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1 EASTERN INTERIOR/SOUTHCENTRAL SUBSISTENCE

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REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL JOINT MEETING

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PUBLIC MEETING

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8

TELECONFERENCE

9

March 16, 2022

10

9:00 a.m.

11

12

13 EASTERN INTERIOR COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

14

15 Sue Entsminger, Chair

16 Andrew Bassich

17 William Glanz

18 Charles Jagow

19 Will Koehler

20 Jody Potts

21 Donald Woodruff

22

23

24 SOUTHCENTRAL COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

25

26 Greg Encelewski, Chairman

27 Donna Claus

28 Ed Holsten

29 Heath Kocan

30 Michael Rego

31 Hope Roberts

32 Diane Selanoff

33 Gloria Stickwan

34 Angela Totemoff

35 Donna Wilson

36 Dennis Zadra

37

38

39 Regional Council Coordinator, DeAnna Perry

40

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42 Recorded and transcribed by:

43

44 Computer Matrix Court Reporters, LLC

45 329 F Street, Suite 222

46 Anchorage, AK 99501

47 907-227-5312/sahile@gci.net

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P R O C E E D I N G S

(Telephonic - 3/16/2022)

(On record)

(Invocation)

CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Thank you, Sue. As you know Sue and I are going to be Chairing this meeting and I certainly welcome all our Council members and I hope we have a good, spirited and productive debate. Before I get into DeAnna's housekeeping mentions, I want to welcome everyone. There is going to be a time just shortly after she goes through housekeeping that we will call the roll and introduce everyone we'll give everyone, we'll kind of follow the agenda, we'll move to adopt the agenda and so on and so forth. But I want to get it called to order and I'll let DeAnna go ahead and explain the purpose of our joint gathering.

And, Sue, at any time that you want to make a comment or take over on the Chair you just let me know and we'll do that, if that works for everyone.

MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, thanks, Greg, and the same for you.

CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay. Alrighty. DeAnna, do you want to go ahead and make your announcements, I officially called the meeting to order and let's go ahead and do your housekeeping stuff there.

MS. PERRY: Okay, thank you, Mr. Chair. Again, hello, everyone. This is the Joint Meeting between Eastern Interior and Southcentral Alaska Subsistence Regional Advisory Councils. Before we get started, I'd just like to go over a few housekeeping items. The agenda and meeting materials can be found online on the Federal Subsistence website. That address is [www.goi.gov/subsistence](http://www.goi.gov/subsistence), then under the regions tab it's posted under both the Eastern Interior and also Southcentral region program pages.

(Teleconference interference - participants not muted)

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1 MS. PERRY: While you're on the  
2 conference call, please put your phone on mute. In  
3 fact, I'm hearing background noise right now.

4  
5 If you don't have the mute button  
6 please use star, six, when you're ready to speak, again  
7 hit star, six again. As I noted before, we've been  
8 having quite a bit of background of noise in all of our  
9 meetings this cycle so please help us try to maintain  
10 our administrative record by doing star, six, or muting  
11 your phone when you're not speaking. We only have one  
12 day to get through the material and have adequate time  
13 for the Councils to have discussions so it's going to  
14 be extremely important that we don't have audio  
15 interruptions and background noise so keeping your  
16 phone on mute will go a long way to protect our  
17 administrative record.

18  
19 Please remember that our proceedings  
20 are being recorded and that everything said, even if it  
21 isn't meant to be heard it's going to be recorded and  
22 could appear in the transcript. So in addition to  
23 making sure your phone is on mute, don't place us on  
24 hold. A lot of hold features put music on the line and  
25 that pretty much stops our entire meeting. So please  
26 put us on mute, and don't put us on hold.

27  
28 All of our meetings are conducted  
29 pursuant to Robert's Rules of Parliamentary Procedure.  
30 it's a little harder to stick to this protocol when  
31 meetings are held virtually. We can't see each other  
32 and it's hard to recognize when someone wishes to  
33 speak, especially in this forum where we have two  
34 Councils. It's important that Council members, Staff  
35 and public ask to be recognized before they speak by  
36 addressing Mr. Chair or Madame Chair. When one of the  
37 Chairs recognizing you, please state your full name,  
38 spell it if you would so that we could capture that for  
39 our record, and then you can proceed with your  
40 statement.

41  
42 The Southcentral and Eastern Interior  
43 Councils are meeting today to discuss Fisheries  
44 Proposal FP21-10. Under the agenda item, joint  
45 recommendation to the Board, the Councils will have  
46 decisions to make. They can take no further action, in  
47 which the current recommendations and comments to the  
48 Board from the initial RAC meetings will stand. The  
49 Southcentral RAC could offer an additional  
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1 recommendation or comment. The Eastern Interior RAC  
2 could offer an additional comment. Each Council will  
3 need to take separate action because each Council is an  
4 individual FACA Committee. Having a joint meeting does  
5 not constitute one combined FACA Committee and so we  
6 need to remember that each Council, at the end of the  
7 day, if they choose to take action, they'll need to go  
8 on record with their comments separately. Even if both  
9 Councils agree to the same comment or to a compromise,  
10 each Council will need to make a motion, offer that  
11 suggested language for their comment, and provide  
12 justification for that comment, just like we've done  
13 with the previous comments and recommendations by  
14 Councils.

15

16 This proposal has gone through the  
17 regulatory process up to the point of decision by the  
18 Federal Subsistence Board. That regulatory process  
19 included the following steps at both the Southcentral  
20 and Eastern Interior RAC meetings.

21

22 There was introduction and presentation  
23 of the Staff analysis.

24

25 Report on tribe and ANCSA Corporation  
26 consultations.

27

28 Agency comments by ADF&G, or the State,  
29 Federal and tribal entities.

30

31 Advisory Group comments, including  
32 other Regional Advisory Councils, Fish and Game  
33 Advisory Committees and Subsistence Resource  
34 Commissions.

35

36 And there were written public comments  
37 and public testimony.

38

39 Each Council then deliberated and  
40 discussed the proposal and voted to make their  
41 recommendations to the Board.

42

43 Since this proposal has completed the  
44 normal regulatory process at each Council's regulatory  
45 meeting, it was noted at the top of this joint meeting  
46 agenda that further public comment would not be  
47 accepted. It's my understanding that it was not the  
48 Board's intent to repeat the entire regulatory process  
49 again for this proposal. I would like to clarify that  
50

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1 the intent of that statement on the agenda was to  
2 inform that the normal courses of public comment and  
3 testimony engagement through the Regional Advisory  
4 Council portion of the regulatory process on this  
5 proposal has been met. That said, I would like to  
6 advise everyone that this is a joint meeting, it's a  
7 public meeting, it has been sufficiently and adequately  
8 noticed and any further public comments or testimony  
9 are at the discretion of the Chairs.

10

11 Council members, this is your meeting.  
12 I appreciate that you've been asked to make extra time  
13 in your schedules to allow for this meeting and all the  
14 time that you've spent preparing for the meeting. Each  
15 Council has a well experienced Chair and Greg and Sue  
16 will collectively step you through the meeting today.

17

18 We're all here because we care about  
19 the resource and subsistence users. And I think it's  
20 important that Council members allow each other that  
21 space to express themselves during the meeting. We know  
22 these virtual meetings are challenging so please be  
23 courteous and patient with each other. For everyone  
24 listening and participating, I would ask that you show  
25 the respect to the Chairs and to the Council members  
26 that they deserve.

27

28 As a FACA Committee we have a  
29 requirement to produce a clear administrative record so  
30 I thank you all in advance for observing the structured  
31 protocol for the meeting so that we can meet that  
32 obligation.

33

34 Thank you for your time in letting me  
35 get through all of those housekeeping announcements and  
36 I think I've covered the basics here, Mr. and Madame  
37 Chair.

38

39 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay, thanks,  
40 DeAnna. Sue, you have any questions for DeAnna before  
41 we start.

42

43 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: No, I don't  
44 but I would ask my Council if they did.

45

46 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay. Before I  
47 get into the Council -- okay, well, yeah, we'll ask  
48 that when we get into debate, I just don't -- I want to  
49 go ahead and get our roll call and introduce them first

50

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1 if that's acceptable.

2

3

MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Go ahead.

4

5

CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay. Hope, are you there so we could see -- are you going to call -- would you mind calling the -- establishing a quorum, and call on the Southcentral RAC and then we'll move on to the Eastern.

10

11

MS. ROBERTS: Yes, sir, I'm here. Am I loud and clear for you.

13

14

CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Yeah, loud and clear, if you don't mind calling the roll for us.

16

17

MS. ROBERTS: Okay. Southcentral Council members, I'm going to call member names and please let me know if you're present after you hear your name. For this time period, please remember to unmute your phones or star/asterisk, six on your keypad and we will be able to hear you.

22

23

24

Edward Holsten.

25

26

MR. HOLSTEN: Yes, good morning.

27

28

MS. ROBERTS: Good morning.

29

30

Michael Opheim.

31

32

CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: He will not be here, he sent a note.

33

34

35

MS. ROBERTS: Okay. Diane Selanoff.

36

37

MS. TOTEMOFF: Diane Selanoff will be signing off soon.

38

39

40

MS. ROBERTS: Okay. Dennis Zadra.

41

42

MR. ZADRA: Dennis is here, good morning.

43

44

45

MS. ROBERTS: Good morning.

46

47

Gloria Stickwan.

48

49

MS. STICKWAN: Here.

50

0007

1 MS. ROBERTS: Angela Totemoff.

2

3 MS. TOTEMOFF: This is Angela, here.

4

5 MS. ROBERTS: Good morning.

6

7 Donna Claus.

8

9 (No comments)

10

11 MS. ROBERTS: Andy McLaughlin.

12

13 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Andy will not be  
14 here. He had a conflict in his schedule back when we  
15 scheduled this.

16

17 MS. ROBERTS: Donna Wilson.

18

19 MS. WILSON: Donna Wilson here. Good  
20 morning.

21

22 MS. ROBERTS: Good morning.

23

24 Heath Kocan.

25

26 MR. KOCAN: Here.

27

28 MS. ROBERTS: Sorry, if I'm butchering  
29 your name here, I don't mean to.

30

31 MR. KOCAN: Kocan.

32

33 MS. ROBERTS: Michael Rego.

34

35 (No comments)

36

37 MS. ROBERTS: Hope Roberts, I'm here.

38

39 Mr. Chair.

40

41 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: I'm here.

42

43 MS. ROBERTS: Mr. Chair, you have eight  
44 of your 13 seated Council members present. You do have  
45 a quorum.

46

47 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay, thank you,  
48 Hope. So we do have a quorum on our side.

49

50

0008

1 Sue, do you want to have Jody call the  
2 roll for the Eastern Interior.

3  
4 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Yes. Jody, are  
5 you on.

6  
7 MS. POTTS: Yes, Madame Chair, I'm on.

8  
9 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay. Then if  
10 you.....

11  
12 MS. POTTS: Eastern Interior, if you  
13 could please state if you're present and then put your  
14 phones back on mute after.

15  
16 Andy Bassich.

17  
18 MR. BASSICH: Present.

19  
20 MS. POTTS: Bill Glanz.

21  
22 MR. GLANZ: I'm present also.

23  
24 MS. POTTS: Charlie Jagow.

25  
26 MR. JAGOW: Present.

27  
28 MS. POTTS: Charlie Wright.

29  
30 (No comments)

31  
32 MS. POTTS: Don Woodruff.

33  
34 MR. WOODRUFF: Present.

35  
36 MS. POTTS: Linda Evans.

37  
38 (No comments)

39  
40 MS. POTTS: Linda Evans.

41  
42 (No comments)

43  
44 MS. POTTS: Nicolas Henry.

45  
46 (No comments)

47  
48 MS. POTTS: Nicolas Henry.

49  
50



0009

1 (No comments)

2

3 MS. POTTS: We know that our Chairwoman  
4 Sue Entsminger is present.

5

6 Will Koehler.

7

8 MR. KOEHLER: Present.

9

10 MS. CLAUS: Mr. Chairman, this is Donna  
11 Claus, can you hear me now.

12

13 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: I hear you.

14

15 MS. CLAUS: Okay, I just didn't get  
16 through before.

17

18 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay, thank you.  
19 We'll mark you there.

20

21 MS. WESSELS: Madame Chair, this is  
22 Katya.

23

24 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Go ahead,  
25 Katya.

26

27 MS. WESSELS: Yeah, I just wanted to say  
28 for the record, the Eastern Interior with seven members  
29 present a quorum is established.

30

31 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay, thank you.

32

33 MS. POTTS: Thank you.

34

35 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay, thank you,  
36 and thank Sue, and here we go. Welcome and  
37 introductions. Sue, if you would, if you would like to  
38 take the Chair there and introduce your RAC there and  
39 have them introduce themselves and this is not the  
40 debate but if you could just go through and they could  
41 introduce themselves, maybe get to know them a little  
42 bit, or at least hear their names. If you'll do yours  
43 I'll go ahead and do mine when I'm done.

44

45 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, thank  
46 you, Greg. I'm going to call on you guys. Just tell  
47 us where you're from and a little bit about yourself.

48

49 Jody Potts.

50

0010

1 MS. POTTS: Good morning. Jody Potts  
2 Joseph here calling in from my home in Stevens Village  
3 on the middle Yukon River. I'm Han Gwich'in,  
4 originally from Eagle Village. Grew up with a family  
5 that were subsistence users my whole life, as trappers  
6 and hunters and fisher people. I'm indigenous to  
7 Interior Alaska. My husband and I have a dog team and  
8 are subsistence users and very glad to be about a part  
9 of this Council.

10

11 Mahsi'choo.

12

13 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thanks, Jody.  
14 I'm going to call on Linda Evans, she may have signed  
15 in. Are you there Linda. You have to unmute your  
16 phone.

17

18 (No comments)

19

20 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Or Nicolas  
21 Henry.

22

23 (No comments)

24

25 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: The next is  
26 Bill Glanz.

27

28 MR. GLANZ: Yes, this is Bill Glanz. I  
29 live up in Central and I've been on the Subsistence  
30 Board, on the Eastern Interior for like 16 or 17 years.  
31 And that's about -- I'm on the -- let's see, I'm on too  
32 many different boards that don't matter much guys.  
33 Just glad to be on. And I'm going to try to talk as  
34 long as I can, or keep my phone on as long as I can  
35 because it'll drop me three or four -- about the third  
36 time it drops me I'm calling it a day. It might make  
37 it all day, you never know, most of the time it doesn't  
38 make it all day. Anyway, good to be here at the joint  
39 meeting, talk to you all if I need to talk about  
40 something. Bye -- I'm here, I mean.

41

42 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thanks, Bill.

43

44 Andy Bassich.

45

46 MR. BASSICH: Thank you, Madame Chair.  
47 Andy Bassich calling in from Calico Bluff here on the  
48 Yukon River. I've been an Eastern RAC member for close  
49 to 20 years, Yukon River Panel member. Also the Chair  
50

0011

1 of the Communications Committee for the Yukon River for  
2 the Alaska side. AC member. And I'm also an advisory  
3 for the North Pacific Anadromous Fish Commission at the  
4 Federal level. Look forward to having this discussion  
5 today and hopefully we can come up with some good  
6 solutions.

7

8 Thank you, Madame Chair.

9

10 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Thanks, Andy.

11

12 Charlie Wright, are you on.

13

14 (No comments)

15

16 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, Charlie  
17 Jagow.

18

19 MR. JAGOW: Good morning. This is  
20 Charlie Jagow, I'm calling in from Fairbanks. I was  
21 born and raised on the Porcupine River at my family's  
22 trapline and probably get to spend about half the year  
23 up there every year. And just a side note, I'm  
24 probably going to get disconnected, I'm on the road  
25 today so I'm kind of in and out of service here. I  
26 look forward to the meeting.

27

28 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thanks,  
29 Charlie.

30

31 Don Woodruff.

32

33 MR. WOODRUFF: Thank you, Madame Chair.  
34 This is Don Woodruff in Eagle. And I've been on the  
35 Eastern RAC for about 15 years. And I'm a subsistence  
36 fisherman and student of fisheries. So that's me.

37

38 Thank you, Madame Chair.

39

40 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Thanks, Donald.

41

42 Will Koehler.

43

44 MR. KOEHLER: Yeah, this is Will Koehler  
45 for the record. I'm an outfitter, a hunting guide on  
46 the east side of the Wrangell-St. Elias Park. And I've  
47 been working in that line of work and in that area for  
48 all of my adult life and a good portion of my  
49 childhood. So I really appreciate the lifestyle that  
50

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1 we get to have. I was on the RAC for, oh, four or five  
2 years and then I took a leave of absence, I guess you  
3 could call it, for a few years, and I just got  
4 reappointed here this -- well, the last RAC meeting  
5 here last week was my first meeting since I got  
6 reappointed. So that's me, thank you.

7

8 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thanks, Will.  
9 And I'm Sue Entsminger. I was Suzie to my family but I  
10 thought I'd -- after I grew up I needed to be Sue, I go  
11 by Sue. At any rate I've been on the Tok Cutoff for 45  
12 years and lived in the Fairbanks area for about three  
13 or four years before that. I serve on the Tok Cutoff  
14 Nabesna Road Advisory Committee before there was a  
15 Federal Board, it was State ACs, it still exists. I  
16 served on the Board of Game from '93 to '96, it was, I  
17 believed. And I served on the Big Game Commercial  
18 Services Board as a public member before that. I  
19 served on several other boards. I've been on the RAC  
20 for 21 years. And serve on the Subsistence Resource  
21 Commission for the Park. And the Park, we used to.....

22

23 (Teleconference interference -  
24 participants not muted)

25

26 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: There's a lot  
27 of background noise here. A long time ago, again, the  
28 Park, 1981 -- or '79, I guess it was. I've been  
29 involved in the fisheries, I've been a commercial  
30 fishermen, a commercial trapper, I did a lot of  
31 trapping and made fur hats for 26 years, fur things,  
32 and then I became a guide later in life and now I still  
33 have my guide license and do bear hunts in the spring.

34

35 We are to have a 30 percent  
36 commercial/sport representation on these RACs and  
37 myself and Will are on it for this Eastern Interior.

38

39 And that's it, thank you.

40

41 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: All right, thank  
42 you, Madame Chair. I'll go ahead, this is Greg  
43 Encelewski. I'm going to go ahead and call on our  
44 members. And, Ed, I'm going to go right off the top of  
45 our list and work my way down so if you want to go  
46 first that'd be great.

47

48 MR. HOLSTEN: Yes, good morning, Mr.  
49 Chair. This is Ed Holsten. RAC member representing

50

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1 Cooper Landing area on the Kenai Peninsula. I've been  
2 in Cooper Landing for about 20 years, been in Alaska  
3 for 40 years. Retired from the U.S. Forest Service  
4 about 20 years ago. Currently subsistence fisherman on  
5 the Russian River and Kenai River. I've been on this  
6 RAC for about almost six years now.

7

8 So thank you, Mr. Chair.

9

10 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Thank you, Ed.

11

12 Michael Opheim is not here. He's one  
13 of our Council members, been on for quite awhile from  
14 Seldovia. He had prior commitments. He did send in a  
15 note when we get into debate, and I will read his  
16 comments then. But he's over from Seldovia and  
17 hopefully you guys will get to meet him at some point.

18

19 Okay, I'm going to go with, did Diane  
20 Selanoff show up.

21

22 MS. TOTEMOFF: Mr. Chair, this is  
23 Angela. Not quite yet, she's being held up in another  
24 meeting.

25

26 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: When she comes in  
27 just let me know.

28

29 Okay, Dennis, are you there, do you  
30 want to go ahead and introduce yourself.

31

32 MR. ZADRA: Yes, thank you. Yeah, my  
33 name is Dennis Zadra. I'm a 31 year resident of  
34 Cordova. I'm a commercial fisherman as well as a  
35 subsistence user down here. I also operate a big game  
36 guiding business here out of Cordova. And I've been on  
37 the RAC, I believe for five years, either five or six  
38 years, I'm not sure. But, yeah, just learning the  
39 process and very grateful to be part of it.

40

41 Thank you.

42

43 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Thank you,  
44 Dennis.

45

46 Gloria Stickwan.

47

48 MS. STICKWAN: Gloria Stickwan. I've  
49 served on the RAC for, I don't know, 18 years maybe,

50

0014

1 19, 18. I serve on the Wrangell-St. Elias Subsistence  
2 Resource Commission as well for the same amount of  
3 years or longer. I've lived in the area most of my  
4 life. I'm a subsistence user in the area. I hope we  
5 have a good meeting.

6

7 Thank you.

8

9 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Thank you, Gloria.

10

11 Angela, you want to go next, Totemoff.

12

13 MS. TOTEMOFF: Thank you, Mr. Chair.  
14 Yep, Angela Totemoff, born and raised in Tatitlek and  
15 it's located in the Prince William Sound. Kind of a  
16 newer member to the Southcentral RAC and looking  
17 forward to the discussion today.

18

19 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Thank you.

20

21 Donna Claus.

22

23 MS. CLAUS: Hello, Mr. Chairman. I live  
24 almost at the headwaters of the Chitina River. We live  
25 alone up there about, I don't know, 50 miles from  
26 McCarthy deep into the Wrangell-St. Elias National  
27 Park. We have a guiding -- we're guiding and  
28 recreational operators there. We've commercial fished  
29 for probably, I don't know, the family maybe 60 years.  
30 We use subsistence and we live this kind of life. And  
31 I am on the Board representing commercial interest.

32

33 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Thank you, Donna.

34

35 Andy McLaughlin is our Secretary and  
36 he's from Chenega Bay. Been on the RAC for a long  
37 time. He also sent in -- he had a conflict even when  
38 we scheduled this meeting. He also sent in a note and  
39 we'll read that during the time when we do our debate  
40 and suggestions on compromise or whatever we could do  
41 to better this proposal.

42

43 Donna Wilson, is she next.

44

45 MS. WILSON: Hello, thank you, Mr.  
46 Chair. I'm a lifelong Alaskan. I guess they call me a  
47 Territory Brat because I was born before Alaska was  
48 state. I spent my life living pretty much subsistence  
49 lifestyle. Our family visited all the camps, parks,  
50

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1 way-sides, pull-outs between Palmer and Valdez. And  
2 I've been active in the guiding and outfitting  
3 business, some of the family tradition that is carried  
4 on here from early, before there was a road on the  
5 highway, Glennallen Highway, and the man from Sheep  
6 Mountain helped have that established and since that  
7 time Unit 13 has been one of the primary subsistence  
8 use area for a good percentage of Anchorage, the  
9 Valley, maybe even as far as, you know, Fairbanks. But  
10 I'm happy to be here representing the subsistence uses  
11 of this area and look forward to being amongst all  
12 these really experienced and dedicated individuals. So  
13 I look forward to a good meeting and hope that I can  
14 make worthwhile contributions.

15

16 Thank you, very much.

17

18 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Thank you, Donna.

19

20 Hope Roberts.

21

22 MS. ROBERTS: Good morning, Hope

23 Roberts.

24

25 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Good morning.

26

27 MS. ROBERTS: I live and work in the  
28 ancestral lands of Suqpiag here in (In Native) or  
29 Valdez. I am the InterTribal Liaison at Chugach  
30 Regional Resources Commission. I've owned a fishing  
31 charter here in Valdez for the last five years. I've  
32 been sportfishing for well over 20 years. I represent a  
33 sports seat. I am from the Interior of Alaska and I  
34 have indigenous roots in the Southeast of Alaska. I am  
35 excited to spend my first year serving the RAC as your  
36 Secretary.

37

38 Camai (In Native)

39

40 Good morning.

41

42 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Good morning,

43 thank you, Hope.

44

45 Heath Kocan.

46

47 MR. KOCAN: Hi, thank you, Mr. Chair.

48 Yeah, my name is Heath Kocan, I live in Cordova. This

49 is my first -- I just got appointed to the RAC, so

50

0016

1 excited to be on it. And my family and I are  
2 subsistence users in the area from moose to waterfowl  
3 to fish. And I'm excited to be here today, thanks.

4

5 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Thank you, Heath.

6

7 Michael Rego, is he here. Has he  
8 checked in yet.

9

10 MR. REGO: Yeah, I'm here.

11

12 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Thank you.

13

14 MR. REGO: Thank you, Mr. Chair, this  
15 morning. My name's Michael Rego. I'm from Glennallen.  
16 I've been in the area, I'm 40 tomorrow, so pretty much  
17 I've been in the area my entire life. Been a  
18 subsistence user my entire life. My family has  
19 purchased a lodge on the northern side of Wrangell-St.  
20 Elias National Park, been working on it at Mile Post  
21 28. I was appointed to serve the commercial interests  
22 for the RAC but I also am a subsistence user and have  
23 been one for as long as I've been out in Unit 13. I  
24 just have been appointed to the Board and am thankful  
25 and looking to learn the in's and out's and it's a  
26 great opportunity.

27

28 Thank you.

29

30 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Thank you,

31

32 Michael.

33

34 Okay, did Diane Selanoff show up.

35

36 (No comments)

37

38 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Still held up.  
39 Okay, I'll tell you a little bit about me. Disregard  
40 the Richard, I go by Greg. But Richard, I was born and  
41 raised here in Ninilchik. I'm a 1948 model so I'm one  
42 of those that was here pre-statehood myself but there's  
43 quite a few of us like that. Anyway I've been on the  
44 Southcentral RAC since 2003, it's been quite awhile and  
45 it's been a real and a pleasure. I followed Ralph  
46 Lohse, our last Chairman quite a few years ago, but I  
47 really respected him and he was a great subsistence  
48 user and I learned a lot from him. I'm on the local AC  
49 here. I'm a subsistence user. I fish subsistence Kenai  
50 and I hunt in the Federal area here. I also fished

50



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1 commercial all my life, setnet, my dad had a trap and  
2 they outlawed them in 1958, I've had setnets there and  
3 as you know as things going, that's pretty well shut  
4 down, that's kind of a past-time. But I represent  
5 subsistence. I'm a very avid subsistence and proponent  
6 of the proposals. I support the subsistence preference  
7 and use in our state. And I could tell you more about  
8 me but I'm not going to go in anymore.

9  
10 If you have any questions, we'll try  
11 and run things as smooth as we can today and make sure  
12 everyone gets their fair share to talk and opinions.

13  
14 With that, if Diane hasn't showed up,  
15 we're going to go ahead and move on. I'm ready to move  
16 to the next portion of the agenda, Sue, if you're ready  
17 for that, and that would be review and adopt the agenda  
18 and it's Tab 1.

19  
20 MS. PERRY: Mr. Chair.

21  
22 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Uh-huh.

23  
24 MS. PERRY: This is DeAnna.

25  
26 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Go ahead.

27  
28 MS. PERRY: We did have two Board  
29 members that are waiting for introductions before we  
30 move on to the next agenda item.

31  
32 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Who would that  
33 be. I missed Diane, she wasn't there, who's the other  
34 Board member?

35  
36 MS. PERRY: These are the Federal  
37 Subsistence Board members for National Park Service,  
38 Regional Director Sarah Creachbaum is on the line to  
39 give some welcome remarks, as is the Forest Service  
40 Regional Forester Dave Schmid.

41  
42 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay, I  
43 apologize, I was looking at my old agenda. I was going  
44 to do them -- but we can introduce them now, yes. I  
45 was going to -- we had the approval of the agenda on  
46 the old one. Did you follow that, DeAnna.

47  
48 MS. PERRY: Yes, Mr. Chair. So if  
49 Sarah Creachbaum, National Park Service Regional  
50

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1 Director is on the line, she may go ahead with the  
2 Chairs permission for some welcome remarks to both  
3 Councils.

4

5 MS. CREACHBAUM: Good morning, can you  
6 hear me.

7

8 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Can hear you  
9 loud, sounds good, welcome.

10

11 MS. CREACHBAUM: Great, thank you.  
12 Thank you, Mr. Chair. I appreciate having a moment of  
13 time on your agenda. My name is Sarah Creachbaum and  
14 I'm the new National Park Service Regional Director for  
15 the Alaska region and I'm really excited to be back in  
16 Alaska. I know that you have a really robust agenda.  
17 I won't take but a moment and won't make a lengthy  
18 introduction. But I will tell you that I'm coming back  
19 to Alaska with over 30 years of Federal service with  
20 Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service and  
21 the Forest Service. And that I have previous  
22 experience with Alaska and with subsistence resources.  
23 As a matter of fact it's one of the reasons that I  
24 wanted to come back and assume this Chair.

25

26 I guess I'll close with that I'd like  
27 everybody to know that I have tremendous respect for  
28 the work that you do. I know that it is very, very  
29 hard work. But things that are really important are  
30 very seldom easy to accomplish. And I look forward to  
31 learning from you and working with you in the future.

