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EASTERN INTERIOR ALASKA SUBSISTENCE  
REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

PUBLIC MEETING

VOLUME I

TELECONFERENCE  
March 8, 2022  
9:13 a.m.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Sue Entsminger, Chair  
Andrew Bassich  
Linda Evans  
William Glanz  
Nicholas Henry  
Charles Jagow  
Will Koehler  
Jody Potts Joseph  
Donald Woodruff  
Robert Wright

Regional Council Coordinator, Kayta Wessels (Acting)

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

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(Teleconference - 3/8/2022)

4

5

(On record)

6

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MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: This is Sue  
Entsminger, I'm calling the meeting to order. So we  
might seem a little disorganized.

9

10

11

MR. WRIGHT: Nothing new.

12

13

(Laughter)

14

15

16

MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And I'd  
really like to start our meeting with an invocation and  
I didn't plan it out for Charlie -- Charlie Wright, can  
you do that for us.

17

18

19

20

MR. WRIGHT: No, Sue, it's somebody  
else's turn.

21

22

23

MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh, somebody  
else's turn.

24

25

26

MR. WRIGHT: Yeah.

27

28

MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh, Jody will  
do it, thank you, Jody.

29

30

31

MS. POTTS JOSEPH: Do I speak here.

32

33

MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: No, Jody, can  
you -- you might have to -- right here.

34

35

36

(Invocation)

37

38

MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you.

39

40

41

REPORTER: So Sue, hang on. I don't  
know who was talking and I can hear chairs scraping and  
it really kind of overrode your invocation, you don't  
have to do it over. I'm just telling you just so you  
know. The speaker phone picks up everything in the  
room, shuffling, walking, moving and I do need people  
to identify themselves when they're going to speak. So  
go ahead.

42

43

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48

49

MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: The

50

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1 invocation was given by Jody Potts.

2

3 REPORTER: Thank you so much.

4

5 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Marcy,  
6 if I put this on mute what then?

7

8 MS. OKADA: They won't hear you.

9

10 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: They won't  
11 hear us.

12

13 MS. OKADA: Yes. And then it goes red.

14

15 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. All  
16 right. Well, I was trying to multi-task here and do a  
17 Teams meeting, and I'm not on Katya.

18

19 MS. WESSELS: Yeah, I figured that out,  
20 Sue.

21

22 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

23

24 MS. WESSELS: If you want to later --  
25 and, you know, another suggestion, Sue, is also that if  
26 you can go into another room, this way you can have  
27 your mic always open, you'll call on your own telephone  
28 and then everybody else will be in that room and then  
29 they can have it on mute and only unmute it when  
30 they're speaking.

31

32 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, we'll  
33 discuss that at lunch.

34

35 MS. WESSELS: Okay.

36

37 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I think  
38 Charlie Jagow's idea is a good one, that that would be  
39 for each of us to call in to the teleconference and  
40 eliminate the -- well, we'll test that at lunch okay.

41

42 MS. WESSELS: Okay.

43

44 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, and  
45 then there's a delay. Okay, calling the meeting to  
46 order, the Eastern Interior Regional Advisory Council,  
47 9:13. Roll call. And that would be -- I got to  
48 establish if there's a quorum, Donald Woodruff, can you  
49 hear us -- oh, that's right, another announcement to  
50

0004

1 make. Donald, he told me it's okay to tell everyone,  
2 he has cancer, and he's being treated -- he's been  
3 through two treatments and he has a blood draw this  
4 morning and he won't be on until 10:00 o'clock.

5

6 Katya, can you do the roll call,  
7 please.

8

9 MS. WESSELS: Yes, thank you, Madame  
10 Chair. The roll call for the Eastern Interior Regional  
11 Advisory Council.

12

13 Jody Potts.

14

15 MS. POTTS JOSEPH: Present.

16

17 MS. WESSELS: Linda Evans.

18

19 (No comments)

20

21 MS. WESSELS: Linda Evans, are.....

22

23 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Linda told me  
24 that she would.....

25

26 MS. WESSELS: .....you on the call?

27

28 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: This is Sue.  
29 Linda said she'd be here in the room with us but she's  
30 not here.

31

32 MS. WESSELS: Okay, thank you.

33

34 Nicholas Henry.

35

36 (No comments)

37

38 MS. WESSELS: Nicholas Henry, are you

39

40 on the phone?

41

42 (No comments)

43

44 MS. WESSELS: Okay. Moving on, Bill

45

46 Glanz.

47

48 MR. GLANZ: Yes, I'm present.

49

50 MS. WESSELS: Thank you.

51

52 Andy Bassich.

53

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1 MR. BASSICH: Yeah, I'm here.

2

3 MS. WESSELS: Thank you.

4

5 Charlie Wright.

6

7 MR. WRIGHT: Present.

8

9 MS. WESSELS: Thank you.

10

11 Charlie Jagow.

12

13 MR. JAGOW: Present.

14

15 MS. WESSELS: Thank you.

16

17 And, Sue, told us about Don Woodruff  
18 would be joining at 10:00 hopefully. So we have eight  
19 out of 10 seated members, Madame Chair, so we have a  
20 quorum.

21

22 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you,  
23 Katya.

24

25 MS. WESSELS: Oh, actually I misspoke,  
26 Madame Chair, we.....

27

28 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: No.....

29

30 MS. WESSELS: .....have 7 out of 10  
31 seated members but we still have a quorum. Oh, I'm  
32 sorry, and I forgot one more Council member because he  
33 was on my next page, Will Koehler.

34

35 MR. KOEHLER: I'm here, Katya.

36

37 MS. WESSELS: Okay, thank you, and my  
38 apologies for not calling on you.

39

40 MR. KOEHLER: No problem.

41

42 MS. WESSELS: Yeah, so let me restate  
43 it. We have 7 out of 10 Council members present  
44 currently and we have a quorum.

45

46 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you,  
47 Katya. Next thing on the agenda is welcome and  
48 introduction of guests. I'm going to consider our roll  
49 call as our introduction and if any Council member --

50

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1 whenever we do our reports they can speak more about  
2 themselves.

3

4 Okay. Katya, over to you.

5

6 MS. WESSELS: All right, this is Katya  
7 Wessels. I'm the Council Coordination Division  
8 Supervisor with the Office of Subsistence Management.  
9 And for the purposes of this meeting I am the  
10 Designated Federal Officer, thank you. And I would  
11 like to ask all of the OSM Staff members that are on  
12 the phone to introduce themselves now.

13

14 MR. AYERS: Hi, this is Scott Ayers. I  
15 am.....

16

17 MS. MCDAVID: Good morning, Madame  
18 Chair.

19

20 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Go ahead.

21

22 MR. AYERS: This is Scott Ayers. I'm  
23 the Fisheries Division Supervisor. I'm also acting as  
24 the LT Lead for this meeting. I just wanted to thank  
25 you all for being here this morning and hope that we  
26 have a wonderful and productive meeting.

27

28 MS. MCDAVID: Good morning.....

29

30 MR. AYERS: Thank you.

31

32 MS. WESSELS: Thank you, Scott, ne.....

33

34 MS. MCDAVID: Good morning, Madame  
35 Chair and Council members.

36

37 MS. WESSELS: Next, go ahead.

38

39 MS. MCDAVID: This is Brooke McDavid. I  
40 would like to introduce myself as your new Council  
41 Coordinator. I'm really looking forward to working  
42 with you all.

43

44 MS. WESSELS: Thank you, Brooke.

45

46 MR. GRAHAM: Good morning. This is  
47 Cory Graham and I'm a Fisheries Biologist with OSM.

48

49 MS. WESSELS: Thank you, Cory.

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1 MS. KENNER: Good morning. This is  
2 Pippa Kenner and I'm an Anthropologist at OSM.

3  
4 MS. WESSELS: Thank you, Pippa.

5  
6 MS. WILLIAMS: Liz Williams,  
7 Anthropologist at OSM.....

8  
9 MR. ROBERTS: Good morning this is  
10 Jason Roberts.

11  
12 MS. WESSELS: Can you speak one at a  
13 time, please.

14  
15 MS. WILLIAMS: Liz Williams,  
16 Anthropologist, OSM.

17  
18 MS. WESSELS: Thank you, Liz. And  
19 there was somebody else speaking at the same time, who  
20 was that.

21  
22 MR. ROBERTS: Yes, this is Jason  
23 Roberts, Anthropologist with OSM.

24  
25 MS. WESSELS: Good morning, Jason,  
26 thank you.

27  
28 MR. ROBERTS: Good morning.

29  
30 (Teleconference interference -  
31 participants not muted)

32  
33 REPORTER: So whoever's whispering on  
34 the phone, you need to mute your line, you can do that  
35 with star, six or mute, because we're hearing it.

36  
37 MS. WESSELS: Any other OSM Staff are  
38 online.

39  
40 (No comments)

41  
42 MS. WESSELS: Okay, if no other OSM  
43 Staff is online we'll go to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife.  
44 Any U.S. Fish and Wildlife Staff online please  
45 introduce yourself.

46  
47 MR. MASCHMANN: This is.....

48  
49 MS. CARROLL: Good morning. This is  
50

0008

1 Holly.....

2

3 MR. MASCHMANN: .....Gerald

4 Maschmann.....

5

6 MS. CARROLL: .....Carroll.....

7

8 MR. MASCHMANN: .....with the U.S. Fish

9 and Wildlife Service in Fairbanks.

10

11 MS. WESSELS: Thank you, Gerald. And

12 there was somebody else trying to talk at the same

13 time. Go ahead now.

14

15 MS. KLEIN: This is Jill Klein with

16 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Regional

17 Subsistence Coordinator. And I think it was Holly that

18 started to introduce herself at the same time as

19 Gerald.

20

21 REPORTER: Correct.

22

23 MS. WESSELS: Okay. Holly, go ahead.

24

25 MS. CARROLL: Can you guys hear me now.

26

27 MS. WESSELS: Yes.

28

29 MS. CARROLL: Holly Carroll, Yukon River

30 Subsistence Fishery Manager.

31

32 MS. WESSELS: Thank you, Holly. Other

33 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Staff.

34

35 (No comments)

36

37 MS. WESSELS: Okay, if no other U.S.

38 Fish and Wildlife Staff present we'll go on to the NPS.

39 NPS Staff please introduce yourself.

40

41 MS. CELLARIUS: Good morning. This is

42 Barbara Cellarius with Wrangell-St. Elias National Park

43 and Preserve in Copper Center. And I think we have a

44 couple other Wrangell Staff on the phone. Is Judy

45 there -- Judy Putera, I believe is on the phone.

46

47 MS. PUTERA: Yep, I'm here. Thank you

48 -- hello, everybody.

49

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0009

1 MS. CELLARIUS: And do we have Dave  
2 Sarafin.

3  
4 MR. SARAFIN: Yes, hello everyone.  
5 This is Dave Sarafin, Fisheries Biologist at Wrangell-  
6 St. Elias.

7  
8 MS. CELLARIUS: And is anyone else from  
9 Wrangell-St. Elias on the phone, I think that's all of  
10 us.

11  
12 Thank you.

13  
14 MS. WESSELS: Yeah, thank you Barbara,  
15 Judy and Dave. Any other NPS Staff online.

16  
17 MS. CRAVER: Good morning. Amy Craver  
18 from Denali National Park and Preserve.

19  
20 MS. WESSELS: Good morning, Amy.  
21 Anyone else with the NPS.

22  
23 MS. OKADA: This is Marcy Okada with  
24 Yukon Charley Rivers National Preserve.

25  
26 MS. WESSELS: Thank you, Marcy.

27  
28 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That was --  
29 okay.

30  
31 MS. WESSELS: Anybody else with the  
32 NPS.

33  
34 MS. FLOREY: Hi, this is Victoria  
35 Florey at the Regional Office, Subsistence Program  
36 Analyst.

37  
38 MS. WESSELS: Good morning, Victoria.  
39 Anyone else with the NPS.

40  
41 (No comments)

42  
43 MS. WESSELS: Okay, moving on to the  
44 BLM. Any BLM Staff online please introduce yourself.

45  
46 MR. HERRIGES: Good morning. This is  
47 Jim Herriges, Wildlife Biologist with the Eastern  
48 Interior Field Office in Fairbanks.

49  
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0010

1 MS. WESSELS: Good morning, Jim.  
2 Anyone else with BLM.

3  
4 (No comments)

5  
6 MS. WESSELS: All right. Moving on to  
7 the Alaska Department of Fish and Game. Any Staff with  
8 ADF&G, please introduce yourself.

9  
10 MS. STUBY: Good morning. This is Lisa  
11 Stuby, Alaska Department of Fish and Game. I'm the  
12 Yukon Area Sportfish Division Management Biologist.

13  
14 MS. WESSELS: Good morning, Linda  
15 [sic]. Other Staff with the ADF&G.

16  
17 MS. JALLEN: Hello. Good morning.  
18 This is Deena Jallen with the Alaska Department of Fish  
19 and Game. I'm the Yukon River Summer Season Manager  
20 based here in Fairbanks.

21  
22 MS. WESSELS: Good morning, Deena.

23  
24 MS. GLEASON: Good morning. This is  
25 Christie Gleason. I'm the Yukon River Fall Season  
26 Manager based here in Fairbanks with Deena.

27  
28 MS. WESSELS: Good morning, Christie.

29  
30 Next.

31  
32 MR. RANSBURY: Hi, this is Shane  
33 Ransbury from the Alaska Department of Fish and Game.  
34 I'm the Assistant Manager under Christie for the fall  
35 season on the Yukon.

36  
37 MS. WESSELS: Good morning, Shane.  
38 Next, please.

39  
40 (No comments)

41  
42 MS. WESSELS: All right, looks like  
43 that is it with the ADF&G. Now, do we have any  
44 representatives of the tribal governments online. If  
45 you are online please introduce yourself.

46  
47 MR. ERVIN: Good morning, Bruce Ervin,  
48 TCC, Tribal Resource Stewardship Program.

49  
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1 MS. WESSELS: Good morning, Bruce.

2

3 Anyone else with TCC.

4

5 MS. WOODS: Good morning, this is  
6 Brooke Woods. I am with the Yukon River InterTribal  
7 Fish Commission. Good morning.

8

9 MS. WESSELS: Good morning, Brooke.

10

11 MS. FITKA: Good morning. This is  
12 Serena Fitka, Executive Director for the Yukon River  
13 Drainage Fisheries Association.

14

15 MS. WESSELS: Good morning, Serena.  
16 Anyone else with YRDFA.

17

18 MS. SHOCKLEY: Good morning. This is  
19 Dorothy Shockley.

20

21 MS. WESSELS: Good morning, Dorothy.

22

23 Do we have anyone else on the  
24 teleconference that did not have a chance to introduce  
25 themselves.

26

27 MR. CHEN: Good morning, Madame Chair,  
28 and Council members. My name is Glenn Chen. I'm the  
29 Subsistence Branch Chief for the Bureau of Indian  
30 Affairs.

31

32 MS. WESSELS: Good morning.

33

34 Anyone else.

35

36 MR. RISDAHL: Good morning, Madame  
37 Chair and Council members. This is Greg Risdahl, USDA  
38 Forest Service Subsistence Program Leader and  
39 InterAgency Staff Committee member. Glad to be here.

40

41 MS. WESSELS: Good morning, Greg.

42

43 Anyone else.

44

45 MS. DECKER: Hello everyone. This is  
46 Sam Decker with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

47

48 MS. WESSELS: Good morning.

49

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0012

1                   Anyone else who would like to introduce  
2 themselves. We can barely hear that, could you please  
3 repeat it.

4  
5                   (No comments)

6  
7                   MS. WESSELS: Okay. Somebody told me  
8 that that was my echo.

9  
10                  REPORTER: It is. So.....

11  
12                  MS. WESSELS: So that means that  
13 somebody doesn't have their phone muted. So before we  
14 move any further into the meeting I would like to  
15 request that everybody look at their phone and use  
16 their phone, either by pressing star, six, or the mute  
17 button and have your phones muted through the duration  
18 of the meeting unless you're speaking because this way  
19 we'll have less issues and less echos. Also, if you  
20 receive a phone call on your phone from somebody else,  
21 please do not put us on hold. If you want to answer  
22 that phone call, please hang up on this teleconference  
23 and answer the other phone call. Otherwise we'll get  
24 the elevator music in our conference if you put us on  
25 hold. So please give this respect to the Council  
26 members and to the others that are part of this  
27 meeting. And we will repeat this message throughout  
28 the meeting several times if we have any issues in  
29 regards to that.

30  
31                  So is there anyone else who did not  
32 have a chance to introduce themselves.

33  
34                  MR. THOMAS: Yes. This is Bruce Thomas  
35 with the.....

36  
37                  MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Katya.

38  
39                  MR. THOMAS: .....Council of Athabaskan  
40 Tribal Governments in the Yukon Flats.

41  
42                  MS. WESSELS: Good morning, Bruce.

43  
44                  MR. THOMAS: Morning.

45  
46                  MS. WESSELS: Anybody else. Anybody  
47 else that has joined us. Did Nicholas Henry have a  
48 chance to call in.

