
18 can make sure to address that at this meeting.

19 Any questions from the Council on the
20 Board's reply.

21 (No comments)

22 MS. PATTON: And, again, we'll have an
23 opportunity to come back to this. We'll be addressing
24 this year's annual report so we'll have a chance to
25 follow up if there's any further information the
26 Council would like at that time.

27 And we did have a request from the
28 Board seeking feedback from the Council on the annual
29 report reply process to best meet the Council's needs
30 in a timely manner. And we have Robbin LaVine on and
31 she was going to address that request from the Board.
32 Are you on with us Robbin?

33 MS. LAVINE: Yes, through the Chair.
34 Thank you, Eva. Hello, everyone. This is Robbin
35 LaVine and I am the Subsistence Policy Coordinator for
36 the Office of Subsistence Management. And if you're
0084

1 ready I can proceed with this agenda item.

2 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Go ahead.

3 MS. LAVINE: The meeting materials --
4 thank you, Mr. Chair. The meeting materials for this
5 agenda item begins on Page 45 of your Council book and
6 I will note that at this time this is not an action
7 item. So while we recognize that this issue is new
8 business for the Council, we chose to address it here
9 in old business following your review of the annual
10 report replies from the Board. This way the annual
11 reply process is fresh in your mind as I present the
12 briefing.

13 During the Federal Subsistence Board's
14 August 2021 work session, the InterAgency Staff
15 Committee briefed the Board on the annual report reply
16 process and possible revisions to improve workload
17 efficiency and response to Regional Advisory Council

11 concerns. The Board reviewed and discussed the report
12 reply process and agreed to forward this topic on to
13 you, the Councils, for your input on the suggested
14 revisions including soliciting possible ideas of your
15 own.

16 So as you are aware, ANILCA, Section
17 .805 authorizes the Councils to prepare an annual
18 report containing information related to important
19 subsistence resource issues within their region. These
20 reports are invaluable as they provide the Board with a
21 broad holistic picture of local resource conditions and
22 the subsistence issues facing communities across rural
23 Alaska. With this knowledge, the Board can make
24 informed decisions. Historically, the Board has
25 strived to provide responses to every topic listed in
26 annual reports regardless of its authority to address
27 the issues raised and it's unclear if Board responses
28 on all annual report topics are helpful to the
29 Councils, while taking considerable Staff time to
30 complete.

31 (Teleconference interference -
32 participants not muted)

33

34 MS. LAVINE: The InterAgency Staff
35 Committee has suggested process revisions to consider
36 the annual reports serve solely as a means for
37 informing the Board of local conditions and needs, and
38 0085

39 1 propose that letter writing be a means for requesting
40 Board response to topics of concern. Under this
41 2 scenario, Councils could ask their Coordinators to
42 write a letter to the Board if there are annual report
43 3 topics to which they are specifically requesting a
44 response. These suggested revisions are not intended
45 4 to diminish the ability of the Councils to report to
46 the Board and Councils will still receive responses
47 5 from the Board, when requested.

48 6 And these are only suggestions, you,
49 the Council, may have other ideas about a more
50 7 efficient and responsive annual report and reply
51 process. So to that end we are asking you to think
52 8 about what you want from the Board in terms of replies
53 as you develop and confirm your 2021 annual reports
54 9 between this time, the fall meeting, and the upcoming
55 winter meetings. So we'll take this up again when we
56 10 meet in 2022. And, once, again, this is not an action
57 item, not until your winter meeting.

58 11

59 So with that I'm ready for your
60 12 questions.

61 13

62 Thank you.

14 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Thank you. Do we have
any questions from the Council at this time?

15 MS. ROGERS: Mr. Chair, Alissa.

16 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Alissa, go ahead.

17 MS. ROGERS: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
18 Through the Chair. Are you on Page 45. I kind of got
lost in the -- where -- what section of the book were
19 you referring to and is there an outline of specific
information that you're requiring. Because I know we
20 have a lot of new people on the YKRAC who might not be
familiar with the process and I was wondering if you
21 had some type of like template in our book.

22 MS. LAVINE: Ah, thank you, Alissa.
Through the Chair. So actually what you'll find on
23 Page -- oh, maybe it's not 45, I am so sorry, it's
listed as Page number 45 in the; what's in this report
24 -- through the Chair, if you will -- if you will give
me a moment I will find the document I was referring
25 to. It's a one page -- it's a one page briefing and I
0086

1 gave you a summary of it. And really what's in your --
in the book is some ideas, suggestions that the
2 InterAgency Staff Committee posed in order to modify
the annual report reply process, again, as a means for
3 efficiency and responsiveness. But it's not a
framework for -- right now for you to respond to. We
4 will have a better guided discussion at the winter
meeting. And at that time you will have had the
5 opportunity to, again, propose issues for your annual
report, which is happening at this meeting, and then
6 confirm those topics for your annual report at the
winter meeting and around that time, either before or
7 after, we'll ask you to think about this process and
we'll ask you to think about what you would like from
8 the Board, and what would be most helpful to you and
should Board response come as an annual report reply,
9 or should Board response come through letters or other
actions.

10 I will look to confirm where the
11 document is -- oh, it is on Page 45, thank you --
sorry.

12 MS. ROGERS: Mr. Chair.

13 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair.

14 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Eva.

15

MS. PATTON: Sorry, Mr. Chair, go ahead, Alissa.

16

17

MS. ROGERS: Thank you, Eva. Mr. Chair. Through the Chair. A response back to her, I just wanted to make sure that there is some type of visual aide to help people start to think about exactly what you're asking us for. It's easy to be said over the phone but for a lot of us who are visual people, having it written on paper in a very simplistic form is a lot more familiar and easier to comprehend particularly enough to get a response. I would like to see if Eva can send out an email to us to see specific information so that everyone can understand how this process works. I just want to make sure we're being fair to our newcomers so that they understand how -- what type of information that you're looking for.

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

Thank you, Mr. Chair.

25

0087

1

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Thank you, Alissa.

2

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

3

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Robbin, go ahead.

4

MS. LAVINE: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Thank you, Council Member Alissa, that is a wonderful idea. And we will make sure that we come up with thoughtful visuals, maybe outlines as well to guide this discussion when we meet again at the winter meeting. So thank you so much for that recommendation.

5

6

7

8

9

MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair.