32

33 Thank you for your time. And thanks  
34 Mr. Chair.

35

36 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Well, thank you,  
37 much, Sarah and welcome and glad to have you, so that's  
38 great. Do we got Dave Schmid, did we want to move on  
39 to that next.

40

41 MR. SCHMID: Yes, thank you, Mr. and  
42 Madame Chair. This is Dave Schmid. I will reintroduce  
43 myself quickly and keep my comments brief and I think I  
44 will also try to cover, kind of quickly, from the Board  
45 action as well that's got you all together here.

46

47 For the new members, new RAC members  
48 that I may not have met in the past, again, my name is  
49 Dave Schmid. I serve as the Regional Forester here in

50

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1 Alaska. I represent the Secretary of Agriculture on  
2 the Federal Subsistence Board. I've spent almost 30  
3 years in Alaska myself and lived most of that time in  
4 rural Alaska.

5

6 I first just wanted to thank, again,  
7 the new members, the Council. It looks like there's  
8 almost about half of each Council have new members and  
9 I really appreciate your service, they're important  
10 contributions here to Alaska.

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And I really want to thank both  
Councils for the extra time and effort around this  
deferred proposal that's come back for looking for some  
more work from the Councils here, if possible. And I  
know it is a lot of extra work but it is important and  
I appreciate that.

I would like to share, you know, how  
this got back. So this proposal, FP21-10 did come  
before the Board, and I won't repeat DeAnna's comments  
at the start of the meeting here of why we're here.  
But the Federal Subsistence Board really does give a  
lot of deference to the RACs in the regulatory process.  
And this proposal had separate recommendations coming  
from the adjacent RAC, it was supported by the  
Southcentral RAC and was opposed at the time by the  
Eastern Interior RAC. And the Board looked to -- in  
this process, before we came to a final decision, asked  
that we defer this proposal and the ask was really to  
see if there -- if the RACs could meet jointly and  
explore to see if there was any space or any  
modifications that might improve upon the proposal.  
Again, looking at the wisdom of the RACs and having the  
benefits of a joint discussion versus, you know, two  
separate RAC discussions, that that might help the  
proposal. I think reaching consensus or compromise may  
have been a poor choice of words, or maybe not the best  
choice of words in that request or that ask. And I  
would share, as a member of the Board, you know, it's  
okay if you don't come to an agreement here today, or  
if you agree to disagree, but the ask is and the hope  
is that folks can have a robust discussion and see if  
there are any opportunities to either modify the  
proposal or propose any other changes that might help  
this come together.

And I would share that the Federal  
Subsistence Board is meeting, I think, later this

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1 month, and we will be taking action on the proposal but  
2 the hope again and the appreciation for the RACs were  
3 to see if there is, through some discussion and  
4 exploration here today, if there was some ways to  
5 improve the proposal or find other support, and, again,  
6 it's okay if folks continue to agree or agree to  
7 disagree.

8

9 So, with that, Mr. and Madame Chair,  
10 thanks for the opportunity to participate today and  
11 we'll try and also be able to take questions during the  
12 deliberation if I can.

13

14 Thank you.

15

16 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Thank you, Dave.  
17 That explains the position well and I appreciate that  
18 and I'm sure Sue does too. So thank you for that and  
19 when we get there I'm sure there'll be questions.

20

21 Okay, DeAnna, I think I'm using the  
22 right revised agenda here now, so we've got the Staff  
23 and we've got -- we've done our introductions of each  
24 RAC so I think we're ready -- I got on mine here for  
25 Sue to take over and adopt the agenda.

26

27 MS. PERRY: Mr. Chair, this is DeAnna.

28

29 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Uh-huh, go ahead,  
30 DeAnna.

31

32 MS. PERRY: I have not taken a roll of  
33 Staff but if you'd like to go ahead and have Madame  
34 Chair, take care of adopting the agenda, we can do that  
35 later, whatever's convenient for you.

36

37 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: No, if we missed  
38 that part let's do that, let's do the roll call of the  
39 agency Staff. I know there's a bunch on here so we  
40 should know who's here.

41

42 MS. PERRY: Okay. And normally in our  
43 meetings together we have a list where everybody can  
44 just sign up but since, in the virtual world, to try to  
45 kind of limit all the crosstalk with everybody talking  
46 at once I do have a list of names, folks who usually  
47 attend the meeting, so if you'll bear with me I will go  
48 down this list and then we'll see who we might have  
49 missed. I'll go by agency, so when I call your name if  
50

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1 you can let me know you're on.

2

3 I'll start with Office of Subsistence  
4 Management. Robbin LaVine.

5

6 (No comments)

7

8 MS. PERRY: And I'll just ask all Staff  
9 to go ahead and unmute their lines while we go through  
10 roll call. Katya Wessels.

11

12 MS. WESSELS: I am here, thank you.

13

14 MS. LAVINE: DeAnna, this is Robbin.

15

16 MS. PERRY: Yes.

17

18 MS. LAVINE: Yeah, I had my phone  
19 muted. But, yes, hello everyone, I am Robbin LaVine,  
20 Subsistence Policy Coordinator for the Office of  
21 Subsistence Management. Thank you,  
22 Mr. Chair, Madame Chair.

23

24 MS. PERRY: Thank you, Robbin. And,  
25 Katya, and for everyone else when you let me know  
26 you're here, if you want to go ahead and remind us what  
27 your title or your job is with the agency that would be  
28 great. So, Katya, I don't think you had the  
29 opportunity to do that.

30

31 MS. WESSELS: Yes, thank you for the  
32 reminder, DeAnna. Yeah, this is Katya Wessels and I am  
33 the Council Coordination Division Supervisor with the  
34 Office of Subsistence Management. Thank you.

35

36 MS. PERRY: Brooke McDavid.

37

38 MS. MCDAVID: Hi, DeAnna, yes, I'm  
39 here. Good morning everyone. I am the Eastern  
40 Interior Council Coordinator.

41

42 MS. PERRY: Thank you.

43

44 Amee Howard.

45

46 MS. HOWARD: Good morning. This is  
47 Amee Howard, Deputy Assistant Regional Director for the  
48 Office of Subsistence Management. I want to say good  
49 morning to everyone on the call and thank the Councils

50

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1 and Council Chairs and all the entire team that has put  
2 in a lot of work to get materials together and get the  
3 meeting together, thank you all for participating and  
4 being part of this process. So good morning and  
5 looking forward to a good meeting.

6

7

MS. PERRY: Thank you.

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Sue Detwiler.

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MS. DETWILER: Yes, good morning. This  
is Sue Detwiler, I'm the Assistant Regional Director  
for the Office of Subsistence Management. Thank you.

MS. PERRY: Thank you.

Orville Lind.

(No comments)

MS. PERRY: Orville, have you been able  
to join us today.

(No comments)

MS. PERRY: Okay, Tom Kron.

MR. KRON: Yes, here. I'm the  
Statewide Support Division Supervisor for OSM. And  
thank you and welcome all of the Council members.  
Thank you.

MS. PERRY: Thanks Tom.

Scott Ayers.

MR. AYERS: Present. Good morning  
everyone. My name is Scott Ayers and I am the Fisheries  
Division Supervisor at OSM. Thank you.

MS. PERRY: Thanks Scott.

Brent Vickers.

MR. VICKERS: Good morning everyone.  
This is Brent Vickers, I am the Supervisor for the  
Anthropology Division at OSM. Thank you.

MS. PERRY: Thank you.

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1 Pippa Kenner.

2

3 (No comments)

4

5 MS. PERRY: George Pappas.

6

7 MR. PAPPAS: Good morning. George  
8 Pappas, OSM State Subsistence Liaison for Board of Fish  
9 and Board of Game. I'll be splitting my time between  
10 this meeting and the Southeast Board of Fish meeting  
11 that's currently ongoing. Good morning, Team.

12

13 MS. PERRY: Jarred Stone.

14

15 MR. STONE: Good morning, DeAnna, and  
16 Council members. This is Jarred Stone, Fisheries  
17 Biologist with the Office of Subsistence Management.

18

19 MS. PERRY: Justin Koller.

20

21 MR. KOLLER: Good morning. My name is  
22 Justin Koller, I'm a Fish Biologist with the Office of  
23 Subsistence Management.

24

25 MS. PERRY: Jason Roberts.

26

27 MR. ROBERTS: Good morning. I'm Jason  
28 Roberts, I'm an Anthropologist with OSM.

29

30 MS. PERRY: And Lisa Grediagin.

31

32 (No comments)

33

34 MS. PERRY: Okay. Is there anyone from  
35 Office of Subsistence Management that I didn't call or  
36 who's on here who's joined us in the last little bit.

37

38 MS. HYER: Good morning, Council  
39 members. Mr. Chairman and DeAnna. This is Karen Hyer,  
40 Fisheries Biologist with OSM.

41

42 MS. PERRY: Thank you, Karen. Anyone  
43 else from OSM.

44

45 (No comments)

46

47 MS. PERRY: Okay, we'll move on to  
48 National Park Service. I know Sarah Creachbaum was  
49 with us. Is Ben Bobowski with us.

50

0024

1 (No comments)

2

3 MS. PERRY: Kim Jochum.

4

5 MS. JOCHUM: Yes, good morning. This  
6 is Kim Jochum, I'm a Subsistence Program Analyst at the  
7 Regional Office in Anchorage. Thanks for having me.

8

9 MS. PERRY: Thanks, Kim. Benjamin  
10 Pister.

11

12 (No comments)

13

14 MS. PERRY: Barbara Cellarius.

15

16 MS. CELLARIUS: Good morning. This is  
17 Barbara Cellarius. I'm a Cultural Anthropologist and  
18 Subsistence Coordinator for Wrangell-St. Elias National  
19 Park and Preserve based in Copper Center. And Ben is  
20 not able to join us today, but we do have Mark Miller  
21 who you probably will be calling on next as the.....

22

23 MS. PERRY: Thank you, Barbara.

24

25 MS. CELLARIUS: .....as the -- yeah, as  
26 the.....

27

28 MS. PERRY: Yes, Mark Miller.

29

30 MR. MILLER: Yeah, good morning  
31 everyone. Mark Miller, Team Lead for Resource  
32 Stewardship and Science for Wrangell-St. Elias National  
33 Park and Preserve also based in Copper Center.

34

35 MS. PERRY: Dave Sarafin.

36

37 MR. SARAFIN: Good morning everyone.  
38 This is Dave Sarafin, Fisheries Biologist at Wrangell-  
39 St. Elias Park and Preserve calling in from Tazlina.

40

41 MS. PERRY: Victoria Florey.

42

43 MS. FLOREY: Good morning. This is  
44 Victoria Florey, I'm a Subsistence Program Analyst at  
45 the Regional Office here in Anchorage.

46

47 MS. PERRY: Judy Putera.

48

49 (No comments)

50



0025

1 MS. PERRY: Okay. Anyone from National  
2 Park Service that I didn't call or who has just joined  
3 us.

4  
5 MR. PATTERSON: Good morning everyone.  
6 This is Dillon Patterson, National Park Service,  
7 Regional Office Subsistence Program.

8  
9 MS. PERRY: Thank you. Okay, we will  
10 move on to Forest Service. We heard from Regional  
11 Forester Dave Schmid earlier. Is Brie Darr on the line  
12 with us.

13  
14 (No comments)

15  
16 MS. PERRY: How about Greg Risdahl.

17  
18 MR. RISDAHL: Good morning, DeAnna and  
19 members of the Council. Greg Risdahl. I am the  
20 Subsistence Program Leader for the U.S. Forest Service  
21 and the ISC member.

22  
23 MS. PERRY: Steve Namitz.

24  
25 MR. NAMITZ: Yeah, good morning  
26 everybody. Steve Namitz, I'm the District Ranger Duty  
27 Stationed here out of Cordova.

28  
29 MS. PERRY: Shelia Jacobson.

30  
31 (No comments)

32  
33 MS. PERRY: Stormy Haught.

34  
35 MR. HAUGHT: Yeah, good morning.  
36 Stormy Haught, Fish Biologist Prince William Sound  
37 Zone, Chugach National Forest here in Cordova.

38  
39 MS. PERRY: Milo Burcham.

40  
41 MR. BURCHAM: Yeah, good morning  
42 everybody. Milo Burcham, Subsistence with the Chugach  
43 National Forest here in Cordova.

44  
45 MS. PERRY: Brett Christianson.

46  
47 MR. CHRISTIANSON: Good morning  
48 everyone. My name is Brett Christianson, I'm the  
49 Wildlife Program Manager with the Chugach National  
50

0026

1 Forest.

2

3 MS. PERRY: Ruth D'Amico.

4

5 MS. D'AMICO: Hi, good morning. Ruth  
6 D'Amico, District Ranger on the Seward Ranger District  
7 of the Chugach National Forest.

8

9 MS. PERRY: Heather Sam.

10

11 MS. SAM: Good morning. This is  
12 Heather Sam, I'm a Subsistence Coordinator on the  
13 Chugach National Forest and I am based on the Seward  
14 Ranger District.

15

16 MS. PERRY: Okay. Any other Forest  
17 Service Staff online that I didn't call.

18

19 MR. MORRIS: Good morning. This is  
20 Andy Morris with Law Enforcement, Cordova Ranger  
21 District. I'll be representing law enforcement for the  
22 National Forest.

23

24 MS. PERRY: Thank you, Andy. Anyone  
25 else.

26

27 (No comments)

28

29 MS. PERRY: Okay. Moving on to Bureau  
30 of Indian Affairs. Glenn Chen, are you with us today.

31

32 MR. CHEN: Yes. This is Glenn Chen, I'm  
33 the Subsistence Branch Chief for Bureau of Indian  
34 Affairs. Thank you.

35

36 MS. PERRY: Pat Petrivelli.

37

38 MS. PETRIVELLI: God morning. This is  
39 Pat Petrivelli, the Subsistence Anthropologist for BIA  
40 and I work out of Anchorage.

41

42 MS. PERRY: Rosalie Debenham.

43

44 (No comments)

45

46 MS. PERRY: Anyone else from BIA that I  
47 didn't call.

48

49 (No comments)

50

0027

1 MS. PERRY: Okay. We'll move to Bureau  
2 of Land Management. Chris McKee, are you with us  
3 today.

4  
5 MR. MCKEE: Good morning everyone. My  
6 name is Chris McKee, I'm the Subsistence Coordinator  
7 for the Bureau of Land Management and ISC member.

8  
9 MS. PERRY: Caroline Ketron.

10  
11 (No comments)

12  
13 MS. PERRY: Valerie Lenhartzen.

14  
15 (No comments)

16  
17 MS. PERRY: Anyone else from BLM I  
18 didn't call.

19  
20 (No comments)

21  
22 MS. PERRY: Okay. Fish and Wildlife  
23 Service. Jill Klein.

24  
25 MS. KLEIN: Good morning. This is Jill  
26 Klein, I'm the Regional Subsistence Program  
27 (indiscernible - fades out)

28  
29 REPORTER: Hey, Jill, I cannot hear you  
30 at all. Could you repeat.

31  
32 MS. KLEIN: Yeah, Jill.....

33  
34 MS. PERRY: I think we all heard your  
35 first name only.

36  
37 MS. KLEIN: Can you hear me now?

38  
39 MS. PERRY: Yes, much better.

40  
41 MS. KLEIN: Okay, sorry about that. So  
42 this is Jill Klein, Regional Subsistence Coordinator  
43 with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

44  
45 REPORTER: Thank you.

46  
47 MS. PERRY: Thank you.

48  
49 Ken Gates, or Todd Eskelin.

50

0028

1 (No comments)

2

3 MS. PERRY: Anyone else from Fish and  
4 Wildlife Service.

5

6 (No comments)

7

8 MS. PERRY: Okay. We'll move on to the  
9 State. And I would like to thank the State for  
10 considering our late request for some Staff folks to  
11 attend our meeting. Is Ben Mulligan online with us.

12

13 (No comments)

14

15 MS. PERRY: How about Mark Burch.

16

17 (No comments)

18

19 MS. PERRY: And anyone else from the  
20 State online currently.

21

22 (No comments)

23

24 MS. PERRY: Okay. That's it for Staff.  
25 Again, apologies that this takes a little longer than  
26 when we're in person and everybody can just sign a  
27 page, but we do have to record who is present at our  
28 meetings. So now I'd like to call on the public to  
29 make record of that. So maybe the best way to do this  
30 because it looks like there are a lot of folks online.  
31 How about we go by the first initial of your last name,  
32 so if folks whose last name begins A through F, if you  
33 could let us know you're on the line, what organization  
34 or community you're with, go right ahead.

35

36 (No comments)

37

38 MS. PERRY: Okay. We're checking to  
39 see what public or tribal members we have joining us  
40 today. Anyone whose last begins A through F.

41

42 (No comments)

43

44 MS. PERRY: Okay. How about G through  
45 M, as in Mary.

46

47 (No comments)

48

49 MS. PERRY: Okay. Any public or tribal

50

0029

1 members with last name that starts with N as in Nancy  
2 through R.

3

4 (No comments)

5

6 MS. PERRY: Okay. Any public or tribal  
7 members whose last name starts S through Z.

8

9 (No comments)

10

11 MS. PERRY: Okay. Well, if we have  
12 public members throughout our call I'll make note of  
13 that. Again, thank you all for your patience so that  
14 we can capture our administrative record and I will  
15 hand it back over to Mr. Chair, and Madame Chair.

16

17 Thank you.

18

19 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay, thank you,  
20 DeAnna. Sue, do you want to go ahead. I think we  
21 could adopt the agenda now if you want to take that.

22

23 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, thank  
24 you, Greg. Yes, review and adopt the agenda and the  
25 agenda is before you in your book. Are there any  
26 additions or changes.

27

28 (No comments)

29

30 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I need a  
31 point of clarification here. So on something like  
32 this, I know it's two RACs, do we need two sets of  
33 motions or is one acceptable in this case.

34

35 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: I guess that  
36 would be for DeAnna. I would say it's acceptable if I  
37 was to make the call but it doesn't sound like.....

38

39 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I don't know,  
40 they're looking at.....

41

42 MS. PERRY: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I  
43 was trying to get my phone off of mute, I wasn't quite  
44 as quick with my fingers here. Yes, it's my  
45 understanding for things such as approving the agenda,  
46 roll call, things of that sort, we could do that all  
47 together. It's just a recommendation, moving forward,  
48 for the Board's' consideration where we need to make  
49 sure that we have the separation between the two FACA  
50

0030

1 Committees.

2

3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

4 Eastern Interior, Southcentral, do you have any changes  
5 or additions to the agenda, if not I would entertain a  
6 motion.

7

8 MS. SELANOFF: This is Diane Selanoff.  
9 I'll make a motion to approve the agenda.

10

11 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thanks,  
12 Diane.

13

14 MR. WOODRUFF: This is Don, I'll second  
15 it.

16

17 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And Donald  
18 Woodruff from Eastern Interior has seconded it. And  
19 I'm going to ask for unanimous consent, if there's any  
20 opposition say so.

21

22 (No opposition)

23

24 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Hearing none,  
25 the agenda is adopted unanimously. Okay. Greg, I  
26 guess I'll continue here. Old business deferred  
27 proposal, FP21-10. And so it's going to go to Staff  
28 from here, correct.

29

30 MS. PERRY: Yes, Madame Chair. This is  
31 DeAnna Perry.

32

33 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Go ahead,  
34 DeAnna.

35

36 MS. PERRY: Thank you, Madame Chair and  
37 Council members and, Mr. Chair. Again, I'm the  
38 Designated Federal Official for this meeting. We will  
39 start off under old business on our agenda with an  
40 overview of the history of this proposal to remind  
41 everyone why we are meeting today. And I know that  
42 Regional Forester, Dave Schmid, went over some of this  
43 as well. It's also to let our new Council members know  
44 what has happened with this proposal during the  
45 Regional Advisory Council and Board regulatory process  
46 that occurred prior to them becoming members on these  
47 Councils.

48

49 For Council members, behind Tab No. 4

50

0031

1 in your meeting books, you will see a document called  
2 FP21-10 background material. For those listening on  
3 the phone you can follow along with us during this  
4 meeting by going to the Federal Subsistence Program  
5 website and, again, that's [www/doi](http://www.doi.gov) -- I'm sorry, let me  
6 start over -- [www.doi.gov/subsistence](http://www.doi.gov/subsistence) and again this is  
7 posted under Eastern Interior or Southcentral under the  
8 regions tab and then you'll see a box there that says  
9 meeting materials. So, again, we're looking at Item  
10 No. 4 on the agenda.

11

12 In 2020 -- I'll go through this  
13 chronologically, I think the document is the most  
14 recent first, but I'll go chronologically.

15

16 In 2020 Proposal 21-10 was submitted by  
17 Jesse Carter and Robert Jewel of Cordova, Alaska. They  
18 requested the Federal Subsistence Board implement a  
19 salmon subsistence fishery in the Lower Copper River  
20 adjacent to the Copper River Highway with a harvest  
21 limit of 15 salmon, other than pink salmon, each, for  
22 the first two members of a household, and 10 salmon for  
23 additional household members, with not more than five  
24 chinook salmon per household using dipnet, rod and  
25 reel, spear or gaff only. This proposal was analyzed  
26 by Office of Subsistence of Management. You'll see on  
27 the last page of this document OSM's conclusion to that  
28 analysis, and that was to support the proposal with  
29 modification, and that modification was to include a  
30 requirement to report take of salmon to the Board  
31 delegated in-season manager within 48 hours of harvest.  
32 This information appeared in the analysis that was  
33 provided to both Southcentral and Eastern Interior  
34 Regional Advisory Councils.

35

36 The regulatory RAC meetings for this  
37 fish proposal cycle were then conducted in the fall of  
38 2020.

39

40 As I mentioned before, this proposal  
41 went through the complete RAC proposal procedure where  
42 information was provided, agencies and entities  
43 provided input and public testimony and comments were  
44 received. Both Councils took action on this proposal  
45 in their respective meetings, and on the second page of  
46 this document you'll see the action and justifications  
47 given by the two Regional Advisory Councils. In the  
48 interest of time I won't read all that into the record,  
49 you do have that as part of your packet, but in summary  
50

0032

1 the Southcentral Alaska Regional Advisory Council made  
2 a recommendation to support FP21-10 with OSM  
3 modification, and you can see the justifications there  
4 on your document; Eastern Interior Alaska Subsistence  
5 Regional Advisory Council provided a comment in  
6 opposition to FP21-10.

7

8                   The Federal Subsistence Board then met  
9 in January 2021 to take final action on all the  
10 fisheries proposals. A similar process is followed by  
11 the Board for regulatory procedures and the Board went  
12 through all steps up to deliberation. You'll note on  
13 the first page of this document there was a motion by  
14 Forest Service Agency, Dave Schmid, who spoke to you  
15 earlier, to defer the proposal. And since Mr. Schmid  
16 gave us some clarification earlier I won't go into  
17 detail unless there are questions, but he did move to  
18 defer approval of the proposal until such time that the  
19 Southcentral and Eastern Interior RACs can meet and  
20 maybe work on to develop or explore a compromise that  
21 can be supported by those affected as well. Mr. Schmid  
22 also mentioned Mr. Peltola with BIA, nailed it, in  
23 terms of describing up river and lower river, the  
24 concern about pitting folks, the users, subsistence  
25 users against each other over a very small proportion  
26 of the fishery, and he concluded by saying: I do have  
27 faith in the Advisory Council process, I'm certain that  
28 the wisdom, and maybe with some work, might lead to a  
29 consensus proposal that we could all support or  
30 consider in the future.

31

32                   The majority of the additional comments  
33 from the other Board members were along these same  
34 lines.

35

36                   Both Regional Councils had hoped to  
37 revisit this issue during last fall's meeting cycle,  
38 but due to the amount of wildlife proposals that each  
39 cycle [sic] had to process and take action on, and the  
40 fact that there would be another meeting cycle prior to  
41 the next Board regulatory meeting, a joint meeting  
42 between Southcentral and Eastern Interior was scheduled  
43 for today instead of last fall, and that date was  
44 selected by agreement between both Chairs and their  
45 Councils.

46

47                   So as a reminder, the Board deferred  
48 this proposal to give the Southcentral and Eastern  
49 Interior RACs time to meet and work towards a

50



0033

1 compromise that can be supported by those affected.  
2 Again, you can see the full justifications in the  
3 document in front of you. This is just an overview of  
4 the issue, again, between what I've offered and Mr.  
5 Schmid earlier, that provides a background of why we  
6 are here today.

7

8 So I will send that back to you, again,  
9 Madame Chair, and Mr. Chair.

10

11 Thank you.

12

13 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes, thank  
14 you, DeAnna. And thank you for the overview. And I  
15 would request one thing, on the first page on Tab 4,  
16 justification, can you reiterate or just read the part  
17 just after you said the first sentence there -- or the  
18 first two sentences, where it says these regions and  
19 communities are already facing a great diminished  
20 fishery, could you read that section right there. I  
21 think it would help the new members.

22

23 MS. PERRY: Yes, Madame Chair, you're  
24 talking about the very first page under the Board's  
25 justification, if I understand you right, the Board, at  
26 their meeting talking about deferring this back to the  
27 Council.

28

29 They voted to defer the proposal  
30 because it has resulted in a disagreement between  
31 Regional Advisory Councils, some tribal communities and  
32 other Federally-qualified subsistence users. The  
33 deferral will give the Southcentral and Eastern  
34 Interior Regional Advisory Councils time to meet and  
35 work toward a compromise that can be supported by those  
36 affected. These regions and communities are already  
37 faced with a greatly diminished fisheries resource from  
38 which to meet their subsistence needs and it is  
39 important to find, or at least explore, a compromise  
40 and identify if there are cooperative solutions between  
41 the Regional Advisory Councils. Cordova residents  
42 already have a meaningful priority for subsistence  
43 fishing in the Copper River, however, not all residents  
44 have the means and resources to access locations where  
45 that opportunity currently exists. This proposal would  
46 provide additional access to Copper River salmon and  
47 the harvest is anticipated to be a small portion of the  
48 overall Copper River harvest. Regardless, the Board  
49 hears the concerns of residents from the Upper Copper  
50

0034

1 River watershed that salmon harvest is declining and  
2 requires increased effort. The Board does not want to  
3 pit subsistence users against each other over a very  
4 small proportion of the fishery. It has faith in the  
5 Regional Advisory Council process and believes that the  
6 Councils may be able to create a consensus proposal  
7 that the Board could consider in the future.

8

9 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you,  
10 DeAnna.

11

12 MS. PERRY: Thank you, Madame Chair.

13

14 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. In the  
15 Eastern Interior, we like to find out if any of the  
16 Council members have questions at this point. This is  
17 the time to address any questions so I'm asking, are  
18 there any questions from the Eastern Interior.

19

20 MR. BASSICH: Madame Chair, Andy.

21

22 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Go ahead, Andy.

23

24 MR. BASSICH: Thank you, Madame Chair,  
25 Co-Chair. I do have a few questions on some of the  
26 biology of this fishery and I'm wondering if biologists  
27 could speak a little bit about the declining numbers of  
28 fish, are they getting smaller, are you seeing smaller  
29 females, and is there any data collection on where  
30 female salmon travel the river. I know on the Yukon  
31 River the larger fish tend to travel more in the mid-  
32 channels of the river, less so along the shoreline  
33 except for when they're resting so I'm wondering if  
34 there's been any analysis of that type of movement of  
35 salmon in the river.

36

37 Thank you.

38

39 MR. HAUGHT: Madame Chair, Stormy  
40 Haught, Chugach National Forest.

41

42 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes, go  
43 ahead.

44

45 MR. HAUGHT: Yeah, I could address some  
46 of that and if there is, you know, a State biologist  
47 online maybe they could as well. Again, Stormy Haught,  
48 Chugach National Forest. I had a prior role as the  
49 Copper River and Prince William Sound research  
50

0035

1 biologist for Division of Commercial Fisheries and am  
2 fairly new to the Forest Service here.

3

4 I will say to Andy's question, yes,  
5 there's been a fairly long-term decline in size at age  
6 for both sockeye salmon and chinook salmon, in other  
7 words, you know, fish of a given age are getting  
8 smaller over time.

9

10 As far as the second question, yeah,  
11 work at the Miles Lake Sonar has shown that chinook  
12 salmon do tend to travel further offshore than sockeye,  
13 in general, sockeye migrate closer to the shore and  
14 chinook salmon are a little bit further offshore.

15

16 So that's the comment that I have  
17 there, thank you.

18

19 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you,  
20 Stormy. Are there any other questions from Eastern  
21 Interior.