49  
50

0013

1 (No comments)

2

3 MS. WESSELS: Did Linda Evans join the  
4 meeting.

5

6 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Katya, this  
7 is Sue. Let the record reflect that during the  
8 introductions that Linda has joined us here in the  
9 room.

10

11 MS. WESSELS: Okay, so thank you, Sue.

12

13 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I just.....

14

15 MS. WESSELS: So one more Council  
16 member, Linda Evans.

17

18 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Go ahead.

19

20 MS. WESSELS: Yeah, Linda Evans has  
21 joined the meeting. And I'm sorry but I hear paper  
22 rustling in the background so please make sure your  
23 phones are muted.

24

25 REPORTER: Bruce, did you mute after  
26 you introduced. Bruce Thomas, did you mute after you  
27 introduced yourself.

28

29 MR. THOMAS: I am now.

30

31 REPORTER: Thank you.

32

33 MS. WESSELS: Thank you. All right,  
34 Madame Chair, I think this is it with welcome and  
35 introductions and I will pass that on to you.

36

37 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. First,  
38 I want to see if you can hear Linda Evans.

39

40 MS. EVANS: Morning, this is Linda  
41 Evans.

42

43 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Tina, are you  
44 able to hear her.

45

46 REPORTER: I can hear her the same as  
47 the others in the room. Go ahead, Sue.

48

49 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh, okay,

50

0014

1 thanks. And I also would like to say we have a public  
2 member here.

3

4 MS. POPE: Yes. Hello everybody. My  
5 name is Amanda Pope. I currently live in Circle. I  
6 have been involved with the Hunter Liaison Program  
7 within the last three years and I'm here on behalf of  
8 that also with Bruce of CATG.

9

10 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Were you able  
11 to hear that.

12

13 REPORTER: Yes, go ahead Sue.

14

15 MS. WESSELS: I was able to hear it.

16

17 REPORTER: Good Katya. Go ahead, Sue.

18

19 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, it was  
20 Amanda Pope, who's in the room with us.

21

22 REPORTER: Got it.

23

24 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right,  
25 thank you. Okay. Council members we were provided an  
26 update agenda and Linda this is an.....

27

28 MR. WRIGHT: She's got it, yeah.

29

30 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: She's got  
31 one, okay, we're good. So the next thing on the agenda  
32 is review and adopt the agenda. And if you look  
33 through -- for the record, Katya, do I need to read  
34 these changes?

35

36 MS. WESSELS: Thank you, Madame Chair,  
37 yes, that would be great if you read the changes or  
38 alternatively I can do it.

39

40 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Go ahead, you  
41 do it.

42

43 MS. WESSELS: Thank you, Madame Chair.  
44 Members of the Council. You can find the updated draft  
45 agenda on our website in the Eastern Interior meeting  
46 materials. So we are asking the Council to accept this  
47 updated agenda and the changes that were made is to new  
48 business, No. 12, 12D was added, U.S. Fish and Wildlife  
49 Yukon River presentation.

50

0015

1                   Then No. 12C was moved up on the  
2 agenda, it's temporary special action FSA22-01, 02, 03  
3 and 04, Yukon River chinook and summer/fall chum  
4 salmon.

5  
6                   No. 12E ADF&G Nome River Creek,  
7 grayling project was moved up on the agenda to allow  
8 the Council to receive the information on that project  
9 before they discuss the fishery closure reviews.

10  
11                   And then No. 12G was added to the  
12 agenda, it's a joint Yukon Kuskokwim Delta, Western  
13 Interior and Seward Peninsula, and Eastern Interior  
14 draft letter to the North Pacific Fisheries Management  
15 Council on bycatch.

16  
17                   Then 12J House Trapping Bill HR4716  
18 Refuge from cruel trapping act of 2021 was added to the  
19 agenda.

20  
21                   Then we move on to No. 13 Agency  
22 Reports under B, Native Organizations. Tanana Chiefs  
23 Conference presentation was added up.

24  
25                   Under 13D U.S. Fish and Wildlife Yukon  
26 Flats National Wildlife Refuge presentation was added.

27  
28                   So this concludes the changes and  
29 additions to the agenda.

30  
31                   Thank you, Madame Chair.

32  
33                   MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you,  
34 Katya. Has everyone seen the new one.

35  
36                   (No comments)

37  
38                   MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Anyone have  
39 any additions or corrections.

40  
41                   MR. WOODRUFF: Madame Chair, this is  
42 Don.

43  
44                   MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Hey, hi, Don.  
45 Everything go okay on your appointment.

46  
47                   MR. WOODRUFF: Yeah, everything's going  
48 well. Move to adopt the agenda as changed.

49  
50

0016

1 MR. GLANZ: I'll second.

2

3 MR. WRIGHT: I'll second that.

4

5 REPORTER: Okay, who made the second, I  
6 thought I heard Bill and Charlie?

7

8 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, moved  
9 by Don and seconded was Charlie Wright.

10

11 REPORTER: Thank you.

12

13 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And I'll go  
14 ahead and do that for you each time.

15

16 REPORTER: Thank you.

17

18 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any other  
19 discussions.

20

21 (No comments)

22

23 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I heard  
24 somebody call for the question, we just eyeballed each  
25 other. All in fav -- I'm going to ask for unanimous  
26 consent, if anyone opposed would have to say no,  
27 otherwise unanimous consent.

28

29 MR. GLANZ: Yes.

30

31 (No objections)

32

33 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: There's six  
34 of us happy here. I assume the rest are.

35

36 (No comments)

37

38 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, next is  
39 the election of officers and I turn it over to Katya.

40

41 MS. WESSELS: Thank you, Madame Chair.  
42 For the record my name is Katya Wessels and I am  
43 Council Coordination Division Supervisor with OSM.

44

45 In accordance to the Council charter,  
46 Council members elect a Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary  
47 for a one year term. The term usually starts at the  
48 beginning of the calendar year so these elections are  
49 held during the winter meetings. I just want to tell  
50



0017

1 you one procedural stipulation for the election. You  
2 might have done it differently in the past. But the  
3 nominations need not to be seconded. Basically you  
4 call the names of people you want to nominate and I  
5 repeat that name.

6  
7 So at this point I would like to open  
8 the floor for nominations of the Council Chair.

9  
10 MR. WOODRUFF: Katya, this is Don, I'll  
11 nominate.....

12  
13 MR. GLANZ: William Glanz.....

14  
15 MR. WOODRUFF: .....Sue.

16  
17 MS. WESSELS: Okay, Sue Entsminger has  
18 been nominated, any other nominations.

19  
20 (No comments)

21  
22 MS. POTTS JOSEPH: This is Jody Potts,  
23 I nominate Charlie Wright.

24  
25 MS. WESSELS: Okay. Charlie Wright has  
26 been nominated as the Council Chair. Any other  
27 nominations.

28  
29 (No comments)

30  
31 MS. WESSELS: Okay. I do not hear any  
32 other nominations. So we have Sue Entsminger nominated  
33 and Charlie Wright. Now, we're going to proceed with  
34 the vote and we are going to first vote on Sue  
35 Entsminger for the Council Chair and I'm going to ask  
36 each Council member individually if they are for Sue  
37 Entsminger being elected as the Chair. So I'm going to  
38 start with Don Woodruff. Are.....

39  
40 MR. WOODRUFF: Yes.

41  
42 MS. WESSELS: .....for -- okay.

43  
44 MR. WOODRUFF: I'm for.

45  
46 MS. WESSELS: Okay, thank you. Okay.  
47 Will Koehler.

48  
49 MR. KOEHLER: Yes, for Sue Entsminger.  
50

0018

1 MS. WESSELS: Okay. Charlie Jagow.

2

3 MR. JAGOW: Yes.

4

5 MS. WESSELS: Charlie Wright.

6

7 MR. WRIGHT: Yes.

8

9 MS. WESSELS: Andy Bassich.

10

11 MR. BASSICH: Yes.

12

13 MS. WESSELS: Okay. Bill Glanz.

14

15 MR. GLANZ: Yes.

16

17 MS. WESSELS: Thank you. Nicholas

18 Henry.

19

20 (No comments)

21

22 MS. WESSELS: Nicholas, did you have a  
23 chance to join us.

24

25 (No comments)

26

27 MS. WESSELS: Okay, it looks like  
28 Nicholas is absent.

29

30 Linda Evans.

31

32 MS. EVANS: Yes.

33

34 MS. WESSELS: Okay. Jody Potts.

35

36 MS. WESSELS: Okay, thank you. So the  
37 other person that's been nominated is Charlie Wright.  
38 So I'm going to ask each member individually though we  
39 already have nine Council members that voted in favor  
40 of Sue being the Chair so.....

41

42 MR. GLANZ: We already got Sue.

43

44 MS. WESSELS: .....so I am going to  
45 start with Will Koehler, are you for Charlie Wright  
46 being the Chair.

47

48 MR. KOEHLER: I've already cast my vote  
49 so no offense to you Charlie but, no.

50

0019

1 (Laughter)

2

3 MS. WESSELS: All right, thank you,

4 Will.

5

6 MR. WRIGHT: None taken.

7

8 MS. WESSELS: How about Don Woodruff.

9

10 MR. WOODRUFF: No.

11

12 MS. WESSELS: Thank you. Charlie

13 Jagow.

14

15 MR. JAGOW: No.

16

17 MS. WESSELS: Andy Bassich.

18

19 MR. BASSICH: No.

20

21 MS. WESSELS: Bill Glanz.

22

23 MR. GLANZ: This is just like Chicago  
24 early and often, no.

25

26 (Laughter)

27

28 MS. WESSELS: Thank you, Bill.

29 Nicholas Henry, did you have a chance to join the  
30 meeting.

31

32 (No comments)

33

34 MR. BAYLESS: This is Shawn Bayless, I  
35 just joined. Good morning.

36

37 MS. WESSELS: Good morning Shawn. We  
38 are electing the Chair.

39

40 Linda Evans.

41

42 MS. EVANS: No.

43

44 MS. WESSELS: Thank you. Jody Potts.

45

46 MS. POTTS JOSEPH: No.

47

48 MS. WESSELS: Sue Entsminger.

49

50

0020

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes.

2 Actually I think.....

3

4 MS. WESSELS: All right.

5

6 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: .....we  
7 shouldn't be voting.

8

9 MS. WESSELS: You think what?

10

11 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Nothing, go  
12 ahead.

13

14 MS. WESSELS: Okay. So the majority of  
15 the votes are in favor of Sue Entsminger being elected  
16 as the Chair. So Sue Entsminger has been elected as  
17 the Chair for another term of one year. And now I will  
18 pass the gavel to the Chair.

19

20 Thank you.

21

22 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you,  
23 Katya. I think a lot of people know me well, I believe  
24 in KISS, keep it simple silly.

25

26 MR. GLANZ: Yeah.

27

28 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And actually  
29 no offense, Katya, but we probably didn't have to go  
30 through that exercise, we probably should have just  
31 said that's the way it is. But I'm taking over again  
32 and now the next thing on the agenda is the Vice Chair.

33

34 MR. GLANZ: I'd like to nominate  
35 Charles Wright for the Vice Chair.

36

37 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Charles  
38 Wright is nominated. Are there any others.

39

40 (No comments)

41

42 MS. EVANS: If no objections, I move  
43 for unanimous consent.

44

45 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: We should  
46 probably have closed the nominations but I accept your  
47 motion. Do I hear a second.

48

49 MR. GLANZ: I'll second that.

50

0021

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. I'll  
2 ask for.....

3  
4 REPORTER: Sue, tell me who made the  
5 motion.

6  
7 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER:  
8 .....unanimous consent.

9  
10 REPORTER: Sue, who made the motion for  
11 unanimous consent?

12  
13 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Linda Evans.

14  
15 REPORTER: Thank you, Sue.

16  
17 MS. POTTS JOSEPH: I second.

18  
19 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And Jody  
20 seconded it.

21  
22 REPORTER: Thank you.

23  
24 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: You're  
25 welcome. Okay, there was no objections, so Charlie  
26 welcome, you're my right arm now.

27  
28 Okay, and next is the Secretary. And  
29 let the record reflect that Karen Linnell has walked  
30 into the room with us so we have another public member  
31 -- or with Ahtna AITRC, with Ahtna InterTribal Resource  
32 Commission.

33  
34 Any motions for Secretary, or  
35 nominations.

36  
37 (No comments)

38  
39 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: It's a simple  
40 job. The job is all you have to do is the roll call  
41 and do any votes, especially when we're online like  
42 this, any controversial votes.

43  
44 (Off record comments away from  
45 microphone in room - laughter)

46  
47 MR. WRIGHT: I'll nominate Jody Potts.

48  
49 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Jody Potts  
50

0022

1 has been nominated by Charlie Wright.

2

3 MR. GLANZ: A new name.

4

5 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Jody Potts  
6 Joseph is her last name now -- congratulations.

7

8 MR. WRIGHT: Apology.

9

10 MR. GLANZ: Yeah.

11

12 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Are  
13 there any others.

14

15 (No comments)

16

17 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Normally I  
18 would ask for a motion to close nominations.

19

20 MS. EVANS: I move the nominations be  
21 closed.

22

23 MR. GLANZ: Uh-huh.

24

25 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And the  
26 nominations were moved to be closed by Linda Evans, and  
27 do I hear a second.

28

29 MR. JAGOW: Second.

30

31 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And seconded  
32 by Charlie Wright -- I mean Charlie Jagow.

33

34 (Laughter)

35

36 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Sorry. They  
37 know I'm going to mess up with the two Charlies. And I  
38 am asking for a unanimous consent, is there any  
39 opposition.

40

41 (No objections)

42

43 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, moving  
44 on. Okay, we're going to review the minutes and  
45 approve. Has everyone read them. Sometimes at  
46 meetings we just stand there and look at each other,  
47 hey, did you read them. But I have read them. So when  
48 you're ready we'll take them up.

49

50

0023

1 MR. WOODRUFF: Sue, this is Don. I  
2 move to adopt the minutes as written.

3  
4 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thanks.  
5 Donald Woodruff has moved to adopt.

6  
7 MR. GLANZ: And I'll second it.

8  
9 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And Bill  
10 Glanz has seconded it. Any discussion.

11  
12 (No comments)

13  
14 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, hearing  
15 none. Bill called for the question.

16  
17 MR. GLANZ: Yes.

18  
19 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I'm asking  
20 for unanimous consent, any objections.

21  
22 (No objections)

23  
24 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Hearing none  
25 it's passed unanimous.

26  
27 MR. GLANZ: Good.

28  
29 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right.  
30 Now, we have overview of the 2021 charter, Katya.

31  
32 MS. WESSELS: Thank you, Madame Chair.  
33 For the record my name is Katya Wessels. And your  
34 Council charters can be found in your meeting materials  
35 under Tab 15, that's the last document under Tab 15 is  
36 your Council's 2021 charters. The new charters can  
37 also be found on the website under the Eastern Interior  
38 meeting materials.

39  
40 (Teleconference interference -  
41 participants not muted)

42  
43 MS. WESSELS: So all 10 Subsistence  
44 Regional Advisory Councils were chartered under the  
45 Federal Advisory Committee Act. And the Council  
46 charters are renewed every two years. So last year the  
47 Council reviewed your charter and proposed some  
48 changes, and other Councils did that as well. The  
49 Federal Subsistence Board supported most of the  
50

0024

1 Councils proposed changes and forwarded its  
2 recommendations to the Secretaries of Interior and  
3 Agriculture for review and approval.

4  
5 So nine out of 10 Councils requested to  
6 add a carryover term clause to all Council charters to  
7 avoid temporary vacancies on the Councils that occur  
8 between the expiration of the current member terms and  
9 the annual set of Secretarial appointments. The  
10 Secretaries supported this change request. The clause  
11 on the carryover terms that was added to your charters  
12 and can be found in Section 12, membership and  
13 designation.

14  
15 (Teleconference interference -  
16 participants not muted)

17  
18 MS. WESSELS: I would stop at this  
19 moment and I would like to ask everyone to mute their  
20 phones. Please mute your phone.

21  
22 The added language reads:

23  
24 If appointments for a given year have  
25 not yet been announced, a member may continue to serve  
26 on the Council following the expiration of his or her  
27 term until such appointments have been made. Unless  
28 reappointed, the members service ends on the date of  
29 announcement, even if that member specific seat remains  
30 unfilled.

31  
32 So which means that if we do not  
33 receive the appointments on time, any of you whose  
34 terms expire in December continue serving on the  
35 Council until we receive the new set of appointments.  
36 So if we don't receive this new set of appointments  
37 before the winter meeting, you can come to the winter  
38 meeting next year after your term expired in December  
39 and still continue serving. This is a great addition  
40 to the Council charters.

41  
42 So the Board also supported the North  
43 Slope Council's recommendation to strike out subsection  
44 4(h) and 4(i), of Section 4, description of duties from  
45 all Council charters. And the Board agreed with the  
46 Council's opinion that the language of these  
47 subsections was irrelevant to the Council's mission and  
48 ANILCA mandates. These subsections were inserted into  
49 the Council charters during 2017 charter renewal by the  
50



0025

1 previous Administration. The Executive Orders cited in  
2 these subsections were either irrelevant or revoked by  
3 the newly issued Executive Order. The Secretaries  
4 approved this change request as well and the section  
5 for (h) and for (i) were removed.