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

MS. PATTON: Yes, thank you, Mr. Chair. And to follow up as well, the annual report reply process revision, but added to all the Council meeting materials at the last minute, and understanding certainly for this Council, in particular, that we have so many new Council members who have not yet been through an annual report or reply process, so this is all new, and as Robbin noted, at this time, they're posing these questions now but there will be an opportunity at the winter meeting to really review this, you know, we'll have some time to work with the Council on this process as well. I might suggest, too, this did get added on the agenda under the annual report and then the actual development of the annual report comes later on the agenda. But I think it would make most sense if we can address the annual report

18 itself at this time and that walk through the process
19 of the Council's annual report and developing the
20 topics for that report, and that might help the Council
21 to understand that part of the Council's work and
communications with the Board and maybe these questions
about the reply process might make a little more sense
with a little more background.

22 So I'm wondering, Mr. Chair, if we
23 could move that discussion of the annual report topics
24 itself, which comes later under new business under 12B,
if we could bump that up and have that discussion now.
I think it would be helpful, especially for all our new
Council members.

25 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

0088

1 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Yes, thank you, Eva.
What is the wish of the Council.

2

MS. ROGERS: Mr. Chair.

3

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Go ahead.

4

5 MS. ROGERS: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
Alissa Rogers speaking. I'm a little lost to be
6 honest. I was trying to follow along but I got lost in
what we're supposed to be doing but I'm not sure if
anyone else is but.....

7

Thank you, Mr. Chair.

8

9 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Yeah, I think we were
going over the responses that we got from the Board on
our annual report and I think because of that one item,
10 let me see.....

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

12 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Robbin, go ahead.

13 MS. LAVINE: Hi, thank you, Mr. Chair.
I know that we usually review the annual report replies
14 from the Board under old business and then later at the
end of the meeting you develop a new report for this
15 particular year and you identify issues that you want
to include for the next report. And I think Eva's
16 proposing to do that now as we're having this
discussion about developing annual reports and what
17 might be the best purpose of a Board reply and what you
might want from the Board in regards to replies. The
18 only thing I would note is that we switched old
business and new business, in part, because of a number
19 of important Council members are not in attendance.
And so I would only bring that to consider as you

20 decide whether now is the time to develop your issues
21 for your next year's report or this year's report, or
22 whether you might wait.

23 Thank you, Mr. Chair. Thank you, Eva.
24 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Thank you, Robbin, for
25 that clarification.

MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair.

25
0089

1 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Yeah, go ahead, Eva.
2 MS. PATTON: Thank you, Mr. Chair and
3 Council members. Actually I think it would be helpful,
4 we're kind of putting the cart before the horse here
5 with this new agenda item that was added on the review
6 of the reply process but I think it would probably be
7 really helpful for the Council to walk through the
8 annual report process and understand how that works.
9 And then typically what we do for our YK Delta RAC
10 meeting is we bring up the topic of the annual report,
11 walk through it and we continue to revisit it
12 throughout the meeting so that as issues are discussed,
13 you know, there may be presentations that bring up, oh,
14 yes, we want to address the Board on this as well. So
15 we can address the annual report process right now with
16 the Council members we have with us today and then
17 revisit it tomorrow so the Council members who we don't
18 have on have the opportunity to respond to topics that
19 the Council would like to add to your report for this
20 year.

21 So we always try to do that, you know,
22 to provide that overview and head's up and then, you
23 know, keep revisiting it and also keeping track
24 throughout the meeting of issues that the Council would
25 like to bring to the Board's attention.

26 I think we could address this now and
27 then address it again, as we usually do, through follow
28 up as well with the few Council members that we don't
29 have online at this time.

30 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Yeah, thank you, Eva.
31 I think so too. I think we should go ahead and follow
32 through with the process because there are three or
33 four Council members that aren't here at this time, and
34 give the new Council members an opportunity to see how
35 this process works so I'd recommend that we go ahead
36 and follow through with your recommendation.

37
38 (Teleconference interference -
39 participants not muted)

40 MS. PATTON: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

2 So there are a number of issues, even
3 outside of the regulatory authority of the Board that
4 is important to bring to the Board's attention. Things
5 that are changing, or shifting, climate change effects,
6 environmental effects on subsistence resources,
7 shifting subsistence resources. So it all helps bring
8 awareness to the Board and helps to guide them in their
9 decisionmaking process to be aware of each of the
10 Council regions, subsistence issues and the broad sweep
11 of overlapping interactions that affect subsistence.

12 So in the report, the issues that are
13 not normally addressed -- so we have the regulatory
14 process through the proposals that we'll be addressing.
15 Like today the wildlife proposals or fisheries
16 proposals. And the annual report is addressing issues
17 outside of that normal regulatory process. And key
18 things to think about to address the Board on are
19 identifying current and anticipated subsistence uses of
20 fish and wildlife within the region, evaluating current
21 and anticipated subsistence needs, and shifts or trends
22 that may be happening on Federal public lands within
23 the region, recommended strategies for the management
24 of fish and wildlife populations within the region to
25 ensure a subsistence priority and to address
26 subsistence needs on public lands, and recommendations
27 concerning policies or standards or guidelines and
28 regulations to implement these management strategies.
29 So those are some of the key things to, you know, think
30 about of what the Board does have the authority to
31 address and that opportunity to really hone in on those
32 issues to bring.....

33 (Teleconference interference -
34 participants not muted)

35 MS. PATTON:information to their
36 awareness. To bring your traditional knowledge and
37 experience and observations to their awareness so they
38 can make recommendations on important subsistence
39 issues.

40 So if addressing the policy, it's
41 helpful to be clear. If there's something unclear
42 about a policy or if there's uncertainty about a
43 policy. And we are here, I'm here as your Staff, to
44 help draft these annual report replies and can help
45 provide guidance, too, if there's a topic that's really
46 outside of the Board's jurisdiction, we can bring it to
47 the Board's awareness but it might be that, you know,
48 it would require a letter directed to a particular
49 agency, rather than the Board. But it is the Council's

4 opportunity to help guide the Board, request
5 information from the Board or changes in process or
6 regulations and policy and we are here to help you
7 draft that.

8 So as we go through the meeting, often
9 times, you know, the Council will -- maybe some of you
10 have ideas right now of issues that you would like to
11 bring to the Board's attention, and then as we go
12 through the meeting there may be other topics that come
13 up. And I also, you know, work through the meeting
14 taking notes of, like here is an issue that was brought
15 up of concern, you may want to add this to your annual
16 report. So we'll keep revisiting this through the
17 meeting and then touch base on it again at the end of
18 the meeting to make sure we have topics that you would
19 like in the annual report. I work with you, as the
20 Council, to draft that report and then a draft will
21 come before the Council at your winter meeting and
22 that's another opportunity to edit or add to your final
23 report.