22

23 (Teleconference interference -  
24 participants not muted)

25

26 REPORTER: Wait a second, Sue. Hi,  
27 this is Tina, the reporter. Somebody's driving, maybe  
28 that's you, Sue, but I could hardly hear Sue, so  
29 everybody go ahead and mute again if you're not muted.

30

31 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: It wasn't me,  
32 I'm not driving.

33

34 REPORTER: Okay. Everybody else, if  
35 you could mute your phone, it really should just Sue,  
36 Andy and Greg unmuted at this time. Thank you.

37

38 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thanks, Tina.

39

40 MS. PERRY: Mr. Chair, this is DeAnna.

41

42 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: DeAnna, go  
43 ahead.

44

45 MS. PERRY: Thank you, Madame Chair. I  
46 just wanted to let everyone know that we will be  
47 getting into the analysis and more of the biology  
48 information in the next agenda item but I'd be happy to  
49 answer any questions on the overview that I provided,  
50

0036

1 kind of why we're here, but if you're ready to move on  
2 to the next agenda item. I just wanted to let folks  
3 know that we will be getting into that a little deeper  
4 in the next agenda item.

5

6 Thank you, Madame Chair.

7

8 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, Andy,  
9 it's the overview that if we had questions on, so we'll  
10 get into that later. But I did want to call on  
11 Southcentral, any Southcentral members have any  
12 questions about the overview that DeAnna just went  
13 through.

14

15 MR. ZADRA: Yes, Madame Chair, this is  
16 Dennis Zadra.

17

18 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Go ahead,  
19 Dennis.

20

21 MR. ZADRA: I have a question on the  
22 overview, actually the very last sentence under Tab 4  
23 where OSM -- OSM justification. They say the historic  
24 use of dipnets and harvest of salmon in the proposed  
25 area is well documented, and I would just like some  
26 clarification on that because I am not aware of that.

27

28 Thank you.

29

30 MS. PERRY: Madame Chair, this is  
31 DeAnna.

32

33 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes, DeAnna.

34

35 MS. PERRY: I would have to reach out  
36 to possibly Stormy or perhaps Milo, who, they were part  
37 of putting together the analysis initially and so I  
38 would ask them to address that.

39

40 MR. HAUGHT: Yeah, Madame Chair, Stormy  
41 Haught, Chugach National Forest.

42

43 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, who was  
44 that voice?

45

46 MR. HAUGHT: Stormy Haught, Chugach  
47 National Forest.

48

49 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes, Stormy,

50

0037

1 go ahead.

2

3

4 MR. HAUGHT: Yes, to my knowledge, to  
5 Dennis' question there, you know, I don't believe there  
6 has been use of the Lower Copper River using dipnets  
7 but certainly the current Federal subsistence fishery  
8 in the Copper River Delta area, as established in 2004,  
9 dipnets are a legal means there, and then in addition  
10 to that, just broader, obviously, up river Copper River  
11 fisheries have a long history of dipnet use. So I  
12 believe that that's what the areas that those  
13 statements were referring to, and if Milo has any  
14 followup there, otherwise that's what I have.

14

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MR. BURCHAM: This is Milo Burcham. I don't have anything to add. The Anthropology Division often writes the customary and traditional use portions of these analysis.

MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, thank you.

MS. CLAUS: Madame Chair, this is Donna Claus, I have a question.

MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Go ahead, Donna.

MS. CLAUS: And you had DeAnna read, not all residents have the means and resources to access locations where the opportunity currently exists, is that a rule in subsistence, that everyone has to have access. This is just a question.

(Pause)

MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you, Donna. Can anyone answer that.

(Pause)

CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Well, this is Greg. I'm not sure I can answer it but I'm not sure who needs to answer that, I just wanted to make sure we're not getting off on the agenda items here on the deferral. I would say that everyone has access -- you know, it's supposed to be a meaningful preference and a meaningful preference is preference of access. So I've always understood it that without the access you can't

0038

1 really have anything meaningful.

2

3 MS. CLAUS: Madame Chair, is there a  
4 better time to discuss this?

5

6 MS. STICKWAN: Mr. Chair.

7

8 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes, when we  
9 get into deliberations.

10

11 MS. CLAUS: Okay, because I don't know  
12 what meaningful preference means so, okay, thank you.

13

14 MS. STICKWAN: Madame Chair.

15

16 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. If  
17 somebody could give an answer on that. Do I hear  
18 somebody requesting to speak.

19

20 MS. STICKWAN: Madame Chair.

21

22 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes, go  
23 ahead. Gloria.

24

25 MS. STICKWAN: Yes, I have a question  
26 about the process, it was alluded to under the Federal  
27 Board's recommendation to give it back to the  
28 Southcentral and the Eastern Interior and to come to a  
29 consensus. I have a question about that process  
30 because to me that seems like the Board is telling us,  
31 you know, you guys have to come to a consensus, which  
32 means that you have to allow a fishery and you have to  
33 change your position. That's what it sounds like to me  
34 and, to me, that's not the spirit of ANILCA. That's  
35 what ANILCA -- the Federal Board should not be telling  
36 the RACs to come to a consensus when we already made a  
37 recommendation to the Federal Board. We stated our  
38 position. We gave it to them. it's their  
39 responsibility to make the decisions on this proposal.

40

41 That's the question I have.

42

43 MS. PERRY: Madame Chair, this is  
44 DeAnna.

45

46 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: DeAnna.

47

48 MS. PERRY: Yeah, I would just go back  
49 to what the Regional Forester, Dave Schmid, who made

50

0039

1 the motion to defer just spoke to the Council. And it  
2 was my understanding from what he said, that no one was  
3 being forced to compromise. I think he was very clear,  
4 in that, if a compromise didn't happen that was okay as  
5 well.

6  
7 MS. STICKWAN: That isn't what the book  
8 said when it was handed out to us, it said come to a  
9 compromise, consensus.

10  
11 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I will have  
12 to say, Gloria, he did say that it was a poor choice of  
13 words and so I understand, I felt the same way as you.  
14 I hope that answers your question.

15  
16 MS. STICKWAN: It answers it. But it  
17 could have been written in the book more better, or  
18 clearer, to me, that was -- this goes everything  
19 against what ANILCA was set up to do.

20  
21 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And I have to  
22 agree with you. But we can speak more to that as we  
23 get into discussions. Right now we're getting this all  
24 introduced to us and I have to ask, is there any more  
25 questions of the overview.

26  
27 (No comments)

28  
29 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. The  
30 next would be the review of analysis with updated  
31 information under Tab 5.

32  
33 MR. HAUGHT: Madame Chair, Stormy  
34 Haught.

35  
36 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Go ahead.

37  
38 MR. HAUGHT: Yeah, good morning, Mr.  
39 and Madame Chair. Council members. Staff. And  
40 everybody else on the line. Again, my name is Stormy  
41 Haught, I'm a Fish Biologist for Chugach National  
42 Forest. And I will be presenting this Staff analysis  
43 here for FP21-10. Just a couple points before I start  
44 off on it. First of all this will be a summary.  
45 Obviously presenting this type of information over a  
46 telephone is difficult and so rather than read the  
47 entire analysis verbatim, I hopefully will be  
48 summarizing this in about 15 or 20 minutes. I will  
49 note that as I move through, if you have this Staff  
50

0040

1 analysis document in front of you I will reference page  
2 numbers, particularly for figures and tables as I move  
3 through, in an effort to kind of keep us all oriented  
4 and provide, you know, some visual aids there for the  
5 information we're going to be talking about. The  
6 second point I'd like to make is for those of you who  
7 have been around a little bit longer and been dealing  
8 with this project since the beginning, this analysis is  
9 very similar to what was originally presented, just  
10 updated with recent years data.

11

12 So there's a little bit of overlap with  
13 what DeAnna just presented, but I'm going to dive into  
14 it now and I do believe there's time for questions  
15 afterwards.

16

17 The issue here is Proposal FP21-10  
18 submitted by Jesse Carter and Robert Jewell of Cordova,  
19 Alaska requesting the Federal Subsistence Board  
20 implement a salmon subsistence fishery in the Lower  
21 Copper River adjacent to the Copper River Highway.  
22 Harvest limits would not be additive to the current  
23 existing Federal subsistence permit for the Prince  
24 William Sound area, that's FFPW1 or with State  
25 subsistence fishing permits in the Copper River  
26 district.

27

28 Currently, Federal-qualified  
29 subsistence users fishing in the Cordova area primarily  
30 fulfill their subsistence needs under a State of Alaska  
31 subsistence salmon fishing permit. Participation in  
32 the State subsistence gillnet fishery within the marine  
33 waters of the Copper River district requires use of a  
34 saltwater capable boat. Fishing during commercial  
35 openers and fishing during specific limited open  
36 periods, which can be a substantial barrier for local  
37 harvesters. The proponents rationale for submitting  
38 the proposal is to improve access to Copper River  
39 salmon by providing residents a road accessible harvest  
40 area.

41

42 Proposed Federal regulations. This is  
43 on Page 7 of the analysis, and, again, this will just  
44 be a summary primarily that section in bold.

45

46 The Lower Copper River area includes  
47 that portion of the Copper River from a boundary one-  
48 half mile up stream of the Copper River Highway to a  
49 boundary extending one-half mile down stream of the  
50



0041

1 Copper River Highway, from the west bank of the river  
2 near Highway Mile 27, also known as Flag Point to the  
3 east bank of the river near Highway Mile 38. And there  
4 is a map in this analysis, it's Figure 1, Page 11 that  
5 shows that proposed area.

6

7 It proposes you may take salmon only by  
8 dipnet, rod and reel, spear and gaff.

9

10 Harvest limits for a household of one  
11 person, 15 salmon may be taken and five cutthroat trout  
12 with only two cutthroat trout over 20 inches and no  
13 more than five chinook salmon per household. For a  
14 household of two, 30 salmon may be taken, plus an  
15 additional 10 salmon for each additional person in the  
16 household over two. Five cutthroat trout with only two  
17 trout over 20 inches for each household member with a  
18 maximum household limit of 30 cutthroat trout may be  
19 taken, and no more than five chinook salmon per  
20 household.

21

22 I'm going to go through a little bit of  
23 regulatory history now. This is starting on Page 10  
24 beginning with a brief description of the existing  
25 Federal subsistence permit. The existing Federal  
26 subsistence permit within the Copper River Delta,  
27 Prince William Sound area, again FFPW01, which was  
28 established in 2004 allows for the harvest of fish in  
29 freshwater year-round except in the Lower Copper River  
30 and its tributaries which are closed to Federal  
31 subsistence harvest of salmon by regulation and  
32 excluding Eyak Lake and its tributaries which are  
33 closed to fishing for salmon. The Federal subsistence  
34 permit limits the harvest of salmon to 15 fish for a  
35 household of one, 30 fish for a household of two, with  
36 10 for each additional person in that household. The  
37 Federal and State subsistence permits harvest limits  
38 may not be added and there was no limit on the number  
39 of chinook salmon that may be taken within the total  
40 salmon limit on this permit because there are few, if  
41 any chinook salmon returning to the freshwaters open to  
42 subsistence harvest in this area.

43

44 Historically there have been several  
45 Board actions on proposals submitted for the harvest of  
46 salmon in the Copper River down stream of the 52 Mile,  
47 or Million Dollar Bridge. Summary information for this  
48 is also included in the comparison of Lower Copper  
49 River fishery proposal documents available in the  
50

0042

1 meeting materials.

2

3

4 Just to go through some history,  
5 briefly. In 2007 proposal FP7-14 was submitted  
6 requesting that the Copper River waters down stream of  
7 the Million Dollar Bridge be open to Federal  
8 subsistence harvest of salmon using dipnets and rod and  
9 reel with bait for the month of May, June and July.  
10 The Board rejected this proposal, despite noting in  
11 their decision justification that at that time there  
12 were no biological concerns and that use of salmon is a  
13 customary and traditional use in the Copper River. At  
14 that time the Southcentral Alaska Subsistence Regional  
15 Advisory Council felt that other opportunities for  
16 harvesting salmon for subsistence already existed in  
17 Cordova and Prince William Sound, both in the marine  
18 waters with a gillnet and in freshwaters with a dipnet.

18

19

20 In the 2018 fishery proposal cycle  
21 FP19-14 was submitted by the Native Village of Eyak.  
22 This proposed to extend the current Federal subsistence  
23 salmon fishery to waters of the Lower Copper River  
24 beginning one-half mile down stream of the road  
25 crossing at the Copper River Highway at Mile 27 and  
26 extending up stream to the Million Dollar Bridge using  
27 dipnet and rod and reel. The Native Village of Eyak  
28 withdrew this proposal during the first day of the 2018  
29 Council meeting.

29

30

31 More recently in April 2020 a request  
32 was submitted to the Board to open a Federal  
33 subsistence dipnetting season for salmon in the Lower  
34 Copper River. This was Fisheries Special Action  
35 Request FSA20-04 to offset Covid related health and  
36 safety issues associated with existing means of  
37 harvesting Copper River salmon in the State's Copper  
38 River district fishery. This issue generated a large  
39 amount of public interest, including 38 written  
40 comments supporting and 10 opposed to the measure.  
41 This proposal was considered by a special session of  
42 the Board and not adopted. One concern shared by some  
43 community members was that the establishment of a  
44 Federal subsistence fishery would lead to the  
45 development of a State personal use fishery resulting  
46 in crowding and over harvest in the Copper River. For  
47 reference a State personal use fishery was not proposed  
48 after the Federal fishery for freshwaters on the Copper  
49 River Delta was established in 2004.

49

50

1                   In 2020 several public comments were  
2 received on FP21-10. These are on Page 17 of the  
3 analysis. 11 comments in opposition and zero comments  
4 of support were received within the OSM written comment  
5 period, however, seven individual letters of support  
6 and a form letter of support signed by 150 Cordova  
7 residents were submitted to the Southcentral Chair  
8 prior and during the October 7th and 8th, 2020  
9 Southcentral Regional Advisory Council meeting. In  
10 general, comments in opposition expressed a concern  
11 that harvest in the Lower Copper River area would be  
12 taken prior to be taken prior to be counting at the  
13 Miles Lake Sonar site resulting in misinformed  
14 management decisions due to unaccounted harvest.  
15 Currently, two salmon fisheries already take place  
16 below the Miles Lake Sonar, the Copper River district  
17 commercial gillnet fishery and the State subsistence  
18 fishery. Commercial harvest in the Copper River  
19 district is tracked daily through fish tickets and the  
20 State subsistence gillnet fishery recommends in-season  
21 reporting but does not require reporting until after  
22 the season. In general, comments in support cites the  
23 lack of access to Copper River sockeye and chinook  
24 salmon by Cordova residents that do not own boats due  
25 to the location of the fishery and lack of opportunity  
26 because the fishery is limited to three periods a week,  
27 two of which require competing with the commercial  
28 gillnet fleet was also a concern.

29  
30                   The seven current subsistence and  
31 personal use fisheries in the Copper River are  
32 summarized in Table 1 on Page 16 and just for the sake  
33 of time and efficiency I'm not going to detail those  
34 here.

35  
36                   Moving on to biological background,  
37 this section is on Page 17.

38  
39                   The State Upper Copper River  
40 sustainable escapement goal is 360,750 sockeye salmon.  
41 Since 1998 escapements have met or exceeded the minimum  
42 thresholds of the escapement goal range for sockeye  
43 salmon in the Copper River. Copper River chinook  
44 salmon failed to reach the sustainable escapement goal  
45 of 24,000 in 2010, 2014, 2016, 2020 and likely in 2021.  
46 There is a summary of Upper Copper River sockeye and  
47 chinook total run and escapement numbers on Page 18,  
48 this is Table 2, just note that these numbers for  
49 sockeye are for Upper Copper River wild stocks only, so  
50

0044

1 don't include Copper River Delta fish or Gulkana  
2 hatchery fish in those numbers. Coho salmon, chum  
3 salmon and pink salmon are not expected to be  
4 significantly impacted by this proposal, though some  
5 incidental harvest may occur. In addition, there are  
6 populations of unknown size of rainbow trout, steelhead  
7 that migrate up the Copper River. Current Federal  
8 subsistence management regulations require the  
9 immediate release of rainbow trout unharmed unless  
10 taken incidentally in a fishwheel.

11

12 Moving to current events, Page 14.  
13 Poor runs of Copper River sockeye salmon in 2018 and  
14 2020 prompted concerns with total sockeye salmon run  
15 size of less than a million fish in each year. Sockeye  
16 salmon sustainable escapement goals were met in both  
17 years but the 2018 commercial harvest of just over  
18 40,000 sockeye salmon in the Copper River district was  
19 the second lowest in the last 100 years and the 2020  
20 commercial harvest of just over 102,000 sockeye salmon  
21 was well below the 10 year average of over a million  
22 sockeye. In-river personal use and sportfisheries were  
23 restricted in both of these years and State subsistence  
24 fisheries were restricted in 2018 including the first  
25 ever closure of the Glennallen subdistrict subsistence  
26 fishery.

27

28 In 2021 cumulative passage of about  
29 750,000 fish passed the Miles Lake Sonar indicate in-  
30 river management objectives and the sustainable  
31 escapement goal for sockeye salmon were met.  
32 Commercial harvest of about 400,000 sockeye salmon in  
33 2021 was considerably below the 10 year average of 1.25  
34 million. The 2021 commercial harvest of 7,000 chinook  
35 salmon was below the 10 year average of 13,000 fish.  
36 For chinook salmon, the Native Village of Eyak's  
37 preliminary 2021 estimate of in-river abundance was  
38 21,656 chinook, which is below that 24,000 fish  
39 escapement goal.

40

41 Cultural and traditional practices,  
42 this is on Page 19.

43

44 The population of Cordova has been  
45 relatively stable over the last decade with the  
46 population of about 2,200 in 2010 and just over 2,300  
47 in 2020. Commercial fishing and subsistence activities  
48 are considered central to the culture of the community.  
49 In 204 ADF&G conducted a comprehensive subsistence

50

1 survey of resources harvested by residents in Cordova.  
2 And among other things, the survey found that sockeye  
3 salmon were used and harvested by Cordova households  
4 more than any other salmon, with about 73 percent of  
5 households reporting using sockeye, followed by coho  
6 salmon at 71 percent and chinook salmon at 63 percent.

7  
8 The most commonly used gear type for  
9 harvesting salmon for Cordova residents was removal  
10 from the commercial catch. This is often also called  
11 homepack. Following this was sport use by rod and  
12 reel, which composed 38 percent of the total salmon  
13 harvested. Access to sockeye salmon in freshwaters  
14 near Cordova is limited and in 2014, about 10 percent  
15 of the harvest of sockeye was by rod and reel. The  
16 Federal subsistence and State rod and reel fisheries  
17 are especially important to Cordova residents because  
18 they are accessible by road. These fisheries focus on  
19 fall coho salmon primarily in the heavily used Ibeck  
20 Creek, Alaganik Slough and Eyak River.

21  
22 Moving forward to harvest history, Page  
23 20.

24  
25 The total estimated runs and harvest  
26 fishery by type is presented in Figure 2 on Page 19 and  
27 Figure 3 on Page 21 and that's for years 2001 to 2020.  
28 It's just a good overview.

29  
30 And I'm just going to list, kind of  
31 read off the 10 year average annual salmon harvest by  
32 fishery in the Copper River and they're in the order of  
33 magnitude, and this is using years 2011 to 2020 for the  
34 average.

35  
36 Federal subsistence harvest in the  
37 Copper River Delta, Prince William Sound area, this is  
38 the freshwater Federal subsistence fishery that  
39 primarily occurs in Ibeck Creek, Eyak River and  
40 Alaganik Slough, averaged just about 500 salmon total  
41 each year, and approximately 80 percent of these were  
42 coho salmon. There's a table of that, Table 4 on Page  
43 25.

44  
45 State subsistence permit holders in the  
46 Copper River district, this is the Copper River Flats  
47 gillnet fishery averaged about 3,700 sockeye salmon and  
48 530 chinook salmon each year. Federal subsistence  
49 harvest in the Upper Copper River district, this is the  
50

1 Chitina and Glennallen subdistricts combined, averaged  
2 a harvest of about 21,000 sockeye and 800 chinook  
3 salmon each year. State subsistence salmon dipnet  
4 permit holders in the Upper Copper River district, this  
5 is the Glennallen subdistrict averaged a harvest of  
6 about 60,000 sockeye salmon and 2,500 chinook salmon  
7 each year. And finally the Chitina subdistrict  
8 personal use fishery averaged about 142,000 sockeye  
9 salmon and 1,200 chinook salmon each year.

10

11 (Teleconference interference -  
12 participants not muted)

13

14 MR. HAUGHT: We are wrapping up so I  
15 appreciate your patience here, we are getting through  
16 it. We are on the effects of the proposal, this is  
17 Page 25 now.

18

19 If adopted, this proposal would create  
20 access under a new Federal subsistence permit for the  
21 Lower Copper River area to include waters of the Lower  
22 Copper River as described previously and as shown on  
23 that map that I pointed out earlier. It would provide  
24 additional subsistence opportunities for Federally-  
25 qualified subsistence users living in the Prince  
26 William Sound area, especially those in the community  
27 of Cordova. This new harvest opportunity may generate  
28 some level of new interest that has potential of  
29 expanding the number of users and associated harvest,  
30 but it would also shift some of the harvest efforts  
31 from the State subsistence fishery in the Copper River  
32 district and from the Federal subsistence fishery in  
33 the freshwaters of the Copper River Delta to the Copper  
34 River. The total salmon harvest limit permit per  
35 household would not change.

36

37 The proposed regulatory change would be  
38 expected to have a minimal biological effects on fish  
39 stock, the projected harvest would be the smallest of  
40 any user group in the Copper River system estimated at  
41 about 2,000 sockeye salmon and 300 chinook salmon  
42 annually. And for context you can see Figures 4 and 5  
43 on Pages 27 and 28. This estimate is based on the  
44 annual State subsistence gillnet harvest in the Copper  
45 River district taking into account the smaller pool of  
46 qualified users and the reduced efficiency of the  
47 allowable gear type; that's driftnet compared to -- or  
48 dipnet compared to drift gillnet. It is not anticipated  
49 that the harvest from the proposed Lower Copper River  
50

0047

1 area would affect the subsistence personal use or sport  
2 harvest in the Upper Copper River district.

3

4

5 The Superintendent of Wrangell-St.  
6 Elias National Park and Preserve is the Board delegated  
7 in-season manager for subsistence fisheries within the  
8 Federal waters of the Copper River drainage. While the  
9 Board delegated authority in all other non-Copper River  
10 waters within the Prince William Sound area to the  
11 Cordova District Ranger of the Chugach National Forest.

11

12

13 If approved, this fishery would need to  
14 be administered under a non-stackable permit, separate  
15 from the current Federal subsistence permit, which is  
16 issued by the Forest Service and both permits would be  
17 available from the Forest Service office in Cordova.

17

18

19 The OSM conclusion that we already  
20 heard was to support FP21-10 with modifications to  
21 include a requirement to report take of salmon to area  
22 managers within 48 hours of harvest.

22

23

24 And I'm going to finish up with just a  
25 brief justification here, which is on Page 31 of the  
26 analysis.

26

27

28 Harvest and escapement information  
29 indicate that sufficient salmon are present to allow a  
30 Federal subsistence fishery in the Lower Copper River  
31 without creating a biological concern. The proposal  
32 provides an opportunity for Federally-qualified  
33 subsistence users of Cordova that do not have access to  
34 a saltwater capable boat and drift gillnet gear to  
35 harvest sockeye salmon and chinook salmon in the Lower  
36 Copper River. Projected harvest is anticipated to be  
37 small in comparison with other user groups and concern  
38 of harvest occurring prior to salmon being counted at  
39 Miles Lake Sonar site can be addressed with the  
40 proposed modification of reporting requirements to area  
41 managers within 48 hours of harvest.

41

42

43 I appreciate your patience there and  
44 that concludes the summary of the Staff analysis for  
45 FP21-10.

45

46

47 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, thank  
48 you very much Stormy. I'll call on the Southcentral  
49 Council members, do you guys have any questions  
50 regarding this summary.

50

0048

1 (No comments)

2

3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Don't forget  
4 to unmute your phone if you have any questions.

5

6 MS. CLAUS: This is Donna Claus, I have  
7 a question, do you hear me.

8

9 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes, Donna,  
10 go ahead.

11

12 MS. CLAUS: Oh, I'm just curious as to  
13 the numbers they project of people that would use this.  
14 I see a lot of statements in all this paperwork about  
15 it won't be very many and it's low and there's -- and I  
16 just -- I'm just curious as to the numbers they used to  
17 produced this justification. Does anybody have  
18 anything like that or is it just kind of a feel thing?

19

20 Thank you.

21

22 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thanks,  
23 Donna. Staff.

24

25 MR. HAUGHT: Madame Chair, Stormy  
26 Haught.

27

28 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes, go  
29 ahead.

30

31 MR. HAUGHT: I was just going to ask,  
32 you know, I think Milo did the original map here, if he  
33 wants to speak on how these calculations were made for  
34 the estimate but I believe it was just using the -- you  
35 know, the population of Cordova, just over potentially  
36 2,000 people and then looking at participation in the  
37 State gillnet fishery and what is harvested there, but  
38 I am not exactly sure on the calculations.

39

40 Milo, do you have any followup there.

41

42 MR. BURCHAM: Yes, this is Milo, can  
43 you hear me?

44

45 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes, go  
46 ahead.

47

48 MR. BURCHAM: It's explained in the  
49 analysis where that estimate came from and it is just

50



0049

1 that, it's an analysis, and it was made on just a  
2 couple of assumptions and that is that there's a  
3 smaller user pool that participates in the State  
4 subsistence gillnet fishery and that dipnetting from  
5 the bank, or dipnetting in this -- dipnetting would be  
6 a less effective means than the gillnetting that's  
7 allowed in the State subsistence fishery. And we  
8 estimated that because of those two assumptions, two-  
9 thirds -- the harvest might be approximately two-thirds  
10 of what the State subsistence gillnet fishery takes.

11

12 MS. CLAUS: Thank you.

13

14 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any other  
15 questions.

16

17 MS. CLAUS: Madame Chair, I have  
18 another question.

19

20 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Go ahead,  
21 Donna.

22

23 MS. CLAUS: Looking at the map --  
24 there's two maps that we have, and one shows an overall  
25 area and then one shows a distinguished -- a very small  
26 area along the road, I guess. Can anyone explain to me  
27 where the bridges are out on that map.

28

29 MR. BURCHAM: This is Milo.

30

31 MR. HAUGHT: Madame Chair, Stormy  
32 Haught.

33

34 MR. BURCHAM: I'm not looking at the  
35 map in front of me right now but do you see that narrow  
36 corridor of the proposed area, 36 Mile is where the  
37 road is washed out and the crossing of the Copper River  
38 goes from 27 to 38 Mile so, you know, the road extends  
39 most of the way across that, the Copper River there.

40

41 MS. CLAUS: So at the first tributary  
42 there's a bridge across.

43

44 MR. BURCHAM: Yes, there are bridges  
45 spanning all those islands in the Copper, you know, for  
46 -- the Copper widens to almost 10 miles in the Lower  
47 river and it -- there's a series of bridges crossing  
48 several of those channels and at 36 Mile, you know,  
49 between 27 and 38, at 36 Mile a bridge is washed out.

50

0050

1 MS. CLAUS: Okay. We don't have those  
2 miles on our map. So what you're saying is the entire  
3 area that they've got in red here has bridges?

4  
5 MR. BURCHAM: Just proportionate --  
6 four-fifths of it does. The final span -- the final  
7 section is not accessible, from 36 to 38 Mile, and  
8 you're.....

9  
10 MS. CLAUS: Oh, okay.

11  
12 MR. BURCHAM: .....seeing about a 10  
13 mile span.

14  
15 MS. CLAUS: Okay. So you'd have to use  
16 a boat there if you wanted to dipnet there?

17  
18 MR. BURCHAM: To get across the final  
19 section, yes.

20  
21 MS. CLAUS: Okay, thank you very much.

22  
23 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, thank  
24 you. Could you, the person speaking, was it Milo or  
25 Stormy, you didn't identify yourself.

26  
27 MR. BURCHAM: Talking about the map and  
28 the bridges, this is Milo Burcham.

29  
30 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, thank  
31 you.

32  
33 MS. STICKWAN: I have a question.

34  
35 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I don't know  
36 all these voices so I appreciate it. Was there any  
37 other questions from Southcentral.

38  
39 MS. STICKWAN: I have a question for a  
40 biologist, a fisheries.

41  
42 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Gloria, go  
43 ahead.