6  
7 So this concludes my update on the  
8 Council charter changes.

9  
10 Thank you.

11  
12 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Council  
13 members any questions.

14  
15 (No comments)

16  
17 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. I want  
18 to give a slight small little attention to Council  
19 members. As your Chair I end up helping prepare for  
20 meetings and I had a teleconference with Staff, Katya,  
21 our new Coordinator, the Southcentral RAC Chair and  
22 the Southcentral RAC Coordinator and we were discussing  
23 how to Chair the next meeting. And there was -- and  
24 Katya brought up a concern that the meeting could get  
25 out of hand and that the officer in charge will be  
26 Southcentral Coordinator, and in this charter it says  
27 they can adjourn our meeting if we get horrible, out of  
28 hand. Neither Greg, the Southcentral Chair, or I, were  
29 not aware of that, and I'm looking at it in here and I  
30 guess -- let's see it's under No. 8, it says -- I just  
31 want to bring it to your attention because it's never  
32 happened in my 21 years of this that 8(d) adjourn any  
33 meeting with the DFO -- determines adjournment to be in  
34 the public interest -- so I guess, you know, I thought  
35 that was interesting and it was brought to our  
36 attention but I feel like I don't think that's  
37 necessary.

38  
39 Go ahead, Linda. Linda has a question.

40  
41 MS. EVANS: I have a question, has it  
42 happened before, where meetings got out of hand.

43  
44 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I've never  
45 seen it happen with our meeting because when we're in a  
46 face to face meeting, we have these same microphones  
47 that we're trying to use here and the Chair has a  
48 button that can shut off somebody that gets out of  
49 hand.

50

0026

1 REPORTER: Or the court reporter.

2

3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I can shut  
4 the court reporter off.

5

6 REPORTER: No, the court reporter can  
7 shut all of you off.

8

9 MR. GLANZ: Yes.

10

11 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: She's got a  
12 lot of power.

13

14 MR. GLANZ: Yes.

15

16 (Laughter)

17

18 REPORTER: I'm just making some light  
19 of the situation.

20

21 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I know. I  
22 know, and so am I, so am I. I love it.

23

24 (Laughter)

25

26 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: But anyway  
27 this court reporter has been with us, Tina has been  
28 with us from the beginning of the first Regional  
29 Advisory Council meeting.

30

31 MR. WRIGHT: Oh, okay.

32

33 MS. EVANS: Oh.

34

35 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So she has a  
36 lot of history. And, yes, she can turn our microphones  
37 off.

38

39 (Laughter)

40

41 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: At any rate,  
42 we don't need to have a discussion I just thought, you  
43 know, that could be interpreted wrong, in my opinion,  
44 where they could shut you off and they shouldn't be.  
45 So I think that -- I just wanted.....

46

47 MS. EVANS: Well, I know (indiscernible  
48 - away from microphone)

49

50

0027

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I thought you  
2 all should hear that -- hear that.

3  
4 MR. WRIGHT: (Inaudible - away from  
5 microphone) okay.

6  
7 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

8  
9 MS. EVANS: Do we need to have it in  
10 the charter though, I mean we should have control over  
11 our meeting.

12  
13 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

14  
15 REPORTER: Okay, so hang on. Okay,  
16 Sue, so I know you guys are in a room, and see this is  
17 the deal with between being in person and on a phone,  
18 you're just talking across to each other. If you're  
19 going to talk, you need to identify yourself. I know  
20 most of the voices but I don't know everybody's. So  
21 you do have to identify yourself because it's just a  
22 woman talking, that's all I can hear and everybody else  
23 on the phone so we need to know who's talking, because  
24 we can't see you.

25  
26 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes, I  
27 understand, I'm sorry and we'll try to do a better job  
28 of that here.

29  
30 REPORTER: I appreciate it.

31  
32 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Linda, go  
33 ahead.

34  
35 MS. EVANS: So why have it -- why do  
36 we.....

37  
38 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Introduce  
39 yourself.

40  
41 MS. EVANS: This is Linda Evans. I'm  
42 just wondering why have it there if there's no problem  
43 before, can we omit it?

44  
45 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That would be  
46 a question to Staff. Katya, were you able to hear her,  
47 she wants to know why have it in there, can we omit it?

48  
49 MS. WESSELS: Thank you, Madame Chair.  
50

0028

1 MS. EVANS: I mean why.....

2

3

4 MS. WESSELS: This clause there is in  
5 all Council charters and, no, you cannot omit it, this  
6 is part of the stipulation of the Federal Advisory  
7 Committee Act. These are the powers that every  
8 Designated Federal Officer has, the one that is leading  
9 all of these Federal Advisory Committees. You cannot  
10 request to change this part of the charter.

10

11

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64

65

Thank you.

MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I didn't want  
to spend a lot of time on it -- this is Sue. But I  
just felt that it was important that the Council  
members know what I have to deal with and what goes on.  
So -- and actually there's six of us here so we'll have  
you each raise your hand and I'll identify you to help  
the court reporter. Okay.

REPORTER: Thanks, Sue.

MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Jody, did you  
have something you wanted to add.

MS. POTTS JOSEPH: Yeah, this is Jody  
Potts Joseph discussing 8d. You know, I guess I think  
that, I mean if the public and, you know, DOI is  
appointing all of us as members of EIRAC and we are  
electing a Chair, that they should have -- they should  
have -- hold this power, and I think that that's why we  
have this position. I don't think it needs to be a  
Staff member of this agency to determine if  
there's.....

(Teleconference interference -  
participants not muted)

MS. POTTS JOSEPH: .....you know, an  
issue with public interest or safety. I think that  
that's something that the Chair should be able to --  
and I think we, as a Council, should have the power to  
change this piece of the charter.

That's all I have.

MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you,  
Jody, I appreciate that. I'm totally in agreement.  
But I respect Katya, she was our Coordinator for five

0029

1 years and I consider you a good friend but we don't  
2 always agree on certain things and, I don't know -- I  
3 don't know how to go forward with it. You're telling  
4 us that that's in FACA, Federal Advisory Committee Act,  
5 and we can't change it, is what you're saying, Katya,  
6 correct?

7

8 MS. WESSELS: Correct.

9

10 MR. GLANZ: It's in stone.

11

12 MS. POTTS JOSEPH: So this is Jody.  
13 Could -- is there any documentation you could show us,  
14 provide to us so we can just verify, not that I don't  
15 trust you, I'm new to this, I just want to make sure  
16 that it is indeed in stone and it's not, you know,  
17 something that, you know, is outside of that.

18

19 MS. WESSELS: Yes, I can send the  
20 Council members that section of FACA.

21

22 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, thank  
23 you. And I appreciate the new members participating in  
24 this and FACA will be sent to us so I appreciate that.

25

26 Next on the agenda is 10, public and  
27 tribal comments on non-agenda items.

28

29 MS. WESSELS: Madame Chair, this is  
30 Katya. I think you skipped over one agenda item,  
31 Council members reports and Chair report.

32

33 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh, I see it,  
34 I'm sorry.

35

36 MR. GLANZ: Yeah, it's okay.

37

38 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Gee, I'm  
39 trying to make it quick too -- too quick, huh. All  
40 right, I certainly did. (Indiscernible) Katya. Okay,  
41 now, how we're going to do this is tell us where you're  
42 from and a little bit about yourself and then a little  
43 bit about your region. And those who have been a  
44 little bit, you can start it out, how about you Bill.

45

46 MR. GLANZ: That sounds like a plan.

47

48 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

49

50

0030

1 MR. GLANZ: Okay. Well, I have a  
2 little problem here with this non-personal meeting. So  
3 far I've got \$380 tied up to come here so I can use a  
4 working telephone. And GCI, who runs Central phone  
5 system up there, I tried to Chair the meeting, the last  
6 one we had and my phone kept cutting off and cutting  
7 off and I just don't have the infrastructure to meet on  
8 the damn phone. So if it cost me \$384 to do a couple  
9 day meeting that's what it's going to be but I'm  
10 getting tired of it. And there's some people that go  
11 to jail and everything else and they're excused but if  
12 I was going to not come to this meeting, I'm supposed  
13 to get this (indiscernible) according to Katya, from  
14 that letter she sent me. She stated that we have to --  
15 we signed -- we didn't sign this thing, we were elected  
16 to come to all the meetings, well, if the meetings were  
17 in Washington, D.C., I guess I got to fly in my  
18 airplane there. But this is crap.

19  
20 So anyway, and as far as the Fish and  
21 Game up in Central, and we got a lady from Circle here  
22 with us and she can tell you -- and she's the  
23 coordinator of the Circle and she can tell you what  
24 lack of moose we've seen up in Central area. And it's  
25 just overhunted in areas.

26  
27 But also there's still caribou running  
28 around my backyard. Yesterday I had about six cows out  
29 in my backyard and they're still shooting them. And  
30 driving in I had a bunch of my members of our Central  
31 Council wanting to know if we could do something about  
32 all of these gut piles along side the road because  
33 sitting in the Central Corner having lunch every day  
34 and a bunch of tourists come in and say, that's totally  
35 unsightly and that's why we hate hunters and that's  
36 what brought it on. People got to take their damn gut  
37 piles and throw them on the wood somewhere but don't  
38 leave them leave them lay along the road. Yeah, I know  
39 you're mighty hunters but that's a ridiculous deal.

40  
41 Anyhow that's my case, talk to you  
42 later.

43  
44 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thanks, Bill.

45  
46 MR. GLANZ: Yeah.

47  
48 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, I'm  
49 going to call on members that have been around so you  
50

0031

1 guys get a feel how to give your report.

2

3 Next is Donald.

4

5 MR. WOODRUFF: Thank you, Madame Chair.  
6 I have four items to discuss. At our last AC meeting,  
7 Fish and Game came and did a presentation and they're  
8 going to do an ichthyophonous study in Eagle, Ft. Yukon,  
9 Rampart and Pilot Station. And it's a coordinated  
10 research for three years.

11

12 My next item is, if we can get fishing  
13 district 5 and 6 escapement sustainable then we can  
14 start rebuilding our chinook stock because that's where  
15 all the fish are going to spawn.

16

17 And my next item is to monitor the age  
18 2 and age 3 chinook for survivability at sea and  
19 Bristol Bay. It seems like those fish are maturing  
20 early and coming in as four year olds and that's part  
21 of the issue, I think, of us rebuilding the Fortymile  
22 -- I mean the chinook stock.

23

24 And then my last item I wanted to talk  
25 about was the Fortymile Herd sustainability in the  
26 Steese White Mountains. I know that there's like 50,000  
27 caribou there so I'm just curious if they're not  
28 overgrazing that whole area all winter.

29

30 Thank you, Madame Chair.

31

32 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you,  
33 Donald.

34

35 Andy Bassich in Eagle.

36

37 MR. BASSICH: Thank you, Madame Chair.  
38 For the record, Andy Bassich, Eastern RAC Member for  
39 quite a few years. I also serve on the Yukon River  
40 Panel as a member there and I co-Chair the  
41 Communications Committee and I'm also involved with the  
42 North Pacific Anadromous Fish Commission as an advisor  
43 and an AC member.

44

45 Yeah, a number of concerns. Probably  
46 the most primary one that's affecting our community is  
47 the lack of both king salmon and fall chums salmon.  
48 For many of the people of Eagle who are dog team  
49 owners, the fall chum is by far the greatest impact to  
50

0032

1 our community. We haven't been able to fish for two  
2 years and the ability to maintain the traditional  
3 lifestyle with a dog team is diminishing rapidly and if  
4 the fall chum declines continue I can foresee a loss of  
5 that traditional subsistence way of life in our  
6 communities because of the economic impacts. I'm  
7 hopeful that fall chum will rebound. They tend to  
8 rebound quicker than chinook salmon. So I'm hopeful of  
9 that but I want to bring to the Council's attention  
10 that fall chum are incredibly valuable to people from  
11 our Eastern RAC region starting in the Tanana area,  
12 which is a very big dog mushing community, Ft. Yukon,  
13 Eagle. So very important to this Council to try and  
14 ensure that that resource is there for subsistence use.

15  
16 In regards to king salmon, I think  
17 we're in this for a very long time. I think the people  
18 of the Yukon River have to realize that although they  
19 want king salmon, if we really want to be serious about  
20 bringing back king salmon people are going to have to  
21 forego harvest or reduce harvest to absolute minimums  
22 and they need to make the commitment. And I think this  
23 is the most important thing, people on the Yukon River  
24 need to make a commitment for one to two life cycles of  
25 chinook salmon if they want to be successful in  
26 rebuilding. That means six to 12 year commitment for  
27 very minimal harvest of chinook salmon if we want to be  
28 successful and that's not necessarily my opinion, per  
29 se, that is very factual and that is what many of the  
30 scientists who are experts in rebuilding stocks say you  
31 must do.

32  
33  
34 (Teleconference interference -  
35 participants not muted)

36  
37 MR. BASSICH: In regards to caribou,  
38 we've seen almost no caribou in the Eagle area this  
39 winter which has been difficult given that we haven't  
40 been getting the fish. Caribou is, and fish, are the  
41 two most important resources in our community. Caribou  
42 never really made it into our country. I think -- well,  
43 I saw one dead one yesterday killed by a lynx. It was  
44 a lone caribou with no other signs so it's kind of  
45 disappointing not to see caribou in our region this  
46 year and it's impacting the subsistence food security  
47 here.

48  
49 On a better note, and I'm not sure if  
50



0033

1 this is due to the heavy snow conditions but I'm seeing  
2 a lot of cow moose this year, actually a lot of moose  
3 sign down in the low levels. That's encouraging. But  
4 I'm not sure if that's just because of the extreme snow  
5 conditions that we have here this year forcing them to  
6 be in other areas. So I guess we'll have to wait and  
7 see what our moose counts are in the area in the next  
8 couple years.

9

10 I think that's pretty much all I have  
11 to report. It's nice to see some new Council members,  
12 some familiar names and look forward to the rest of the  
13 meeting.

14

15 Thank you, Madame Chair.

16

17 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you,  
18 Andy.

19

20 Charlie Wright.

21

22 MR. BASSICH: Sue, one quick.....

23

24 MR. WRIGHT: Thank you, Madame Chair.

25

26 MR. BASSICH: One quick addition from  
27 Andy.

28

29 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, go  
30 ahead.

31

32 MR. BASSICH: Madame Chair.

33

34 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes, go  
35 ahead.

36

37 MR. BASSICH: Yeah, I just wanted to  
38 recognize -- I don't know if you guys are showing video  
39 feed -- I'm not sure if you're seeing any video feed  
40 but I also wanted to welcome our soon to be new  
41 Coordinator, Brooke McDavid. She is on the Team Zoom  
42 -- or I'm sorry, the Team video feed, and I just wanted  
43 to welcome her to us and look forward to working with  
44 her for many years in the future. So thank you,  
45 Brooke, for being on our team.

46

47 That's all, Madame Chair, thank you.

48

49 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right,

50

0034

1     thank you.

2

3                     Charlie Wright.

4

5                     MR. WRIGHT: Thank you, Madame Chair.  
6     Charlie Wright, Rampart. I'd like to say -- echo some  
7     of Andy's words. Lack of king salmon and total lack of  
8     moose in my area is causing a hardship. Without  
9     accurate moose counts -- they don't do an accurate  
10    count in spots that are not hot with moose so they  
11    don't -- it's a vast area and I'd like to see something  
12    change there to where we can get some determination on  
13    actual counts. People are suffering.

14

15                    I know for a fact in Rampart in the  
16    last two falls, moose hunts, that there was less than  
17    four moose shot in two years. That's -- and the lack  
18    of salmon that's causing a lot of hardship in the area,  
19    not only for rampart but surrounding villages. The  
20    whole river corridor seems to be the moose counts are  
21    real low. I had to hunt all the way into the Nowitna  
22    River. I've been hunting there for probably over 10  
23    years because of the lack of moose near my villages  
24    where I stay, Rampart, Tanana, so I go to where there's  
25    more moose and there's been a lot more moose in the  
26    Nowitna River until the last two years, the numbers are  
27    way down, not seeing as many tracks. I don't know if  
28    that's due to climate change but I think the numbers  
29    are down, the kills are down so I'm assuming that they  
30    do counts by harvest tickets so if the kill count's  
31    down, the moose count's down.

32

33                    I just want to say that I serve on the  
34    Denali Resource Commission, YRDFA, Yukon River  
35    InterTribal Fish Commission, Hunting and Fishing Task  
36    Force. I know that there was not much trapping in  
37    Rampart this year due to extreme snow, it was really  
38    hard to get around. A few people caught a few martin  
39    in their village.

40

41                    And I think of -- I'll go back to  
42    fishing again, I think that the people on the river  
43    have been sacrificing and will continue to sacrifice in  
44    order to keep fish and wild stocks in the river of  
45    salmon for future generations. We'll get into it later  
46    but I did put in a proposal for a special action  
47    request for the Federal government to take over  
48    management of the Yukon River salmon fishery. In times  
49    of conservation first, of course, but maybe some -- a

50

0035

1 little bit of fish for people to put away -- for some  
2 opportunity for people to put away fish for the winter  
3 if numbers are better than last year but they don't  
4 sound like they're going to be. But just the ANILCA  
5 laws need to start being followed and they haven't been  
6 in a long time so we'd just like some awareness and see  
7 if we can do a little better going into the future.