24 Thank you, Mr. Chair. And any
25 questions from the Council.

26 (No comments)

27 MS. PATTON: And, again, it may be
28 helpful to review the annual report reply. Again,
29 that's structured so it has the Council's request or
30 comments and then the Board's reply so you get a sense
31 of the Council's annual report from last time in
32 addition to responses from the Board. And if there's
33 anything that you feel was not fully addressed we can
34 follow up on that and then develop the topics that you
35 would like to add for this year's report. And anything
36 -- anything that comes to mind for any of the Council
37 members of issues that you are thinking of right now
38 that you would like to add to the report for this year.

39 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Yeah, Eva, I believe
40 there was a request by Phillip Peter to include two
41 Council seats, was that to the North Pacific Fisheries
42 Management Council. I think that was his question, Mr.

0093
1 Phillip Peter.

2 MS. PATTON: Yes, thank you, Mr. Chair.
3 And that is a good example of a topic that would be
4 best addressed directly to the North Pacific Fisheries
5 Management Council and so the Council can discuss on
6 the record if you would like to write a letter to the
7 North Pacific Fisheries Management Council with the
8 specific request of adding a subsistence seat or tribal
9 council seat to the North Pacific Fisheries Management

6 Council. The other option is, and the Council has done
7 this in the past, is where there's an overlap, you
8 know, there are many things outside of the Federal
9 Subsistence Board's jurisdiction that have an impact on
10 subsistence resources and access to subsistence
11 resources and so the Council can write a letter to the
12 Board requesting both to bring that awareness and can
13 request that the Board elevate that issue of concern to
14 the Secretary's office -- the North Pacific Fisheries
15 Management Council is in the realm of the Secretary of
16 Commerce, not the Secretary of the Interior, which
17 oversees the Federal Subsistence Program, but the Board
18 has, in the past, so Yukon Kuskokwim Delta Subsistence
19 Regional Advisory Council has joined with other
20 Regional Advisory Councils on the Yukon and Kuskokwim
21 Rivers, both the Western Interior and Eastern Interior,
22 to write a joint letter to the Board asking the Board
23 to elevate the concerns about Bering Sea fisheries
24 management on subsistence. So there are opportunities
25 like that where things are outside the jurisdiction of
26 the Board but the Councils can ask the Board to elevate
27 the concerns. So that is an option in this case when
28 addressing North Pacific Fisheries Management Council.

18 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Yeah, thank you, Eva.
19 And also I would like to work on that first request,
20 request for Board support for a rural subsistence
21 priority and if you read the response, on the last
22 paragraph, it says, your Council has been proactive in
23 utilizing these tools and informing Board processes and
24 actions. However, these actions can only be
25 implemented in Federal public waters and limited marine
26 waters within or adjacent to Federal lands. And I
27 believe that's one example that we could write a letter
28 to either North Pacific Fisheries Management Council or
29 an organization that's higher up from us to let them
30 know about the crash of the chinook and chum salmon,
31 both on the Kuskokwim and Yukon River, and how do we
32 utilize Title VIII of ANILCA. As we heard, many of you

0094
1 reported that, you know, we haven't been given that
2 opportunity and yet we still see the decline of chinook
3 and chum salmon go down and this is the worst year that
4 we've seen and no opportunity to fish.

3
4 So I'd like to follow up with that
5 first request to, you know, strengthen it, and also ask
6 different RACs, Western, Eastern and also the Nome area
7 to see if they could support us in making our
8 subsistence needs a priority. Because, you know, like
9 we heard, you know, we just come to this table and, you
10 know, be angry about what's going on and yet nobody

7 wants to listen to us. And I'd like to follow up with
8 that, to even strengthen it, to request that the North
9 Pacific, you know, take our concerns seriously because
10 of all the losses that we've seen. And it's sad that
11 we had to go through this. And Alaska is only 60-plus
12 years since it became a state and within that 60 year
13 period, in the last 20 years or so we've seen the crash
14 happening. And as we mentioned there's been no fishing
15 last -- last year -- or this past summer we haven't had
16 an opportunity to fish and yet we had abundance of fish
17 that were going by. We don't know how many or, you
18 know, because we weren't allowed to fish for it.

19
20 So I'd like to work on this, and even
21 to include Area M. I think it's -- like we mentioned
22 that we met with them before and Fish and Game, through
23 -- let them know that -- even Fish and Game is aware
24 that they have no data on Area M so that's something
25 I'd like to continue to work through to see if there's
26 any data that could be shared by Yukon, Kuskokwim
27 biologists and to even go there in Area M just to take
28 some samples, even if it means a special action to
29 close it down to do that. I think that's what we need
30 to consider. Because this is way out of hand in trying
31 to rebuild the stocks that we're losing and it's going
32 to be hard to try and rebuild it back with everything
33 that's going on. So I'd like to continue to work on
34 requesting that the Board give us a rural priority to
35 at least fish once or twice a week. But if that's in
36 order, that's something I want to follow through on.

37
38 MS. PATTON: Thank you, Mr. Chair. And
39 I'm hearing maybe two separate letters perhaps. One to
40 address North Pacific Fisheries Management, and Bering
41 Sea management there and another letter to address the
42 Board of Fisheries, or Area M biologists and managers
43 about management in that region. And maybe a good way

0095

44 to address both those things would be -- so if the
45 Council wishes to draft a letter then that is -- as
46 we're having here now, a discussion on the record and a
47 motion and a vote from the Council to draft these
48 letters and, you know, some of the basic content that
49 you would like to see in those letters and then, you
50 know, I'll continue to follow up with you to draft
51 those and get them submitted to the appropriate agency.
52 And we can also include the Federal Subsistence Board
53 in those letters, in particular, for the North Pacific
54 Fisheries Management Council since the Board can assist
55 with elevating concerns to the Secretary of the
56 Interior and, in turn, to the Secretary of Commerce.

8 And because the other RAC regions are meeting after
9 your meeting, if the Council wishes to engage the other
10 Councils to be included on a possible joint letter then
11 we can reach out to the Councils right away in order to
12 do that.

13 So for this meeting, in order to write
14 those letters, then it would be, you know, discussion
15 on the record as we're having here and then a motion
16 and a vote so that it's clear that this is the intent
17 of the Council.

18 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

19 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Thank you, Eva, for
20 that clarification.

21 MS. ROGERS: Mr. Chair.

22 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Alissa, go ahead.

23 MS. ROGERS: Mr. Chair, I so move to
24 make a motion to have those letters written.

25 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Okay. There's a motion
26 on the floor by Alissa Rogers from Bethel to follow
27 through with the letters to North Pacific Fisheries
28 Management Council and to the Bering Sea Fisheries, I
29 believe, to follow up with a letter. Is there a
30 second.