44  
45 MS. STICKWAN: I was wondering if they  
46 would agree that even though the sockeye escapement  
47 goal is met it was -- it has been low and it was just  
48 subsistence needs were not met; would they agree that  
49 it's been barely met and that subsistence needs hasn't  
50

0051

1 been met. We heard a report from Mark Somerville at  
2 our Wrangell-St. Elias Subsistence Resource Commission  
3 meeting that it was low for commercial catch and  
4 subsistence, you know, it's been low -- low harvest.  
5 And expect -- it is expected to continue this way, he  
6 predicts again that the next few years we're not going  
7 to be catching our escapement goals for chinook and  
8 probably low.....

9  
10 (Teleconference interference -  
11 participants not muted)

12  
13 MS. STICKWAN: .....runs for sockeyes,  
14 and small fish -- small sockeyes in the future. That's  
15 my question to him, would he agree with that statement  
16 that I asked a question about.

17  
18 MR. HAUGHT: Madame Chair, Stormy  
19 Haught.

20  
21 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes, go  
22 ahead, Stormy.

23  
24 MR. HAUGHT: Yeah, as far as the, you  
25 know, the smaller runs recently, I would agree with  
26 that and, you know, did mention that in the analysis  
27 the 2018 and 2020 runs were quite low. And, you know,  
28 the 2020 sockeye salmon escapement was just about  
29 365,000 which is just above that lower bound of the  
30 360,000 escapement goal for sockeye salmon. And  
31 certainly with the number of years that the chinook  
32 salmon goals have been met -- or have been missed, you  
33 know, there's definitely concerns about chinook  
34 production there.

35  
36 As I am no longer with the State, I  
37 don't really think it's, I guess, my place at this  
38 point to comment on the future forecasts, I no longer  
39 do that forecasting so if there's somebody in the State  
40 that wants to talk about that.

41  
42 But certainly in the analysis, as  
43 presented, it's very clear that there's been declines  
44 in sockeye salmon and chinook salmon. And if you want  
45 to take a look at Figure 2 on Page 19 of the analysis,  
46 or Figure 3 on Page 21 of the analysis, this will give  
47 everybody a good idea of the runs since 2001.

48  
49 And, in general, you know, sockeye  
50

0052

1 salmon abundance was very high between 2012 and 2015  
2 and has, you know, seen some declines since then.

3

4 Thank you.

5

6 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Are  
7 there any other questions from Southcentral and then  
8 we'll go to Eastern Interior.

9

10 MS. ROBERTS: Yeah, Mr. Chair, Hope  
11 Roberts.

12

13 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Go ahead.

14

15 MS. ROBERTS: Or, whoever, I'm sorry.  
16 So I have a question about the public comments. In the  
17 executive summary it says 11 opposed and zero support,  
18 but a couple of pages later it says 157 letters of  
19 support, why are those -- why are those comments not in  
20 the executive summary, I mean are they the same thing?  
21 I guess my real question is, well, 157 letters of  
22 support, were those sent in on time?

23

24 MS. WESSELS: Madame Chair, this is  
25 Katya.

26

27 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Go ahead,  
28 Katya.

29

30 MS. WESSELS: Yes, thank you, Madame  
31 Chair. For the record this is Katya Wessels with OSM.  
32 I would like to address this question. So these  
33 additional comments were received after the deadline  
34 posted for the Federal Subsistence Board proposal  
35 comment period. These comments were specifically to  
36 the Councils, the Council accepted those comments, they  
37 were read into the record during the Council meeting of  
38 Southcentral and Eastern Interior, so that is why they  
39 are not included in the proposal analysis because these  
40 comments were specifically to the Council since they  
41 were submitted after the deadline for the Board  
42 proposal comments.

43

44 Thank you.

45

46 MS. PERRY: Madame Chair, this is  
47 DeAnna.

48

49 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, go

50

0053

1 ahead.

2

3

4 MS. PERRY: I could help further  
5 clarify that. The written comment period which is  
6 posted in the Federal Register, those comments that are  
7 submitted during that time are then dealt with during  
8 the analysis, when the biologists and Staff put  
9 together the analysis, those comments that are given  
10 during that public comment period are considered at the  
11 time the analysis is written. The second opportunity  
12 for public comment is at the Regional Advisory Council  
13 meeting and the form letters and the, I think, seven or  
14 eight individual letters in support, those were  
15 received a couple days prior to the meeting for the  
16 Council meeting. So those, as Katya said, were shared  
17 at the Council meeting. They don't get rolled over  
18 into the analysis because the analysis is already  
19 completed.

19

20 So I just wanted to hope put into a few  
21 extra details to help that with the new members on the  
22 public comment periods.

23

24 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Any  
25 followup.

26

27 MS. ROBERTS: No, thank you.

28

29 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, thank  
30 you. Any other questions.

31

32 (No comments)

33

34 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Calling on  
35 Eastern Interior, are there any questions. I know Andy  
36 had some. And I need to report, Andy Bassich just text  
37 me that he might be completely.....

38

39 MR. BASSICH: Yeah, Madame Chair, Andy  
40 here, please.

41

42 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Go ahead,  
43 Andy.

44

45 MR. BASSICH: Thank you, Madame Chair  
46 and Co-Chairs. So, yeah, I have some other questions  
47 in regards to productivity. I heard a few comments  
48 from the biologist that productivity has been dropping  
49 in the marine environment and that the fish are coming  
50

50

0054

1 in smaller and younger and I guess I have some concerns  
2 because that's exactly what we've dealt with on the  
3 Yukon River for many years, which has led to completely  
4 closed fisheries this year.

5

6 And I'm wondering if there's any  
7 discussion amongst the managers or what the process is  
8 to look into increasing escapement goals on the Copper  
9 River for chinook salmon to mitigate for the loss of  
10 fecundity due to smaller fish at a younger age.

11

12 Thank you, Madame Chair.

13

14 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Go ahead, who  
15 can answer.

16

17 (Pause)

18

19 MR. SARAFIN: Madame Chair, this is  
20 Dave Sarafin at Wrangell-St. Elias. I might be able to  
21 provide a little bit of insight to that.

22

23 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Go ahead,  
24 Dave.

25

26 MR. SARAFIN: Yeah, the questions on  
27 escapement goals would best be directed to the Alaska  
28 Department of Fish and Game who is tasked with  
29 establishing those for their management plan. They  
30 recently, at the Board of Fish meeting in Cordova, that  
31 concluded early December of this past year, they  
32 recently revised their chinook salmon escapement goal  
33 from 24,000 as a set point to a range, sustainable  
34 escapement goal range that lowered that, I think it's  
35 21,000 to 31,000, or somewhere around there but it was  
36 a slight drop and it -- and that was based off of some  
37 analysis they did on productivity and returns and,  
38 again, that would be a State question to get better  
39 insight on the escapement goals.

40

41 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thanks, Dave.  
42 Is there any State people online.

43

44 MS. STICKWAN: I have a question.

45

46 MR. SOMERVILLE: Madame Chair, this is  
47 Mark Somerville, can you hear me.

48

49 MS. STICKWAN: I have a question.

50

0055

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes, Mark, we  
2 can.

3  
4 MR. SOMERVILLE: Okay.

5  
6 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Identify your  
7 position.

8  
9 MR. SOMERVILLE: Yes, I will. This is  
10 Mark Somerville with the Alaska Department of Fish and  
11 Game. Sorry, I didn't realize I'd get through that  
12 easily. So as far as the question on escapement goal,  
13 right now the State does not -- has not incorporated  
14 the, you know, changes in size, fecundity, and things  
15 like that into the escapement goals for the Copper  
16 River for chinook. It's a valid question and it's  
17 something that the State may be looking at in the  
18 future for productivity.

19  
20 (Teleconference interference -  
21 participants not muted)

22  
23 MR. SOMERVILLE: But at this time based  
24 on the analysis for the escapement goal, the current  
25 escapement goal that was proposed and approved through  
26 Board of Fisheries process of 21,000 to 31,000 fish is  
27 considered to be a sustainable escapement goal and as  
28 long as we can stay above that 21,000, we're -- we  
29 should be -- you know, the return should remain  
30 sustainable as we go into the future. And provided  
31 that we don't exceed that upper bound by too greatly or  
32 too often as well because we have -- there is evidence  
33 that over escaping in the Copper River does affect  
34 overall productivity in a negative fashion.

35  
36 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you.  
37 Any other questions Eastern Interior.

38  
39 (No comments)

40  
41 (Teleconference interference -  
42 participants not muted)

43  
44 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, hearing  
45 no more questions, is someone else going to -- DeAnna,  
46 are you going to present the comparisons.

47  
48 MS. PERRY: Yes, Madame Chair, if you  
49 are ready to go to Item 6(C).  
50

0056

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: We are, go  
2 ahead.

3  
4 MS. PERRY: Thank you, Madame Chair.  
5 Yes, for the Council members who have their books in  
6 front of them behind Tab No. 6, you'll see a table  
7 entitled Comparison of Lower Copper River fishery  
8 proposals. Staff put this together as a tool for you  
9 Council members to use. We thought maybe an  
10 organization in this fashion would help if you wanted  
11 to start with thinking about a compromise or an  
12 agreement or just looking at different items to start  
13 the discussion.....

14  
15 (Teleconference interference -  
16 participants not muted)

17  
18 MS. PERRY: .....on that left-hand  
19 column.

20  
21 REPORTER: Okay, hold on, DeAnna.  
22 DeAnna, hold on please.

23  
24 MS. PERRY: Okay.

25  
26 REPORTER: This is Tina, the reporter.  
27 So there's quite a few open lines. There's some  
28 background conversations, just general noise, if  
29 everybody could take a second, star, six, or your mute  
30 button please, would appreciate it.

31  
32 Thank you.

33  
34 Go ahead, DeAnna.

35  
36 MS. PERRY: Thank you, Tina. So on the  
37 left-hand column of this table we have harvest area,  
38 season, reporting period, we have different categories  
39 there. And then going across the page from left to  
40 right, we've captured the details of fishery proposal  
41 19-14, a past proposal; Fisheries Special Action 20-04,  
42 a past special action on the issue; and then the  
43 current proposal, 21-10 as written. We thought that  
44 this might be a good snapshot for the Council to have  
45 in one page so that it could maybe organically start  
46 the conversation.

47  
48 This is just a reference, Mr. Chair and  
49 Madame Chair. So I'm just introducing basically what it  
50



0057

1 is and it would be up to the Council how they would  
2 like to use that, if at all.

3

4 Thank you, Madame Chair.

5

6 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you,  
7 DeAnna. Okay, is there any questions on her  
8 presentation, on the comparisons.

9

10 (No comments)

11

12 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.  
13 Hearing none, I'm going to call on both Councils right  
14 now, if anyone has any questions on this speak up.

15

16 (No comments)

17

18 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, hearing  
19 none I'm going to turn the Chair over to Greg.

20

21 MR. WOODRUFF: Madame Chair, this is  
22 Don, I have a question.

23

24 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh, okay,  
25 Don, go ahead.

26

27 MR. WOODRUFF: So if I heard Gloria  
28 right, she said that the SRC voted on this, could she  
29 expound on that and why they chose the way they did.  
30 Thank you.

31

32 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, I was  
33 actually going to report that but, Gloria, you go  
34 ahead.

35

36 MS. STICKWAN: Well, Sue, if you want  
37 to you could.

38

39 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: No, I will  
40 fill in, you start.

41

42 MS. STICKWAN: Okay. The SRC met on  
43 March -- when was it, this month, and we unanimously  
44 opposed Proposal FP21-10 as written. The SRC was  
45 concerned about creating a new fishery given recent low  
46 salmon returns including the periodic failure to meet  
47 the State of Alaska's amounts necessary for  
48 subsistence, especially in the upper reaches of the  
49 river. Cordova residents have salmon harvest

50

0058

1 opportunities. It is additionally concerned that the  
2 Federal Board sent the proposal back to the Regional  
3 Council Advisories with direction to reach a  
4 compromise, which amounts to being told that the  
5 fishery needs to be allowed and no group -- working  
6 group was established as a way for the RAC to further  
7 discuss the proposal. The SRC voted to write letters  
8 to the Secretary of Interior, the Federal Board and the  
9 Governor about fisheries on the Copper River addressing  
10 concerns about low salmon returns and periodic failure  
11 to meet ANS amount necessary for subsistence in some  
12 segments of the river and also concerned that the  
13 Federal Board sent FP21-10 back to the RACs with  
14 direction to compromise, which amounts to being told  
15 that the fishery needs to be allowed.

16

17 If I may, further, I would like to add  
18 something else.

19

20 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes, Gloria,  
21 go ahead.

22

23 MS. STICKWAN: I submitted a chart by  
24 AITRC that they came up with amount necessary for  
25 subsistence and gave it to DeAnna Perry to give to the  
26 Southcentral RAC and Sue for the Eastern Interior. And  
27 as you can see in that amounts necessary for  
28 subsistence is based under the State fisheries and it  
29 basically has a number of ranges of how much fish are  
30 caught based on a five year average, I believe. And  
31 you can see that only for the Gakona to Slana area,  
32 from that area, Gakona River -- Gakona area up to the  
33 Slana including Batzulnetas, only two of the years have  
34 been met for subsistence needs under the State ANS,  
35 Federal too, and even in the Tonsina and Gakona -- ANS  
36 hasn't been met in seven out of the 15 years. That  
37 means that they have a amount set aside for -- under  
38 the State for subsistence for fisheries and it hasn't  
39 been met. I just wanted to let you know that we are  
40 getting low returns here for our harvest and it's been  
41 that way for a long time.

42

43 I hope you got this chart, it's by  
44 AITRC, Ahtna-InterTribal Resource Commission. They  
45 have fisheries biologists on there on Staff, they're  
46 well qualified to write up this chart.

47

48 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. So  
49 this chart that she speaks to was presented to us at  
50

0059

1 the SRC meeting and if anyone has any questions, or if  
2 you didn't get it you should probably let us know, but  
3 did you have anything else you wanted to add to that  
4 Gloria.

5

6 MS. STICKWAN: I will talk later.

7

8 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Okay,  
9 Donald, does that answer your question.

10

11 MR. WOODRUFF: Yes, thank you.

12

13 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right.  
14 Okay, if there are no other questions we're going to  
15 move into the joint Council deliberations on the  
16 proposal and I'm going to turn the Chair over to Greg.

17

18 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Thank you, Sue,  
19 great job. Council members, before we go into here I'm  
20 just going to give you a little idea of how I'm going  
21 to try and facilitate this. But the joint Council  
22 deliberation, the Chairs, we're going to call on each  
23 Council member for their input. We're going to go  
24 through the Southcentral, then we'll go through the  
25 Eastern Interior. I also had Gloria on here to share  
26 her information, on her SRC, which she did, but she  
27 could speak more to that as we go into there. So I'll  
28 try and keep that in an orderly fashion.

29

30 I want everyone on the Council to have  
31 a chance to express their opinions, or talk and I want  
32 to read into the record from our two Council members  
33 that wrote in. And then we could sit and we could see  
34 if we could come up with a Joint Council  
35 recommendation, and if we can't, we could certainly  
36 send it back to the Federal Board where it belongs.

37

38 But with that said, if it's agreeable  
39 with everyone, let's take about a 10 minute break, no  
40 longer, get some coffee, stretch your legs or wherever  
41 you're at. I know this is a pretty long process. And  
42 then we'll get started and I'll go ahead and promptly  
43 start in 10 minutes and we'll get going on this  
44 deliberation. Does that sound good.

45

46 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Sounds great.

47

48 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Thank you much,  
49 10 minutes.

50

0060

1 (Off record)

2

3 (On record)

4

5 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay, if everyone  
6 is back we're going to go ahead and get started on the  
7 agenda back here. Council members we're on Joint  
8 Council deliberations on this deferred proposal. And  
9 what I had mentioned before is we want each Council  
10 member to go ahead and speak to the issue before we get  
11 into debate. I want each Council member from each RAC  
12 to go ahead and if they got a statement or something  
13 they want to say about it and so we'll put it on the  
14 floor, go through each one, give everyone an  
15 opportunity to do that and then we could get into a  
16 debate on what we could come up with for either a  
17 consensus or a modification to the proposal or simply  
18 send it back to the Federal Board for them to take  
19 their action.

20

21 So with that said, Sue, if you want to  
22 get statements from your -- you want to give your  
23 statement first and then go through your Council, and  
24 then I will go through mine, I will read the missing  
25 members and we will give each Council a short time to  
26 state their thoughts on it and then we won't get into  
27 debate or a lot of discussion until after everyone's  
28 had a chance to speak to the issue a little bit. Does  
29 that sound good?

30

31 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Sure.

32

33 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay.

34

35 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And if you  
36 want to hear from Eastern Interior first, that's great,  
37 I thought about you guys going first, but we're all  
38 good. Now.

39

40 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: We could go  
41 either way, it doesn't matter.

42

43 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, I'll go  
44 ahead and go first. And I just want to tell the  
45 Eastern Interior folks, I've spent a lot of time on  
46 this, and in order not to forget anything because I'm  
47 usually off the cuff, I have prepared a written thing  
48 and so some of it might have already been said so  
49 you'll have to forgive me for that.

50

0061

1                   And I did not state when I talked about  
2 myself, I've been a neighbor for 45 years to Mentasta  
3 and I have very close ties and friendships there, as  
4 well as with Katie John, before she died, for many,  
5 many years, and understand we're where we're at because  
6 of her lawsuit and Katie was an awesome lady.

7  
8                   Okay. I want to also mention we're not  
9 always going to agree and things are a lot different  
10 here, especially on the Yukon River and the people up  
11 river, from Cordova and Southcentral, so when I speak  
12 I'm trying to be respectful and I don't want anyone to  
13 take anything negatively.

14  
15                   But I do want to mention, this proposal  
16 first came up in October of 2020 meeting for us and now  
17 we have four new members who have not seen it before.  
18 And as your Chair, I do not think this meeting is fair  
19 to the new members with lack of more information. Our  
20 Council has had three meetings since we took this up,  
21 after so much of lapse of time, this is really not fair  
22 to us or even the people that heard it. This is a  
23 crossover proposal since folks in our southern Eastern  
24 Interior have a C&T on the Upper Copper River. People  
25 here use a fishwheel near Slana. Mentasta people have  
26 the wheel at Batzulnetas. The request from the Federal  
27 Board for the two Councils to meet and saying,  
28 compromise, I'll have to agree that was a poor choice  
29 of words. I'm very concerned that the request to meet  
30 jointly was so long ago that maybe some things fall  
31 through the cracks that are really very important. All  
32 our meetings have been by teleconference since October  
33 2020, doing business by teleconference is extremely  
34 difficult and challenging. This issue is very  
35 controversial between the down river and up river  
36 users. The vote by our Council was unanimous. At that  
37 time we only had eight members, due to the government  
38 not appointing two open seats and actually at that time  
39 I noticed that the Southcentral RAC was -- only nine  
40 had voted.

41  
42                   I want to let you know I do have a  
43 personal connection with Cordova. My husband and I  
44 started going to Cordova in 1975 for many, many years  
45 to hunt deer and goats. And we became friends, very  
46 close friends to families there, multi-generational  
47 families. Most of them are commercial fishers,  
48 including Eyak people. They're hardworking good  
49 people. Regional Advisory Councils are to compromise  
50

0062

1 of 30 percent sport/commercial representation even  
2 though most of us have a long subsistence use too. I  
3 have a history of commercial fishing, trapping and  
4 guiding as I said earlier. So my decisions are trying  
5 to meet all the needs of the users in our region, but  
6 most importantly meeting escapement goals for concerns  
7 of a healthy resource.

8  
9 I felt under pressure by the Federal  
10 Board as the Chair of the Eastern Interior RAC to come  
11 up with something. I did a lot of calling to people in  
12 Cordova on both sides of the issue, including the  
13 Forest Service and the proposals [sic] of the proposal.  
14 There were form letters provided to us when we took  
15 this up in October of 2020. Other people I talked to  
16 from Cordova said they could probably come up with a  
17 campaign of form letters to oppose it and maybe even  
18 more. So it's a very divided issue. I place more  
19 weight on an individual letter than I do a form letter.  
20 The sad thing is a lot of the public aren't even aware  
21 that this is before us again. I don't think it serves  
22 the public in this case either.

23  
24 So in your book under Tab 25 is a list  
25 of things that I had asked Staff to share. As the  
26 Chair of the Eastern Interior, again, I felt this  
27 pressure from the Federal Board asking us to, the word  
28 then was, compromise. After talking to a lot of these  
29 people, calling, I wrote down some of these points,  
30 only as talking points, not that I support them, that's  
31 where it came from, and that's Tab 25 again. But this  
32 isn't what I'm supporting, these are just talking  
33 points.

34  
35 We hear from OSM we must have a  
36 meaningful preference. Cordovans have a meaningful  
37 preference for multiple subsistence salmon species --  
38 or fisheries, I mean. And the people up river, whom I  
39 represent, do not have all these multiple use of  
40 salmon. They only have the one subsistence fishery on  
41 the Copper. The Federal Board saying the need to have  
42 another opportunity on the Copper, to me, is kind of a  
43 black eye to the people up river. We should be  
44 spending endless time on seeing escapement goals being  
45 met.

46  
47 Another thing that's come to my  
48 attention is a question: Has there ever been a  
49 customary and traditional dipnet fishery on the Copper  
50

1 by Cordovans. And that was brought up earlier.

2

3

4 Gloria and I both serve on that  
5 Wrangell-St. Elias Subsistence Resource Commission.  
6 She gave a report on that. I believe there's missing  
7 information here regarding how users from Cordova all  
8 the way up the river to Batzulnetas. Cordova has not  
9 only Federal subsistence dipnet on two rivers for  
10 salmon, they also have the State subsistence, which  
11 includes sharing. So all the people I know and have  
12 talked to, there's ample opportunity for people to fill  
13 a freezer with salmon in Cordova under present  
14 regulations. I, personally, feel this request comes  
15 across a bit, and I apologize, a bit on the selfish  
16 side using subsistence as a way to have additional  
17 opportunity.

17

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The Eastern Interior Upper Tanana communities have subsistence on the Copper. This is why we're here. We use the river at Slana with a fishwheel. Most people don't have fishwheels but the fishwheel owners share their wheels with others. Eastern Interior folks with the C&T for salmon could complain about not having a wheel and then want a new fishery, that would not constitute a C&T use. Fishwheel owners share their wheels which is a meaningful preference. I have a difficult time believing people in Cordova are not sharing. And I'm not trying to offend anyone. I just feel that the idea that you don't have a boat is really not a reason to start a new fishery.

I have friends who have a processing plant in Cordova. There's a concern that some people might be abusing this subsistence taken salmon to sell. The Copper River has users all up and down it. The Ahtna region and the Upper Tanana regions use fishwheels in the upper river.

If anything has to be done, the managers need to be more diligent working on escapement goals together.

As users of the resource we are in a very unfortunate situation, having two State and Federal Boards managing our resources with two different sets of rules. But every time people cry their needs are not being met, or not having a meaningful preference, we must be careful to look at

0064

1 the big picture. The sharing going on in both the  
2 Upper and Lower Copper is part of subsistence. The  
3 users in Cordova have multiple opportunities that  
4 people up river do not have.

5

6 These are the concerns I wish to  
7 express to the Eastern Interior RAC.

8

9 Two of our RAC members live in Unit 12  
10 which have a C&T for salmon on the Copper. We  
11 represent our region. We listen very carefully to all  
12 the issues on the Yukon River where we don't have the  
13 information and we place a strong amount of weight to  
14 the users who live along the Yukon when things come up.  
15 When I first got on the Eastern Interior RAC the Yukon  
16 River still had a subsistence fishery for king salmon,  
17 that was 21 years ago and they don't have it now. The  
18 people up river on the Yukon have continually suffered  
19 with less and less use of salmon. Our RAC members  
20 along the Yukon can place more information on this.

21

22 And I do want to say that the salmon in  
23 the last 10 to 15 years coming off the fishwheel in  
24 Slana that I use have become smaller.

25

26 So that's what I wanted to bring forth  
27 to all of you. And now I'm going to start calling on  
28 members of the RAC and I'm going to call on the members  
29 that have been there a very long time and then the new  
30 members so they get to hear more of what's going on.  
31 So I'm first going to start with Andy Bassich.

32

33 MR. BASSICH: Hello.

34

35 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes, go  
36 ahead, Andy.

37

38 MR. BASSICH: Yeah, thank you, Madame  
39 Chair, Mr. Co-Chair. So I have a couple of written  
40 comments, many of them are parallel what Sue has just  
41 outlined from the Eastern Interior position but I  
42 wanted to share these as my personal comments.

43

44 I've been involved in fisheries for 25  
45 years on a very intimate level and I have a great  
46 understanding of salmon fisheries in Alaska and on long  
47 rivers. These comments are based upon my experiences  
48 and observations over a long period of time.

49

50



0065

1 My first point is if FR21-10 is  
2 adopted, I would like to see an amendment that would  
3 prohibit any and all guiding services to subsistence or  
4 non-subsistence fisheries in-river. In other words no  
5 guided in-river fishing boat activity would be allowed  
6 under this new fisheries being created. And that's  
7 only if, of course, the Board adopts it.

8  
9 No. 2. No in-river boat dipnetting  
10 should be allowed by subsistence fishermen in this  
11 newly created fisheries. However, shore bound  
12 fisheries, such as outlined, dipnetting, spear fishing,  
13 rod and reel would be allowed as it is right now in  
14 places. The reason for this is that, as I asked the  
15 question earlier on about the changing size of salmon,  
16 that is a big concern around the State. It's what we  
17 have seen has contributed to the salmon -- king salmon  
18 crash along the Yukon River. Large fish are well known  
19 to travel up the main channels, more mid-river  
20 channels. If we are having problems reaching  
21 escapement goals it is absolutely imperative that  
22 managers manage the fisheries in a way that those large  
23 fecund females have the greatest opportunity possible  
24 to make it to the spawning ground. And I'll reference  
25 the statements made by the fisheries biologist that  
26 fish are getting smaller and younger, which means that  
27 they carry less eggs. So it's very important when that  
28 starts happening to either increase escapement goals or  
29 somehow mitigate for the change of egg deposition into  
30 the spawning grounds if you want to maintain a  
31 fisheries over time.

32  
33 The third point is that: People from  
34 the Cordova region have a tremendous opportunity to  
35 harvest salmon and multiple other species in the  
36 saltwater and marine environment, which are abundant  
37 and actually have a much greater quality.

38  
39 No. 4. All marine environments around  
40 Alaska are in a very low productive cycle. Long-term  
41 climate change impacts are unknown at this time and how  
42 these impacts may negatively impact stock production is  
43 unknown at this time. In the marine and spawning  
44 grounds, this is definitely not known what the impacts  
45 are going to be long-term. Cautious management of the  
46 resource is really paramount at this time due to all of  
47 these new and unknown impacts being created by climate  
48 change and other factors.

49  
50

1                               No. 5. Food security issues a reality  
2 to all Interior subsistence users on an increasingly  
3 scale of importance due to the decline. Interior  
4 subsistence users have a long history of use and an  
5 important reliance on this resource in the upper river.

6  
7                               Along the Yukon River -- this is bullet  
8 point No. 6 -- along the Yukon River we have a long  
9 history of a very similar situation where lower river  
10 fisheries is abundant and is very diverse, i.e.,  
11 meaning multiple species are present in the fisheries.  
12 The fishery is productive in this lower region even on  
13 low abundance years of salmon due to the abundance of  
14 fish in that region. There are many years when the  
15 upper river fisheries are closed partially or  
16 completely once managers realize the run cannot support  
17 a full fisheries, or they find out that they won't meet  
18 escapement numbers and so they close the fisheries.  
19 And we have called this on the Yukon River, Oops  
20 Management, it's not intended but it's a reality of the  
21 difficulties of managing a long in-river fisheries.  
22 When this happens it has a devastating negative impact  
23 to all the up river fishermen who have a tremendous  
24 dependence on this resource and no other species  
25 abundant in numbers to meet their needs.

26  
27                               No. 7. This is kind of my conclusion  
28 from this. This is not the time to open up a new  
29 fisheries that will negatively impact salmon resources  
30 that are struggling to meet historic runs and  
31 struggling to rear in the marine environment.  
32 Additionally, potentially reducing or eliminating a  
33 very important subsistence resource to the up river  
34 fishermen who are dependent on this resource. In other  
35 words, food security.

36  
37                               And, finally, most importantly to me,  
38 creating the stress that may reduce the numbers of fish  
39 to a point of creating a biological crash which could  
40 threaten the run's viability is a very real potential  
41 of creating a new fisheries.