8  
9 That's pretty much all I have for right  
10 now.

11  
12 Thank you, Madame Chair.

13  
14 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you,  
15 Charlie.

16  
17 I think Linda's used to us by now.  
18 It's the first time we've got to meet her so it's kind  
19 of exciting for me to see your face, and you've  
20 participated only on the teleconference but.....

21  
22 MS. EVANS: Yes.

23  
24 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: .....yes, you  
25 go ahead.

26  
27 MS. EVANS: On teleconference. Linda  
28 Evans. I'm also from the Rampart, Tanana area. I live  
29 in Rampart in the summer months and just in the North  
30 Pole in the wintertime. But I know snow has really  
31 bogged people down even here, you know, pretty much  
32 so.....

33  
34 (Fades off)

35  
36 REPORTER: I'm not hearing you anymore.  
37 I need you to speak up.

38  
39 MS. EVANS: Okay. Too much snow for  
40 people to do subsistence lifestyle. Lack of  
41 subsistence resources in our area for.....

42  
43 (Coughing)

44  
45 MS. EVANS: Fish is a main staple for  
46 us and the salmon -- lack of ability to get any salmon  
47 is really, really hard. And this year my family went  
48 to Copper and even there was lack. So having to travel  
49 that long way and, you know, spend days over there and  
50

0036

1 so it's a hardship on people. I think as a group of  
2 people who live off of the subsistence lifestyle, we  
3 need to figure out a way to rebuild those -- those  
4 subsistence foods. I know long -- years ago everybody  
5 had a garden, and I think that's another way that we  
6 could help our environment and keep our environment  
7 safe, I'm going back to gardening again, subsistence  
8 life, learning the traditional plants that our people  
9 eat a long time ago, you know. To me, I think that, to  
10 live off the land to provide for ourselves in our own  
11 communities is a real necessity that we need to get  
12 back to.

13  
14 Thank you.

15  
16 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you,  
17 Linda.

18  
19 Charlie Jagow. And, Charlie, we're  
20 going to check this out, you might have to come to this  
21 thing because.....

22  
23 MR. JAGOW: Yeah, I was.....

24  
25 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: .....I think  
26 there's going to be feedback.

27  
28 MR. JAGOW: Yeah, I'm not going to do  
29 it through here, I think there is, can you hear me  
30 okay.

31  
32 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Can you hear  
33 Charlie Jagow, Tina.

34  
35 REPORTER: Not yet.

36  
37 MR. JAGOW: Okay. Okay, this is  
38 Charlie Jagow, Upper Porcupine region. I've got a  
39 little report.

40  
41 Luckily we had a much -- we had a lot  
42 less snow than other areas in the region, we only had  
43 about seven inches of snow by Thanksgiving and now  
44 we're only about to about 20 inches.

45  
46 Caribou were scattered on the Upper  
47 Porcupine, Coleen, however, last month, they moved to  
48 the west and it's my understanding that there were a  
49 lot of animals on the western edge of the Refuge. I'd  
50

0037

1 be curious what others have to report on that.

2

3 I was also excited to see a decent  
4 number of moose this winter and especially encouraged  
5 by seeing only half -- high calf survival rate this  
6 year.

7

8 And most noticeable change this year  
9 was increased martin numbers in 2017 burn, past two  
10 summers it was pretty evident that we've had a lot of  
11 regrowth of grasses, vegetation. This is especially  
12 important as a lot of the area that was burned in the  
13 past few years.

14

15 And that's the end of my report.

16

17 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I hope you  
18 were able to hear him.

19

20 REPORTER: I got it.

21

22 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thanks,  
23 Charlie. Okay, good.

24

25 MR. GLANZ: Excellent.

26

27 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Next is Jody.

28

29 MS. POTTS JOSEPH: Hi everyone. Jody  
30 Potts Joseph. So I guess for the record if we could  
31 change my name for the EIRAC. And I've also moved to  
32 my husband's village, Stevens Village, and so I'm no  
33 longer in Fairbanks so when I applied for EIRAC I was  
34 still living in Fairbanks. I have since sold my house  
35 and completely moved to Stevens Village and also to our  
36 fish camp, so we split our time 50/50 between being at  
37 our camp which is totally off grid, candlelight, no  
38 phone, or any contact, and then at Stevens Village. So  
39 I guess just for the record as well, I don't always  
40 have email or any communications but usually every week  
41 or two we will go into town and try to get -- or into  
42 the village or the Yukon River bridge and get some  
43 communications.

44

45 So anyways, so, yeah, just wanted to  
46 make that for the record.

47

48 So this is my first EIRAC meeting.  
49 It's really an honor to be here and on the Council with  
50

0038

1 all of you. I am originally from Eagle Village and was  
2 -- grew up very subsistence lifestyle. My parents  
3 trapped and hunted and fished and I also not only lived  
4 in Eagle but also in the Copper River area, Copper  
5 Center, and Kenny Lake and spent a number of years  
6 there. I grew up with dog teams when I was younger and  
7 also as an adult mushed in the Copper River and now  
8 have a dog team again in Stevens. And just really glad  
9 to be, you know, on this Council. My uncle, Isaac  
10 Juneby, was on the Council before his untimely death  
11 and just hope I can help carry his work forward.  
12

13 I guess just a report about what we're  
14 seeing. So, yeah, definitely food security and  
15 economic issues due to the fishing ban and the lack of  
16 fish in the Yukon but also, you know, it's really hard  
17 finding moose and I know that there's a number of  
18 families in Stevens Village that are struggling -- I  
19 mean all the families up and down the Yukon are  
20 struggling this winter. It's been a very hard winter.  
21 I know Eagle -- being from Eagle and having relatives  
22 and friends in Eagle, you know, the caribou not moving  
23 over there, not getting any fish and the low moose  
24 count has impacted my own family members. And, you  
25 know, I know that folks in the Copper River area are  
26 also struggling due to low fish numbers and also as we  
27 get less fish in the Yukon, more pressure on the Copper  
28 to produce for Interior Alaskans, or the Eastern  
29 Interior, so just recognizing that, you know, going  
30 into, you know, outside of our country to another  
31 resource, to another watershed, to take some of their  
32 resources when they're already low and so that's  
33 something that I take into consideration.  
34

35 With the fish there's actually probably  
36 four times the number of sled dogs in Stevens Village  
37 than there are actual humans in Stevens Village and  
38 it's been a real hardship on those dog teams and  
39 actually sadly saw some dogs -- some families really  
40 struggle with getting commercial dog food into the  
41 village, especially when we had bad weather and no  
42 flights for two weeks and not having dog food for their  
43 teams and that was a really tough thing that, you know,  
44 we, as a community, had to deal with and, you know,  
45 I've been sharing my resources with folks to try to get  
46 -- keep their dogs healthy but it's been really, really  
47 hard and I think that goes for everyone up and down the  
48 river and all of the mushing families.  
49  
50

0039

1                   There's been a lot of moose around  
2 Stevens Village and into the canyon. This winter,  
3 actually even had some going after my dogs. My husband  
4 was able to take that wolf and it's just -- the wolves  
5 coming into the village and around the village has been  
6 really kind of hard. There's a few moose and it's been  
7 really nice to see the -- the one cow and calf that  
8 I've been seeing when I'm out running dogs is still  
9 avoiding the wolves, which is really surprising  
10 considering how many wolves I also see in the area but  
11 they're doing a good job of hiding out, and I just saw  
12 them the other day.

13  
14                   Yeah, the amount of snow that we have  
15 around Stevens Village it's been just -- it's waist  
16 deep and a lot of folks haven't returned after the  
17 holidays to the village because it's just so hard. We  
18 had tons of snow. We've had a lot of 60 below and even  
19 just going out to get firewood is a challenge. And  
20 then not having, you know -- you know the access to the  
21 moose and the fish has just been a real struggle and I  
22 -- I would say it's really hard keeping our communities  
23 thriving with the lack of our traditional diet and our  
24 way of life, we struggle with our way of life still.

25  
26                   But that's all I have so just thank you  
27 all for your time and glad to be with you.

28  
29                   MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you,  
30 Jody, that was a great report. And I have to tell all  
31 the people here, Jody and I -- I met your mother first  
32 -- yeah, from the connections in Mentasta.....

33  
34                   MS. POTTS JOSEPH: Right.

35  
36                   MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: .....and we  
37 -- as you said, Isaac Juneby's untimely death, there  
38 was a dog race that you guys put together up to Eagle  
39 and her and I did the machine, the snowmachined all the  
40 way up and back, it was quite a fun trip.

41  
42                   MS. POTTS JOSEPH: Yeah. It was pretty  
43 cold too. I remember.....

44  
45                   MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, and it  
46 was 30 below.

47  
48                   (Laughter)

49  
50

0040

1 MS. POTTS JOSEPH: Yeah.

2

3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, it was  
4 pretty cool.

5

6 Okay, next is Will Koehler.

7

8 REPORTER: Hi Will.

9

10 MR. KOEHLER: Yes, I'm here. Thank  
11 you. This is Will Koehler.

12

13 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Go ahead,  
14 Will.

15

16 MR. KOEHLER: Can you hear me okay.

17

18 REPORTER: Hear you perfect.

19

20 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: We, in this  
21 room here you perfectly.

22

23 REPORTER: Ditto.

24

25 MR. KOEHLER: Perfect. Yeah, we have  
26 had a real winter just like the rest of the state  
27 although we've been fortunate, we didn't -- we do not  
28 have quite as much snow as it sounds like most of the  
29 rest of the state does. When I get outside of the  
30 mountains, you know, out onto the Upper Tanana River  
31 Flats and such like, boy, it's pretty impressive. I  
32 put the trail out to the highway here oh about a month  
33 ago or so and usually when I get close to the highway  
34 and close to the village that I go into there's usually  
35 a couple of snowmachine tracks that I run into and I  
36 always really appreciate that because I've been  
37 breaking trail all day or for a couple of days  
38 sometimes, and it's always really nice to have that  
39 trail broken in front of you for that last little bit  
40 into town, and this year it was -- the snow wasn't so  
41 bad up where we are in the mountains but -- and when I  
42 got out to -- there was no trail broken in, it was --  
43 it was very powdery and we were swimming in snow but on  
44 a good year when I could break the trail out in, you  
45 know, maybe seven, eight hours, it was three days of  
46 very, very hard work getting it in. But there was  
47 nobody else, there was nobody else putting any trails  
48 in. So pretty deep snow outside the mountains. But up  
49 where I am kind in that Notzotan Mountain area, there

50



0041

1 was not nearly as much snow, more snow as usual but not  
2 nearly as much snow and we seemed to kind of had a  
3 concentration, seems like the Chisana Caribou really  
4 moved in all around us, it seemed to be one of the  
5 better places to be.

6  
7 I think over the last couple years the  
8 resource we've been most concerned about locally is our  
9 sheep population. And it's been a real winter for sure  
10 but we've got a lot of our mountain tops blown clear  
11 and there's not much snow up high so I have hopes that  
12 our sheep will do a little bit better this winter than  
13 in the last two winters.

14  
15 And so that's pretty much all I've got  
16 on the resource end of things. You know it continues  
17 to be difficult, you know, for people to live out in  
18 these rural areas and live the lifestyle and I really  
19 look forward to meeting you, Jody, and good for you for  
20 getting out there and making that lifestyle work  
21 because it really absolutely is wonderful. I'm so  
22 fortunate to be able to do what I do. But it's  
23 difficult for me and my family to make it sustainable.  
24 So that's -- yeah, I don't know that that's an issue, I  
25 don't know how much we can really address that issue  
26 here except do what we can for the resource and it's  
27 sad to see. It's sad to see people -- it's sad to see  
28 the lifestyle disappearing, I guess, and I don't really  
29 -- I don't really see an end to that trend. I think  
30 that trend is going to continue.

31  
32 So that's all I've got, thank you.

33  
34 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you,  
35 Will. And for the new Council members, Will was on our  
36 Council many moons back, how many years was it, six,  
37 eight years, Will?

38  
39 MR. KOEHLER: Something like that,  
40 yeah, I think maybe not eight years, but five or six  
41 years, maybe, I think.

42  
43 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And then his  
44 brother, Michael, was on it after. So when I saw that  
45 Koehler name here at first here I thought, oh,  
46 Michael's back, and I said, wait a minute, it's Will,  
47 but, yes really appreciate you there.

48  
49 And next would be Nicholas Henry, if he  
50

0042

1 did join us, are you still on -- or are you on, I'm  
2 sorry.

3  
4 MR. HENRY: Yes, I'm here.

5  
6 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, let the  
7 record reflect that Nicholas is online. Do you have a  
8 report, it's time to do that, introduce yourself.

9  
10 MR. HENRY: No, not at the moment.

11  
12 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. And  
13 you're in Chalkyitsik.

14  
15 MR. HENRY: Yes, ma'am.

16  
17 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right.  
18 Okay. Okay, you have no report then.

19  
20 MR. HENRY: Not right now.

21  
22 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Well,  
23 next is me. My report is -- I attend the local AC  
24 meetings and I'm your representative to the Wrangell  
25 St.Elias Subsistence Resource Commission, and we just  
26 met and there were no new fisheries proposals for our  
27 region from the SRC but we did take up that Federal  
28 subsistence -- or Federal fisheries proposal, 21-10,  
29 and voted unanimously against it and had a lot of  
30 comments to it as to why -- which will come up more  
31 when we have a joint meeting coming Wednesday, next  
32 week. So I'm going to do the short report.

33  
34 And then Will's over in the South  
35 Wrangells and his family -- he was raised over there at  
36 Dry Creek so I'm amazed that they didn't have the snow  
37 that we have here in the Mentasta area. It's been kind  
38 of tough. Moose are now on the roads, and tough to get  
39 around them sometimes. I have a video of one going  
40 through my yard totally bellied out, snow flying from  
41 the sides, I mean it's just really been deep. This  
42 little bit of warm weather that we've had here just  
43 rising above freezing, it turned from the heavy powder  
44 -- or I mean just powder where they sink in to there's  
45 a little bit settling in and a little bit easier, I  
46 think -- my son's a pilot and he traps by air and he  
47 said it would be very difficult to land in that stuff,  
48 you could just bottom completely out. But as it  
49 settles a bit here just recently he said he was able to  
50

0043

1 get out again. But it's also tough on trappers.  
2 Trappers are having a hard time, like Will described --  
3 here, I mean it's -- they don't want to go out, the  
4 trails are so horrible you're just doing everything but  
5 trapping, just getting unstuck and stuff.

6  
7 And we did not get the rain that  
8 Fairbanks did, it was probably to Johnson River and  
9 that's a blessing for us not to get that rain. But we  
10 have noticed the last couple of years that our sheep  
11 population in the Eastern Alaska Range were in --  
12 there's something going on. I think we need to know  
13 more about what's going on with sheep, I think they  
14 need to do more work on sheep.

15  
16 And I think that's about it for me.

17  
18 I, personally, getting out trapping and  
19 these meetings and everything I'm involved in, I  
20 haven't gotten out this year, so it's kind of  
21 depressing in a way. Yeah. So I will look forward to  
22 retirement some day.

23  
24 (Laughter)

25  
26 MR. GLANZ: Uh-huh.

27  
28 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah. Well,  
29 thank you everyone. The next thing on the agenda and  
30 sorry if you guys are hearing papers it's because I'm  
31 moving my papers.

32  
33 This is the time for public and tribal  
34 comments on non-agenda items. This has to be something  
35 that's not on our agenda.

36  
37 Jody, go ahead.

38  
39 MS. POTTS JOSEPH: Oh, it's for public.

40  
41 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, let's  
42 stick to the public. So I have Karen Linnell here,  
43 Karen we're just going to pass this over.

44  
45 MS. LINNELL: I think I can speak loud  
46 enough I have a hockey voice.

47  
48 (Laughter)

49  
50

0044

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. A  
2 hockey mom right here.

3  
4 MS. LINNELL: Hockey mom voice, and  
5 loud voice that everybody can hear. For the record my  
6 name is Karen Linnell, I'm with the Ahtna InterTribal  
7 Resource Commission, the Executive Director there. The  
8 Ahtna InterTribal Resource Commission is comprised of  
9 eight Federally-recognized tribes and two ANCSA  
10 Corporations. They're the land owners in our  
11 organization as our tribes don't own any land like they  
12 do in the reservations. I didn't get AITRC on the  
13 agenda and I apologize for that but I do have a brief  
14 report to give you.