31 MR. LANDLORD: Second by James
32 Landlord.

33 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Okay, the motion's been
34 seconded by James Landlord from Mountain Village. All
35 those in favor say aye.

36 IN UNISON: Aye.

37 MR. LANDLORD: Mr. Chair.

38 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Those opposed.....

39 MR. LANDLORD: Mr. Chair, before we
40 vote.

41 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Go ahead.

42 MR. LANDLORD: It's regarding tribal
43 consultation with the tribes. You know the tribal
44 consultation with the Federal government, so the
45 Department of Interior, Department of Commerce. So
46 under Department of Commerce, is NOAA, right before the
47 Department of Commerce, and there's National Marine
48 Fisheries Service. And I think that's where the tribes
49 consult regarding anything to do with the North Pacific
50 Fisheries, and I think that's where we need to write a

12 letter, even to the appointment of the two tribal
13 council members to North Pacific. I saw a chart one
14 time that that's how the authorities were written,
15 Department of Commerce, NOAA, and then NMFS and the
16 North Pacific, or it's a written bill by Magnuson-
17 Stevens Act and that's how it was created. But I think
18 we need to write a letter to the National Marines
19 Fisheries Service and that's who the tribes consult
20 with and I think it's delegated down to them from the
21 Department of Commerce. That's what I saw.

17
CHAIRMAN ONEY: And that's your motion.

18
MR. LANDLORD: To amend the motion.

19
CHAIRMAN ONEY: Yes, since you
20 mentioned about those two Council seats, or are you
21 just commenting?

22
MR. LANDLORD: Who appoints the two
23 tribal council members to North Pacific?

24
CHAIRMAN ONEY: Good question. Eva,
anyone out there that could respond.

25
MS. PATTON: Thank you, Mr. Chair and
0097 Council. So my understanding is that the North Pacific

1 Management Council would need to make a change to their
2 appointment process. And I don't have the information
3 in front of me right here about which of the seats on
4 that Council are currently appointed but it would
5 require a change to the membership of the Council and a
6 change to the process by which they appoint those
7 Council members.

8
MR. NANENG: Mr. Chairman, this is
9 Myron.

10
CHAIRMAN ONEY: Myron, go ahead.

11
MR. NANENG: Yeah, I think the
12 legislation, the Magnuson-Stevens Act has to be changed
13 in order to get Native representation of subsistence
14 representation on the North Pacific Fisheries
15 Management Council. Right now there's -- the Council
16 members are appointed, I think, by different states. I
17 don't know how many the State of Washington has, and
18 Oregon has and Alaska has some members on it that are
19 appointed by the Secretary of the Department of
20 Commerce who oversees the Magnuson-Stevens Act. But in
21 order to add names of Alaska Natives on the North
22 Pacific Fisheries Management Council there has to be an

14 amendment. That's currently being pursued in, I
believe, the U.S. Senate, in Congress, to add inclusion
to that.

15

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Thank you, Myron, for
16 that clarification. I think we're just going to make
recommendation. I think from this Council or just from
17 our region, the YK region.

18 (Teleconference interference -
participants not muted)

19

MR. NANENG: Yeah, I agree. There
20 definitely needs to be. Mr. Chair, I'd also like to
add regarding your comments about finding some links
21 between Area M and the Yukon and the Kuskokwim Rivers.
Back when Harold Sparks was around there was a tagging
22 study that was done in the mid '80s, early '70s, around
that timeframe. Some fish tags were found on chums
23 that were on the Yukon as well as here on the Kuskokwim
and some of the coastal villages along the route. And
24 the Fish and Game, Board of Fisheries said that was not
conclusive enough for them to make any decisions to
25 reduce commercial fisheries in Area M. But I think

0098

1 that we definitely do need to find a way to establish a
link between those two fisheries and its impact on the
2 YK Delta and subsistence chum salmon fisheries.

3 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Thank you, Myron.
4 (Teleconference interference -
participants not muted)

5

CHAIRMAN ONEY: If I could make a
6 request one more time to mute your phone. If you could
press star six, we can still hear music in the
7 background so if you could please press star six to
mute your phone if you're not speaking. And if you're
8 going to speak please press star six again.

9 Thank you.

10 REPORTER: Thank you, Ray.

11 MS. PATTON: Thank you, Ray.

12 CHAIRMAN ONEY: And if I could follow
up with Myron's comment. I know I would like to include
13 also a letter from the Delta Discovery that was
published September 22 to the Commissioner from Steven
14 Alexie, I'd like to include that in the record for our
comments to the Area M issue. I think the more comments
15 or support we could get regarding Area M I think will
only make it stronger. And I could text that to you,
16 Eva. I think I did this morning to see if I could
include that in the report. And I think it will go
17 with what we're trying to do as far as trying to give

18 subsistence priority to rural villages.

18

19 MS. PATTON: Thank you, Ray. And I
20 can't quite read the text but I still get the Delta
21 Discovery and so I'll go back. Which date was that?

20

21 CHAIRMAN ONEY: September 22, last
22 month. And it was a letter to the editor by Steven
23 Alexie.

22

23 MS. PATTON: Okay. And could you just
24 briefly, for the rest of the Council, just a quick
25 summary of the key points that you wanted to include so
26 we have that on the record.

25

0099

1 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Yeah, in order to make
2 Title VIII stronger, I think we need to include what's
3 affecting our ability to catch salmon on the Yukon and,
4 yet, we have other organizations, fisheries, agencies
5 that are outside of our area that we don't know what's
6 going on with them. But we rely on the salmon. As you
7 know the salmon comes in cycles and we're part of that
8 cycle. We are part of that cycle even though we're in
9 the village, because we've relied on that resource
10 since time immemorial, and I think we need to continue
11 that lifestyle for our people on the rivers. And also
12 even if it means to, you know, ask Fish and Game from
13 both Yukon and Kuskokwim to provide data, information
14 to that area that are catching salmon in that area, to
15 see if there's any data that they could find to see if
16 they're destined for tributaries both on the Yukon,
17 Kuskokwim and Bering Sea.

9

10 MS. PATTON: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

10

11 CHAIRMAN ONEY: And also I would like
12 to get clarification maybe from Phillip Peter because
13 mentioned to appoint two seats to the North Pacific
14 Fisheries Management Council and I don't know if he's
15 requesting it from the Board or the YK area.

13

14 (No comments)

14

15 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Maybe, Sophie, if you
16 could ask Peter.