42  
43                               I would just like to say that, you  
44 know, we need to learn from history, we need to learn  
45 from our mistakes. These are some of the things that  
46 have occurred on the Yukon River, which are, in my  
47 opinion, contributing to the closure and the crash of  
48 chinook salmon. So proactive management is absolutely  
49 crucial and so I feel very strongly that this would be  
50

0067

1 a very negative thing to do, a very irresponsible thing  
2 to do given all of the unknowns due to climate change  
3 and all the points that I mentioned up above.

4  
5 That's all I have for my comments,  
6 Madame Chair, other than I would not support -- not be  
7 in support of FR21-10 to move forward.

8  
9 Thank you, Madame Chair. Thank you,  
10 Mr. Co-Chair. And other members of the Council.

11  
12 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you,  
13 Andy. I'm going down the list here. Donald Woodruff.

14  
15 MR. WOODRUFF: Thank you, Madame Chair.  
16 It just kills me when Fish and Game lowered the  
17 escapement goal. It's indicative of a system that's  
18 not working and they're trying to make the numbers look  
19 like it's working and I think Andy did a good job of  
20 summing up some of the points that are of critical  
21 concern, and Gloria and the SRC gave a very good report  
22 about how they feel about the subsistence use of this  
23 fishery. So I'm going to be opposed to it, thank you.

24  
25 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thanks,  
26 Donald.

27  
28 Bill Glanz.

29  
30 (No comments)

31  
32 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Hey, Bill,  
33 are you on.

34  
35 (No comments)

36  
37 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Bill gets  
38 cutoff a lot so I'll call on him later.

39  
40 Next is Charlie Jagow. Don't forget to  
41 unmute.

42  
43 MR. JAGOW: Yep, I'm here, sorry. This  
44 is Charlie Jagow. I don't -- this is kind of out of my  
45 area of expertise so I don't have much for opinion  
46 here.

47  
48 First off I would have to agree with  
49 Andy's point that if the fishery was open there should  
50

0068

1 be some sort of amendment to restrict the use of a  
2 guide service while fishing with a subsistence fishery.  
3 I could see where that could be a bit of a grey area  
4 and definitely cause a lot of frustration for folks up  
5 river.

6  
7 I, personally, won't be supporting this  
8 there's obviously poor salmon runs on most rivers at  
9 this time and does seem like a step backwards to have  
10 more openings while the fish are not doing well.

11  
12 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, thanks,  
13 Charlie. Jody Potts Joseph.

14  
15 MS. POTTS: Yes, thank you, Madame  
16 Chair. I guess I just want to start that I had  
17 actually used the Copper River for subsistence fishery  
18 off and on since the '90s until I moved home to the  
19 Interior in 2013, and have a number of good  
20 relationships with folks, the Ahtna people, in the  
21 Copper River. And I have seen, since I first moved to  
22 that country in 1994, over the years, a decline in  
23 folks around the Copper River meeting their subsistence  
24 needs. And I firsthand saw the impact it has on people  
25 and meeting their food security needs, but also their  
26 cultural needs and also I feel very strongly about the  
27 rights of the indigenous peoples which is often  
28 neglected when we look at, you know, this longstanding  
29 history, right, you know, in relationship to the land  
30 and the food to sustain their people, culture and way  
31 of life. And having witnessed and including  
32 experienced, you know, the some years low number of  
33 fish making it up to the headwaters to the Copper River  
34 and reduced open dates does have a huge impact on the  
35 people.

36  
37 You know, I, also having grown up in  
38 Eagle on the headwaters, or the upper Alaskan side of  
39 the Yukon River and also having relatives on the Dawson  
40 side since my grandma was actually born in Moosehide,  
41 just down river from Dawson Yukon Territory, and the  
42 impacts of us not being able to meet our subsistence  
43 and food security needs, you know, that really weighs  
44 heavily on my thought process here, you know, I think  
45 about how a lot of us, you know, just in society, I  
46 think it's somewhat of a universal truth, thinking  
47 about learning from history and learning from, you  
48 know, these experiences and I think very much, you  
49 know, about the Yukon River and the devastating,  
50

0069

1 absolutely devastating impacts we are facing and we are  
2 dealing with as subsistence users on the Yukon River  
3 and being closed to fishing. And also the stress that  
4 the Yukon River fishery has experienced increasingly  
5 over the years. I also consider the stress that the  
6 Copper River fishery has experienced over the years and  
7 the increased number of users of this resource, you  
8 know, I just don't see that it would be appropriate. I  
9 actually think that it wouldn't be right to open the  
10 Copper River fishery to new fishing opportunities right  
11 now given the fact that, you know, the numbers for  
12 subsistence users up the Copper River aren't being met,  
13 and I think that that really needs to be a priority.

14

15                   And while I feel for, you know, any  
16 justification made for the folks of Eyak and, you know,  
17 their thoughts on this, I also recognize that there is  
18 abundant resources in the ocean. And, you know, the  
19 further up these rivers you go into Interior Alaska,  
20 whether it be the Yukon River watershed or the Copper  
21 River watershed, you know, we have less resources, less  
22 variety and for the majority of us we are either, you  
23 know, our food security comes from the salmon from the  
24 Yukon or Copper River, moose, which, you know,  
25 obviously is getting to be a really impacted resource  
26 as well by the number of users and also the caribou  
27 and, you know, there's also impacts to the caribou.

28

29                   And so I just don't feel like that this  
30 would be the right time, or even ever, unless there's a  
31 huge increase in the salmon numbers. I really do hope,  
32 and I'm opposed to opening the Copper River fishery at  
33 the mouth, and so I'm opposed to this, however if the  
34 unfortunate event that there is an opening, I really do  
35 want to make sure that there is no guiding and no off  
36 boat because not having a boat was one of the reasons  
37 to bring this bill forward. Anyway so those are my  
38 thoughts and I just really hope for the sake of the  
39 subsistence users on the Copper River, especially, you  
40 know, the folks Chistochina, Mentasta area that, you  
41 know, we don't put further stress on the Copper River  
42 salmon.

43

44                   Thank you.

45

46                   MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thanks, Jody.  
47 I'm going to try Bill, he keeps getting dropped off.  
48 Bill, are you on.

49

50

0070

1 (No comments)

2

3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Bill,  
4 don't forget to push your mute button to unmute.

5

6 (No comments)

7

8 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right, he  
9 must have got dropped off again.

10

11 Will Koehler.

12

13 MR. KOEHLER: Thank you, Sue. This is  
14 Will Koehler for the record. I'm just going to echo  
15 Don, Charlie and Andy's comments on this. I'm opposed  
16 to this as this currently sits and I don't think I need  
17 to repeat what they have said. Boy it's tough to see  
18 the opportunities being limited by the resource being  
19 compromised but I would sure hope that you guys could  
20 hopefully avoid what has happened on the Yukon, boy,  
21 it's really been sad to see that fishery go the  
22 direction it has. So I oppose this. And, again, I  
23 would just echo the comments of my fellow members.

24

25 Thank you.

26

27 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you,  
28 Will. Bill Glanz are you on.

29

30 (No comments)

31

32 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And, hey,  
33 Bill.

34

35 (No comments)

36

37 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right,  
38 then I want to make sure, is Linda Evans on.

39

40 (No comments)

41

42 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Or Charlie  
43 Wright.

44

45 (No comments)

46

47 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: There's a  
48 Tanana Chiefs meeting going on right now so I think  
49 they're challenged with dual meetings.

50

0071

1                   Nicolas Henry.

2

3                   (No comments)

4

5                   MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And I'll call  
6 Bill Glanz one more time.

7

8                   (No comments)

9

10                  MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Yes,  
11 Greg, I'm giving it back to you and you can talk to  
12 what you were saying in your text. Go ahead.

13

14                  CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay, thanks,  
15 Sue. Yeah, that's great comments and good decisions, I  
16 just wanted to remind people, and we'll start with the  
17 Southcentral group now that, you know, we're not voting  
18 on this proposal as it is, it's already passed, we're  
19 trying to come up with a compromise. It's fine to  
20 state how you would vote on it, and it's fine to say --  
21 but we're not actually taking up this proposal and if  
22 DeAnna needs to explain that then we can, but we do  
23 have to see if we can come up with either a  
24 modification that some of you suggest or send it back  
25 to the Federal Board.

26

27                  So I would like to go to the  
28 Southcentral RAC now and start asking for their  
29 comments. I'm not sure if we could get through it in a  
30 timely manner here but if we need to, after awhile  
31 we'll take a break and have lunch. I do have to leave  
32 around 3:30 so I'm hoping to at least get our comments  
33 all in by then.

34

35                  I'm going to go ahead and start -- I  
36 think I'm going to save my Chairman comments until the  
37 end, I'm going to call on my Council people first, and  
38 I usually just go down the list here and I know some of  
39 the newer people don't maybe have as much info on this.  
40 But this has been so highly politicized and so much  
41 that's went on here and I'll talk to that in my  
42 comments that it's really kind of disheartening to see  
43 some of the actions that I've seen as a Chairman and  
44 I've never seen that in my life since I've been on here  
45 since 2003, it's a very passionate thing and we  
46 certainly don't want to, you know, cause a conservation  
47 concern, which I understand we wouldn't be.

48

49                  But, anyway, Ed, if you would like to

50

0072

1 make your comments first, let's start with you.

2

3

4 MR. HOLSTEN: Yeah, Mr. Chair, this is  
5 Ed. Ed Holsten. I'm a RAC member, Southcentral RAC  
6 member from Cooper Landing on the Kenai Peninsula.  
7 Just a little background, we have a dipnet season here.  
8 It's shared between right now three communities, Hope,  
9 Cooper Landing and Ninilchik. It's up at the Russian  
10 River Falls and also a portion down on the upper Kenai  
11 -- or Middle Kenai River. It's been going on for about  
12 10 years now. And I think it's been a very successful  
13 program. We never meet our allocation, which is fine,  
14 we always come under -- there's a lot of use of this  
15 dipnet fisheries. Our dipnet fisheries right now, and  
16 just for a few numbers, we're allowed 25 sockeye for  
17 head of family, five additional sockeye for additional  
18 family members. We have to report this in by about 48  
19 hours. You could do it by the telephone, it's kind of  
20 an automated, you just answer a couple of questions and  
21 boom, you're done. Then we send our permits in before  
22 January 1st.

22

23

24 Our limited on our dipnet to dipnets  
25 and rod and reel, no spear, no harpoons, no gaffs. All  
26 incidental fish, like rainbow trout, Dollys, et cetera,  
27 have to be released. And all chinook, we have a very  
28 low run of chinook coming up the Russian River to  
29 spawn, we're required to release all chinook salmon.

29

30

31

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Now, my feeling, according to FP21-10,  
I really support this proposal but with some  
modifications personally. I don't think it's going to  
be a big impact. This forecast on this dipnetting,  
proposed dipnetting will be 0.1 percent of the fish  
coming up the Copper River. But some of the  
modifications, and some of those have been expressed by  
the Eastern RAC and I kind of agree with them right  
now, without any more discussion going on, the king  
salmon in this proposed dipnetting area should be  
released. I don't think we should have spear or gaff,  
et cetera, just dipnet. I agree, I don't think we  
should have any commercial use of guiding on the  
subsistence fishery, dipnetting.

So those are basically my quick  
comments. I support this proposal but as amended. And  
I'm looking forward to hearing some of the other  
comments from the Southcentral RAC members.



0073

1 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

2

3 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Thank you, Ed.

4 I'll wait, I got Michael next, but I'll read his at the  
5 end before I do my comments.

6

7 Diane Selanoff, did you make it in, are  
8 you on.

9

10 MS. SELANOFF: I'm sorry, Mr. Chair,  
11 were you calling my name?

12

13 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Yeah, I'm calling  
14 Diane, if you had a comment on the proposal, I'm going  
15 through all the RAC members now.

16

17 MS. SELANOFF: Yes, I do, and thank  
18 you. This proposal, listening to it all this morning  
19 and a subsistence user myself I wouldn't want anybody  
20 to not have the opportunity to get their subsistence  
21 fish. And at the time of voting, too, I think some of  
22 the concerns we had were Cordova is able to get their  
23 fish, it sounds like there's a vast variety of people  
24 who can go subsistence and go out and get their  
25 subsistence by utilizing other people's boats to get  
26 them from like outside the river, and one of the  
27 concerns I think we had at that time was that we -- you  
28 know, with Covid and social distancing there weren't a  
29 lot of people who were gathering together anymore to go  
30 out and do that type of thing. But also with the  
31 concern, you know, of preventing, you know, other boats  
32 from going out and fishing from boats or dipnetting  
33 from boats, I agree with that that shouldn't happen.

34

35 But as a subsistence user and having  
36 had to get -- not having a vessel to go out to deeper  
37 water to get fish, we always didn't have access to it  
38 And so my concern was for the subsistence users of  
39 Cordova being able to have access if they didn't have  
40 vessels to get to that point.

41

42 So there's a lot of comments that have  
43 been brought forward in regard to this proposal.

44

45 I notice that there isn't a lot of  
46 comment about history of use previously. And so that  
47 was actually a thought that I had worried about was, if  
48 there was no history, why would we create a new  
49 fishery.

50

0074

1                               So, you know, these are all things that  
2 I -- I don't want to inhibit a subsistence user from  
3 being able to obtain subsistence but anyway those are  
4 my thoughts.

5  
6                               Thank you. Sorry for taking up so much  
7 time.

8  
9                               CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Thank you, DeAnna  
10 -- Diane, excuse me. Dennis, you want to go next.

11  
12                               (Teleconference interference -  
13 participants not muted)

14  
15                               MR. ZADRA: Yes, thank you, Greg. For  
16 the record Dennis Zadra, I live here in Cordova. And  
17 I'd just start off saying I am opposed to this  
18 proposal.

19  
20                               Everyone on both RACs that are directly  
21 attached to the Copper River are opposed to it. And,  
22 to me, it just comes down to the health of the  
23 resource. I've fished the Copper River for 30 years  
24 now and I've never seen it as bad as it is now. You  
25 hear the same stories all up and down the river.

26  
27                               We are very fortunate here in Cordova  
28 to have the subsistence opportunities that we have.  
29 The State subsistence, it's in the marine waters and  
30 all that, but there are a lot of people that go out  
31 there with their 16 or 18 foot Lund skiffs and set  
32 their 50 fathom nets and catch their fish. In some of  
33 the analysis it's stated that they have to fish during  
34 commercial openers, which is not accurate, they can  
35 subsistence fish during commercial openers but we also  
36 have Saturday subsistence openers every week and with  
37 the low returns we've only been fishing three 12-hour  
38 periods commercially at the start of the season and  
39 then we're typically shut down from 14 to 18 days. So  
40 in that time when we're shut down we do get subsistence  
41 openers. And so I've subsistence fished more the last  
42 five years because we don't get commercial openers than  
43 I have ever before. When we have good healthy runs, I  
44 just take my fish out of my commercial catch so it's  
45 homepack.

46  
47                               On top of that we have a subsistence  
48 halibut fishery that the Cordova residents qualify for  
49 as well as a subsistence crab fishery.

50

0075

1                               During the season when we are  
2 commercially fishing, Cordova District Fishermen  
3 United, CDFU, they have a day out there where they call  
4 it senior salmon day and when you deliver your fish to  
5 the cannery they ask how many fish would you like to  
6 donate to the seniors of the community and, you know,  
7 it might be two fish, it might be 10 fish but pretty  
8 much everyone participates in that. And so it's a  
9 great thing. I mean fish get fillet on Main Street and  
10 passed out to the residents. So we should be very  
11 grateful for the opportunities that we do have right  
12 down here being so attached to this marine environment.

13  
14                               (Teleconference interference -  
15 participants not muted)

16  
17                               MR. ZADRA: To move on just a little  
18 bit more. I am very concerned also of the saying that  
19 this is customary and traditional. I can find no  
20 history of anyone dipnetting in the Lower Copper. I  
21 think a huge part of the problem on the Copper is the  
22 personal use fishery. That continues to expand. The  
23 guides there continue to expand. In 2018 the personal  
24 use fishery caught twice as many sockeyes as the  
25 commercial fishery did.

26  
27                               So on to the guide issue, I want to  
28 relieve everybody's concerns about the guiding because  
29 the Board of Fish here in December, we had Proposal 7,  
30 which was to prohibit guiding in subsistence finfish  
31 fisheries and we were able to convince the Board to  
32 pass that proposal. So as I understand right now,  
33 statewide, there is no guiding in subsistence  
34 fisheries, and so that is going to be a step in the  
35 definite right direction.

36  
37                               And that's pretty much all I have, I  
38 just got bullet points here. But, yeah, that covers  
39 what I have to say and I don't want to belabor it.

40  
41                               Thank you.

42  
43                               CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay, thanks,  
44 Dennis. I'm going to keep moving down the list here,  
45 Gloria.

46  
47                               (Teleconference interference -  
48 participants not muted)

49  
50

0076

1 MS. STICKWAN: I just want to state  
2 again that Fish and Game lowered the escapement goals  
3 to 21,000 to 31,000 for chinook. That's -- because --  
4 the reason is is to, I don't know, to make it more  
5 allowable for people to fish, I guess, but it's not a  
6 good thing to do. And I think there may be other  
7 reasons.....

8  
9 (Teleconference interference -  
10 participants not muted)

11  
12 MS. STICKWAN: .....for that too. I  
13 just want to say that all of the users on the Copper  
14 River are opposed to this like Dennis said, the NVE has  
15 continuously opposed this, the Native Village of Eyak  
16 always opposes this proposal when it was brought up.

17  
18 The commercial fisheries are opposed to  
19 it.

20  
21 23 communities up here, I just want to  
22 say that's going to on the Upper Copper River, 23  
23 communities will be affected by this proposal during  
24 these low runs.

25  
26 We have worked with NVE, Native Village  
27 of Eyak and commercial fisheries when there's a Prince  
28 William Sound community meeting, Board of Fish meeting,  
29 we always sit down.....

30  
31 (Teleconference interference -  
32 participants not muted)

33  
34 MS. STICKWAN: .....and we talk.....

35  
36 MS. TOTEMOFF: Excuse me, Gloria.

37  
38 MS. STICKWAN: .....and we work  
39 together.

40  
41 MS. TOTEMOFF: I'm sorry to interrupt.  
42 But I'm having a hard time hearing you from other  
43 feedback from other lines so I just want to remind  
44 everybody to mute your phones out of respect for the  
45 speaker. Thank you, very much.

46  
47 REPORTER: Thank you. Go ahead,  
48 Gloria. I don't know if that was coming from your line  
49 but go ahead, Gloria.

50

0077

1 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Gloria, are you  
2 still there.

3  
4 (No comments)

5  
6 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Maybe Gloria --  
7 Gloria, can you hear us.

8  
9 (No comments)

10  
11 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Well, I  
12 guess.....

13  
14 MS. STICKWAN: I'm sorry, can you  
15 hear.....

16  
17 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: .....we'll move  
18 on and come back to Gloria if she.....

19  
20 MS. STICKWAN: .....me now.

21  
22 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: .....gets back  
23 online. Hopefully.....

24  
25 MS. STICKWAN: Hello.

26  
27 REPORTER: I think she's -- Greg, I  
28 think she's here. Go ahead, Gloria.

29  
30 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Go ahead, Gloria.

31  
32 MS. STICKWAN: I got off line for  
33 awhile there. Can you hear me now.

34  
35 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Yeah, I can hear  
36 you, continue.

37  
38 MS. STICKWAN: Donna couldn't hear me.

39  
40 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: No, we just hear  
41 some background. We could hear you, we had background  
42 noise, but go ahead, finish up.

43  
44 MS. STICKWAN: So as I was saying, all  
45 of our communities in the upper river, I gave you that  
46 chart that AITRC did. Again, I want to say that, you  
47 know, our subsistence needs in upper river are not  
48 being met. I mean in two of the 15 years from Gakona  
49 up to Batzulnetas they haven't met their amount for  
50

0078

1 subsistence needs. In 7 out of the 15 years from  
2 Tonsina to Gakona we haven't had our subsistence needs  
3 met. This is going to have an impact on our upper  
4 fisheries for our communities up here, our 23  
5 communities which includes the upper Tanana people as  
6 well.

7  
8 I just want to say, again, Cordova  
9 residents, they have an opportunity to fish in the  
10 marine waters, Ibeck Creek, Alaganik salt flow and Eyak  
11 River. Again, I want to say we only have the Copper  
12 River to fish on for salmon. We don't have any other  
13 place to go unless we spend money to get salmon to go  
14 somewhere else, that's the only way we can get salmon.

15  
16 In recent years statement --  
17 sustainable escapement goal for sockeye in 2018 to 2021  
18 may have been met however the runs were at the lower  
19 end of the fisheries management objectives. In light  
20 of the climatic warming and increased flows, change in  
21 mortality, mortality have not been accounted. In 2020  
22 the Copper River sockeyes had a low run. During the  
23 past decade the Gulkana has repeatedly failed to meet  
24 its brood stock goals. In 2010, 2014, 2016 and 2020  
25 and 2021 chinook escapement goals will -- has never  
26 been met, and won't be met, hasn't been met for the  
27 24,000 escapement goal. And our fisheries are small.  
28 For several years we've been getting small fish which  
29 means that these are weak fish that are coming up  
30 river, small king salmons, we get a lot more jacks now  
31 than we ever had. We don't get large king salmons  
32 anymore, that's just gone, I mean hardly ever see that  
33 anymore. Hardly ever see a good sized sockeyes,  
34 they're just -- they're small fish and they don't have  
35 much fat on them.

36  
37 (Teleconference interference -  
38 participants not muted)

39  
40 MS. STICKWAN: So you know that they're  
41 -- is there someone on here.....

42  
43 REPORTER: Okay, so, people, could we  
44 really please try to mute our phones. We're trying to  
45 listen to everybody's statement and if we could just be  
46 respectful of that, check your device, star, six or  
47 mute and that way each person can state their view  
48 right now and the people online can listen.

49  
50

0079

1 Thank you.

2

3 Go ahead, Gloria.

4

5 MS. STICKWAN: And I want to say along  
6 the river during the month may have an affect -- may  
7 not allow sonar in the river until after the fishery  
8 opens. Fishing in the Lower Copper River will be  
9 difficult to account for in relation.....

10

11 (Teleconference interference -  
12 participants not muted)

13

14 MS. STICKWAN: .....to historical data  
15 on salmon counts and run timing strengths.

16

17 In 2020 subdistricts have been low as  
18 for ANS again. And I want to say, again, that if you  
19 look at page -- how many studies that have been done by  
20 Fish and Game in 2014, it says that Cordova households  
21 have 73 percent of salmon, and chinook 63 percent. In  
22 2014. While there hasn't been any studies, they have  
23 historically met their needs and I believe they are  
24 still getting help from NVE and I know NVE shares some  
25 of the resources with us up here too, and so has  
26 commercial fisheries. So I know there's sharing going  
27 on with people in the Lower Copper River. And I just  
28 want to say again that, you know, this has impacted  
29 people that are using this fishery and we're all  
30 opposed to it.

31

32 This time is not a good time to open a  
33 fisheries.

34

35 I also want to say that we support --  
36 I've always supported -- you know this RAC has always  
37 listened to other areas in Southcentral, like the  
38 Kenai, we listen to their concerns over the years about  
39 their fisheries. We've listened to Homer, and other  
40 areas, Anchorage, and, you know, we usually take into  
41 account what the local people say. If they have a  
42 concern we listen to them and we acted on their  
43 proposals and their concerns and all of us that are on  
44 this right now using this fisheries, we're opposed to  
45 it. I think you people should take -- consider on the  
46 Southcentral RAC what we are saying here, we have a  
47 really deep concern about this fisheries opening at  
48 this time when there's a low run. It's going to have  
49 an impact on us and I just want to remind you, again,  
50

0080

1 Katie John was the person that started this fisheries,  
2 without her being and without the Ahtna people  
3 supporting this we wouldn't have a fisheries on the  
4 Copper River, you know.

5

6 I just think you guys should defer to  
7 what we're saying and oppose this proposal or tell them  
8 that we don't want to support this proposal.

9

10 That's all I have to say, thank you.

11

12 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Thanks, Gloria.  
13 Okay, Angela, you want to go.

14

15 MS. TOTEMOFF: Thank you, Mr. Chair,  
16 this is Angela. Thank you for your comments, Gloria,  
17 appreciate everything that you said.

18

19 I just want to start with I do believe  
20 in this RAC and I believe in the process that you have  
21 gone through and all the comments and the decisions  
22 made at the time. I know that Greg offers a lot of  
23 leadership and allows for a lot of information to come  
24 through.

25

26 With that said, I think the pandemic  
27 and the lack of time to meet in person to discuss these  
28 -- and the time that has passed, we are in a different  
29 time now so I just feel like the decisions made then  
30 are different than what they would have potentially  
31 today. And I can't say that for sure but just hearing  
32 the comments it just seems like the decision that was  
33 made then may have, you know, if we were in this same  
34 situation would have been different.

35

36 With that said, too, I don't -- just  
37 like Diane said, want to limit anybody's right to  
38 subsist. A lot of people, every subsistence user  
39 depends on these for their livelihood, I understand  
40 that. I also think that there's a balance between use  
41 and conservation. As gatherers it is our  
42 responsibility to ensure sustainability and during my  
43 time here on the RAC there has been a concern of the  
44 lower counts, especially in the river, that I've been  
45 listening to and hearing and also hearing comments from  
46 my own community in the Prince William Sound about how  
47 counts are low. So that is a concern that I have right  
48 now.

49

50



0081

1                   So with that said, I understand that we  
2 had passed this proposal back then in 2020 and now  
3 looking -- moving forward, I don't know what the  
4 process would be to change that decision but if it were  
5 to move forward, passed, I do support the amendments of  
6 restricting the use as much as it needs to be to make  
7 sure that our river remains to be sustainable and we  
8 can get it back to a healthy level.

9

10                   Thank you, Mr. Chair.

11

12                   CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Thank you,  
13 Angela. Thank you. Andy -- let's see, not to Andy, I  
14 got Donna on here, Donna, Donna Claus.

15

16                   MS. CLAUS: Yes, thank you, Mr. Chair.  
17 I'm kind of -- I kind of feel like I'm with Sue and her  
18 group because I live in that area. I've lived  
19 permanently in the upper reaches, almost at the  
20 headwaters of the Chitina River for 40 years and we've  
21 seen an incredible decline in the numbers of fish  
22 coming up to their traditional and customary locations  
23 around us. It's a glacier-fed river and it changes  
24 daily and some places by erosion so some spawning areas  
25 are washed away but we know of so many spawning areas  
26 that are just simply devoid of fish. We used to go  
27 watch the fish spawn in numerous places, now we go to  
28 see if there is even one fish in that same place.

29

30                   According to a report in our meeting of  
31 fall 2020 only three percent of total run goes into the  
32 Chitina. That seems strange because the Chitina is  
33 more than double the Copper water volume when it flows  
34 into it at the confluence, it's a huge river. It would  
35 be assumed that fish would have come up the Chitina  
36 since first fish first found the waters of the Copper,  
37 somehow they haven't come back. Was that run wiped out  
38 by opening up just a little more harvest down river, or  
39 Oops Management like on the Yukon or is this just  
40 normal, I'm just wondering. The subsistence use in the  
41 Chitina district of the Copper is our only choice for  
42 us personally, and that's 80 miles down river, and we  
43 don't have a road. We literally have no other option.  
44 Rod and reel does not produce any fish anymore in our  
45 area. We have to fly out to get our fish. This year  
46 we did not get a chance to fly out to Chitina or other  
47 rod and reel places, our freezers are empty. First  
48 time ever in 40 years. And I don't have a second or  
49 third option, that's the way it is.

50

1                   Sometimes it's not all about me and my  
2 rights, sometimes things are hard, but we don't need to  
3 expand the potential for hard.

4  
5                   It's saying that another subsistence  
6 fishery is wanted for Cordova. According to the  
7 attached documents the people of Cordova have several  
8 opportunities and options. Tab 8 shows three areas and  
9 the proposed one, all accessible. They also have State  
10 subsistence in the saltwater. To us, in the upper  
11 reaches of the Copper watershed looking in, we see a  
12 huge blessing to them. We have only one available and  
13 it is sick, and getting sicker. With a long, long  
14 tradition behind them the upper reaches of the Copper  
15 have a lot of folks who depend on the protein of the  
16 salmon, with dwindling supplies, they must be given  
17 priority as this is their only choice.