15  
16 As you know we worked for several years  
17 to get that community harvest system going and to  
18 manage a hunt on Federal lands. We got a late start,  
19 we built a database and things like that and then Covid  
20 hit our area again and so we were restricted in going  
21 into the villages to register folks for the hunt and so  
22 that kind of put a damper on things. Plus there were  
23 some negative slanted emails sent out by the Federal  
24 agencies regarding the hunt and saying you can't be a  
25 proxy hunter, you can't do this, you can't do that and  
26 so we fixed that but for AITRC to do anything, we have  
27 to get their approval in any publication or things like  
28 that and they did not reciprocate and so we've worked  
29 that issue out. Anyway we ended up with about 40  
30 registrants and zero moose were harvested. We had a  
31 lot of elders sign up and the young folks didn't sign  
32 up because they thought they weren't going to be able  
33 to hunt for the elders and so -- and then we have to-  
34 date zero caribou harvested. The falltime in Unit 13,  
35 it's such a narrow strip of land, the caribou weren't  
36 crossing during the season, they came through right  
37 after and so we're hoping with the spring -- but with  
38 all this snow I doubt that they're going to come back  
39 across when the season's open again. But we continue  
40 to report to the agencies and let them know what's  
41 going on with that.

42  
43 Our partners in fisheries management  
44 project was completed and it was -- where we  
45 interviewed people, our rural residents and asked how  
46 they felt about their ability to impact management and  
47 so that final report was sent out last fall.

48  
49 We're working with the Wrangell-St.  
50

0045

1 Elias National Park on an Ahtna ethnography and the use  
2 of the Wrangell Park. The first draft is done and they  
3 ran out of money for the printing and so we're waiting  
4 on the Park to finish and get some funding to get it  
5 set. It has to be in a certain format so that you have  
6 a reader or something for it so that people with  
7 disabilities can hear the back, and that -- so we're  
8 waiting on that.

9

10 We also have a snow and ice TEK  
11 project, snow and ice and caribou TEK project. And  
12 this came out of a working group, a caribou working  
13 group that included Tetlin Wildlife Refuge, Sue  
14 Entsminger for the Wrangell-St. Elias SRC was on there,  
15 BLM, ADF&G, Wrangell-St. Elias National Park looking at  
16 the Nelchinas, the Mentasta and the Chisana herd and  
17 what's going on and at one point we were talking about  
18 kind of basically a predator pit where you've got  
19 intensive management on Unit 13 but when the caribou  
20 cross into GMU 11 there's not a lot of harvest of  
21 wolves and what not to allow the herd to do well and  
22 what can we do. And one of the comments made was,  
23 well, we're not stopping folks, you know, people can  
24 subsistence trap and it's like, yeah, but access is the  
25 issue. Sue was just talking about her son flying in,  
26 the river's not staying frozen like it used to and so  
27 it's not reliable in crossing the river, you know, to  
28 do the trapping and so fewer folks are trapping in GMU  
29 11 and so that was one of the things that we were  
30 looking at, in the changing snow and ice conditions and  
31 how it's affected subsistence uses within Wrangell-St.  
32 Elias.

33

34 We've got our first draft of our Towne  
35 Lake restoration planning and this is to get salmon  
36 back into Towne Lake and Chitina and we're working with  
37 Copper River Watershed project on that. And then  
38 looking at macroinvertebrates and stuff like that. And  
39 then we're looking at new technology. I have a new  
40 fisheries biologist, Dan Gorzi, who brought this idea  
41 of environmental DNA, and eDNA is where you filter the  
42 water and then you stabilize your filter, ship it off  
43 for analazation and they can tell you absence, presence  
44 of different species. And if you have a count of one  
45 of those species you can kind of get a percentage of  
46 what's out there just from the filter. And so we've  
47 got multiple samples in, it's pretty neat to see. So  
48 if we have a count of number of salmon coming into a  
49 system and from these filters we see that there's 30  
50

0046

1 percent, well you have that count of salmon you can  
2 kind of guesstimate how much of the other species are  
3 there, which is pretty neat. I'd encourage you to  
4 watch -- when he first brought it up we were like what  
5 is it, what is it, we spent an hour and a half watching  
6 YouTube videos on what environmental DNA is, pretty  
7 neat process.

8  
9 We're working with Native Village of  
10 Eyak on a sonar project for the Klutina River. The  
11 Klutina -- based on radiotelemetry projects done about  
12 10, 12 years ago by Native Village of Eyak they found  
13 that 30 to 50 percent of our sockeye return goes in the  
14 Klutina River so if anything happens there it could be  
15 detrimental -- more detrimental to the Copper River  
16 fishery and so we're doing a sonar project there in  
17 collaboration with the CommFish Division out of  
18 Cordova. We're using the most -- the newest model of  
19 sonar which is the ARIES and comparing it to the  
20 DIDSON, which was the old one so we can do a head to  
21 head comparison and maybe even, what do you call it,  
22 back data.....

23  
24 MR. SIMON: Retrospective analysis.

25  
26 MS. LINNELL: .....retrospective  
27 analysis on previous sonar so that we can do a  
28 comparison because they keep saying there's record  
29 numbers coming through. I think it's just new  
30 technology, better, better. And they keep increasing,  
31 you know, permits for personal use based on record  
32 numbers and I want to see them and what that  
33 retrospective is and head to head comparison so that we  
34 can say, no, it's not, because we're not getting the  
35 salmon in Chistochina or Mentasta, the headwaters.

36  
37 Then we're hoping to incorporate a  
38 smolt trap on that project. Copper River Marketing  
39 Association, actually, came to us with some money and  
40 said, you know, here, here's some money let's see  
41 what's outmigrating from Klutina and so this spring  
42 we'll set up a smolt trap to see what's leaving the  
43 Klutina system. And then we've also -- we're trying to  
44 get a whole life span type of deal as much as we can so  
45 we can better understand and improve management.

46  
47 We also put in for a grant with the  
48 Prince William Sound Science Center to do a hydro-  
49 acoustic survey in the lake where they trawl with --  
50

0047

1 basically a sonar and then they capture the smolt and  
2 the fish -- the juveniles so we can check for  
3 abundance. We'll also be able to look with eDNA  
4 samples and find out what kind of other species are in  
5 there, look at predator/prey aspect to it. So we're  
6 hoping that -- if we do this, that we can replicate it  
7 on other parts of the streams or spawning rivers and  
8 stuff to better understand and allow for better  
9 management. As you know the State switched from  
10 managing each stream individually to one river system,  
11 with the Copper River being the only system that  
12 they're looking at. They're saying they're getting  
13 record numbers of salmon past Miles -- Miles Lake Sonar  
14 but we're not seeing it up stream and so we want to  
15 know why.

16  
17 We just completed year three of our  
18 carnivore study. We're waiting on DNA results, but we  
19 sent in over 560 samples, and we've expanded our  
20 project to incorporate all of GMU13, from Lower Tonsina  
21 to Cantwell and over to Chistochina. 13 to 15  
22 different clusters and the cluster is nine -- nine  
23 traps in a section and they move them every other week  
24 because they don't want the animals used to being, you  
25 know, being there, they want to track their movements  
26 and so we'll be able to look at the density population,  
27 the density for all of Unit 13. And that's for the big  
28 four legged animal.

29  
30 And then poor salmon returns, which you  
31 guys will talk about later so I won't bring it up too  
32 much, in that the preliminary prediction for 2022 are  
33 another low year.

34  
35 And I think that pretty much covers  
36 everything that I wanted to talk with you today.

37  
38 Thank you.

39  
40 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah.  
41 (Indiscernible - away from mic)

42  
43 MS. LINNELL: Yeah. Yeah, thank you,  
44 Madame Chair.

45  
46 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Did you have  
47 something?

48  
49 MR. SIMON: Yes, thank you. For the  
50

0048

1 record my name is Jim Simon.

2

3 (Teleconference interference -  
4 participants not muted)

5

6 MR. SIMON: I'm a Consultant with the  
7 Ahtna InterTribal Resource Commission and Tanana Chiefs  
8 Conference Tribal Resource Stewardship Program that  
9 serves the Hunting and Fishing Task Force and the Yukon  
10 River InterTribal Fish Commission.

11

12 I -- I'm sensitive to, and will defer  
13 to the Chair's ruling, but the -- I really appreciate  
14 being able to be in person here with at least six of  
15 the RAC members. Public participation in these  
16 telephonic and virtual meetings has really been  
17 limited, I think, and so I -- I -- I wanted to share  
18 some information that follows up on some very brief  
19 comments I made at your fall meeting regarding some  
20 analysis that I've been.....

21

22 (Teleconference interference -  
23 participants not muted)

24

25 MR. SIMON: .....working on for the  
26 Yukon River InterTribal Fish Commission for the past  
27 six to eight months where I'm looking specifically at  
28 Eastern Interior RAC information collected over the  
29 decades by the Department of Fish and Game. And I'm  
30 not -- I don't have an entire presentation to give to  
31 you because -- because of some scheduling conflicts and  
32 other technical issues, my presentation has yet to go  
33 before the full board of the Yukon River InterTribal  
34 Fish Commission, but some comments that I think will  
35 help to support some of the comments that RAC members  
36 have already put in their opening reports is something  
37 that I think would help you in -- as you proceed  
38 through your agenda today.

39

40 So in the -- for 14 years I was the  
41 Regional Supervisor for the Arctic, Yukon and Kuskokwim  
42 regions of the Department of Fish and Game, Subsistence  
43 Division and what I've been working on is trying to  
44 summarize all of the information that has been  
45 collected over those 40 some years and in the 1980s and  
46 1990s there were comprehensive subsistence research  
47 projects done in Ft. Yukon, Beaver, Stevens Village and  
48 -- and Tanana. And in those four community's harvest,  
49 when you look at, you know, compare salmon harvest to  
50



0049

1 the harvest of berries and bird eggs and small land  
2 mammals, large mammals, non-salmon, salmon represented  
3 68 percent of the total subsistence harvest of those  
4 four communities in the 1980s. And adding up all the  
5 salmon harvest from those four communities was over a  
6 million edible pounds of salmon that was part of the  
7 subsistence economy. If you look at the comprehensive  
8 subsistence research that has been conducted in the  
9 2000s and 2000-teen where there were seven community  
10 projects done in the Eastern Interior region, a partial  
11 project in Eagle, Ft. Yukon again, Venetie, Beaver,  
12 Stevens Village, Rampart and Tanana, the salmon is  
13 still the majority of subsistence harvest at 62 percent  
14 of the total subsistence harvest. But when you add up  
15 the amount of edible pounds of salmon that make up that  
16 62 percent, the total salmon, it was less than 400,000  
17 edible pounds. So more than a million in the '80s and  
18 '90s, now in the -- up until the 2000-teens, the last  
19 project being in Ft. Yukon in 2017 it's only 368,677  
20 edible pounds.

21  
22 So as you all know, you know, that's a  
23 dramatic reduction and I know I don't really need to  
24 tell you all that but this is information that you can  
25 use to help further your advocacy for Federal  
26 subsistence uses in the Eastern Interior.

27  
28 Now, comparatively if you look from  
29 down river from Tanana, in the 1980s and '90s, in the  
30 Western Interior Regional Advisory Council region,  
31 salmon represented 55 percent of the total subsistence  
32 harvest in the '80s and '90s with just under a million  
33 edible pounds and that was with 10 communities, you  
34 know, Allakaket, Alatna, Hughes, Huslia, Galena,  
35 Grayling, Anvik, Shageluk, Holy Cross and there were  
36 three data points for Allakaket and Alatna, which is  
37 where the 10 community data points come from. That's  
38 changed into in the 2000s and 2010 to only salmon  
39 making up only 44 percent of the total subsistence  
40 harvest and with nine community year data points, just  
41 over 200,000 edible pounds at 44 percent of the total  
42 subsistence harvest. So you can really see with  
43 looking at this big picture, the reduction in all --  
44 the proportion of salmon representing the total  
45 subsistence harvest, as well as the even more dramatic  
46 decline in the pounds of fish utilized.

47  
48 Now, if you go to the furthest portion  
49 of the Yukon River and only looking at Yukon River  
50

0050

1 community data in the Yukon Kuskokwim Delta Regional  
2 Advisory Council, in the 1980s and '90s salmon  
3 represented only 33 percent of the total subsistence  
4 harvest, about a half a million edible pounds in those  
5 decades ago and, you know, a big part of that is, of  
6 course you know, 13 percent, 200,000 pounds were  
7 harvested of marine mammals down there, lots of non-  
8 salmon uses and then.....

9  
10 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Can you  
11 consolidate it here.

12  
13 MR. SIMON: Yeah, I'm just about done.

14  
15 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah. Okay.

16  
17 MR. SIMON: 2000 and 2010 salmon are  
18 down to 35 percent, again, about a half a million  
19 edible pounds still. So they haven't really lost the  
20 edible pounds of use in the YKDelta RAC.

21  
22 So there's a lot more information that  
23 after the Yukon River InterTribal Fish Commission gets  
24 to see the remainder of this analysis on the annual  
25 post-season salmon data hopefully I'll be able to come  
26 up with some more quick summaries to bring to the RACs  
27 to be able to help you ensure the continuation of  
28 Federal customary and traditional uses of salmon.

29  
30 Thank you.

31  
32 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you,  
33 Jim. I just need to kind of get us to try to  
34 consolidate these reports. Are there any other public  
35 or tribal comments on non-agenda items, and if you  
36 could consolidate your report we'd appreciate it.

37  
38 Okay, Amanda. Amanda Pope is here.  
39 Nice to meet you Amanda after hearing that great report  
40 you gave on work that you were doing up on the Taylor.

41  
42 MR. GLANZ: Here Amanda, have a seat.

43  
44 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I think  
45 she.....

46  
47 MS. POPE: Oh, no, you're fine.

48  
49 MR. GLANZ: Oh, okay.

50

0051

1 MS. POPE: Yeah, you're fine. My name  
2 is Amanda Pope. I have been (indiscernible - away from  
3 mic) hunter liaison program.  
4

5 REPORTER: Wait a second. Hang on.  
6 Hang on, Amanda. Okay, hold up just one second. Could  
7 you just get a little closer to the telephone, you're  
8 kind of going in and out.  
9

10 MS. POPE: Okay. So my name is Amanda  
11 Pope. I have been conducting the Hunter Liaison  
12 Program out of Circle the last -- the last three years  
13 and I believe the Hunter Liaison Program was on the  
14 agenda last fall. Unfortunately I was not here at the  
15 meeting because I was in the.....  
16

17 (Teleconference interference -  
18 participants not muted)  
19

20 MS. POPE: .....on the -- on my  
21 trampoline. I'm just here to receive any feedback or  
22 concerns about the reports that I've turned in. I ask  
23 the Council if they have any.  
24

25 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Andy  
26 just text me, we're kind of getting a little off track.  
27

28 MS. POPE: Right.  
29

30 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So the hunter  
31 ethics thing is on the agenda.  
32

33 MS. POPE: Oh, okay.  
34

35 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Will you be  
36 here for that?  
37

38 MS. POPE: I can.  
39

40 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And then they  
41 can ask you questions then.  
42

43 MS. POPE: Yes. Yes, that's fine.  
44

45 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I appreciate  
46 it. I'm trying to get people to stick to non-agenda  
47 items.....  
48

49 MS. POPE: Right.  
50

0052

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: .....right  
2 now so.

3  
4 MS. POPE: Okay.

5  
6 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, thanks,  
7 Amanda.

8  
9 MS. POPE: Yep.

10  
11 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Appreciate  
12 it. I know it's kind of difficult when.....

13  
14 MR. GLANZ: And I have to.....

15  
16 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: .....we're  
17 all here.....

18  
19 MR. GLANZ: .....compliment you on that  
20 and.....

21  
22 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, and I  
23 -- I think -- and that's what we heard at our last  
24 meeting. We were -- everybody was so excited about the  
25 work you did there so greatly appreciated. So can you  
26 stay for it?

27  
28 MS. POPE: Yes.

29  
30 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, great,  
31 I appreciate it.

32  
33 MS. POPE: Thank you.

34  
35 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh, thank  
36 you. Oh, yeah, I would have to ask again we -- -- we  
37 like to keep it -- I know that -- Katya says it's  
38 online, the few changes that were added -- actually a  
39 lot, if it's on the agenda that's when you would speak  
40 up. So any public or tribal non-agenda items, I will  
41 repeat myself, it has to be something that isn't on the  
42 agenda, that would be really helpful for us right now.

43  
44 (No comments)

45  
46 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Are there  
47 any?

48  
49 MR. ERVIN: Hi, Chair Sue, can you hear  
50

0053

1 me?

2

3

4

MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I can, go ahead. Introduce yourself.

5

6

7 MR. ERVIN: Hi, this is Bruce Ervin,  
8 and just commenting as a Northway tribal member. I was  
9 wondering if I could get the support of the Eastern  
10 Interior RAC on the Dennison Headwaters Remote  
11 Recreation Cabin site project that's -- just to be  
12 brief about it. A lot of local people in the Upper  
13 Tanana region really oppose this project and we've had  
14 a lot of meetings and, you know, a lot of people Native  
15 and non-Native in the area, you know, we're really  
16 concerned about losing this opportunity and so I'm just  
17 asking if I can get maybe a support letter from the  
18 Eastern Interior RAC maybe opposing that project.