16

17 MS. EVAN: Okay, I will.

17

18 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Okay, thank you.

18

19 MS. EVAN: (In Yup'ik)

19

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Okay, thank you.
20 Hopefully he'll come back on. Yeah, I wasn't clear on
how he wanted those two seats filled.

21

MS. PATTON: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
22 Yeah, and we can, you know, have a motion on the record
for those two letters and then, again, we can revisit
23 some of the details throughout the meeting if there's
more clarification or details the Council would like to
24 add.

25 Maybe we can just recap. I know we
0100
1 were on a vote and I've got all the notes of all the
discussion here. So a vote was for a letter to submit
2 to the North Pacific Fisheries Management Council and
bring to the attention of the Federal Subsistence
3 Board, the Bering Sea bycatch issue, and concern for
subsistence priority in the Federal managed waters and
4 request to the Board to elevate those concerns to the
Secretary of the Interior and on to Commerce. And just
5 to reiterate, my understanding, Mr. Chair, was that you
wanted to reach out to the other Western Alaska
6 Regional Advisory Councils to invite them to also join
in on the comment letter.

7

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Yes.

8

MS. PATTON: Thank you. And I don't
9 know if it was going to be in a separate motion or
included in the motion on the letters, a letter to the
10 Board of Fish and Area M, False Pass biologists and
managers expressing concern about chums and chinook
11 harvest and I understanding the Council was also asking
for current data to be provided.

12

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Yes. I don't know what
13 kind of process the Area M is using in order to collect
what type of fish they're catching. Here on the Yukon
14 and I'm sure on the Kuskokwim they collect data such as
scale samples, egg samples, earlobe samples, stuff like
15 that, that the scientists, biologists need to know in
order to identify where those species of fish may be
16 going to spawn. So I think in order for us to get that
data, I guess Fish and Game needs to work with that
17 Area M in order to share that so that we know if
there's any of those resources, salmon, that are
18 destined for tributaries, both on the Kuskokwim and
Yukon.

19

MS. PATTON: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

20

21 CHAIRMAN ONEY: And I would request
22 that in a motion if that's not included in the letter,
23 to write a letter to Fish and Game to let them know
24 about the data and to work with Area M to include data,
so we could find out where the fish are going, if any
of them are destined for our tributaries.

MS. PATTON: Okay, thank you, Mr.
Chair.

25
0101

1 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Do I hear a second.

2 MS. PATTON: And.....

3 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Maybe for the record,
4 if Tina, someone could reiterate the motion so everyone
is clear on the vote.

5 REPORTER: Go ahead, Eva.

6 MS. PATTON: Thank you, Mr. Chair and
7 Council. So the Council is making a single motion to
8 submit two separate letters. One letter is addressed
9 to the North Pacific Fisheries Management Council and
10 to the Federal Subsistence Board addressing concerns
11 about Bering Sea bycatch and Federal Subsistence
12 priority, the challenges of actualizing a Federal
13 subsistence priority in the Yukon, Kuskokwim and other
14 Western Alaska rivers. And to elevate these concerns
15 to the Secretary of Interior and Agriculture. That
16 letter will also request subsistence representative
17 seats, or tribal seats on the North Pacific Fisheries
18 Management Council. And the Council is also seeking to
19 reach out right away to the other Western Alaska
20 Councils to invite them to also join them on letters on
21 this issue.

14
15 And the second letter the Council's
16 requesting to submit to both the Board of Fisheries,
17 the Alaska Board of Fisheries and to ADF&G Area M
18 biologists and managers expressing their concern about
19 the harvest of chum and chinook salmon that may be
20 destined for the Yukon and Kuskokwim Rivers and asking
21 for data and information about monitoring of the
22 genetics and other information about chum and chinook
23 salmon harvested in the commercial fishery of the False
24 Pass, Area M area.

20 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Thank you, Eva.

21 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair, and Council,
22 did I cover everything there?

23 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Yes, I believe
24 everything was covered.

MS. PATTON: Okay, thank you. And then
for the record then to, you know, confirm the Council's

25 intent, if we have a vote on that motion for those two
0102
1 letters to address Bering Sea fisheries and Area M
management.

2

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Yeah, thank you, Eva.
3 I believe there was a motion by Alissa to include those
two letters to North Pacific Fisheries Management
4 Council and.....

5

(Teleconference interference -
participants not muted)

6

CHAIRMAN ONEY:the motion needed
7 to include data sharing by Fish and Game to work with
Area M. I believe we are ready to vote on this.

8

MR. SLATS: Mr. Chairman, before we
9 vote.

10

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Go ahead, Richard.

11

MR. SLATS: This is Richard. I don't
12 know if everybody received this in their meeting
packets but there are fliers that, I don't know if mine
was -- but I'm looking at a flier about North Pacific
13 Fisheries Management Council that has 15 Council
members. 11 are voting, four are not voting. The non-
14 voting members are Pacific State Marine Fishery
Commission, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S.
15 Department of States, and the U.S. Coast Guard. The
voting members are seven appointed seats, five from
16 Alaska and two from Washington. And it's like -- like
they, the North Pacific Management Council has like an
17 advisory panel, scientific and statistical committee
planning teams. They have a big staff and they have
18 committees, one of which I sit on. But I just wanted
to point out before we, you know, like while we're in
19 the process of writing this letter that the North
Pacific Fisheries Management Council has five meetings
20 a year, three in Anchorage, one in an Alaska fishing
community, one in Seattle or Portland. And these
21 meetings last approximately eight days this says. And
their industries are trawl, longline, jig, pod dredging
22 fishermen, catcher vessels and catcher processors. So
it's really more of a big boat, big fishing. And a lot
23 of that, you know, mostly out in the Bering Sea. But
they do have a meeting process and when they vote,
24 people -- or I mean the resources they have
jurisdiction over do not include salmon, they only
25 include Aleutian Island crabs, scallops, salmon and
0103
1 halibut for allocations only. So bycatch fish they
weren't catching for in those trawlers but they're

2 throwing overboard from these big -- from these
3 fisheries. So that's why I like the idea -- Myron's
4 idea of testifying in person as the Council so, you
5 know, in the future I think as Council, I think we
6 should plan on attending their future meetings. When
7 they are not doing their meetings -- I know they are
8 not doing their meetings in person, but they do their
9 meetings online and you can register -- we should
10 register to be heard and have a chance to testify
11 online.

7

8 So I just wanted to point those out.
9 And the tribes need to be involved, more involved, and
10 we should also be getting ourselves involved with their
11 process.