18  
19                   The Eyak people told us that there's no  
20 tradition of fishing in the proposed area and they're  
21 against this proposal, yet, the Board said there is;  
22 who's right? This makes a huge difference on this  
23 proposition and it makes me wonder, what's up. The OSM  
24 justification says the historical use of dipnets and  
25 the harvest of salmon in the proposed areas are well  
26 documented, well, where is this documented? Is this  
27 just a step toward a personal use proposal like the  
28 Chitina district. Tab 8 shows a proposed area that  
29 extends along -- runs along the highway and across the  
30 bridge that does not exist. To me, this makes fish  
31 hard to -- this makes it hard to fish those fish. The  
32 water is fast and wild there with no way across the  
33 river, how does this get utilized by people who don't  
34 have boats and great experience in this wild dirty  
35 river. The boundaries are drawn, I think, to make the  
36 entire Copper River available or fishing, to go all the  
37 way across it, like setting a net all the way across  
38 it. They can't do that now but who knows in the  
39 future. These boundaries cover a line completely  
40 across the river and in my nightmares I can see this  
41 open area expanding into an Oops moment for those of us  
42 up river.

43  
44                   I do not understand the thought pattern  
45 that some people don't have good boats so opening this  
46 up will provide them with opportunity when some of it  
47 is inaccessible without a boat. There are always those  
48 who have a hard time getting something. I have lived  
49 for years in villages in the Bristol Bay region and  
50

0083

1 seen others capable, who are more capable take care of  
2 those who cannot do it themselves. Communities develop  
3 proxy subsistence fishing for those who meet the  
4 criteria listed under 3 under Tab 10. The Native  
5 Village of Eyak is a great example of this with their  
6 proxy subsistence community fishing under State rules.  
7 Maybe Cordova should consider this alternative and go  
8 from 40 to 44 percent sharing to whatever is needed.  
9 And I got this number from under the responses to  
10 Council members No. 4.

11

12 Another statement that seems to come up  
13 is that people don't want to be out subsistence fishing  
14 when commercial fishing is going on. My family began  
15 gillnetting in Bristol Bay in the early 60s, I did it  
16 for 10 years as a deckhand. I can understand not  
17 wanting to be out in the middle of that mess in your  
18 subsistence skiff, it is a nightmare. But having gone  
19 out on openings in Prince William Sound, I do not know  
20 where that is even a problem. So much area for  
21 relatively few fishermen. I suppose if you want to be  
22 in the midst of a group of them it would be hard but  
23 I've flown over that fishery numerous times and there  
24 are vast areas that are open. A subsistence fisherman  
25 does not need to catch the volume that a commercial  
26 fisherman does and he can just sit and let them come  
27 in. Plus commercial fishing boats in Prince William  
28 Sound can designate subsistence fish from their catch,  
29 that is a wonderful chance to set up a sharing system  
30 even more robust than the one that Dennis Zadra was  
31 saying already is in existence. According to the  
32 statistics in No. 12 of the questions from the Council  
33 an average of less than 100 permits subsistence are  
34 issued each year. Average number -- average annual  
35 number is 34 permits between 2007 and 2019. In those  
36 12 years an average of 34 permits were issued. It  
37 seems to me that this number of permits with three  
38 areas already and the saltwater fishery is probably  
39 accurate.

40

41 I'm trying to get things to be easier,  
42 we were always trying to make things easier in Bristol  
43 Bay but hard it was anyway. Fishing is not easy most  
44 of the time. Rod and reel can be a real pain.  
45 Subsistence nets can be darn hard. Fishwheels need to  
46 be continually fixed and held in place. Boats are  
47 places to pour our money into. Dipnets are deadly. It  
48 is simply hard and opening new areas to make it easier  
49 is not a legitimate issue to me in a declining fishery.

50

1 By the way we have been asked to reach  
2 a compromise which means that both sides have to give  
3 up something. I know now they're saying that that  
4 wasn't the right word but that was the word used. We  
5 should not compromise declining stocks of salmon by  
6 opening up something that according to the  
7 justification of the Federal Subsistence Board is  
8 anticipated to be a small portion of the overall Copper  
9 River harvest. What is small, how did participation  
10 become quantified, and why does this new fishery go  
11 where boats are required.

12  
13 This is such a divisive proposal. And  
14 I understand what some people from Cordova are talking  
15 about, about more opportunity. We all want that and  
16 it's fine, but when you have one group which already  
17 has numerous opportunities and put it in a bag with  
18 another group which only has one opportunity, right  
19 away you have no way to compromise. The group with  
20 only one opportunity will be doing all the giving and  
21 that is not a compromise.

22  
23 Being a part of a river with no fish in  
24 it anymore and no other alternative is a sad affair.  
25 The Chitina is like the Yukon and we don't wish that on  
26 anyone. I think that people up river need their chance  
27 at those fish that might be caught and never counted  
28 down river since this proposed fishery is below the  
29 counter, and sort of like, ghosts (ph), which all will  
30 not be known until the Oops comes.

31  
32 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

33  
34 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Thank you. Okay,  
35 next would be Andy and I could hold off until the end  
36 and I'm going to go ahead and move on to Donna Wilson.

37  
38 MS. WILSON: Thank you, Mr. Chair and  
39 Madame Chair for the opportunity to speak. I'm really  
40 in awe of all the wonderful comments and how much has  
41 been covered with the other members from both Councils  
42 and I can't say how much it's educated me and I do  
43 understand the issue. I feel like I understand it a  
44 lot better and I already had some of the same concerns  
45 before you got to me.

46  
47 Gloria raised some interesting points  
48 that I had questions about when I first read through  
49 this, and that was having to do with this traditional,  
50

0085

1 historic or customary use. I don't see that at all,  
2 it's not documented at all. But most of these things  
3 may be moot if I could just get everybody to consider  
4 for a moment, either I don't understand this or  
5 everybody's missed this. Would this all be moot if we  
6 looked at this Section 5, Page 37 where it talks about  
7 the recommendation by ADF&G that opposes this proposal.  
8 And it says, in ANILCA Congress provided the Federal  
9 Subsistence Board with the authority to implement a  
10 priority for taking of fish and wildlife in non-  
11 wasteful subsistence uses. Congress directed that the  
12 priority is to be implemented whenever it is necessary  
13 to restrict the taking of populations of fish and  
14 wildlife on Federal public lands to subsistence uses in  
15 order to protect the continued viability of such  
16 populations, or to continue such uses the limitations  
17 based on the factors in Section .804 of ANILCA. Most  
18 importantly it does not authorize the FSB to open  
19 something or fishing opportunities except to reopen  
20 seasons or areas that were previously closed.

21  
22 So if this area was never traditionally  
23 or customarily used what are we even talking about, No.  
24 1. That's -- you know, I don't know, maybe I don't  
25 understand this, but that's a -- I feel that's an  
26 important point in light of all these other comments.  
27 We don't need to argue about our need for this use when  
28 maybe it isn't even up to us.

29  
30 But anyway I would be opposed to this  
31 all the way around for a number of the same reasons.

32  
33 Also, I don't see how it's going to  
34 save anything or anybody, it just seems like  
35 everybody's going to wind up.....

36  
37 (Teleconference interference -  
38 participants not muted)

39  
40 MS. WILSON: .....(indiscernible -  
41 echo) with this all up and down the river, all up and  
42 down the highway because there's so many other people  
43 that use this fishery, mostly from the river, Cordova  
44 has plenty of access and they seem to be doing all  
45 right as far as meeting their needs because they have  
46 other sources. So, really, if we were to put our  
47 energies into something about our fishery and these  
48 concerns, as well as for them, why couldn't we direct  
49 our efforts in helping this fishery rather than --  
50

0086

1 besides, you know, find out ways to share it, maybe we  
2 can find out ways to increase it with the lower fish  
3 size, lower escapement, all these issues coming up.

4  
5 I've spoken with Tom Ashton and Jessica  
6 (Indiscernible - echo) that's doing this project with  
7 the Copper -- or the Chickaloon Natives and their  
8 fishery and it seems quite successful and I don't know  
9 if any of you had a chance to see that proposal, I  
10 believe it was No. (indiscernible - echo and cutting  
11 out) with Fish and Game for allowing -- allowing the  
12 type of hatchery, it's a wet egg process, I'm sure  
13 somebody in this forum has heard of this. But they  
14 have had some (indiscernible - echo - cutting out) and  
15 I think that that would be more important to do away  
16 with, this idea that all our fish have to be wild --  
17 wild hatched, wild caught, I mean this is probably the  
18 closest thing to keeping that available and that they  
19 are wild, they're raised right there in the wild with  
20 those other fish. So it's something that we could  
21 maybe direct our attention to to improve this problem  
22 and -- and help one another by supporting this in the  
23 Legislature. I don't know if that proposal was even  
24 brought up or discussed. I made a couple of calls and  
25 tried to encourage some other people to get online with  
26 that and encourage Chris (Indiscernible) to take that  
27 through the Legislature but that would be an important  
28 improvement and like I said we can all do this together  
29 by supporting some of these alternate ideas to help  
30 this fishery rather than have us parse it out more  
31 because, granted, fisheries are going down all over the  
32 state, I can see that in my lifetime. I used to fish  
33 every creek from Palmer to Glennallen and all the way  
34 down to Valdez as a kid and, you know, okay so that was  
35 in the '60s but it's no longer there. There aren't any  
36 fish anywhere. I haven't gone and caught a salmon in  
37 any stream, I've gotten some that have been shared with  
38 me from several people that use the fisheries at, you  
39 know, at Chickaloon, some of them have fishwheels and  
40 they've always been very good about sharing fish. But  
41 we are all dependent, especially from here to Palmer on  
42 Copper Center, and those fisheries in that general  
43 area. Some people go to Chitina but I didn't realize  
44 what I was hearing from the last Council person about  
45 Chitina not having any fish, I hadn't been up there in  
46 years but that's disturbing.

47  
48 Where should our energies be, and,  
49 again, I just want to thank everybody for their  
50

0087

1 comments, it's been very educational and informative  
2 and concerning. And this point I made about this whole  
3 thing possibly being moot, maybe somebody would have a  
4 comment addressing that, or perhaps the Chairman, if he  
5 could, or somebody with the Department of Fish and  
6 Game, in their comments, it's the recommendation that I  
7 mentioned, is this something we should even be  
8 discussion or trying to decide on -- with a season --  
9 you know, we can't open a season apparently that's  
10 never been opened and we can't close one that's never  
11 been opened so.

12  
13 That would conclude my comment, thank  
14 you very much.

15  
16 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay, thank you,  
17 Donna. Yeah, we'll get into more discussion, we're  
18 going to go through and let everyone have their speak.  
19 I'm trying to keep going so I could let everyone have  
20 their comments while we're in the same train of  
21 thought. So I'm going to go to Hope next.

22  
23 MS. ROBERTS: Thanks, Mr. Chair. There  
24 has been so much said. I just think I would be echoing  
25 just about everybody here so I think the only thing  
26 that I would want to get to before you have to leave,  
27 sir, is that there's four new RAC members here in --  
28 you know, for Southcentral, and I would be interested  
29 to know what -- you said that DeAnna would be able to  
30 talk about a new vote, but for now that's what I have.

31  
32 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay. Yeah,  
33 there's -- it's not a new vote that I know of but we'll  
34 kind of address that, you know, the vote has been taken  
35 on this proposal, it went to the Federal Board is what  
36 i was stating and they've already -- we passed it at  
37 Southcentral, Eastern Interior opposed it and then it  
38 got remanded back to us. So the proposal, we're not  
39 voting to change the vote on the past proposal, we're  
40 having to come up with a new recommendation to send  
41 back to the Federal Board or give it back to them so  
42 we'll kind of.....

43  
44 MS. ROBERTS: Oh, thank you. Thank  
45 you. Yeah, well, following Donna then, if I may, Donna  
46 Wilson. I would most likely be opposed all the way  
47 around myself, just hearing all the information and  
48 based on the new RAC members, that's all really  
49 important information. Thanks.

50

0088

1 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Thank you. Okay,  
2 Heath, you want to go ahead next.

3  
4 MR. KOCAN: Hi, thank you, Mr. Chair.

5  
6 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Uh-huh.

7  
8 MR. KOCAN: Yeah, I have a few comments  
9 on this. First, I kind of wanted to look at the data  
10 because I think sometimes you kind of get lost in the  
11 weeds here on what the effect this would actually have  
12 on the run. And if we go back and -- my numbers are a  
13 little different than Ed's. But if you look at the 10  
14 year average and if you look at the total estimated  
15 sockeye return, now this proposal would be taking .08  
16 percent of the fish.

17  
18 (Teleconference interference -  
19 participants not muted - on hold)

20  
21 MR. KOCAN: Hopefully that's a little  
22 easier to see than just looking at these big numbers,  
23 but, again, .08 percent on the 10 year average, you  
24 know when you look at subsistence in general. If you  
25 look at Glennallen and combined, you know, they're  
26 taking about .9 percent so, you know, 10 times the  
27 amount of fish that we would actually be taking down  
28 here with this proposal.

29  
30 And then you look at commercial fishing  
31 and, you know, on the 10 year average they're at about  
32 54 percent, which I think we also need to bring up as  
33 well.

34  
35 If you take one of the worst years, if  
36 you look at 2020, you know, our return of 726,000 some  
37 fish, this proposal, we would be taking about .27  
38 percent of all that, which, again it's a very -- it's  
39 an extreme small number. I know that people have  
40 brought up that there might be.....

41  
42 (Teleconference interference -  
43 participants not muted)

44  
45 MR. KOCAN: .....issues with the sonar  
46 reporting. Like I said I would defer to some of the  
47 biologists but I can't imagine 2,000 fish on the sonar  
48 reporting is really going to make that much of a  
49 difference.

50



0089

1                   You know, we're all qualified users up  
2 river and down river and I'm just trying to -- I wonder  
3 why we were getting pitted against each other. You  
4 know the data shows this fishery will have, you know,  
5 little to no effect on sockeye or king runs for the  
6 Copper River, this proposed fishery. There's been a  
7 lot of talk that there's no support, I think, you know,  
8 there's been phone calls going around, people saying  
9 there is no local support, well, there is local  
10 support. We have, you know, letters of support from  
11 Jesse Carter and other members of the community, from  
12 NVE members to commercial fishing members and I think  
13 -- I think that needs to be told out there that there  
14 is support for this. It's not just other people in  
15 Southcentral that want to do it, there's actual Cordova  
16 members, Cordova entities here that are in support of  
17 this proposal.

18  
19                   There's been a lot of talk, I know, on  
20 access here on the Copper in the Cordova region for  
21 different subsistence fisheries. As you said, to fish  
22 in the State subsistence fishery, you need a boat, you  
23 can't do it without a boat. You know I'm fortunate, I  
24 make enough money and I can afford a boat, I can go out  
25 there with my family and we can gillnet, we have a good  
26 time but there are a lot of members in this community  
27 that can't do that. And, yeah, there is sharing.....

28  
29                   UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Then you're good.

30  
31                   (Teleconference interference -  
32 participants not muted)

33  
34                   MR. KOCAN: It's -- can I -- am I  
35 allowed to finish.

36  
37                   REPORTER: Yes.

38  
39                   CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: You go ahead, I  
40 don't know who interrupted.

41  
42                   MS. PERRY: Mr. Chair, this is DeAnna.

43  
44                   CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Someone who --  
45 you go ahead.

46  
47                   MS. PERRY: This is DeAnna. I would  
48 like to remind everyone to star, six. Each Council  
49 member has an opportunity to put his or her opinion on  
50

0090

1 the record. Please be respectful of that. Thank you.

2

3

CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Go ahead, Heath.

4

5

MR. KOCAN: And then I know it was brought up, you know, that there's Federal subsistence dipnetting on the Eyak River. Unfortunately that's just not doable. I mean if you've been down here -- yeah, I'm happy to have anyone come down and I'll take you out on the river and like you cannot dipnet. There's a very rare occasion, when we've had maybe sun for about a week and we get enough glacial melt to make the river all milky and you have maybe one or two days you can go down there but, again, you need a boat to dipnet on the Eyak River. And the only people I've seen do it with success regularly, they use two boats, and they basically wrangle the fish, they put the net in the water, if the river is low and clear and they steer the fish into the net.

20

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You know at the end of the day, I just want to, you know, who is this proposal for, you know, there's a lot of -- there are members of the community that are not going to use this, you know, I'm fortunate enough, I have a boat, I go out, we like to dipnet -- or gillnet, rather, on the Flats, you know, I can afford to do it, we enjoy doing it, this proposal is for the people in town, you know, that can't do that, that don't have the means to afford a boat, the gas, to go out and do the State subsistence fisheries. You know it's for those people that head to the Ibeck every day in September, you know, work at the grocery store, get off work, they go down to Ibeck, they bring their rod and reel and they sit there for hours with a clump of eggs, you know, trying to bring home a couple fish at the end of the day. You know this proposal would allow them to go out there, get the fish they're allocated and do it in a somewhat timely manner.

Again, hopefully we can have a good discussion about this when this is -- in a little bit, and that's all I got for now.

CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay, thank you, Heath. Next we'll go to Michael Rego.

MR. REGO: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Michael Rego. I don't have too much.....

0091

1 (Teleconference interference -  
2 participants not muted)

3  
4 REPORTER: Okay, wait a second, I can't  
5 hear you.

6  
7 MR. REGO: .....(indiscernible) the RAC  
8 up here.

9  
10 REPORTER: I'm sorry, I'm getting a lot  
11 of static when you're talking. Go ahead, let's try  
12 again.

13  
14 MR. REGO: Okay. Thank you, Mr. Chair,  
15 and I won't take up too much time seeing that  
16 everything has been said, mostly for the members who  
17 are also on the Copper River, like myself. I mean I've  
18 been on a fishwheel pretty much my entire life. The  
19 numbers have been going down, the fish are getting  
20 smaller. The runs are getting shorter and quicker, and  
21 even the quality has gone down some over the time. And  
22 so I would ultimately be opposed to this as far as  
23 being a recommendation to push up to the Federal  
24 Subsistence Board, mainly because I believe that the  
25 fishery itself has too much use already and I don't  
26 think a lot of it is on the Federal side or the  
27 commercial side, but I do believe it's the dipnetting  
28 and personal use for the State with fishwheels, along  
29 those lines, and also dry boxes on the fishwheels with  
30 not having the ability to return the king salmon and  
31 the king salmon fisheries have been -- although this --  
32 there might be incidental catch and there's probably  
33 less loss but it still impacts the kings and trying to  
34 limit that impact to preserve the fishery is real  
35 important to me.

36  
37 So that's all I really have but thank  
38 you very much for your time.

39  
40 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Alrighty, thank  
41 you, Michael. I'm going to go ahead, we had two  
42 Council members that are unfortunately not here. I'm  
43 going to go back and then I'll so my comments at the  
44 end.

45  
46 Michael Opheim, he ha sent a statement  
47 and I believe this got sent to the Council members, I  
48 don't know if Andy's did but Michael said -- he said  
49 I'll be traveling on the 16th as I have mentioned in  
50

0092

1 the past conversations we had. I would like to put my  
2 two cents on this proposal.

3

4 I am in favor of this proposal. It  
5 gives Federal subsistence users another opportunity to  
6 harvest much needed salmon for their families. The  
7 amount of fish projected for this fishery are pretty  
8 minimal in the big scheme of things. Many elders and  
9 younger folks may not have a boat or take part in other  
10 fisheries, this gives them an opportunity to walk to a  
11 location to harvest fish making it possible for them to  
12 be more successful. This fishery isn't taking away  
13 from the other fisheries or other opportunities for  
14 people to fish elsewhere, it just gives them another  
15 place to harvest under a Federally-subsistence fishery.  
16 I hope someone will have the graphics for this fishery  
17 as well as show the location of the desired fishery. I  
18 don't think this will end up in a take of kings during  
19 the fishery and any kings could be released unharmed at  
20 the site if they were caught.

21

22 Thank you. Michael Opheim.

23

24 And I told him I would read that since  
25 he couldn't make it.

26

27 The other one was we had a comment from  
28 Andy McLaughlin from -- and he's been on the RAC for  
29 quite awhile but he wanted to make this statement and I  
30 think this was sent -- if it wasn't, I'm going to go  
31 ahead and read it.

32

33 Andy McLaughlin. As you know I am  
34 unable to attend the upcoming Southcentral RAC meeting.  
35 When the meeting dates were set last fall I announced  
36 the schedule conflict. I would appreciate if you would  
37 read this announcement of my opinion at the meeting.

38

39 Some of the previous meetings were all  
40 -- we all approved this minimal harvest that would  
41 occur in the Copper River dipnet proposal. I do not  
42 understand why the Board sent it back to us, nor do I  
43 think it appropriate to defer this issue to input from  
44 Eastern Interior, the fishery would occur in the  
45 Southcentral region. We already approved and passed  
46 this based on the merit that it'd only take about a  
47 thousand to 2,000 fish, which would amount to a  
48 minuscule amount of less than .2 percent of the entire  
49 Copper. I hope that all the new members on the

50

0093

1 Southcentral RAC realize it is our duty to provide  
2 priority for all Federal qualified rural subsistence  
3 users. The harvest limitation will continue to occur  
4 during poor escapement years and there is no need for  
5 up river users to focus on the potential of this tiny  
6 subsistence fishery as a deferent to theirs. United we  
7 stand, divided we fall. The user groups that would  
8 benefit is currently under served. I understand our  
9 directives are for minimizing our conservation  
10 concerns. I recall.....

11

12 (Teleconference interference -  
13 participants not muted)

14

15 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: .....the heated  
16 previous issues when we approved the Kenai River  
17 gillnet for the Ninilchik Tribe. We also historically  
18 and currently gave conservation concerns for the salmon  
19 and the people were pleading bloody murder. Yet,  
20 today, the gillnet harvest.....

21

22 (Teleconference interference -  
23 participants not muted)

24

25 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: .....benefits so  
26 many families and has not been an issue with the  
27 remainder of the high harvest fisheries. This proposed  
28 dipnet fishery on the Lower Copper is the same exact  
29 type issue and a perfect comparison.

30

31 No need for all the opposition to be so  
32 up in arms about it. The take is statistically  
33 minimal. The commercial fishery folks on the Copper  
34 River Flats equivalent would be like closing a portion  
35 of that fishery for 30 or 40 minutes. No need to put  
36 the cart before the horse. Federal resource users need  
37 to unite. The first line of regulation limitations  
38 would be more properly addressed and applied to State  
39 regulated dipnetters -- dipnetting -- and the upper  
40 river folks should follow that litigation on  
41 regulatory.....

42

43 (Teleconference interference -  
44 participants not muted)

45

46 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: .....pathway to  
47 address a limit and take instead of attacking lower  
48 river Federally-qualified users of the salmon resource  
49 who are under served.

50

0094

1 Andy McLaughlin.

2

3 Okay, I think I covered everyone on our  
4 RAC except me and I just want to make a few comments.

5

6 I really appreciate the passionate and  
7 the very well taken, and well informed comments. I  
8 first, and foremost want to state that.....

9

10 (Teleconference interference -  
11 participants not muted)

12

13 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: .....I, too, know  
14 that we are.....

15

16 REPORTER: Okay, wait a minute Greg.  
17 Greg, hold up. So people on the line, I have open mics  
18 and you're overriding the speaker. So everybody was  
19 supposed to have a chance to talk, I'd like Greg to be  
20 able to give his comments but I am having people's  
21 conversations override him. There's somebody coughing,  
22 there's people talking, please, star, six your phone or  
23 the mute button and that way everybody has equal chance  
24 to speak.

25

26 Go ahead Greg.

27

28 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay, kind of  
29 took away my thought on that.

30

31 REPORTER: Sorry.

32

33 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: But I wanted to  
34 make sure that, you know, we all have the opportunity  
35 to talk about this. I want to talk about the  
36 overriding of some of this stuff here.

37

38 I got some points that I wrote down  
39 here that I'm going to go through.

40

41 And basically we had a proposal, first  
42 and foremost, history that I could give, very plainly,  
43 is that we had this in Cordova at several meetings, the  
44 last meeting when we passed it, and we had -- we had a  
45 lot of public comment. We had a lot of public comment  
46 in favor of this proposal and they were in favor for  
47 certain reasons and we did have opposition, but we  
48 always -- we always wanted to make sure that the  
49 Federal subsistence user got their opportunity.

50

1                   Just on the Kenai, you know, I'm not  
2 going to compare apples and oranges but we ran through  
3 this same type of proposal that they said we could  
4 never set a net in the Kenai. You heard Ed talk about  
5 how successful it turned out. But they were opposed,  
6 they talked about the things that were mentioned, that  
7 we were going to go across the river, we were going to  
8 kill all the kings. To-date we have taken one or two  
9 kings that were released and that's been over the last  
10 four or five years. We provide close to 4,000 fish for  
11 our community, Native, non-Native, any qualified rural  
12 resident. We have a net, we get in the river, we fish  
13 it hard and we get out of the river and we let the  
14 subsistence user get what they need. And I really  
15 wanted to make the point of that because there is a way  
16 to make it work without affecting, hopefully, you know,  
17 the up river. When you talk about .02 percent, I think  
18 we need to be looking at the total escapement going up  
19 that river. If there's a problem there, if it needs to  
20 be shut on the commercial or wherever.

21  
22                   Also I wanted to point out that the  
23 public testimony that was given at the RAC and, you  
24 know, we've always asked for people to come and it's  
25 been really hard for people to try and figure this out  
26 on the phone and the RACs, this thing became so  
27 polarized and so political. I, as Chairman, kind of  
28 feel like I ended up taking on another job with all the  
29 calls and the swaying and the politicking going on.  
30 And I don't want to see that. I would love to see us  
31 back, you know, doing informed decisions, provide for  
32 our Federal subsistence qualified users and definitely  
33 not desecrate the fish. We all know that we, the  
34 fisheries are in decline and in peril. They're  
35 smaller, Kenai, everywhere. Down here in the Kenai,  
36 we've lost our clams, we've lost our kings, we've had  
37 to cut back, we don't fish kings, commercial fishing's  
38 been restricting, the reds are still fairly prolific,  
39 in fact, they don't really over-escape them but that  
40 said, I think there's bad roads ahead and there will be  
41 some restrictions on all users probably.

42  
43                   Delegation of authority. I want to  
44 mention they have the right to close that fishery at  
45 any time. And I did mention the small amount. I agree  
46 that the kings should be taken out of the equation.  
47 There's a definite historic knowledge that they are in  
48 peril and we don't want to harm them any further. I'm  
49 very concerned about the smaller fish and the fewer  
50

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1 fish, and we don't want to overharvest.

2

3

4 It's really wrong for the Federal Board  
5 and a lot of us, pitting one Council against the other.  
6 That's not our duties as a Federal RAC to -- or RACs to  
7 do our positions here. As I mentioned, I've never such  
8 political uprising over this thing.

8

9 I believe on my comments the State and  
10 commercial fisheries should be closed first if there's  
11 any restrictions. I don't feel that it's really fair  
12 to all our new members on both RACs, Eastern Interior  
13 and our RAC, with five members that didn't get the full  
14 benefit of the public testimony and the passions and  
15 the need for this fishery and I know that there's a lot  
16 more than meets the eye. There was a lot of support,  
17 and the Native Village of Eyak at one time brought the  
18 proposal to us and then they pulled it back, there was  
19 a lot of pressure from both sides, commercial, et  
20 cetera. We spent a lot of time on this and I don't  
21 want the up river, down river stuff to happen.

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In 2020 they had this proposal brought  
up and now here it is 2022 and the Federal Board has  
given it back to us. I think the procedure for going  
forward is, you know, we're not voting. I hear a lot  
of people, how they're opposed to the proposal, the  
proposal has already passed, my understanding, and I'll  
get someone to make that statement that we're not  
voting on the proposal, we're voting for what we're  
going to do with the proposal, if we're going to send a  
consensus of amendments to the Federal Board, if we  
want to just send it back for them for them, if we just  
want to say we got different opinions, there's a lot of  
people opposing this now, you need to figure out.  
That's my understanding of where we're at.

So I'm not sure exactly where we want  
to go on the agenda for how we want to come up with  
that. But basically we've completed our deliberations  
for both RACs to state their opinions.

And, DeAnna, I want to ask you now,  
maybe that we've been through that, you had a lot of  
references here, and we've actually covered those, we  
looked at a lot of those references and now we're ready  
to move, and I believe to the Joint Councils  
recommendations to the Board. So if anyone has  
anything they want to say before that, or how we're



0097

1 going to go about that I'd like to hear it now, what's  
2 our best option to move forward.

3

4 MS. PERRY: Mr. Chair, this is.....

5

6 MS. STICKWAN: Mr. Chair.

7

8 MS. PERRY: .....DeAnna.

9

10 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Go ahead, DeAnna.