18

19

20

21

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50

And just a little bit of background,  
really quick, I know you guys want to get on with the  
meeting, but we reached out to the Upper Tanana AC and  
we got their support. We also reached out to the Eagle  
AC and we got their support as well. So I just think  
it would be really great for us to also get your  
support. And that's just what I wanted to share today  
as a Northway tribal member and an Upper Tanana Dena'na  
asking for your help, I really appreciate it.

MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Hey, thanks,  
Bruce. I know Bruce is very tuned in. And this subject  
that he brings up, I've been attending the Upper Tanana  
Committee meetings regarding this. Now, Andy has sent  
me a little message that this would come under hunter  
ethics but I don't think you would interpret it that  
way but I think it does need to be brought up under  
hunter ethics, we need -- would -- Council members I'm  
going to ask you for direction here. You probably  
haven't heard about this.....

MS. POTTS JOSEPH: I'm unfamiliar, this  
is Jody. I'm unfamiliar.

MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah. But  
I'm going to -- I want your direction. Do you want to  
just handle it right now, I think we could do it so  
fast because as a Chair -- and I know it should come  
under hunter ethics but when things happen on a meeting  
like this and you need to take an action item I like to  
deal with it immediately.

0054

1 MR. GLANZ: Okay.

2

3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So let me  
4 explain.

5

6 MR. GLANZ: Okay.

7

8 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: There's a --  
9 there's a law in the state of Alaska -- Bruce, do you  
10 think you could actually make it understand it easier  
11 than myself but there's a law to give out remote  
12 parcels and they gave out remote parcels in an area  
13 which is where all of the people in the area hunt and  
14 fish and pick berries there and it's just not a good  
15 place, it's right where they're hunting caribou,  
16 hunting moose and they -- and if it's -- it's a bit  
17 complicated for those of us. Like Bruce, is very  
18 fortunate that he has this work where he's at the  
19 office and he follows those things, he got his comments  
20 in for the Native community on time but the AC did not  
21 but you want to just kind of give us a brief update on  
22 that because I think we could get a motion here and  
23 support what you're doing there.

24

25 MR. ERVIN: Yeah, through the Chair,  
26 Sue. Thank you. You guys can hear me okay.

27

28 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yep.

29

30 MR. ERVIN: Yeah, just a little bit of  
31 background on it, it's up the Taylor Highway between  
32 Mile Post 9 and 14 and it's a really heavily used area  
33 by the local tribal members and a lot of people that  
34 live in Tok as well. You know we face a lot of  
35 competition from people who go up the Taylor Highway  
36 every year and it's just thousands of hunters and, you  
37 know, a lot of the Eagle ACs could comment on this as  
38 well. I've been to some of their meetings and, you  
39 know, they kind of avoid the area really, you know,  
40 they can't really drive the road because there's so  
41 many people there that, you know, it's really unsafe  
42 and it's, you know, it's -- it's really concerning  
43 that, you know, community members can't even leave  
44 their own community to, you know, go to the store or go  
45 to Fairbanks, go to Anchorage and, you know, it's --  
46 sometimes they even try to leave late at night just to  
47 -- because they think that people aren't on the road  
48 but when they do, like there's still people cruising  
49 around. But, you know, what's really concerning about  
50

0055

1 this is that the remote recreation cabin site is a  
2 program through the state of Alaska, you know, what  
3 they're trying to do -- what it boils down to is that,  
4 you know, they're thinking about that area and if it  
5 goes through, you know, if they decide to go forward  
6 with it right now they're -- they're just talking about  
7 it and getting feedback and asking people what do they  
8 think about it and it's been a pretty much unanimous  
9 opposition to the whole program and, you know, they had  
10 a big meeting here in Tok -- at the Fast Eddys and, you  
11 know, Mike Cronk, even organized that and got it  
12 together and, you know, even he is opposed to the  
13 project because we all know how important that area is.  
14 We use it for, you know, hunting, fishing -- or, not  
15 fishing, but gathering, you know, I see a lot of multi-  
16 generational people -- multiple generations go up there  
17 for a long time and they pick berries, pick mushrooms,  
18 you know, just all the stuff that we do in our ways of  
19 life.

20  
21 Sorry if I'm taking a little bit longer  
22 but, you know, this is one of our safe areas that we  
23 all use and, you know, I see people go there and they  
24 pick berries and, you know, it's a part of our healing,  
25 it's a part of our -- it's a part of us, you know,  
26 dealing with Covid, a place where we can go and feel  
27 better, you know, get a bucket of berries and spend  
28 time with family.

29  
30 (Teleconference interference -  
31 participants not muted)  
32

33 MR. ERVIN: You know if we lose this  
34 area, you know, that's one of our safe places that we  
35 rely -- we rely on, you know, with everybody else, you  
36 know, bringing up all the hunters further up the  
37 highway, that, you know, they just flood the area, this  
38 is one spot that we're able to go to and, you know,  
39 have a good time with our family, practice our way of  
40 life and I see families bring their infants up there,  
41 you know, last summer, a little baby she was brought up  
42 there because her mom picked berries and then her mom  
43 picked berries and her mom before her picked berries so  
44 this was a heavily used area by a lot of people and  
45 that's why we're fighting for it so hard right now.

46  
47 MR. BASSICH: Madame Chair, Andy.

48  
49 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, Andy,  
50

0056

1 go ahead and then Jody's lifted.....

2

3 MR. ERVIN: Thank you.

4

5

6 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: .....Jody's  
7 lifted her hand here so I would.....

8

9 MR. BASSICH: Yeah, thank you.

10

11 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: .....have  
12 Jody speak.

13

14 MS. POTTS JOSEPH: Okay, so.....

15

16 REPORTER: Okay, I need one person at a  
17 time. Go ahead, Andy.

18

19 MR. BASSICH: Thank you, Madame Chair.  
20 For the record Andy Bassich, Eagle AC member as well.  
21 Yeah, our AC took this up, we were unanimously opposed  
22 to the land sale along the Taylor Highway. The issues  
23 that we cited were identified by Bruce, congestion  
24 along the highway during the hunting season, but more  
25 importantly, you know, this Eastern RAC is trying to  
26 promote hunter ethics and a big part of that is being  
27 respectful of all the uses on the land by various  
28 people. And what this project proposes to do will give  
29 people private property in very heavily used public  
30 areas, multi-use areas, not just hunting but as Bruce  
31 stated, berrying picking, a lot of different  
32 subsistence activities. Once people own land they feel  
33 like they don't want people around, they don't want  
34 trespassers, there's all types of scenarios where  
35 conflict can arise. So this is a perfect example of  
36 whomever decided to locate it in this area did not do  
37 any research prior to it at the State level, as far as  
38 the use, the land use by both subsistence and non-  
39 subsistence people. And I think they picked it because  
40 there is adequate access to it from the Taylor Highway  
41 but both the Tok AC and the Eagle AC were adamantly  
42 opposed to this and these are the people affected in  
43 the region.

44

45 So I'm not sure what the program is  
46 called, but I would like to make a motion that the  
47 Eastern Interior Regional Advisory Committee oppose  
48 this land sale because of its impact -- potential  
49 negative impacts to subsistence and Federally-qualified  
50



0057

1 users use of those lands. That's my motion, Madame  
2 Chair.

3

4 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you,  
5 Andy. I hear a motion to be opposed to it and support  
6 the -- Bruce's suggestion here.

7

8 Okay.

9

10 MS. POTTS JOSEPH: This is Jody Potts  
11 Joseph, I second that motion.

12

13 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Other  
14 discussion.

15

16 MR. GLANZ: I have.

17

18 MR. BASSICH: Okay, speaking to the  
19 motion, Madame Chair. I'd just like to reference my  
20 comments prior to the motion.

21

22 Thank you, Madame Chair.

23

24 For the record that was Andy Bassich.

25

26 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes, thank  
27 you, Andy.

28

29 Bill.

30

31 MR. GLANZ: Yes, we had a very similar  
32 thing happen in Central. They probably gave away 50 or  
33 100 different areas and out of that we got two people  
34 who live there. They all want it but they don't come  
35 up or improve up on it if that's any solace to you  
36 because the majority of them, they'll apply for it and  
37 then if they have a drawing or something -- that's what  
38 they done around us, and so they had five years to do  
39 something and most of all of it went back except two  
40 parcels and actually nobody lives on them two. That's  
41 right, I remember, one of them comes up in the summer  
42 and hangs around. So it's not like all doom, I mean,  
43 you know, it'd be like up there on the Coleen giving  
44 away property, nobody's going to prove up on it, trying  
45 to bring their stuff up and, anyway, I'm not opposed to  
46 what they're wanting to do but I'm probably not going  
47 to vote, I'm just going to abstain.

48

49 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Jody.

50

0058

1 MS. POTTS JOSEPH: Thank you. I guess,  
2 you know, I appreciate your comment, sir, I just think  
3 that the risk to, you know, the local people on losing  
4 this area for their subsistence use is really high  
5 whether anyone proves up on it or not, I think that  
6 it's a bad trend and that's something that we, as a  
7 Council needs to really be watchful for and to be  
8 opposing, especially if we're here to, you know,  
9 protect subsistence rights and I think these are not  
10 only subsistence rights but really I mean it's the  
11 rights of indigenous peoples as well. Because I can  
12 tell you we've already lost so much and then even in  
13 today's -- people not being able to practice their way  
14 of life on these lands because now it's private  
15 property is just a huge detriment to our way of life.

16  
17 MR. GLANZ: Well all move to  
18 Central.....

19  
20 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Charlie.  
21 Charlie Wright.

22  
23 MR. WRIGHT: I agree with Andy and  
24 Jody. I've been on the Taylor Highway during the  
25 caribou migration and a lot of caribou migrating are  
26 migrating through those miles heavily so that's going  
27 to cause a lot of problems for subsistence users and so  
28 I agree with Bruce.

29  
30 Thank you.

31  
32 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any other  
33 discussion.

34  
35 (No comments)

36  
37 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I would like  
38 to add a little myself.....

39  
40 MR. BASSICH: Madame Chair, one quick  
41 comment. Andy.

42  
43 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, Andy.  
44 I want everyone to know that I have three second delay  
45 and if I talk over you, I apologize, it's not because  
46 I'm trying to it's a three second delay.

47  
48 MR. BASSICH: Yeah, thank you, I  
49 acknowledge that. I just wanted to also add, you know,  
50

0059

1 this same type of land sale took place along the  
2 highway near Gunnison Site -- Gunsight Lodge area and  
3 now when you drive that highway all you see is this  
4 checkerboard of these homes sticking up out of the  
5 tundra everywhere and none of them are lived in but  
6 they're still utilized fairly heavy at different times  
7 of the year and they impact access in that area and I  
8 know that's more of a winter playground for people.  
9 But I guess what I'm trying to point out is that this  
10 has the potential of establishing a population base,  
11 whether it's temporary or permanent in a really  
12 sensitive area that's really critical for subsistence  
13 activities. And the other thing I wanted to point out  
14 is that throughout all of the meetings there is a  
15 longterm trend that I'm noticing as an Eastern RAC  
16 member, and that is food security for people in rural  
17 areas and that is a huge issue. And one of it's --  
18 it's contributed to by economic issues, by  
19 environmental issues but it's also a population based  
20 problem. And that is, as the state of Alaska grows  
21 people need to move out into farther areas for  
22 recreating, hunting, whatever and that's why we're  
23 developing the hunter ethics program is to try and  
24 educate people about that. But that, in my opinion, is  
25 one of the greatest threats or the greatest impacts to  
26 subsistence activities and food security in rural  
27 Alaska. And that is the competition and the  
28 encouragement of people living in their communities by  
29 people from outside and we all recognize they have the  
30 right to do that but that is the biggest impact, that's  
31 why, in my opinion, many of our moose populations are  
32 down, and we get reports from Bill every winter about  
33 people shooting caribou in his backyard. And these are  
34 the kinds of things that we have to be very vigilant on  
35 as an Eastern RAC and that's why I'm bringing this up  
36 and that's why I'm going to be opposed to this land  
37 sale. I think it will set up tremendous potential for  
38 negative impacts in the far future.

39

40 Thank you, Madame Chair.

41

42 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And, thank  
43 you, Andy. I just want to add that that's up on the  
44 Taylor Highway and there's old mining trails in there.  
45 I've hunted on them and this one is like a subdivision  
46 and there are places, Bill, that they do take advantage  
47 of it and just to put somebody to put all these little  
48 houses up in an area where it's not really conducive to  
49 the land, or the animals or the resources at all so I

50

0060

1 am opposed to it also.

2

3 Any other discussion.

4

5 MR. GLANZ: I'd like to make a comment.

6

7 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Go ahead,

8 Bill.

9

10 MR. GLANZ: Bill Glanz. Like Andy says  
11 there we have a horrible problem where I live, we can't  
12 even use the Steese Highway when they're up there  
13 hunting, caribou hunters, and now we're going to kick a  
14 bunch of them off the Taylor so they can get more  
15 around,y neighborhood, I mean I don't have enough  
16 caribou to go around the way it looks.

17

18 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, Bill,  
19 it sounds like you're opposed to it.

20

21 MR. GLANZ: Yeah, very much am, yep.

22

23 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

24

25 MR. GLANZ: I just don't want them all  
26 then, hundreds, a thousand more people by my house  
27 hunting, anyway.

28

29 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, and  
30 that's what would happen if there would be a  
31 subdivision on the Taylor.

32

33 MR. GLANZ: Yeah. Yeah.

34

35 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: But -- okay,  
36 any other discussion. I heard Bill call for the  
37 question.

38

39 MR. GLANZ: I sure did. We're getting  
40 a little long here.

41

42 (Laughter)

43

44 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I'm going to  
45 ask for unanimous consent on this motion to oppose this  
46 land sale, and if there's anyone objects they get to  
47 say no now.

48

49 MR. GLANZ: I'll say no.

50

0061

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh, you.

2

3 (Laughter)

4

5 MR. GLANZ: Well, I just want to drag  
6 this out a couple more days.

7

8 (Laughter)

9

10 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. The  
11 motion -- anyone else say no.

12

13 (No opposing votes)

14

15 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So the motion  
16 passes. I believe -- Nicholas Henry, are you on.

17

18 (No comments)

19

20 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Jody  
21 you are -- Nicholas is not on, I'm hearing no more  
22 opposition to the motion and I'm assuming then -- go  
23 ahead, see if you can do that, the State.....

24

25 MR. GLANZ: I withdraw my -- I withdraw  
26 my no vote, I'll vote.

27

28 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So what are  
29 you saying.

30

31 MR. GLANZ: I'm not going to vote, go  
32 ahead.

33

34 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: You're  
35 abstaining.

36

37 MR. GLANZ: Yes. Yes. That's what I  
38 said earlier. Okay.

39

40 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. All  
41 right, the way we'll do this is if we have consent we  
42 can just do a roll call or whatever but this is just  
43 one person so the vote is eight in favor of opposing  
44 and one abstention and one absent.

45

46 REPORTER: Wait a second Sue, this is  
47 Tina. Can you repeat that for me, so you asked for --  
48 can you repeat that for me so I have it right.

49

50

0062

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I did not get  
2 unanimous consent and Bill is the only one and he is  
3 abstaining and Nicholas is absent.

4  
5 REPORTER: Okay, thank you.

6  
7 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you.  
8 You betcha.

9  
10 MS. WESSELS: And, Madame Chair, this  
11 is Katya, can you also restate the motion for the  
12 record.

13  
14 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Andy.

15  
16 MR. BASSICH: Okay. Well, I'm hopeful  
17 that Tina captured it initially.

18  
19 REPORTER: Tina did.

20  
21 MR. BASSICH: Okay. So I'll do my best  
22 so my motion was to oppose the land sale along the  
23 Taylor Highway by the State and support what Bruce was  
24 -- I think Bruce may have a letter of opposition to  
25 that. Sorry I didn't write it down.....

26  
27 MR. ERVIN: Chair Sue.

28  
29 MR. BASSICH: .....but I think my  
30 original wording was most accurate.

31  
32 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. They  
33 have all the opposition of it as we spoke, we're just  
34 restating the motion. We are opposing the land sale on  
35 the Taylor Highway. Understood. Understood Katya.

36  
37 MS. WESSELS: And supporting --  
38 supporting. Yeah, I understood that part, and  
39 supporting the letter presented by Bruce Ervin.

40  
41 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Correct.

42  
43 MS. WESSELS: Is that correct, is that  
44 a part of the motion?

45  
46 MR. BASSICH: Correct. Correct.

47  
48 MS. WESSELS: Okay, thank you.

49  
50

0063

1 MR. ERVIN: Madame Chair Sue.

2

3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes, go  
4 ahead.

5

6 MR. ERVIN: Thank you. This is Bruce  
7 again. And just for the record it's the Dennison  
8 Headwaters Remote Recreational Cabin Site.

9

10 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Good job,  
11 Bruce, appreciate it.

12

13 MR. ERVIN: And I want to say thank you  
14 everybody, there's no words, you know, how I feel right  
15 now it means a lot.

16

17 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, I can  
18 tell you right now it means a lot to me to have people  
19 like you in the system to help us out when we miss  
20 stuff like this. Thank you so much Bruce.

21

22 Jody.

23

24 MS. POTTS JOSEPH: For the record,  
25 Bruce, this is Jody. I just really want to thank you  
26 for being engaged in this and bringing it to our  
27 attention.