12 Thank you.

13 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Thank you, Richard.
14 Thank you for that information.

12

13 (Teleconference interference -
14 participants not muted)

15 CHAIRMAN ONEY: We still have people
16 that still need to mute their phones, star six. I
17 still hear background noise. So if you could take time
18 to press star six, appreciate it. Thank you.

16

17 And we're still in the discussion mode
18 at this time to take this vote.

19 MR. NANENG: I call for question on the
20 motion.

19

21 CHAIRMAN ONEY: An you state your name.
22 Myron, was that you?

23 MR. NANENG: This is Myron. I'm ready
24 to vote.

22

25 REPORTER: Thank you.

23

26 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Okay, thank you. I
27 didn't recognize your name earlier, I thought it was
28 you. Okay, a question by Myron, he asked for the
29 question and call for the vote.

0104

1 So at this time I am asking for a vote
2 to -- I'll let Eva go ahead and comment on the vote
3 that we're going to be doing for clarification. Eva.

4 MS. PATTON: Thank you, Mr. Chair and
5 Council. So the Council was making a motion to submit
6 two letters. The first of which is to the North
7 Pacific Fisheries Management Council and to the Federal
8 Subsistence Board addressing the concerns of meeting a

5

6 subsistence priority on Federal waters of the Yukon and
7 Kuskokwim, and concerns about Bering Sea bycatch of
8 both chinook and chum salmon and asking the Federal
9 Subsistence Board to elevate these concerns through the
10 Secretary of Interior and Commerce. And the Council is
11 also wishing to reach out to the other Western Alaska
12 Regional Advisory Councils to invite them to join in on
13 a joint letter. That's the first letter.

14 And a second letter to be addressed to
15 the Board of Fish and to Alaska Department of Fish and
16 Game, fisheries biologists and managers addressing
17 concerns about Area M, False Pass commercial fisheries
18 and whether Yukon and Kuskokwim salmon are being caught
19 in those fisheries. Specifically requesting
20 information and data sharing genetic stocks and other
21 monitoring of chinook and chum salmon caught in those
22 fisheries. And my apologies I forgot the North Pacific
23 Fisheries Management Council. There's also a request
24 to add two subsistence or tribal seats to the make up
25 of the North Pacific Fisheries Management Council.

Thank you, Mr. Chair.

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Thank you, Eva, for the
clarification. At this time we could go ahead and
vote. All those in favor of the motion that was
clarified by Eva say aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Opposed, same sign.

(No opposing votes)

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Hearing none, motion
carries. Thank you. Eva, moving on.

MS. PATTON: Thank you, Mr. Chair and
Council. And I would just like to quickly follow up

1 thank you, Richard for sharing the information on the
2 North Pacific Fisheries Management Council. Indeed
3 there is a full color flier handout about the North
4 Pacific Fisheries Management Council and the process in
5 your supplemental materials that came with your meeting
6 books. And for everyone who's online, this information
7 is also posted on the website with the same link to the
8 YK Delta RAC meeting materials. And Richard is
correct, there is an opportunity for both the public
and the Council to participate in the North Pacific
Fisheries Management Council meetings. In the past we
have -- the Council has -- when the meetings were in
person there were opportunities in the past to have a
representative from the Council address the North
Pacific Fisheries Management Council. As you noted

9 these meetings are online, and that is actually
10 overlapping with our RAC meeting this week. And Myron
11 was kind of helping coordinate if people wanted to
12 comment at that meeting since there's an overlap. And
13 it sounds like Mary was helping coordinate, that still
14 might be happening this afternoon for opportunity to
15 comment. Additionally, the Council -- this Council and
16 many other of the Councils, the Subsistence Regional
17 Advisory Councils have drafted letters to the North
18 Pacific Fisheries Management Council over the years and
19 as noted have elevated these concerns to the Board and
20 Secretary of the Interior in the past as well. And
21 Richard currently serves on -- there's a traditional
22 knowledge task force that was created to have some
23 avenue for rural and tribal members to make
24 recommendations. And we will be having an opportunity
25 about every other meeting or every other cycle, we do
26 have a full report from the North Pacific Fisheries
27 Management Council to this RAC. We last heard from
28 them at your spring meeting. And at the Council's
29 request they are invited to the winter meeting so
30 there'll be another opportunity to address their Staff
31 and biologists directly at the winter RAC meeting.

20

Thank you, Mr. Chair.

21

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Thank you, Eva. Yeah,
22 so we could keep an eye out for when the North Pacific
23 Fisheries Management Council has their winter meeting
24 so we could consider if we want to send a Council
25 member to their meeting. I know in the past I know I
26 attended, I think, two or three North Pacific Fisheries
27 Management Council, I think one in Kodiak and one in
28 Nome and those were the only ones that I attended since
29 0106

1 I've been on the YKRAC. And I've attended -- there
2 used to be a commercial fisheries council on this RAC
3 but it kind of diminished or kind of faded away over
4 the last four or five years so I don't know what's
5 going on with that. So I attended those meetings on
6 behalf of YKRAC. So we could go ahead and keep our
7 ears open as to when North Pacific Fisheries Management
8 Council will have their meetings, and if we can then we
9 should at least send someone to that meeting. So keep
10 our ears open and make that request to the Council, if
11 anyone wants to go testify on behalf of the YKRAC.

7

MS. ROGERS: Mr. Chair, Alissa.

8

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Alissa, go ahead.

9

MS. ROGERS: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I so
10 move to make a motion to have you as our YKRAC
11 representative to the North Pacific Fisheries

10

Management Council meeting. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

11

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Thank you, Alissa.

12

There's a motion on the floor by Alissa to have the Chairman attend the North Pacific Fisheries Management Council if we can. Is there a second.

13

14

MR. PARKS: Mr. Chairman.

15

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Go ahead.

16

MR. PARKS: Henry Parks. Just in case, if you cannot attend, if you have an alternate, and if so I would -- second -- for this meeting to be Myron Naneng.

17

18

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Okay. There's a motion by Alissa to send the Chairman to the North Pacific Fisheries Management Council and a second by Henry Parks and he's requesting if I can't make it then to request the Vice Chair to attend.

19

20

21

MS. ROGERS: Question.

22

CHAIRMAN ONEY: The question's been called by Alissa. All those in favor of the motion say aye.

23

24

IN UNISON: Aye.

25

0107

1

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Opposed, same sign.

2

(No opposing votes)

3

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Hearing none, motion carries. Thank you.

4

MS. PATTON: Thank you, Mr. Chair and Council members. And, Mr. Chair.....

5

6

MS. ROGERS: Mr. Chair.