11

12 MS. PERRY: Yeah, I just wanted to  
13 remind folks that under this part of the agenda, as I  
14 had mentioned before, this wouldn't really be a joint  
15 recommendation, these are two separate FACA Committees.  
16 So, again, we can do nothing and the past  
17 recommendations from these Councils will stand. Each  
18 Council can provide an additional comment to their  
19 recommendation, or in the Eastern Interior case an  
20 additional comment to their comment, and of course if  
21 you did that each Council, separately would need to do  
22 a motion, come up with language for their comment and a  
23 justification. Another option would be for  
24 Southcentral to just offer an additional  
25 recommendation. Another option is Eastern Interior  
26 could offer an additional comment. But, again, we are  
27 not revoting on the proposal. I appreciate that folks  
28 were, you know, opposing and I think signalling how  
29 they stood on the issue but it just needs to be clear,  
30 the Councils have already voted on the proposal and  
31 those recommendations and comments have already been to  
32 the Board so we can't now redo it but we can offer  
33 additional comments to the Board for their  
34 consideration when it comes back to them again. So  
35 today we're just considering making additional  
36 recommendations or comments and, again, that can be in  
37 any form. That could be whether you're opposing it,  
38 you're supporting it, if you guys want to come to a  
39 compromise.

40

41 So hopefully I've kind of laid that out  
42 a little bit so the Councils can decide which direction  
43 they'd like to go.

44

45 Thank you, Mr. Chair and Madame Chair.

46

47 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay, thank you,  
48 DeAnna. And, Sue, you're going to have to help me on  
49 this. It sounds like you're going to have to have a

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0098

1 comment, or a motion from your Council and I'm going to  
2 have one from the Southcentral Council. So I would  
3 suggest that maybe we could work and we'll see how it  
4 goes, we could try to come up with, you know,  
5 additional comments from both that would be agreeable,  
6 that would be good, or modifications, or if we all  
7 agree that we disagree with it coming to us, or I'm  
8 going to leave it up to someone that wants to put a  
9 motion on the table, someone wants to discuss it and  
10 we'll see where it goes from here and see what we could  
11 come up with, some type of consensus, or.....

12

13 MS. WILSON: Mr. Chair.

14

15 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: .....or some.....

16

17 MS. WILSON: Mr. Chair.

18

19 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Yeah, go ahead.

20

21 MS. WILSON: This is Donna Wilson here.  
22 Before -- perhaps we could have a discussion or an  
23 answer to the question that I proposed regarding  
24 whether or not we could legitimately authorize the FSB  
25 to open hunting or fishing opportunities that are not  
26 previously opened or previously closed. Thank you,  
27 just a question, sir.

28

29 MS. LAVINE: Mr. Chair.

30

31 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Yeah, I remember,  
32 I'm sorry I remember you brought that up. I don't  
33 think, you know, that applies because I mean that was  
34 the State's position, I think we could -- you know, we  
35 have the right to approve a proposal that's submitted  
36 properly to the RACs and that's what we did.

37

38 MS. LAVINE: Mr. Chair,

39

40 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: So I don't think

41 -- go ahead.

42

43 MS. LAVINE: Mr. Chair and Madame  
44 Chair, this is Robbin LaVine, the Subsistence Policy  
45 Coordinator with OSM. I would like to remind the  
46 Councils that the Board has been opening new hunting  
47 and fishing opportunities for 30 years. The portion of  
48 ANILCA that the State references is in reference to  
49 closures on Federal public lands and waters and not to  
50

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1 the implementation of a Federal subsistence priority in  
2 total.

3

4 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

5

6 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Thank you,  
7 Robbin, because that really clears that up. Did that  
8 answer your question, Donna.

9

10 MS. WILSON: Yes, it did, thank you,  
11 Chair.

12

13 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay. Has anyone  
14 in their great infinite wisdom, we've put a lot out  
15 here and there's a lot of concern, there's a lot of  
16 things, does anyone have a starting point we want to  
17 work on to send this back to the Federal Board with  
18 modifications, additional recommendations, or that we  
19 disagree.

20

21 MS. STICKWAN: Madame Chair.

22

23 MR. BASSICH: Mr. Chair, Andy Bassich.

24

25 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay, Andy, go  
26 ahead.

27

28 MR. BASSICH: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

29

30 MS. STICKWAN: Well, I.....

31

32 MR. BASSICH: This is -- for the record  
33 this is Andy Bassich with the Eastern Interior Regional  
34 Advisory Committee. I -- you know listening to a lot  
35 of the comments today there's some that support, some  
36 that oppose and I think maybe from what I'm hearing I'm  
37 not hearing that there's going to be consensus on this  
38 and I feel that maybe the best direction that we can  
39 give to the Board at this time -- maybe the best input  
40 we can give to the Board right now would be just to  
41 have the Eastern Interior do a roll call vote on a  
42 motion, which I'm prepared to make, and then have the  
43 Southcentral RAC also do a roll call vote and that  
44 would then, at least, let the Board members know how  
45 the different Committees are viewing these proposals as  
46 far as supporting or not supporting. But I, you know,  
47 quite frankly I'm not hearing much support from people  
48 in the upper river for even a modification to be  
49 amended.

50

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1 Thank you, Mr. Co-Chair.

2

3

CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Yeah, thank you,  
4 Andy. And you're entitled -- I don't know, Sue, if you  
5 want to take that and if you want to take a motion on  
6 your side I'll turn the Chair over to you and you could  
7 take that motion and get a second and you could vote on  
8 it and you're done. I'll take one on the Southcentral  
9 RAC. I will just say before we go into a motion, and  
10 there's maybe no sense deliberating it, but if we  
11 wanted to provide an additional comment we could do  
12 that also, not just -- or we could just have the  
13 comment like Andy suggested that they're opposed to it  
14 or however. So, Sue, you want to go ahead and talk to  
15 your Council and then I'll go back with the  
16 Southcentral and see where we end up.

17

18

MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.  
19 Because that's kind of how I understand it, that we  
20 need to do it separately.

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CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Absolutely.

MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Greg, do you  
want me to go ahead then for the Eastern Interior.

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1 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Yeah, Sue, if you  
2 don't mind, I'll step out here.

3

4 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Andy  
5 go ahead with your motion.

6

7 (No comments)

8

9 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Hey, Andy,  
10 did you get bumped off.

11

12 MR. BASSICH: Yeah, I got back on,  
13 sorry, I got dropped from the call, Madame Chair, my  
14 apologies. So my motion is to support the OSM  
15 conclusions on FP21-10 with their modification.

16

17 Madame Chair.

18

19 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you,  
20 Andy. Is there a second.

21

22 MS. TOTEMOFF: This is Angela Totemoff,  
23 I'll second.

24

25 MS. POTTS: This is Jody Potts, I'll  
26 second.

27

28 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, motion  
29 and second. Speak to the motion, please, Andy.

30

31 MR. BASSICH: Madame Chair, Andy  
32 Bassich speaking to the motion. Yeah, speaking to my  
33 motion, Madame Chair, I would just like to reference  
34 all of the comments made during this meeting, both in  
35 support and not support of this motion, and from my  
36 perspective, from the Eastern Interior region's  
37 perspective, I just don't feel like this is a very  
38 smart thing to do right now given the condition of the  
39 fisheries. It has nothing to do with the percentage of  
40 fish, it has to do with the overall fisheries and the  
41 potential for limited food security for people who have  
42 been dependent on this for a long period of time.

43

44 That's all I have, Madame Chair. Thank  
45 you, very much. And I would request a roll call vote  
46 by both RACs on their positions, if possible.

47

48 Thank you.

49

50

0102

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, thank  
2 you.....

3  
4 MS. POTTS: Madame Chair, this is Jody  
5 Potts Joseph.

6  
7 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: .....Andy. Go  
8 ahead, Jody.

9  
10 MS. POTTS: Thank you. I heard a couple  
11 of comments talking about, you know, how unfortunate it  
12 is that there's some new RAC members that haven't heard  
13 previous discussion and I just, you know, as a new RAC  
14 member, you know, I also want to note that I may be a  
15 new RAC member, however I have thousands of years of  
16 traditional knowledge behind decisionmaking and also a  
17 lifetime of observations as a subsistence user and also  
18 discussions with Eastern Interior, including some  
19 Copper River subsistence users. And so I just want to  
20 make that point because I feel like thousands of years  
21 of traditional knowledge and a lifetime of observations  
22 also gives me a little bit of credibility.

23  
24 Thanks, that's all.

25  
26 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thanks, Jody.  
27 Any other discussion on the motion, and I will make it  
28 clear, and if I am wrong, DeAnna, you can tell me so,  
29 this is a motion for the Eastern Interior only at this  
30 time?

31  
32 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Correct.

33  
34 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Is  
35 there any other discussion on the motion by the Eastern  
36 Interior.

37  
38 (No comments)

39  
40 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I'm hearing  
41 none so I would ask Jody to do the roll call vote on  
42 the motion, and the motion is -- you want to restate it  
43 Andy.

44  
45 MR. BASSICH: Yeah, the motion is to  
46 support the OSM recommendations on FP21-10 with  
47 modifications.

48  
49 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Does everyone  
50

0103

1 understand the motion.

2

3 (No comments)

4

5 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, go

6 ahead, Jody.

7

8 MS. POTTS: Sue Entsminger.

9

10 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: No.

11

12 MS. POTTS: Andy Bassich.

13

14 MR. BASSICH: Opposed.

15

16 MS. POTTS: Charlie Jagow.

17

18 MR. JAGOW: Opposed.

19

20 MS. POTTS: Donald Woodruff.

21

22 (No comments)

23

24 MS. POTTS: Don Woodruff.

25

26 MR. WOODRUFF: Opposed, this is Don.

27

28 MS. POTTS: Linda Evans.

29

30 (No comments)

31

32 MS. POTTS: Charles Wright.

33

34 (No comments)

35

36 MS. POTTS: William Glanz.

37

38 (No comments)

39

40 MS. POTTS: William Glanz.

41

42 (No comments)

43

44 MS. POTTS: Will Koehler.

45

46 MR. KOEHLER: Opposed.

47

48 MS. POTTS: And, I, myself, Jody Potts,

49 am opposed.

50

0104

1 MS. PERRY: Madame Chair or Mr. Chair.

2

3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, go  
4 ahead.

5

6 MS. PERRY: Thanks. I think a bunch of  
7 us just got dropped. I know a lot of Staff, plus  
8 myself just got dropped so the last I heard Madame  
9 Chair, was that you were calling on Jody to call the  
10 roll for Eastern Interior, and I know the motion was to  
11 support, but, again, we're not voting on the proposal  
12 again, so shall I assume that this is to be phrased --  
13 when we send this to the Board, it will be phrased as a  
14 comment, the Eastern Interior, you know, based on your  
15 vote they oppose, or they support based on the  
16 testimony and discussion given at this meeting. I just  
17 wanted to make it really clear that we can't undo prior  
18 votes, but that we can send this in the form of a  
19 comment and is that acceptable to you and your Council  
20 members.

21

22 (Teleconference interference -  
23 participants not muted)

24

25 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I'm going to  
26 say yes on that because it actually was a different  
27 motion than before, because it was to support OSM with  
28 modification -- I don't think we had that before but I  
29 could be wrong. But Council members, anyone disagree  
30 with what DeAnna has just stated on your intention.

31

32 (Teleconference interference -  
33 participants not muted)

34

35 MS. POTTS: Madame Chair, this is Jody.

36

37 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Go ahead,  
38 Jody.

39

40 MS. POTTS: My intention was that my  
41 vote would be an official vote on our EIRAC position on  
42 this.

43

44 MS. PERRY: Madame Chair, this is  
45 DeAnna.

46

47 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes, DeAnna.

48

49 MS. PERRY: While I was off -- when I

50



0105

1 got booted off, had you guys (indiscernible - cutting  
2 out) vote?

3

4 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: We did vote,  
5 six members voted to oppose the motion. Do you need to  
6 have that clarified?

7

8 MS. PERRY: If it was unanimous that's  
9 good enough, Madame Chair.

10

11 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, it was  
12 unanimous 6-0, or 06, I'm sorry.

13

14 (Teleconference interference -  
15 participants not muted)

16

17 MS. PERRY: Okay. Yeah, and just to be  
18 clear, the Council originally provided something to the  
19 Board and what this is, this is an addition. We can't  
20 undo what was done previously and sent to the Board and  
21 so I just wanted to make that really clear, and maybe I  
22 didn't explain it before, even though it's a different  
23 motion.....

24

25 (Teleconference interference -  
26 participants not muted)

27

28 MS. PERRY: .....it's still a  
29 recommendation to the Board.

30

31 REPORTER: Okay, can everybody mute  
32 their phones please. So now we're trying to take a  
33 vote, and it's important that the vote's taken and  
34 heard clearly but there is background conversations.  
35 Star, six or mute.

36

37 (Teleconference interference -  
38 participants not muted)

39

40 MS. PERRY: Whoever's talking about a  
41 brake we can hear you and we can't hear anyone else, so  
42 if you could please mute your phones. The Council's  
43 getting ready -- well, they're kind of in the middle of  
44 doing voting, the Eastern Interior has voted. They're  
45 opposing, and, again, this will go to the Board as a  
46 comment that they are still in opposition to Proposal  
47 FP21-10 by unanimous votes for reasons stated in this  
48 meeting that we can glean from the transcript. Am I on  
49 the right page now, Madame Chair, and sorry I got  
50

0106

1 dropped earlier.

2

3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: You did a  
4 fantastic job, thank you.

5

6 MS. PERRY: Thank you.

7

8 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, Greg  
9 had text me that he got bumped off, are you back on  
10 Greg.

11

12 (No comments)

13

14 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Wow. He  
15 hasn't responded either. He said he hears nothing, he  
16 hears no one and I asked him if he's back and I'm not  
17 hearing him. I guess this might be a good time to take  
18 whatever anyone recommends, a lunch break.

19

20 (No comments)

21

22 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Are you  
23 hearing me?

24

25 MS. POTTS: I am hearing you.

26

27 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

28

29 MS. PERRY: Yes, Madame Chair, I am  
30 trying to reach Greg to see exactly where he is. He's  
31 texting so I'm not sure if he's in the process of  
32 trying to dial back in. It sounds like he's having to  
33 try multiple times.

34

35 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, this  
36 might be a really good time to take -- I would suggest  
37 30 minutes if that's okay with everyone, anyone have an  
38 objection they can say so, and then come back and we  
39 will -- Greg will resume Chairing.

40

41 MS. WILSON: Madame Chair, Donna here.

42

43 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Go ahead,  
44 Donna.

45

46 MS. WILSON: I'll make a motion for a  
47 half hour lunch break.

48

49 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, if we

50

0107

1 all agreed to have a lunch break for 30 minutes we  
2 don't need a motion so anyone disagree.

3  
4 (No opposition)

5  
6 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, hearing  
7 no disagreement we'll come back in 30 minutes and that  
8 should be about 1:44 or 1:45.

9  
10 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay.

11  
12 MS. WILSON: Thank you.

13  
14 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh, are you  
15 back, Greg.

16  
17 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: I just got back  
18 in, I've been off for quite awhile so I missed whenever  
19 you guys were getting ready to take your vote.

20  
21 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. It was  
22 unanimous.

23  
24 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay.

25  
26 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: 0-6.

27  
28 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay.

29  
30 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So I was  
31 about to turn the Chair over to you in hopes that we  
32 could have a lunch break.

33  
34 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay. Well, we  
35 won't need lunch break if you guys are done voting and  
36 we vote, we'll be on total break, so let's go ahead and  
37 see what the Southcentral RAC wants to do, if they want  
38 to do likewise and make a motion.

39  
40 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So, Eastern  
41 Interior you can stay on to listen. Go ahead, Greg.

42  
43 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay. I'm  
44 opening it up to the Council for a motion, if we want  
45 to take a motion of what we're going to do to send back  
46 to the Federal Board, to do nothing, send comments,  
47 address or just take a vote like Eastern Interior did.  
48 So up to the Council members to go ahead, I'll  
49 entertain a motion.

50

0108

1 (Teleconference interference -  
2 participants not muted)

3

4 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Well, I hear a  
5 lot of background noise, does anyone want to make a  
6 motion.

7

8 MS. CLAUS: Mr. Chair, this is Donna  
9 Claus.

10

11 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Yeah, Donna, go  
12 ahead.

13

14 MS. CLAUS: I would like to make a  
15 motion, the exact same as the Eastern guys.

16

17 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay.

18

19 MS. CLAUS: And we'll vote on that.

20

21 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay, is there a  
22 second to Donna's motion.

23

24 MR. HOLSTEN: Yeah, this is Ed, I  
25 second.

26

27 MS. SELANOFF: This is Diane Selanoff,  
28 I will second but I want the motion reread.

29

30 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Yes, please.  
31 Okay, seconded by Diane. DeAnna, could you read that  
32 motion back to us please.

33

34 MS. PERRY: Sorry about the delay going  
35 back and forth for muting. So the motion before the  
36 Southcentral Council is to provide an additional  
37 comment to their previous recommendation, this comment  
38 would be in support of the OSM conclusion on FP21-10  
39 with modifications supported by testimony and  
40 deliberation at this meeting. And as a reminder the  
41 Eastern Interior unanimously opposed. So if you vote  
42 no you would be opposing support for this proposal.

43

44 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

45

46 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay, does  
47 everyone understand that on our Council, voting. I'm  
48 not sure how you're going to record the no's and the  
49 yea's, okay, so how do we want to do that, we'll go by  
50

0109

1 name and do you want to do a roll call vote and oppose  
2 or vote yea or nay.

3

4 MS. PERRY: That would be my  
5 suggestion, Mr. Chair.

6

7 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay. Another  
8 question, what about Andy and Michael Opheim's letters.

9

10 MS. PERRY: Mr. Chair, those are  
11 considered comment and deliberation but they wouldn't  
12 be able to vote.

13

14 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay.

15

16 MS. PERRY: They can't vote.

17

18 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay. So let's  
19 go by the role then DeAnna if you want to call them by  
20 the roll and we'll vote accordingly.

21

22 MS. PERRY: Okay. And I'll just  
23 doublecheck, I know, Hope, our new Secretary is wanting  
24 to do some of the Secretarial duties and I would defer  
25 to her if she would prefer to take the vote or I can do  
26 it.

27

28 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay, yeah, I  
29 didn't want to leave Hope out but I got so used to you  
30 doing it I forgot that we got a new gal to take care of  
31 that for us. Okay.

32

33 MS. PERRY: Hope, would you like to  
34 take the roll call vote or would you like me to.

35

36 (Teleconference interference -  
37 participants not muted)

38

39 MS. PERRY: Mr. Chair, we might have  
40 lost Hope. Do you want to give a few moments in case  
41 she's trying to dial back in or do you want me to go  
42 ahead with the vote.

43

44 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: We could --  
45 hopefully she's trying to dial back in. I don't know  
46 what happened to mine, I was in and then I completely  
47 lost everyone.

48

49 MS. PERRY: Yeah, a lot of us got

50

0110

1 dropped at the same time.

2

3 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: I guess we could  
4 start.

5

6 MS. PERRY: Okay, I'll go ahead and  
7 start with the vote and then when she joins, of course,  
8 we can record her vote at that time. Again, this is  
9 for Southcentral Regional Advisory Council members.  
10 The motion is an additional comment to be sent to the  
11 Board and this would show your support from the OSM  
12 conclusions on Fisheries Proposal 21-10 with  
13 modifications based on the deliberation and comments  
14 heard at this meeting. Again, a vote yea is to support  
15 the OSM conclusions on FP21-10, a vote of nay is an  
16 opposition to the OSM conclusions on 21-10.

17

18 So Edward Holsten, what is your vote.

19

20 MR. HOLSTEN: This is Ed Holsten. My  
21 vote's yes on the proposal.

22

23 MS. PERRY: Thank you.

24

25 Diane Selanoff.

26

27 MS. SELANOFF: My vote is yes. And  
28 also to emphasize the amendment of no fishing from  
29 vessels.

30

31 MS. PERRY: Okay, thank you, Diane.

32

33 Dennis Zadra.

34

35 MR. ZADRA: My vote is no.

36

37 MS. PERRY: Thank you.

38

39 Gloria Stickwan.

40

41 MS. STICKWAN: My vote is no. And this  
42 whole process has been very confusing, even to me,  
43 because we were told we can't vote, now we're voting,  
44 but I guess it's just to say a recommendation. And I  
45 just want to say, again, I think this whole process has  
46 gone awry of ANILCA. We've been told to hold a public  
47 meeting. We are holding a public meeting and no public  
48 comment is allowed. We reviewed a proposal, now we're  
49 voting on it and making recommendation to the Board --

50

0111

1 we were told to compromise in the book, it's just --  
2 and now we're being told agree or disagree or do  
3 nothing, don't vote, vote. To me, this is -- to me, in  
4 my opinion, this whole process is illegal but I'll vote  
5 and I'll say no.

6

7

MS. PERRY: Thank you, Gloria.

8

9

Angela Totemoff.

10

11

MS. TOTEMOFF: Hello. I vote yes.

12

13

MS. PERRY: Thank you.

14

15

Donna Claus.

16

17

MS. CLAUS: I vote nay.

18

19

MS. PERRY: Thank you.

20

21

Donna Wilson.

22

23

MS. WILSON: Donna Wilson, oppose.

24

25

MS. PERRY: Thank you.

26

27

Heath Kocan.

28

29

MR. KOCAN: Vote yes.

30

31

MS. PERRY: Thank you.

32

33

Michael Rego.

34

35

(No comments)

36

37

MS. PERRY: Michael Rego, are you still  
with us.

38

39

(No comments)

40

41

MS. PERRY: Hope Roberts.

42

43

(No comments)

44

45

MS. PERRY: Hope, have you rejoined us.

46

47

(No comments)

48

49

50

0112

1 MS. PERRY: Okay.

2

3 Greg Encelewski.

4

5 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: I vote yes and I  
6 intend to make my comment with Gloria, this whole  
7 process has really been skewed. And just for  
8 clarification, my understanding, I'm voting on just the  
9 recommendation, not on the proposal.

10

11 MS. PERRY: Thank you, Mr. Chair. So  
12 just one last call for Michael Rego and Hope Roberts,  
13 Southcentral Regional Advisory Council members who were  
14 on earlier but I haven't heard from them.

15

16 (No comments)

17

18 MS. PERRY: Okay. So.....

19

20 MS. STICKWAN: Mr. Chair.

21

22 MS. PERRY: .....there was.....

23

24 MS. STICKWAN: Mr. Chair.

25

26 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Yes.

27

28 MS. STICKWAN: I think we need to wait  
29 for them to state their vote because they were online  
30 and they made comments on this and we were confused  
31 about lunch break, some of us thought we were going on  
32 a lunch break and probably already got off the phone so  
33 that might be what happened.

34

35 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay, well,  
36 thanks for that clarification. I didn't hear anything  
37 about a lunch break because I was out so, you know, is  
38 there any way to contact them -- DeAnna, could you call  
39 them and see if they could call back in and vote.

40

41 MS. PERRY: Yes, I can try to contact  
42 them, Mr. Chair.

43

44 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay, if you  
45 would and then at least they could call in and vote so  
46 we could finish up.

47

48 MS. TOTEMOFF: Excuse me, Mr. Chair,  
49 Andy McLaughlin didn't vote or wasn't called.

50



0113

1 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Who?

2

3 MS. TOTEMOFF: Andrew McLaughlin.

4

5 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: They wouldn't let  
6 him vote because he wasn't here.

7

8 MS. TOTEMOFF: Okay, thank you.

9

10 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: He sent in his  
11 comment as supporting but we had a couple who supported  
12 but they are not here, so be it.

13

14 (Pause)

15

16 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Any progress  
17 being made there.

18

19 MR. AYERS: Mr. Chair, this is Scott  
20 Ayers.

21

22 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Yes, go ahead,  
23 Scott.

24

25 MR. AYERS: I just wanted to let you  
26 know that DeAnna temporarily jumped off of this line to  
27 try to call the other two members.

28

29 Thank you.

30

31 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay. Okay.  
32 Yeah, we'll wait. While we're waiting, just a comment,  
33 I guess if we conclude our business after our vote, I  
34 think that actually concludes the Joint Council  
35 recommendation so we'll be moving on to closing  
36 comments after we finish the vote.

37

38 I'm not sure how long we should wait,  
39 too, but anyway, yeah.

40

41 (Pause)

42

43 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Hey, Greg,  
44 it's Sue.

45

46 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Go ahead, Sue.

47

48 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, I pray  
49 to God we can meet in person next time.

50

0114

1 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Pray to God what.

2

3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: We can all  
4 meet in-person next meeting.

5

6 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Sue, did I lose  
7 you.

8

9 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: No. I pray  
10 we can meet in person again. And while we're waiting  
11 for them to come online, I had a person that was cut  
12 off also, Bill Glanz in Central, he did not have a  
13 chance to vote and I don't know the situation there,  
14 does our Coordinator, Brooke McDaniel [sic] know  
15 anything.

16

17 MS. MCDAVID: Madame Chair, this is  
18 Brooke McDavid. I did call Bill and he kept getting  
19 dropped so he opted to not keep trying to call back in.

20

21 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you for  
22 that. Thanks, Greg.

23

24 MS. PERRY: Mr. Chair. Madame Chair.  
25 This is DeAnna.

26

27 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Go ahead, DeAnna.

28

29 MS. PERRY: I did try to contact both  
30 Michael Rego and Hope Roberts and both went straight to  
31 voicemail so I left a detailed message that we were  
32 holding up the vote. And as Sue mentioned they may be  
33 at lunch and be thinking that they're going to come  
34 back in a half hour. I believe, Sue, that's what you  
35 mentioned, a half hour, so they may be eating and not  
36 aware that we went on with the meeting because Greg  
37 joined us right about that time.

38

39 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Well, the half  
40 hour's probably close to up, what time did they leave.

41

42 MS. PERRY: I did not note the time.

43

44 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I did. It  
45 would be 1:45 to come back.

46

47 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: DeAnna.

48

49 MS. PERRY: Yes, Mr. Chair.

50

0115

1 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Can we legally  
2 hold this vote and give everyone else a half hour for  
3 lunch then.

4  
5 MS. PERRY: I'm sorry, could you  
6 restate that.

7  
8 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: I say can we  
9 legally give our Council, the rest of us, to go to  
10 lunch, and come back and finish the vote. There's just  
11 two that didn't vote.

12  
13 MS. PERRY: Yes, Mr. Chair, I believe  
14 you can leave the vote open.

15  
16 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay. Okay, and  
17 then we'll have discussion afterwards so it shouldn't  
18 take long. If it's agreeable, Sue, I don't want to  
19 have to hold you guys up too, but is it the Council's  
20 pleasure to wait just another 15 minutes or do you want  
21 to go to lunch.

22  
23 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well,  
24 something I was thinking since it's only 15 minutes  
25 away, maybe our Council could just give their closing  
26 comments and then we could be done.

27  
28 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: That would be  
29 good. Yes, we could do that, absolutely. Okay. So do  
30 you want to start with yours Sue, your Eastern Interior  
31 and go through them first.

32  
33 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Sure, I can  
34 do that.

35  
36 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay. Okay,  
37 Jody, any closing comments.

38  
39 (No comments)

40  
41 (Teleconference interference -  
42 participants not muted)

43  
44 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Jody Potts  
45 Joseph, are you on.

46  
47 (No comments)

48  
49 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Andy Bassich  
50

0116

1 told me that he was signing out already. Charlie  
2 Jagow, do you have any closing comments.

3

4 (No comments)

5

6 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: We might be  
7 in the -- Donald Woodruff, do you have any closing  
8 comments.

9

10 (No comments)

11

12 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Will Koehler,  
13 are you still on and want to have any closing comments.

14

15 (No comments)

16

17 (Teleconference interference -  
18 participants not muted)

19

20 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: It looks like  
21 my Council went to lunch also or they just decided,  
22 after the vote, to leave, so sorry about that.

23

24 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Yeah, that's  
25 okay, you know, I didn't want to hold them all up. I  
26 wish I wouldn't have gotten dropped, we would have all  
27 went to lunch at the same time.

28

29 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I know.

30

31 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: But the last I  
32 knew you were still taking a vote.

33

34 (Teleconference interference -  
35 participants not muted)

36

37 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Well, Sue, then I  
38 could go ahead and I'll move on to my Southcentral RAC  
39 and we'll go ahead and start taking closing comments  
40 and then we'll pick up with Hope and who else we're  
41 missing for lunch.

42

43 (Pause)

44

45 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay, Ed, do you  
46 want to go ahead and start with the comments.

47

48 MR. HOLSTEN: Yes, Mr. Chair. This is  
49 Ed Holsten.

50

0117

1 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Go ahead, Ed.