28

29 MR. ERVIN: Thank you.

30

31 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Thanks  
32 again, Bruce. Actually we might have a four second  
33 delay, oh, boy. All right. We're not trying to talk  
34 over you so I apologize.

35

36 All right, I will move along and then  
37 we'll break for lunch. Okay, old business.

38

39 Pippa Kenner, are you going to handle  
40 this one.

41

42 MS. KENNER: Yes, I am, Madame Chair.

43

44 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Go ahead.

45

46 MS. KENNER: First of all, Madame  
47 Chair, can you hear me or am I talking too loud?

48

49 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: We -- I can

50

0064

1 hear you just fine.

2

3 MS. KENNER: Okay, great.

4

5 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I have a  
6 request for a five minute bathroom break.

7

8 MS. KENNER: Sounds good to me.

9

10 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So everyone  
11 go do your bathroom break and five minutes we'll be  
12 back.

13

14 (Off record)

15

16 (On record)

17

18 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, this is  
19 Sue, we are back online. I might give Jody practice.  
20 We're doing our -- the three that -- go ahead.

21

22 MS. POTTS JOSEPH: Do you just want me  
23 to call out the names.

24

25 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah.

26

27 MS. POTTS JOSEPH: So I'm going to go  
28 through the list and see who's present, who's back on.

29

30 Nicholas Henry, are you present.

31

32 (No comments)

33

34 MS. POTTS JOSEPH: Andy Bassich.

35

36 MR. BASSICH: Yes. Present.

37

38 MS. POTTS JOSEPH: Thank you.

39

40 Don Woodruff.

41

42 MS. POTTS JOSEPH: Don, are you  
43 present?

44

45 MR. WOODRUFF: This is Don, I'm present.

46

47 MS. POTTS JOSEPH: Thank you.

48

49 Will Koehler.

50



0065

1 MR. KOEHLER: Present.

2

3 MS. POTTS JOSEPH: Thank you.

4

5 And then those of us in Fairbanks,  
6 Chairwoman Sue, Linda, William, Charlie and Charlie --  
7 two Charlies -- Robert Charlie and then Charlie Jagow  
8 and myself are all present.

9

10 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you,  
11 Jody. You did an excellent job there.

12

13 MR. GLANZ: There you go.

14

15 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah. You  
16 got us all figured out already. Okay. When we had the  
17 short break I just wanted to make sure there wasn't any  
18 more public or tribal comments on non-agenda items.  
19 And our agenda -- our updated agenda is online. So any  
20 others.

21

22 (No comments)

23

24 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. I'm a  
25 flexible Chairman so if I miss something people can let  
26 me know. So we're moving on to old business and it's  
27 -- look I already messed up because I did this already.

28

29 Pippa Kenner, are you on.

30

31 MS. KENNER: I am.

32

33 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, go  
34 ahead.

35

36 MS. KENNER: Okay. Good afternoon,  
37 Madame Chair and members of the Council. The analysis  
38 for Wildlife Proposal WP22-36 is in your supplemental  
39 materials that were sent to you at Tab 4. and it's  
40 also available at the Federal Subsistence Management  
41 Program web page at doi.gov/subsistence/regions, look  
42 for the Eastern Interior Alaska region meeting  
43 materials, Item No. 4, which is titled deferred  
44 Wildlife Proposal WP22-36, Staff Analysis.

45

46 so my name is Pippa Kenner and I'm an  
47 Anthropologist at the Office of Subsistence Management  
48 in Anchorage. The topic of community harvest systems  
49 and alternative permitting systems in Federal

50

0066

1 regulations are the focus of this proposal. These are  
2 systems are intended to provide some flexibility in  
3 harvest regulations to make legal the activities of  
4 super harvesters in rural communities. Now, you're  
5 going to hear more about this during this short  
6 presentation.  
7

8                   This proposal was submitted by the  
9 Ahtna InterTribal Resource Commission, also known as  
10 AITRC and requests to codify temporary regulations that  
11 expire on June 30th, 2022 regarding its community  
12 harvest system for moose and caribou in Units 11, 12  
13 and 13. Now, codified regulations can be changed only  
14 through the annual regulatory proposal practice by the  
15 Federal Subsistence Board, in contrast, temporary  
16 special action regulations expire by the end of each  
17 two year regulatory cycle. They are temporary. So  
18 these proposed changes are necessary to fully implement  
19 the AITRC administered community harvest system for  
20 caribou and moose in Units 11, 12 and 13. The  
21 community harvest system is a management partnership  
22 between Federal agencies and Federally-recognized  
23 tribes of the Ahtna Traditional Use Territory.  
24

25                   The proposed regulations in this  
26 proposal were brought to you after extensive work by  
27 people at AITRC, working with a group of people at  
28 Federal agencies. Specifically, the proposal would  
29 codify existing temporary regulations by allowing  
30 community members to opt-out of this community harvest  
31 system thereby retaining their individual harvest  
32 limits, it would allow designated hunters as part of  
33 the community harvest system, it would define the  
34 geographic boundaries of the eligible communities of  
35 the most recent census designated places established by  
36 the U.S. Census Bureau by specifying that harvest  
37 reporting will take the form of reports collected from  
38 hunters by AITRC and submitted directly to the land  
39 managers and the Office of Subsistence Management,  
40 which replaces the need for Federal registration  
41 permit, joint Federal/State registration permits or  
42 State harvest tickets on Federal public land. It would  
43 -- it would set the harvest quota for the species in  
44 units authorized in the community harvest system as the  
45 sum of individual harvest limits for those opting to  
46 participate in this system, and finally would add moose  
47 and caribou in Unit 12 to the community harvest system.  
48

49                   Now, the OSM preliminary conclusion was  
50

0067

1 to support Proposal WP22-36 with modification that  
2 clarified the regulatory language. It just clarified  
3 it, wrote it better; however, at its fall 2021 meeting  
4 the Southcentral Alaska Council, at the request of  
5 AITRC, recommended a modification to restrict the  
6 community harvest system in Unit 12 to that portion  
7 that lies within the Ahtna Traditional Use Territory in  
8 Unit 12. Additionally, at your fall 2021 meeting, this  
9 Council tabled WP22-36 until this meeting. This  
10 Council requested that OSM and AITRC to develop  
11 language to modify the proposal before the Council  
12 makes a recommendation. Specifically, this Council  
13 wanted a description of what lands in Unit 12 would be  
14 included in the Ahtna community harvest system and a  
15 description of any changes to the framework the Council  
16 should review. So in response, OSM added an addendum to  
17 the analysis presented to you today. OSM writes an  
18 addendum when the OSM conclusion changes from what we  
19 presented to the Council. And our conclusion has  
20 changed, and I'll describe it to you now. The addendum  
21 begins on Page 17 at Tab 4 in your meeting materials.

22  
23 So in response to recommendations made  
24 by the Councils and AITRC, the addendum recommends the  
25 Federal Subsistence Board support this proposal with  
26 two additional substantial modifications.

27  
28 The first is to modify a provision  
29 under Units 11, 12 and 13 so that participants in the  
30 community harvest system may not designate another  
31 individual to harvest on their behalf any species for  
32 which they have registered within the community harvest  
33 system but may serve as a designated hunter as the  
34 proponent, AITRC, clarified was their intent at their  
35 fall 2021 meeting.

36  
37 Now, the other substantial change was  
38 to specify that community harvest system in Unit 12  
39 will be implemented only on Ahtna Traditional Use  
40 Territory in Unit 12 instead of all Federal public land  
41 in Unit 12. This modification was recommended by the  
42 Southcentral Council in response to AITRC's request at  
43 the fall 2021 Southcentral Council meeting. However, we  
44 have learned that area descriptors in codified Federal  
45 regulations need to be geographic features identified  
46 on the landscape, thus the language in this addendum is  
47 OSM's reflection of AITRC's intent. Now, AITRC's Staff  
48 reviewed this addendum with OSM Staff after the fall  
49 2021 cycle -- meeting cycle concluded and indicated to  
50

0068

1 concur with these modifications the thought the Ahtna  
2 Traditional Use Territory could be better described and  
3 we will continue to work with AITRC on this.

4

5 So, to end, the OSM recommendation to  
6 you is to support these changes to regulations  
7 reflected in this addendum.

8

9 Thank you, Madame Chair, members of the  
10 Council for your attention and I'm available to try to  
11 answer your questions.

12

13 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Council  
14 members, are there any questions.

15

16 (No comments)

17

18 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. I  
19 don't have any questions but, Pippa, I'm going to ask  
20 you my procedure on when we take up proposals is I have  
21 a long list of things I got to go through, what do you  
22 want in this one?

23

24 MR. WOODRUFF: Sue, I'll make a  
25 proposal, a motion.

26

27 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Go  
28 ahead, Don.

29

30 MR. WOODRUFF: Okay. So on WP22-36, we  
31 just heard the OSM's analysis and after reading the OSM  
32 preliminary conclusion and the addendum, my motion is  
33 to support this proposal with the addendums,  
34 modification, and Southcentral's concerns about Unit  
35 12. That is basically how I can go.

36

37 MS. WESSELS: Madame Chair, this is  
38 Katya.

39

40 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Go ahead,  
41 Katya.

42

43 MS. WESSELS: I consulted with the  
44 Staff and I think we at least need to ask if there is  
45 any comments from any of the entities that are outlined  
46 on the proposal, presentation procedure, that the  
47 Council usually follows then when the proposals are  
48 presented to them, that's at a minimum. Or perhaps it  
49 would be better to go through all the steps of the  
50

0069

1 proposal presentation procedure. So at this point the  
2 proposal was reintroduced to the Council and Pippa  
3 provided a presentation analysis so you can just go  
4 very quickly through that list of the proposal  
5 procedure and see if there is any comments from any of  
6 these organizations, tribes, corporations, and then we  
7 can go to the public testimony and then we will go to  
8 the motion.

9

10 Thank you.

11

12 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Just  
13 to help the new members out, we don't have that  
14 procedure in front of us that we always go through.

15

16 MR. GLANZ: Right, yeah.

17

18 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: It's on the  
19 back of our name things and it's always been provided  
20 in the book, it's not provided in the book this time so  
21 it's a little hard for me to go through it with my  
22 memory but we don't usually take a motion -- and we  
23 always have a motion in the positive -- until we go  
24 through that procedure. So what I'm hearing is, is  
25 there any agencies that have anything to add to this.  
26 I didn't hear any comments from you guys or any  
27 questions to the presenter so if you have one you need  
28 to do it now. And so now anyone -- does any Council  
29 member have any questions to the presenter.

30

31 MR. KOEHLER: I guess I have just one  
32 request -- just a quick question.

33

34 MS. WESSELS: Madame Chair, this is  
35 Katya. I also texted you the procedure for the  
36 proposals, you should have it on your phone.

37

38 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I'm looking.

39

40 MS. WESSELS: Sorry for the  
41 interruption.

42

43 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Hang on.  
44 Okay. Do you have the ability to send it to the rest  
45 of the gang -- I have it in front of me but I -- I --  
46 Donald, was that you that had a question.

47

48 MR. KOEHLER: Sorry it was Will. I'm  
49 trying to figure out my mute.

50

0070

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh, okay,  
2 that's always hard, I get it. Go ahead Will.

3  
4 MR. KOEHLER: My question, and I guess,  
5 Sue, you might actually be even able to help me on  
6 this. You know I've been -- I've always been a little  
7 bit critical of using that landmark of the Pickeral  
8 Lake Trail. I've been flying over that trail for, I  
9 guess 15 years now, and I can't say in honesty that  
10 I've ever actually seen it, now, and -- and I haven't  
11 really looked that hard for it. But I just don't know,  
12 I mean that trail hasn't been used in decades as far as  
13 I know. It was an old mining Cat trail. I'm sure you  
14 could pick it out if you were really looking for it but  
15 if you were walking through the Bush, I don't know if  
16 you would -- you'd walk through a stand of willows and  
17 not know -- not notice that it was an old Cat trail.  
18 So I don't know -- I don't know how much it necessarily  
19 matters in the practical consideration because it's an  
20 area where there really aren't any people and there's  
21 not a lot of -- there's not a lot of competition on  
22 that line or concern, you know, but I just don't know  
23 if it's still really a valid landmark. I know that I  
24 should be -- as far as I know I'm probably the closest  
25 person at this meeting right now -- I'm probably the  
26 closest person to that Pickeral Lake Trail as far as  
27 when I'm out there at my place and I've never actually  
28 seen it. So we've used it as a landmark in State  
29 regulations for years but I just don't know if it's  
30 still valid or not.

31  
32 So I don't know if that's so much of a  
33 -- I guess it is a question, is the Pickeral Lake Trail  
34 really -- is it identifiable because in my time there  
35 I've never identified it.

36  
37 MS. KENNER: Madame Chair, this is  
38 Pippa.

39  
40 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Go ahead,  
41 Pippa.

42  
43 MS. KENNER: Thank you, Madame Chair.  
44 For the record this is Pippa Kenner with OSM. Through  
45 the Chair. So you asked if we should deal with it here  
46 and the answer is thank you very much for your comment  
47 and I believe we will still -- we understand Ahtna's  
48 intent is and I believe there are other areas of the  
49 boundary that need to be perfected yet so I would like  
50

0071

1 to take your comment and use it during that process  
2 after this meeting.

3  
4 MR. KOEHLER: That sounds good to me,  
5 thank you.

6  
7 MS. GREDIAGIN: Madame Chair.

8  
9 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes, who's  
10 speaking.

11  
12 MS. GREDIAGIN: Yeah, this is Lisa  
13 Grediagin, the Wildlife Division Supervisor with OSM  
14 and I'd just like to add on a little bit to what Pippa  
15 said. The hunt area in the addendum for Unit 12 was  
16 OSM's best attempt to define that area based on either  
17 features on the landscape or what's already been in  
18 regulation, you know, the Pickeral Trail's and other  
19 hunt areas used as a descriptor and so if there's any  
20 modifications to that, we would really appreciate  
21 hearing specifics from the Council or AITRC or anyone  
22 else. I mean like I said this was OSM's best attempt  
23 so if there's any modifications we need, we're  
24 certainly open to them, we just want to reflect what  
25 the intent is but any changes we need something  
26 concrete versus, you know, just something to be  
27 changed. So thank you, I just wanted to clarify, if  
28 there are recommendations to modifying that to, please,  
29 actually suggest an alternative otherwise OSM, like I  
30 said that was our best attempt.

31  
32 Thank you.

33  
34 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you,  
35 Lisa. Hey, I just want to add since, Will, you also --  
36 I am in Unit 12 also, just across the boundary from  
37 Mentasta Pass and I will say that -- I'm trying to  
38 remember the SRC meeting and how I voted -- I just  
39 looked at the vote and it was 4/3 in favor, and I don't  
40 even remember how I voted, how horrible. Wait to you  
41 get old.

42  
43 MS. CELLARIUS: Madame Chair, I could  
44 report.....

45  
46 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: But there was  
47 a.....

48  
49 MS. CELLARIUS: .....on that.

50

0072

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

2

3 MS. CELLARIUS: So.....

4

5 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Is that  
6 Barbara?

7

8 MS. CELLARIUS: .....this is Barbara  
9 Cellarius with Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and  
10 Preserve and I believe the Chair is asking for the vote  
11 of the Wrangell-St. Elias Subsistence Resource  
12 Commission on this proposal and I was prepared to also  
13 provide this comment when you got to that. But there  
14 were four people who voted in favor of a modification  
15 of this proposal, the OSM modification plus the  
16 additional modification to limit the portion of Unit 12  
17 that's included in the community harvest system that  
18 was in the Ahtna Traditional Use Territory, and there  
19 were four votes in favor, one vote opposed, and then  
20 there were three people who abstained.

21

22 Thank you, Madame Chair.

23

24 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And I'll  
25 explain why -- I'll betcha I was an abstention because  
26 it was so difficult to understand at the -- at our  
27 meeting, teleconference meetings and seeing all this  
28 stuff it was -- it was very hard. And now looking back  
29 at this map, this is just giving input on questions  
30 about the proposal. So I see this black line on the  
31 map, is that what's in the proposal, or the  
32 modification, I should say?

33

34 MS. KENNER: Madame Chair, this is  
35 Pippa.

36

37 (No comments)

38

39 MS. KENNER: I'm looking at it too,  
40 just a -- just a minute.

41

42 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, I just  
43 want people to understand it. So I'm able to put us on  
44 mute when someone else speaks so I had a little bit of  
45 help here in the room. It sounds like the hash marks  
46 are the ones that's in the proposal and the blue line  
47 is Ahtna Traditional Territory boundary.

48

49 MS. KENNER: Madame Chair, this is

50



0073

1 Pippa.

2

3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And I want to  
4 say.....

5

6 MS. KENNER: I have -- I have Lisa  
7 Grediagin on so just to clarify this I would like her  
8 to answer your question.

9

10 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, go  
11 ahead.