7

MS. PATTON: Oh, go ahead, Alissa.

8

MS. ROGERS: Sorry, Eva, thank you.

Are we still on the annual report or topics of issues for the annual report because I have a few to add if it's okay with you, Mr. Chair.

9

10

CHAIRMAN ONEY: Yeah, thank you, Alissa. I believe we -- Eva, I think we can include other concerns in the letter also.

11

12

MS. PATTON: Yes, of course, Mr. Chair. And, yeah, this is a good time to bring up annual report topics, so this would be in the actual report to the Board. Now is a good time and then again we'll revisit again later in the meeting but if you have

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

15 issues that are ready, Alissa, that would be great.

16 Thank you.

17 MS. ROGERS: Thank you. Through the
Chair. So I have seven topics right now that I would
18 like to add to our letter.

19 The first topic is going to be Donlin
Gold has a huge impact on subsistence as they're
20 threatening our subsistence resources, the health of
our subsistence resources, which, in turn can make us
21 sick and decline our health as (In Yup'ik).

22 The second topic is we need more
whitefish research done. With the decline of whitefish
23 this year it is concerning to me. And since whitefish
is one of our fallback on species to keep us going
24 through the winter we need to get some research done on
those and see how bad of an impact we are impacting our
25 whitefish.

0108

1 I also -- my third topic is going to be
red salmon research. I want to know the abundance
2 issues, if it can be detrimental to other salmon in
spawning grounds or if it's going to create
3 environmental issues. Because we can only hold so much
capacity in our tributaries. I would like to see some
4 type of information so that we can better address the
red salmon.

5

The fourth topic would be the Donut
6 Hole. The Donut Hole is right over the adult chinook
salmon adult rearing in the Bering Sea for eight to 12
7 year old chinook salmon, which we have not seen in
years. The Donut Hole is known to be an illegal
8 unreported and unregulated fishery. This location is
known throughout history to be one of the main causes
9 of fishery collapses and crashes in all of North
American fisheries history. I would like to put a
10 letter to the Federal Subsistence Board, to the
Secretary of Interior, the Secretary of Commerce,
11 Alaska Legislators, the U.S. Agriculture, U.S. Congress
representatives to look to the history of the fishermen
12 from the Yukon that had met with the Japanese delegates
in order to make a treaty which allowing the fishery to
13 rebuild stocks and become plentiful again, where
commercial fishing was reopened when the stocks
14 returned.

15 One, two, three, four, the fifth topic
is the North Pacific Fisheries Management Council, to
16 lower the chinook and chum bycatch numbers to 16,000.
Due to the decline of the returning chinook numbers and
17 not meeting minimum subsistence harvest needs, the
starving people to make escapement numbers is not

18 justified as meeting goals. A decline of our
19 subsistence over the past 50 [sic] to 20 [sic] years
20 has decreased by such a huge percentage that this is a
21 declaration of governmental starvation to meet
22 conservation needs.

23 One, two, three, four, five, number 6.
24 A request that the Mulchatna Caribou Herd continue to
25 be closed until populations reach 30,000. That all
0109 Mulchatna caribou, regardless of the units, all remain
1 closed. If one location has to be closed, all
2 locations have to be closed for harvest of Mulchatna
3 caribou.

4 One, two, three, four, five, six,
5 number 7. Snowy owl concerns of low abundance have
6 reached the ears of the Yukon/Kuskokwim people. We
7 need to find out and we are requesting research on the
8 population project -- a population project to find out
9 how the populations are being affected and if they are
10 truly low or they're changing their migration route.
11 If the populations are low, that we, the YK Delta RAC
12 request an immediate closure on hunting any snowy owls
13 and enforce these restrictions to protect whatever
14 remaining snow owls we have left.

15 That's all I have, Mr. Chair, thank
16 you.

17 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Thank you, Alissa.
18 There's a request by Alissa to include seven items to
19 the annual report. The first one being Donlin Gold
20 impacts on subsistence salmon. Two, whitefish
21 research. As you know Fish and Game has been letting
22 us fish throughout the summer because trying to avoid
23 catching salmon. The third one is red salmon research.
24 And four, the Donut Hole, to follow up with letters to
25 the agencies. Five, a letter to North Pacific
26 Fisheries Management Council to lower chinook salmon
27 bycatch by -- was that 16,000?

28 MS. ROGERS: You are correct. Yes, you
29 are correct.

30 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Yeah, thank you. Thank
31 you, Alissa. To 16,000. And six, the Mulchatna
32 Caribou Herd to keep the Mulchatna Caribou Herd at
33 30,000. And to ask for immediate closure to snowy
34 owls. Correct me if I missed anything?

35 MS. ROGERS: No, you got it all.

36 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Do I hear a second.
37 Okay, thank you. Is there a second.

21 (No comments)
22 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Do I hear a second to
the addition.
23
24 (Teleconference interference -
participants not muted)
25 CHAIRMAN ONEY: I'm waiting for a
0110
1 second to Alissa's motion to include seven items to
include in the annual report. Is there a second to
2 Alissa's motion.
3 MR. ALSTROM: Mr. Chair, Thomas
Alstrom, I'll second it.
4
5 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Okay. The motion is
seconded by Thomas Alstrom from Alakanuk. All those in
favor of the items that were mentioned earlier please
6 say aye.
7 MR. NANENG: Mr. Chairman.
8 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Myron, go ahead.
9 MR. NANENG: Yeah, I have to disclose
10 that I'm on the Board of Calista Corporation so I'll
have to declare a conflict of interest on Item No. 1
and I'll have to abstain from that item.
11
12 CHAIRMAN ONEY: Okay, thank you, Myron,
so noted. I think -- I don't know what the process is
but I think -- I don't know maybe we need clarification
13 on it. Eva.
14 MS. PATTON: Thank you, Mr. Chair and
Council members.
15
16 (Teleconference interference -
participants not muted)
17 MS. PATTON: And the Council.....
18 MS. ROGERS: Mr. Chair, Alissa.
19 (No comments)
20 (Teleconference interference -
participants not muted)
21
22 REPORTER: So if people could take a
look at their device and see if they're muted. It'd be
greatly appreciated. Unless you're the one speaking
23 right now, please mute your phone so we can hear who's
speaking currently.
24
25 And I'm not sure, did we lose Ray and
Eva?
0111
1 (No comments)
2 MS. LAVINE: Mr. Chair, this is Robbin.

3 (No comments)

4 MS. ROGERS: I think.....

5 MS. LAVINE: Members of the Council
this is Robbin LaVine.

6
7 REPORTER: Go ahead, Robbin, Eva was
dropped.