2

3

4 MR. HOLSTEN: Yeah, I guess my closing  
5 comments are I've been totally confused about this  
6 meeting. And as far -- I may be wrong, it's not a  
7 reflection of the Chair, or the Co-Chairs or Madame  
8 Chair, it's not a reflection to them at all, but, it  
9 seems to me we're just voting on the original FP21-10  
10 with a modification by OSM which just had a reporting,  
11 48 hours reporting, that was their modification. I  
12 have some other issues, you know, that I would have  
13 liked to see, which I've expressed before and, you  
14 know, that had to do with releasing king salmon, no  
15 spear or gaff, no guiding, et cetera. But the way I'm  
16 reading this we're not going to get around to having  
17 that kind of discussion. I don't see where we're ever  
18 going to be able to reach a compromise on this issue  
19 because we're basically voting the same way we did  
20 previously with that 48 hour modification, which is not  
21 a major modification.

21

22 (Teleconference interference -  
23 participants not muted)

24

25 MR. HOLSTEN: But, anyway, it's been  
26 very frustrating. I know it has for everybody. As I  
27 say, again, this is not a reflection on our Co-Chairs.  
28 And I may be wrong on how I view this meeting, it  
29 sounds like we're coming right down to an adjournment.  
30 So, anyway, those are my comments, Mr. Chair.

31

32 Thank you, very much.

33

34 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Thank you, Ed.  
35 And I think you're right on that, and I kind of agree  
36 with you, it's been really difficult to understand  
37 exactly what we want to do.....

38

39 (Teleconference interference -  
40 participants not muted)

41

42 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: .....when I -- I  
43 mean vote on the new recommendation was that, you know,  
44 we're voting in opposition to it, I don't know that  
45 there's much more that we could do now. I guess we  
46 could check and we could -- you know, if we wanted to  
47 entertain another motion we could, but I don't see what  
48 difference that would make. But anyway it's very -- it  
49 is very confusing.

50

0118

1 Michael's not here so I'm going to skip  
2 over to Diane Selanoff.

3  
4 MS. SELANOFF: Thank you, Mr. Chair.  
5 My closing comments are that this meeting we had today,  
6 there's a lot diversity, there's a lot of opinions  
7 either for or against. And I really want to say I'm  
8 grateful to be a part of this Board where everybody  
9 could have their own opinions and just not basically  
10 follow the pack and somebody said no so everybody says  
11 no or, you know, that everybody's able to look at this  
12 issue and make decisions on it. Yes, there has been a  
13 lot of confusion. But I think it's been a difficult  
14 proposal, you know, from the beginning but if we didn't  
15 have any issues we wouldn't be doing our jobs.

16  
17 So, anyway, thank you.

18  
19 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Thank you, Diane.  
20 That's good comments, I agree.

21  
22 Dennis, you got comment.

23  
24 MR. ZADRA: Yes, thank you, Greg.  
25 Yeah, kind of the same with me. It is very confusing  
26 with how this was. I, for one, was not aware that this  
27 was a done deal and we were just voting on a  
28 modification, I thought we had a way to do it. One  
29 option I would have liked to have explored also is  
30 maybe tabling this for four or five years, which would  
31 be the life cycle of a sockeye salmon to see if the  
32 runs actually start increasing instead of continuing to  
33 decline. But that's all I would have to say, thanks.

34  
35 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Thanks Dennis.

36  
37 Gloria.

38  
39 MS. STICKWAN: I stated earlier how I  
40 felt but, you know, when the Kenai fisheries proposal  
41 was a new fisheries, OSM allowed a local working group  
42 to have a meeting in Kenai and, you know, they were  
43 able to discuss new fisheries and this is a new  
44 fisheries in the Lower Copper River, in the main stem,  
45 I think we should have been allowed to meet with the  
46 Lower Copper River as well. And as I said earlier, I  
47 don't think this is right what's being done, I mean we  
48 acted on this proposal, now we're being told we can't  
49 vote on it but we can make recommendations, I mean it's  
50

0119

1 just very confusing and it doesn't sound right to me.

2

3 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: I agree, Gloria,  
4 and good comments. I think that, you know, hopefully,  
5 the Federal Board will take into consideration all  
6 these comments from the Eastern Interior and our  
7 comments, regardless of the vote, I mean if I was on  
8 that Board I would look at what the people are saying  
9 and whether they want to take it and do their job on it  
10 or if they want to send it back to us so we could  
11 actually have working groups and really work on this  
12 compromise because there is.....

13

14 MS. LAVINE: Mr. Chair.

15

16 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: .....some things  
17 that we all.....

18

19 MR. LAVINE: Mr. Chair.

20

21 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: .....agree on --  
22 go ahead.

23

24 MS. LAVINE: Mr. Chair. Members of  
25 both Councils. Madame Chair. This is Robbin,  
26 Subsistence Policy Coordinator of the Office of  
27 Subsistence Management. And I just want to clarify,  
28 the direction not to vote was in reference to you, both  
29 Councils coming together and creating basically a new  
30 entity and you're not a new FACA Council. So you  
31 wouldn't vote as a body. However, you can vote as the  
32 Eastern Interior Council, as the Southcentral Interior  
33 [sic] Council. Not only are you const -- you're not  
34 constricted to vote on the proposal itself but what you  
35 have done is voted to provide additional comments or  
36 additional recommendations to the Board, that's useful.  
37 And those comments can also include recommendations to  
38 defer, those comments can also include recommendations  
39 for a formal working group of both Councils or within  
40 the Southcentral Region of members of upper and lower  
41 river. So there's -- there's all sorts of options that  
42 you can proceed with from here. But this was first and  
43 foremost an opportunity for you to get together to  
44 discuss this issue because everyone recognizes how  
45 important it is for you. And -- and there are further  
46 opportunities and I -- I -- I don't want to make those  
47 additional opportunities more confusing for you but --  
48 but do know they are there, you're not limited to just  
49 commenting on this proposal itself based on your  
50

0120

1 discussions today. You have other -- you have other  
2 options. And knowing that you may decide to break for  
3 30 minutes and come back, people are going to shoot me  
4 for suggesting that but that's -- but that is another  
5 opportunity, or option for you.

6  
7 Thank you, Chairs.

8  
9 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Robbin, I think  
10 we're past that. I think we came to an impasse, it's  
11 very obvious how we feel. It's very divided. We're in  
12 the middle of a vote. Eastern Interior already took  
13 their vote, we're waiting on two members to finish our  
14 vote, and I realize we could take up another thing to  
15 -- for more recommendations but I'm not sure to what  
16 avail it would make and I don't know that the Councils  
17 want to debate that. So I'm glad you clarified that  
18 but that's where we stand.

19  
20 So I'll go ahead and move on with the  
21 comments. Angela, you want to make your closing  
22 comment.

23  
24 MS. TOTEMOFF: Thank you, Mr. Chair.  
25 Am I off mute, I think I unmuted myself.

26  
27 REPORTER: Yes.

28  
29 MS. TOTEMOFF: Can you hear me.

30  
31 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: I hear you loud  
32 and clear. I apologize for the delay between the mute  
33 on and mute off. Again, I appreciate your leadership  
34 through all this. You are navigating us through some  
35 very muddy waters and doing it with grace and make sure  
36 that everybody's comments and opinions are heard. I  
37 respect that and I thank you.

38  
39 Also I-- this is something that is  
40 pretty divisive but what I don't like and what I'm  
41 seeing is subsistence users fighting over a small piece  
42 of the pie. And we have to realize that I don't like  
43 the idea of up river versus down river versus people  
44 that, you know, fish -- I don't like that idea. I  
45 don't like the idea of our people, our subsistence  
46 users being pitted against each other for a small piece  
47 of the pie. And, yeah, conservation is important,  
48 sustainability is important to me and it's important to  
49 this entire working body I feel like. However, it  
50



0121

1 doesn't -- like conservation, sustainability doesn't  
2 solely fall on our shoulders. As a subsistence -- like  
3 there are so many organizations, corporations on the  
4 State and Federal level that are all responsible for  
5 the life cycle of the fish and, yes, as subsistence  
6 users we are seeing it go down. However, it would be  
7 -- I just think that if we took a step back and looked  
8 at all the users, all the consumers, all the customers  
9 and really finding a way to grow our piece of the pie  
10 to make it bigger and to have all the organizations, as  
11 a whole, look at conservation instead of us fighting to  
12 conserve between one subsistence user over the other,  
13 especially when we consume on a much, like a minuscule  
14 amount of what, overall, all the consumers use.

15

16 So with that said, I don't like this  
17 idea of separating our subsistence users up river  
18 versus down river because I think that there's bigger  
19 issues here including other organizations that are  
20 responsible, that also have a huge responsibility for  
21 the conservation and sustainability of our fish.

22

23 With that said, thank you so much for  
24 the discussion today and, yeah, looking forward how  
25 we're going to get through this and I'm happy to be  
26 part of the process.

27

28 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Thank you,  
29 Angela, great comments. And I couldn't agree more,  
30 we're in this for subsistence users and we need to keep  
31 that focus and I agree there's a lot of other users out  
32 there.

33

34 Okay, Donna Claus.

35

36 MS. CLAUS: Yeah, I just -- I -- thank  
37 you, Mr. Chairman. I would just like to thank you and  
38 Sue because you are in a big black hole of not knowing  
39 what's going on as all of us are, and you've worked in  
40 an impossible situation and maybe we'll get to sign off  
41 here pretty soon. And I would suggest that the rules  
42 for this kind of thing be set by the -- by whomever it  
43 is that sets them before all of us get to the meeting.  
44 Because when you hear something, just now, about what  
45 could have happened, it doesn't help us.

46

47 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Right.

48

49 MS. CLAUS: And that would be my

50

0122

1 suggestion, is to have an absolute how this is going to  
2 work ahead of time from whoever it was that made us to  
3 this. So that is my -- my statement. I think you guys  
4 did as well as you could and then with teleconferencing  
5 it's really horrible but thank you for trying and thank  
6 you for doing a good job with what you had.

7

8 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Thank you, Donna.  
9 How about Donna Wilson.

10

11 MS. WILSON: Yes, thank you, Mr. Chair.  
12 Madame Chair. I can honestly say that this has been a  
13 difficult to understand and to come together with all  
14 of these things. I feel like I understand the issues  
15 and the individual sides rather well now but, again, I  
16 got to say we're -- you know, subsistence people, we're  
17 the ones that depend on it, I guess as a lifestyle, and  
18 commercial or other interests, however they come in are  
19 in addition to that and we should be considered first.  
20 But our partners down there that want an additional  
21 fishery, as small as it is, our worry that it won't  
22 stay small, it'll make it easier for some sort of  
23 personal use, but we need to concentrate, I think, on  
24 those other individuals that access the resource that  
25 have a bigger piece as to, you know, direct this in a  
26 way of sustaining these fisheries rather than us just  
27 being the ones that have to divide it up. Maybe we  
28 should cut out some commercial use or other high end  
29 access that limits the subsistence use and then we  
30 could, you know, parse it better, but primarily I want  
31 it for the subsistence users and I think the only way  
32 to achieve that is to help the resource, not continue  
33 to use it or try to increase use, take it away from  
34 someone that has plenty, and access to plenty and allow  
35 the fish to recover, not necessarily subsistence users,  
36 that will take time to recover, good idea maybe to, you  
37 know, hold this over for a period of time like -- was  
38 it Ed that mentioned that -- you know we could look at  
39 it later after we got more data. I feel like there's  
40 just not any data. How many people are out there that  
41 use that as a, you know, customary and traditional use  
42 that want this access, 150-some comments written in, I  
43 think a lot of comments don't get sent in because  
44 people just don't know or it's too confusing, and  
45 especially with the teleconferencing. Yeah.

46

47 So I oppose it but I'm definitely with  
48 Ed, Gloria, some really good comments. Angela had a  
49 really good point about other people that contribute to  
50

0123

1 the resource as far as keeping it healthy and  
2 sustainable.

3

4 Okay, thank you, Chair.

5

6 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Thank you, Donna.

7

8 Hope back yet.

9

10 MS. ROBERTS: Yes, sir, am I clear.

11

12 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Yeah, you're  
13 clear. We had taken a vote and we were waiting for  
14 your vote and we had a misunderstanding, I guess some  
15 went to lunch. I was cut off for about 15 minutes so I  
16 didn't know where anyone was but we jumped over to  
17 closing comments. But, I don't know, we got a couple  
18 votes yet we were waiting on, one of them was yours,  
19 and the other one was -- who else we didn't get a vote,  
20 Michael.

21

22 MR. REGO: It's myself, Michael Rego,  
23 Mr. Chair.

24

25 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay. So can we  
26 take the vote on that motion, was -- you guys heard the  
27 motion.

28

29 MS. ROBERTS: Yes, sir.

30

31 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay. Do you  
32 want to take a vote Hope.

33

34 MS. ROBERTS: Oh, I would love to. Is  
35 this also a time to give the Board another comment.

36

37 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Yes, I'm going to  
38 take the vote and then.....

39

40 MS. ROBERTS: Okay.

41

42 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: .....I'm going to  
43 go back to you for your closing comments.

44

45 MS. ROBERTS: Okay. Oh, gosh, just --  
46 just real quick what was the vote again.

47

48 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: The vote was --  
49 go ahead I'll get it read back so you guys are real

50

0124

1 clear. DeAnna, would you read it back one more time  
2 please.

3

4 MS. PERRY: Sure, Mr. Chair. The  
5 Southcentral motion was similar to the Eastern Interior  
6 motion and that was to provide an additional comment to  
7 the Board in support of the OSM conclusion on FP21-10  
8 with modifications. So to be clear voting yes is  
9 indicating your support of this proposal, voting nay is  
10 opposing the proposal. And, again, I know we're  
11 getting wrapped around what's a vote and what's not a  
12 vote, I am just assuming that we all understand that  
13 what we're doing is providing a comment to the Board  
14 showing the Council's support or opposition to the  
15 proposal.

16

17 So to make it simple, Hope and Michael,  
18 a vote yea is showing your support for this proposal  
19 and the OSM conclusion, or the modification, and a vote  
20 of nay is showing that you would oppose this proposal.

21

22 MS. ROBERTS: Got it.

23

24 MS. PERRY: So Hope would you like to  
25 let us know your vote.

26

27 MS. ROBERTS: Oh, yes, I would say no to  
28 passing the proposal and no modifications. I have  
29 written a few comments about it but if I need to wait I  
30 will.

31

32 MS. PERRY: Okay. And so that we can  
33 just wrap up the voting, Michael Rego, what is your  
34 vote.

35

36 MR. REGO: Nay.

37

38 MS. PERRY: Okay. So that vote is five  
39 yea, six nay, which will be interpreted as the comment  
40 going to the Board is in opposition of this proposal.  
41 That is my understanding, and I would just ask Council  
42 members or the Chair, if that's not your understanding,  
43 I just want to make sure the record is clear. I know  
44 we're getting hung up on -- on verbiage but I just want  
45 to make sure that the Council's intent is very clear by  
46 this vote, that's what matters.

47

48 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: No, I think it's  
49 clear. I think there's some missing, some -- some much  
50

0125

1 confusion and we're voting on -- on an amendment and  
2 so, you know, we're not voting on the real proposal but  
3 yet it seems like we are.

4  
5 So that amendment passes. Let's go  
6 back to closing comments. Hope, you want to go ahead  
7 and give your comments now.

8  
9 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I might have  
10 misunderstood but could I just interrupt. Greg.

11  
12 MS. STICKWAN: I thought it was six  
13 yea's and five no's -- I mean six no's and five yea's  
14 for Southcentral.

15  
16 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Yeah, I.....

17  
18 MS. ROBERTS: That's what I heard too.

19  
20 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Yeah, it failed,  
21 that's what I heard.

22  
23 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, thank  
24 you.

25  
26 MS. ROBERTS: Okay, yes, this is Hope  
27 Roberts, I have a comment. I've heard a lot of  
28 different comments and passionate concerns from both  
29 sides of this proposal that is before my time on the  
30 RAC. I've also heard today that the fishery is not  
31 going to affect anyone, the comment kind of sounds a  
32 little selfish to me debating a small non-existent  
33 fishery when there's a whole salmon crash in Alaska  
34 right now. The fact that the numbers say that it isn't  
35 happening or this number of 2,000 fish will not affect  
36 the communities up river, then my question is why are  
37 they all here opposing this, because it is affecting  
38 them, it will affect them.

39  
40 Cordova is a commercial fishing town  
41 which means they probably have some bycatch out there,  
42 which they probably could use for subsistence and if  
43 people really want subsistence fish they can get it  
44 that way.

45  
46 I'm a sportfisher in Prince William  
47 Sound so I understand how terrifying it might be to  
48 subsist out there around bigger vessels so, you know, I  
49 wouldn't do it either. But I'm nearly full-blooded  
50

0126

1 Alaska Native as well and I was raised monetarily and  
2 culturally very poor, that the majority of the opposers  
3  
4 here were raised strong and indigenous without any  
5 outside influence for thousands of years. I trust  
6 their opinions. I also trust the opinions of those who  
7 have served on the Federal Council here for decades but  
8 my answer is wholeheartedly no on this as long as  
9 there's salmon crashes around the state.

10

11 Thank you.

12

13 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Thank you.

14

15 Heath, you want to go ahead with your  
16 comment.

17

18 MR. KOCAN: Hi, thank you, Mr. Chair.  
19 Yeah, I don't have a lot to say. You know I was hoping  
20 that the two RACs could come to a compromise today and  
21 maybe hopefully we can in the future, I guess we'll see  
22 what happens. You know I heard a lot of -- a lot of  
23 concerns about conservation, all kind of focused  
24 obviously on this and, again, I just want to reit -- I  
25 know people say, oh, it'll still affect, but it is such  
26 a small amount of fish when you look at the data, you  
27 know, we all have opinions, and they're all great but  
28 we also need to look at the actual numbers and it is so  
29 small. And it's just a shame that we're fighting over  
30 such a tiny piece, you know, when you look at the data  
31 it's like almost two-thirds of all the fish are caught  
32 by personal use and commercial fisheries so I think  
33 that's where we should be having our fight, not over  
34 this, you know, .01 percent for subsistence use.

35

36 And hopefully we can all meet again in  
37 person soon because I think this whole process will  
38 just be a lot easier if we could sit down face to face  
39 and not deal with this over the telephone.

40

41 That's all I got, thank you.

42

43 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Michael Rego.

44

45 MR. REGO: Yeah, I also don't have  
46 much. And it's definitely a learning experience for me  
47 and I appreciate everybody's time.

48

49 Thank you.

50

0127

1                   CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Thank you. Did I  
2 miss anyone on closing comments besides myself from  
3 Southcentral.

4  
5                   (No comments)

6  
7                   CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Well, I'll make a  
8 few comments. You guys -- most of you probably know me  
9 pretty well by now, even the new members and the one  
10 comment that a new member not having -- you know has  
11 thousands of years of knowledge, no one was saying that  
12 we didn't, it's just what we were referring to is  
13 having the advantage of listening to all the people in  
14 person talking to this proposal.

15  
16                   I, for one, my closing comment, I think  
17 it's a sad day. I think it's very sad for the  
18 subsistence users. I feel that, you know, we're taking  
19 away an opportunity that we could have provided for  
20 other subsistence users without hurting the up river.  
21 I look at the numbers and I look at the percentage and  
22 I feel very strongly that the personal use and  
23 commercial should be cut before subsistence and I think  
24 that's where it should have went.

25  
26                   I also am very disappointed in the  
27 Federal Board of taking something that was this  
28 controversial and not being able to do their work and  
29 not being able to make their decisions. I think it was  
30 ill-advised to send it back, like Gloria said, without  
31 a working group, without clear directions, and clear  
32 things that they wanted us to achieve. This is a huge  
33 issue, it's going to be continuing to be an issue of  
34 scarcity and fish stocks crashing but, regardless, my  
35 opinion is that the subsistence fisheries come first.

36  
37                   So I thank you all. I know it's been  
38 very confusing, but I think we got our opinions out and  
39 we're sending it back to the Board and hopefully  
40 they'll look at all the comments and they'll do their  
41 homework and be able to come to some reasonable  
42 conclusion, if not, in fact, send it back out with  
43 clear instructions as to how we can work to resolve  
44 this in the future.

45  
46                   So with that I would entertain, if  
47 anyone's got anything else to come before us.....

48  
49                   MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Greg.

50

0128

1                   CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI:   .....I think,  
2 Sue, I'll ask you first if you're still hanging on, do  
3 you have anything.

4  
5                   MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER:  Yeah, I  
6 didn't have a chance for closing comments.  I do want  
7 to mention that I keep getting texts from members that  
8 they just keep continually being dropped off and it's  
9 so difficult to participate.  Bill is one and Will  
10 Koehler is one and, you know, I think they might have  
11 all signed out thinking it was lunch time and they  
12 voted and they were done.

13  
14                   But I just want to reiterate that I  
15 respect everybody's opinion deeply and I think there  
16 are times that Councils are not going to agree and all  
17 -- I think we all did a good job of being very  
18 respectful today and I deeply appreciate everyone's  
19 time that they put into this because it is a lot of  
20 work for us as volunteers.  And I believe we all  
21 learned something, even the Federal Staff have learned  
22 something here, to probably handle something like this  
23 a little differently.  And I really do appreciate all  
24 of you very much, I just want to reiterate that.

25  
26                   And thank you, Greg, it's very kind of  
27 us to be able to do this the way we did and I'm hearing  
28 some compliments but I want to thank everybody, and go  
29 ahead and move it over to you.

30  
31                   CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI:  Okay, thank you,  
32 Sue.  Yeah, I told you -- you and I, we knew this was a  
33 nightmare and we've been talking -- just for the rest  
34 of the Council members, we've been, together, for a  
35 long time trying to figure out the best way to handle  
36 this and we've been dealt kind of a rough card, and  
37 we're not making excuses but I sure look for the day we  
38 could all meet in person and get to know each other a  
39 little bit and really have a good discussion, be able  
40 to hash these out properly and bring in the users and  
41 proponents of the proposals.  You know we're getting  
42 proposals down here on another subject of people  
43 wanting C&T that never existed and they're putting it  
44 in and so things are getting out of control, our  
45 resources are scarce, our world is a little scary, but  
46 I know God's in control of things and we'll be good and  
47 we'll be pressing on and hopefully we'll be rebounding  
48 in our resources and we could set the example for  
49 conservation and we could lead by our example as we  
50



0129

1 have for thousands of years, that the indigenous people  
2 are always willing to share and restrict their use in  
3 times of shortage.

4

5 So I thank everyone and I don't know if  
6 there's any other comments I need, or missed, DeAnna,  
7 is there anything, if not I'm going to entertain a  
8 motion to adjourn.

9

10 MS. TOTEMOFF: Mr. Chair, this is  
11 Angela, so moved.

12

13 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Go ahead, Angela.

14

15 MS. STICKWAN: I have a question. Will  
16 they send us our comments, or what they're going to  
17 submit to the Federal Board, would we be able to see it  
18 before it's submitted.

19

20 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: I think I  
21 answered Angela and I think I hear Gloria talking. But  
22 Gloria I sure hope they're going to send all our  
23 comments to them.

24

25 MS. STICKWAN: Will they send it to  
26 both RACs. Before it goes to the Board will we be able  
27 to see it?

28

29 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: I doubt it. I  
30 don't even know when the Board's meeting. Didn't Dave  
31 say something about before the end of the month.

32

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

34

35 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Go ahead, Robbin.

36

37 MS. LAVINE: Mr. Chair. The Board has  
38 not made a -- this -- this proposal has -- there's no  
39 date for this Board to take up this proposal yet, how  
40 about that, so the Board could -- it could be added to  
41 the agenda probably at their next work session, which  
42 would be probably the end of July this summer. It  
43 could be added to its own -- it could be its own  
44 meeting at a time before then. Regardless of when the  
45 Board meets on this issue, should this proposal become  
46 regulation, those regulations won't go into effect  
47 until the next proposed rule, or regulations are  
48 published and that would be in 2023.

49

50

0130

1                   CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay, thanks,  
2 Robbin, yeah, I knew that. Dave did make a comment  
3 this morning that they were going to deal with it, the  
4 Federal Board, one way or the other, whether we passed  
5 it, supported it, and he did mention that they were  
6 going to do it by the end of the month but maybe I  
7 misheard him. But anyway.....

8  
9                   MS. PERRY: Mr. Chair.

10  
11                   CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: .....we do know  
12 that -- it's one at a time I'm still speaking. Anyway  
13 we'll wait and see what comes of that when they take it  
14 up but I believe we've concluded our part of our  
15 charter to discuss it today.

16  
17                   Thank you.

18  
19                   Okay, who -- who was calling, go ahead.

20  
21                   MS. PERRY: Mr. Chair, this is DeAnna,  
22 I just wanted to answer Gloria's question.

23  
24                   CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Uh-huh, go ahead.

25  
26                   MS. PERRY: As with any product that  
27 comes out of the Council meetings the Chairs will have  
28 an opportunity to review them, you know, whether that's  
29 letter, correspondence and so I expect to do that as  
30 soon as we get the transcripts, we will be summarizing  
31 some of these comments, obviously we wouldn't be able  
32 to put in each and every comment, but it would be up to  
33 the Chairs to approve what -- what we've put in there  
34 and we do that with all of our products that come out  
35 of the Council meetings. So I just wanted to let  
36 Gloria know that.

37  
38                   CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Well, I got a  
39 comment for you, DeAnna. I think that a summary is not  
40 necessarily acceptable in this situation. There was a  
41 ton of comments from every detailed RAC member and I  
42 think that the Federal Board needs to know their  
43 comments -- needs to know their comments so I'm hoping  
44 that it's pretty explicit and they get the good  
45 picture. And hopefully Dave and them were sitting in  
46 and they were able to hear this because that's the only  
47 way they're really going to know.

48  
49                   MS. PERRY: So perhaps I could attach  
50

0131

1 the transcript then.

2

3 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: I would suggest  
4 that.....

5

6 MS. PERRY: Because that will have  
7 everything.....

8

9 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: .....you do --  
10 that would be great.

11

12 MS. PERRY: .....that will have  
13 everybody's comments. Okay. And, Sue, Madame Chair,  
14 is that agreeable to you?

15

16 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes, it is.

17

18 MS. PERRY: Okay, thank you.

19

20 MS. SELANOFF: Mr. Chair, this is Diane  
21 Selanoff. I will second Angela's motion to adjourn.

22

23 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay, I didn't  
24 hear Angela's motion but thank you. Angela and Diane.  
25 We got a motion, we got a second and we're kind of  
26 jointly going to vote on this. Sue, if I may be so  
27 bold to call for a vote of everyone. All in favor of  
28 adjourning, aye.

29

30 IN UNISON: Aye.

31

32 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Certainly I. Any  
33 opposed, any nays.

34

35 (No opposing votes)

36

37 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay, guys and  
38 gals, we did a great job, we worked hard. I hope to  
39 see you soon in person. And, remember, we said,  
40 DeAnna, we wanted to have a meet and greet if we  
41 possibly could for Southcentral at least.

42

43 MS. PERRY: Yes, I'm hoping that we  
44 will be able to meet in person and that we can use some  
45 like -- a get to know each other event.

46

47 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Yeah. We could  
48 take some from Tina's budget.

49

50

0132

1 REPORTER: Very funny.

2

3 (Laughter)

4

5 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Sorry.

6

7 (Laughter)

8

9 REPORTER: Sure. I deserved that.

10

11 (Laughter)

12

13 CHAIRMAN ENCELEWSKI: Okay, well, we  
14 are adjourned and I really didn't think we'd get  
15 adjourned this early and I suppose we could have got a  
16 few more motions but I'm not sure it would have changed  
17 anything. So, I, for one, I'm very thankful that we at  
18 least came to a conclusion so we gave them something to  
19 work with so that's good.

20

21 I hope you all have a wonderful week,  
22 weekend and look forward to seeing you soon. And,  
23 thanks, again, Sue, for an outstanding job, and,  
24 DeAnna, for all your hard work.

25

26 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you,  
27 Greg.

28

29 (Off record)

30

31 (END OF PROCEEDINGS)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA )  
 )ss.  
STATE OF ALASKA )

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

THAT the foregoing pages numbered \_\_\_ through \_\_\_ contain a full, true and correct Transcript of the EASTERN INTERIOR AND SOUTHCENTRAL SUBSISTENCE REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING taken electronically on the 16th day of March 2022;

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

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

DATED at Anchorage, Alaska, this 20th day of March 2022.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Salena A. Hile  
Notary Public, State of Alaska  
My Commission Expires: 09/16/22