8 MS. ROGERS: I think our phones are
shutting off and we're all going to be end up hanging
9 up and then calling back in because we're at that time
limit. Mine's about to go off in like five seconds so
10 I got to get going. I'll dial back in though.

11 MR. PETER: Hello, Alissa. Hello.

12 MS. EVAN: (In Yup'ik)

13 MR. PETER: Okay, yeah, quyana.

Quyana.

14
15 MS. LAVINE: Hello, Tina, and remaining
Board members, this is Robbin LaVine, Subsistence
Policy Coordinator with the Office of Subsistence
16 Management. A number of our Staff, and it appears a
number of our Council members have been dropped. If
17 there is anyone remaining, would you like to take a 10
minute break and adjourn at -- and reconvene at 4:25.

18
19 MR. PETER: Yes, thank you.

20 MS. LAVINE: Thank you. I'll remain on
and let people know that we are reconvening at 4:25.

21 MR. NANENG: Yeah, this is Myron, I
agree.

22
23 REPORTER: Okay, Robbin, this is Tina,
I'll just be on standby.

24 MS. LAVINE: Thank you. And I am
noting that some of our Council members and some of our
25 Staff have been dropped and they can't get back on even

0112
1 though they are using the same information that they
used to get on prior. And it says the call cannot be
2 completed.

3 REPORTER: All right.

4 MS. LAVINE: So let's hold on, Tina,
let's see if anything evolves.

5
6 REPORTER: Okay, I'll standby.

7 (Off record)

8 (On record)

9 MS. LAVINE: This is the time when we
10 said we would reconvene. I want to take an assessment
11 of who is online. And I want to start first with
12 Council members. I'd like to find out if there are any
13 Council members remaining online.

14 (No comments)

15 MS. LAVINE: If you are a Council
16 member for the YK Delta, please speak up.

17 (No comments)

18 MS. LAVINE: And remember you may need
19 to press star six to unmute yourself.

20 (No comments)

21 MS. LAVINE: One more time, if you are
22 a Council member for the Yukon Kuskokwim Delta Regional
23 Advisory Council, please speak up and say your name.

24 (No comments)

25 MS. LAVINE: So it looks like we have
0113 no Council members online. Do we have any OSM Staff.

1 (No comments)

2 MS. LAVINE: Any.....

3 MR. LIND: Hi, Robbin. I can barely
4 hear you but I'm on.

5

6

7 MS. LAVINE: Hello, Orville. So you
8 can barely hear me, I hear you well. Is there anyone
9 else from the Office.....

10 MR. GRAHAM: Hi Robbin.

11 MS. LAVINE:of Subsistence
12 Management? Yep.

13

14 MR. GRAHAM: This is Cory with OSM and
15 you're coming in loud and clear for me.

16 MS. LAVINE: Thank you, Cory.

17 MS. KLEIN: Robbin, this is Jill with
18 Fish and Wildlife, can you hear me?

19

20 MS. LAVINE: Yes, I can Jill. Hello.

21

22 MS. KLEIN: Hi. Okay, I can hear you
23 too. So I just was going to chime in if no one else
24 had said this already. But the testimony at the
25 Council did just start and so like Mary Peltola's
0113 testifying right now so folks that may have been
1 participating in this RAC meeting my have transitioned

14 over to that if they did have access for their phone
15 lines.

16 MS. LAVINE: Okay, thank you. If
17 you'll pause for just one moment I am going to make one
18 check. Again, primarily because I imagine there are
19 some agency folks. I did hear that Ben Mulligan is
20 online, Jill you are online and I know that our Council
21 Coordinator, Eva, is not online, and our Council
22 members are not online so we may need to recess until
23 we have a quorum and that may best happen tomorrow
24 morning at 9:00 a.m.

25 If you'll hold for just a moment I'm
26 going to confer with other OSM Staff and I'll be back
27 in about two minutes at 4:30, all right. Tina, are you
28 there?

29 REPORTER: I am here, I'll wait, yes.

30 MS. LAVINE: Okay. Please hold,
31 thanks.

32 (Pause)

0114 MS. LAVINE: Hello, Tina, this is
1 Robbin.

2 REPORTER: Okay. Yes.

3 MS. LAVINE: Yes, so we will recess
4 until we have a quorum and we will begin again tomorrow
5 morning at 9:00 a.m. I will send out contacts for
6 those of you who are listening online, Jill, Ben, OSM
7 Staff and others, please reach out to the people you
8 know who are participating in this meeting and let them
9 know that we will post a notification on our website
10 and that we intend to reconvene tomorrow morning at
11 9:00 a.m.

12 Okay.

13 MR. LIND: Thank you, Robbin. Thank
14 you, Tina.

15 MS. LAVINE: Yep. All right.

16 REPORTER: Okay, Robbin, I'm going to
17 go ahead and cut this line as soon as you tell me to.
18 I don't want to cut it too soon if you want to make
19 another announcement.

20 MS. LAVINE: Okay. I can make one more
21 announcement. For anyone listening online, anyone
22 who's left, due to a lack of quorum, not only a lack of
23 quorum, due to a lack of Council members, we are

17 adjourning for the day and we will reconvening, or we
18 are recessing for the day and we will reconvene the
19 meeting tomorrow morning at 9:00 a.m. Thank you all
20 and we'll talk to you hopefully tomorrow.

21 Thank you, Tina.

22 REPORTER: Yep, okay, thank you, Robbin.

23 MS. LAVINE: Bye.

24 REPORTER: Bye.

25 (Off record)

(PROCEEDINGS TO BE CONTINUED)

0115

1

2 C E R T I F I C A T E

3 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA)

4) ss.

5 STATE OF ALASKA)

6 I, Salena A. Hile, Notary Public in and for the
7 state of Alaska and reporter for Computer Matrix Court
8 Reporters, LLC, do hereby certify:

9 THAT the foregoing pages numbered ___ through
10 ___ contain a full, true and correct Transcript of the
11 YUKON KUSKOKWIM DELTA FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE REGIONAL
12 ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING, VOLUME I taken electronically
13 on the 6th day of October;

14 THAT the transcript is a true and
15 correct transcript requested to be transcribed and
16 thereafter transcribed by under my direction and
17 reduced to print to the best of our knowledge and
18 ability;

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

21

22 DATED at Anchorage, Alaska, this 19th
23 day of October 2021.

24

25

26

27 _____
28 Salena A. Hile
29 Notary Public, State of Alaska
30 My Commission Expires: 09/16/22

31

32

33

34

35

36

37

38

39

40