12

13 MS. GREDIAGIN: Yeah, through the Chair,  
14 this is Lisa. Yeah, Sue, what you just stated on the  
15 record is correct. And I will just add that the  
16 eastern portion of that blue line which denotes the  
17 Ahtna Traditional Use Territory boundary, from what I  
18 could tell that just follows like section lines, and so  
19 those did not seem identifiable on the landscape, you  
20 know, to just use like town section lines as a  
21 boundary.

22

23 Thank you.

24

25 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. I just  
26 wanted to ask that question so that people understood  
27 the proposal a little better. And I want to say that  
28 this southern area of Unit 12 is very remote and it  
29 would be aircraft access to get into it so I don't see  
30 a lot of use there, me, personally. The road system is  
31 used a lot by the people in our area, in Mentasta.

32

33 So -- but I want this clarified, Lisa,  
34 and Pippa, what this proposal does is it -- it just  
35 gives Ahtna the ability to issue these permits, it just  
36 brings it up this year because it has to be done every  
37 year; is that correct?

38

39 MS. LINNELL: No.

40

41 MS. KENNER: Yes, this is Pippa.  
42 Through the Chair, thanks for your question. Well, it  
43 does a number of things, and that is one of them. We  
44 currently have a community harvest system in  
45 regulations for Unit 11 and 13. The Unit 12  
46 regulations are temporary. And if we don't adopt this  
47 proposal they will disappear at the end of the  
48 regulatory cycle in June. In addition to that, we were  
49 asked to make some modifications in the community

50

0074

1 harvest system for all three units, Unit 11, Unit 12,  
2 and Unit 13 that codify the regulations that say, yes,  
3 Ahtna can distribute permits, or can distribute  
4 authority to harvest and Ahtna -- it defines what a  
5 community harvest system cannot do and it also defines  
6 what the community harvest limit is in certain species.  
7

8 Thank you, Madame Chair.  
9

10 MS. LINNELL: If I might, this is Karen  
11 Linnell. We are not Ahtna Incorporated, we are Ahtna  
12 InterTribal Resource Commission and it needs to be  
13 clear if you're speaking to us in our ability to issue  
14 permits that you say AITRC, or Ahtna InterTribal so  
15 that we do not get confused with Ahtna Incorporated,  
16 which is the land owner.  
17

18 MS. KENNER: Through the Chair, this is  
19 Pippa. Thank you very much for reminding me of that.  
20

21 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes, and  
22 thanks for bringing it up, there are two entities  
23 there. I'm very aware. Okay. I want to ask the  
24 Council members, do you understand the proposal and  
25 what we're doing.  
26

27 (No comments)  
28

29 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I live there  
30 and I don't.  
31

32 MR. WRIGHT: To me it's a.....  
33

34 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I know, it's  
35 just -- I think the thing that -- the only portion is  
36 Unit 12, the Eastern Interior, and that's where I live  
37 and, you know, if it -- I need to sit down with you  
38 Karen and figure this out because it's not -- it's not  
39 embedded in my brain and, you know, I'm -- I'm oka -- I  
40 think this is what happened at the SRC meeting, you --  
41 you start asking questions and you really don't have  
42 your head wrapped around it. But I want to say that  
43 that's thanks to these teleconference meetings, if you  
44 could sit down with a map and start looking at it you'd  
45 probably get -- wrap your head right around it but I'm  
46 going to call on Karen right now -- yes, Karen, did you  
47 want to contribute to this.  
48

49 MS. LINNELL: So the hashmarks that you  
50

0075

1 see on the map are what the OSM is trying to put into  
2 the plan and it's outside of the Ahtna Traditional.....

3

4 REPORTER: Hey Karen. Karen. Karen, I  
5 need you to come a little closer to the mic.

6

7 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Karen, they  
8 can't hear you.

9

10 MS. LINNELL: I'm coming. I'm coming.

11

12 REPORTER: Thank you.

13

14 MR. GLANZ: Here.

15

16 MS. LINNELL: Thank you. The hashmark  
17 piece goes quite a bit into upper Tanana villages,  
18 Tanacross, Northway and -- and their territory which we  
19 had told them we would not do and so we were not happy  
20 with this as it is. And they're using drainages and  
21 things to -- to delineate that. We met once to go over  
22 this and we pointed that out and we haven't been able  
23 to meet again -- or hadn't met again to -- to  
24 straighten it out. I can't support it with the  
25 hashmark and the description, because I told Tetlin,  
26 Tanacross, and Northway that we would not infringe on  
27 their territory. And I'm okay with using townships and  
28 ranges because those can be GPS points and you can find  
29 it when you're using your GPS and things. And it's the  
30 rounded line that might be a little more difficult in  
31 the upper left part of your map, the blue line there,  
32 that might be a little more difficult to define and so  
33 looking at that and being able to adjust it. If you  
34 guys would approve this with -- with, you know,  
35 directing Staff to work with us again to make it more  
36 clearly defined so that we stay within the Ahtna  
37 Traditional Territory, that would -- if you could  
38 support it with that I would be happy with that.

39

40 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And see,  
41 that's -- that's been the whole problem, is what's  
42 going on on the Upper Tanana. So I want to add to  
43 this, because I live there, I'm in that little piece  
44 there, one of the local elders from Mentasta got  
45 pinched for shooting a moose just over the boundary.  
46 And knowing the people in this -- in the area that are  
47 Ahtna, I don't think they go beyond the Tok River to  
48 tell you the truth. And I would suggest that what we  
49 do is -- is modify it to the Tok River drainage along

50

0076

1 the road system and I think everybody would be a lot  
2 happier. Because it's really not fair for the people  
3 in Mentasta not to be able to drive up to the Tok River  
4 and get a moose when it's just over the boundary. And  
5 the boundary of Unit 12 is right there just before the  
6 village road, so it's really close, it's six miles and  
7 then they're into Unit 12. I don't think any of them  
8 are going to go past that right now and I think this is  
9 something that needs to be worked on. Maybe it's just  
10 a little further north but I think if you -- if it was  
11 modified to just be the Tok River along the road  
12 system, I think you'd cover it all. Because the rest  
13 of this area is a lot of fly in only. And that gives  
14 somebody from Mentasta the ability to drive up the road  
15 and be able to take a moose right there in their  
16 backyard.

17  
18 I mean I would entertain that. I'm the  
19 Chair, I can't do that. I'm just saying that it makes  
20 a lot of sense to me and it makes it less complicated.  
21 And so I.....

22  
23 MS. GREDIAGIN: Madame Chair, this is  
24 Lisa.

25  
26 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: .....would --  
27 yes.

28  
29 MS. GREDIAGIN: So I would.....

30  
31 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Go ahead,  
32 Lisa.

33  
34 MS. GREDIAGIN: .....just like you to  
35 clarify when you say modify to the Tok River drainage  
36 along the road system, you're referring to the  
37 community harvest system area for Unit 12, that -- that  
38 black hatch area, it would only be the Tok River  
39 drainage?

40  
41 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: No, it would  
42 stop at the Tok River along the road system. I don't  
43 know how you draw your maps, I know it's difficult,  
44 but.....

45  
46 MS. LINNELL: Where the Tok River  
47 crosses the Tok Cutoff Highway.

48  
49 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Where the Tok  
50

0077

1 River crosses Tok Cutoff. There's the Tok River Bridge  
2 there, everybody knows that bridge.

3

4 MS. GREDIAGIN: Oh, okay, so you're  
5 saying that would be the northern boundary.

6

7 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That is  
8 right. They wouldn't.....

9

10 MS. GREDIAGIN: Okay. Thank you for  
11 that clarification.

12

13 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: .....get into  
14 the Upper Tanana -- okay. And it would be along the  
15 road system because they don't have the ability to get  
16 much further back. And I think a lot of people -- all  
17 the Upper Tanana, even the Tok area people, they could  
18 support that.

19

20 So now going through the process --  
21 that's my suggestion so I want to know if there's  
22 anyone.....

23

24 MS. LINNELL: What's to say when they  
25 don't have like the rivers on this map.

26

27 MS. POTTS JOSEPH: Yeah.

28

29 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah. Yeah,  
30 actually there's a -- this map -- does this map behind  
31 us have a -- is it big -- oh, this isn't even.....

32

33 MS. LINNELL: Will that include that  
34 BLM land that just opened as Federal land?

35

36 MS. POTTS JOSEPH: (Indiscernible -  
37 away from microphone)

38

39 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, it can,  
40 I mean someone's.....

41

42 MS. LINNELL: Or is that.....

43

44 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: .....going to  
45 have to come up with a -- what do you call it, a circle  
46 around to cover that BLM land that's in the.....

47

48 MS. LINNELL: Unit 12.

49

50

0078

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: .....on the  
2 -- Unit 12.

3  
4 MS. LINNELL: Yeah.

5  
6 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Because  
7 that's the only Federal -- well, does yours go on State  
8 land too or is it Federal?

9  
10 MS. LINNELL: Just Federal.

11  
12 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. So we  
13 got to include that Federal land.....

14  
15 MR. WRIGHT: (Indiscernible - away from  
16 microphone)

17  
18 MR. GLANZ: (Indiscernible - away from  
19 microphone)

20  
21 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That's up  
22 Trail Creek.

23  
24 MS. POTTS JOSEPH: Yes.

25  
26 MS. LINNELL: Yes.

27  
28 REPORTER: Who are you talking to Sue?  
29 I got people talking there but not in or around any  
30 microphone.

31  
32 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Do you know  
33 what we're talking about Lisa?

34  
35 MS. GREDIAGIN: Through the Chair, this  
36 is Lisa. And, yeah, I understand the BLM lands you're  
37 referring to and I will just mention that -- that area  
38 on the map that goes up, you know, by Tok, there's no  
39 Federal lands in that area so while it's in the  
40 hunt.....

41  
42 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, I.....

43  
44 MS. GREDIAGIN: .....it just completes  
45 the hunt area descriptor. I mean I'll tell you I spent  
46 a long time looking at drainages and trying to figure  
47 out what that curve of the Ahtna Traditional Use  
48 Territory, you know, is following and there just was no  
49 -- I couldn't figure it out, you know, how to better  
50

0079

1 describe that area so, you know, since there weren't  
2 any Federal lands in that area I just used that whole  
3 drainage. But, again, you know, OSM is short mapping  
4 expertise right now so I was trying to do the best I  
5 could and we're really open to any suggestions on how  
6 to, you know, best reflect the intent that, you know,  
7 AITRC wants.

8  
9 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So I think  
10 this is why the vote was so weird at the SRC.....

11  
12 MS. LINNELL: Yes.

13  
14 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: .....meeting  
15 because it's very difficult to, again, do it by  
16 teleconference without seeing the map. So if that  
17 helps for you guys -- as Karen let us know it only --  
18 this proposal is only for Federal lands and that little  
19 chunk is the only Federal lands that would make the  
20 people on the Upper Tanana happy. I don't know about  
21 Tetlin because if there's a lot of use going up there,  
22 the Tetlin Indian Reservation is just over the boundary  
23 and if you guys -- who was on the Board whenever we did  
24 the Unit 12 moose one. If there's a lot of extra  
25 hunting up that drainage it affects the moose that are  
26 in their area because right around the boundary.

27  
28 Okay, so we -- we probably ought  
29 to.....

30  
31 (Various people talking in Fairbanks)

32  
33 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: We probably  
34 ought to -- well, it's five minutes after 12:00. I just  
35 want to know if there's agencies -- you know, I'm  
36 looking down -- let me go down this list that Katya  
37 just sent me. Our normal proposal process -- we'll go  
38 through.....

39  
40 MS. STICKWAN: Madame Chair.

41  
42 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Who's  
43 speaking.

44  
45 MS. STICKWAN: This is Gloria.

46  
47 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Hi Gloria.

48  
49 MS. STICKWAN: I don't know if the  
50

0080

1 public can speak -- hi, I don't know if the public can  
2 speak now or not.

3

4 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, we're  
5 just going through the introduction and then we're  
6 going to have public testimony so all I want to do is  
7 ask is there any government agencies that have anything  
8 to add to this. If not, the next step would be the --  
9 okay, Gloria, I'm looking at my little list here,  
10 tribes and ANCSA Crops is unde -- the first people that  
11 I call on so go ahead.

12

13 MS. STICKWAN: I'll defer to Karen and  
14 then I'll speak after her.

15

16 MS. LINNELL: Okay, thank you.

17

18 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

19

20 MS. LINNELL: This is Karen Linnell,  
21 Ahtna InterTribal Resource Commission, Executive  
22 Director. I would ask that while they're looking for  
23 ways to define what the Ahtna Traditional Territory is  
24 it was brought on and that request was only made by --  
25 I believe a Park Service -- or the BLM Director at the  
26 Federal Subsistence Board. And -- and just to get it  
27 codified, this was something that was supposed to have  
28 been done five years ago now, since the signing of the  
29 MOA. I would rather not have this entity do it but  
30 that you look at that piece and say that we support  
31 this proposal for the Federal lands that lie within the  
32 Ahtna Traditional Territory without those descriptors,  
33 we can work those details out and get it codified in a  
34 separate proposal, or in a separate action because I  
35 don't think it's necessary for this little piece, that  
36 BLM land that opened up on the Tok Cutoff just in the  
37 last two years, I think.

38

39 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes.

40

41 MS. LINNELL: So I don't think we need  
42 to include that description of the Ahtna Traditional  
43 Territory that OSM's trying to insert. This -- that's  
44 what's going to offend our neighbors, our relatives in  
45 the Upper Tanana area and I do not want to offend them  
46 and I don't want to do anything that would be  
47 disrespectful by claiming that little finger right into  
48 Tok and stuff, and so I'd rather take it out of this  
49 proposal, it has nothing to do with it. It -- you --

50



0081

1 you can see clearly what that little piece of BLM land  
2 lies within that boundary.

3

4 And Jim -- Jim might have something to  
5 add.

6

7 MR. SIMON: Thank you, Sue. Yeah, it's  
8 -- I apologize and I'm sure OSM Staff feels similarly,  
9 to the RAC members because this is -- this is so  
10 confusing and unfortunately it didn't really need to be  
11 so confusing if we were able to meet in person, as Sue  
12 had mentioned earlier. But for -- since 2017 this hunt  
13 has been in development through lots of interactions  
14 with OSM Staff and Department of Interior Solicitor's  
15 Office. The -- the understanding, you know, I recall a  
16 meeting that Karen and I had with the Park Service --  
17 the former Park Service Regional Director who had  
18 committed to, you know, codifying the boundary of the  
19 Ahtna Traditional Use Territory, we've now been told  
20 that that can't happen and we have -- the hashmark goes  
21 all the way down the Tok, way outside the Ahtna  
22 Traditional Use Territory because, just like the  
23 Department of Fish and Game, you know, the Office of  
24 Subsistence Management likes to draw boundaries on  
25 drainage systems and that's understandable, it makes it  
26 easier for the hunter. But the issue, and I think  
27 there's often been confusion by the Upper Tanana tribes  
28 and, remember, I work for the organizations that serve  
29 Ahtna tribe and Upper Tanana tribes that this doesn't  
30 change any hunting pressure or access, this just makes  
31 it so that AITRC can administer, register those  
32 Federally-qualified hunters and take care of the  
33 reporting requirement. It doesn't open up anything  
34 that individually Federally-qualified hunters can do  
35 now. And so I think the Upper Tanana tribes have been  
36 confused by that and so the -- in November, or I think  
37 it was maybe early December, and Lisa can correct me if  
38 I'm wrong, we -- that's when Karen and I were given  
39 this map that is in your book and as soon as saw it go  
40 all the way to the Alaska Highway, you know, and where  
41 the Tok we were like whoa, whoa, whoa, we're completely  
42 outside of the Ahtna Traditional Use Territory, which  
43 is only going to further feed this misunderstanding.  
44 And so I think, and what Karen and I are whispering  
45 back and forth to oth -- I think Sue's recommend --  
46 recommended amendment to that Tok River Bridge is  
47 probably a really wise solution.

48

49 And that may actually be all I have to  
50

0082

1 say.

2

3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you,  
4 Jim.

5

6

7 MR. SIMON: Surprising as that may be.

8

9 (Laughter)

10

11 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. So I  
12 think we're getting somewhere. Does that help, Lisa,  
13 just -- just in the discussion.

14

15 MS. GREDIAGIN: Yeah, this is Lisa for  
16 the record. And, yeah, that definitely helps. As I  
17 mentioned earlier, you know, OSM is just asking for  
18 Council or AITRCs assistance, and, yeah, in making this  
19 boundary in a reflecting intent as close as possible  
20 with the understanding that these Federal hunt areas  
21 and descriptors need to be geographic features, they  
22 can't -- unfortunately, just saying Ahtna Traditional  
23 Use Territory is not an option in these Federal  
24 regulations. So given that, yeah, trying to reflect  
25 your -- you know everyone's intention is -- is -- yeah,  
26 it's very useful. And I think I'll have to go back and  
27 look at the maps more closely but it sounds like your  
28 suggestion, Sue, of that Tok River Bridge will probably  
29 help -- help remedy the whole situation so thank you.

30

31 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you,  
32 Lisa. Jody then do.....

33

34 MR. KOEHLER: Sue, could I add  
35 something.

36

37 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I hear a  
38 voice but I don't know who it is.

39

40 MR. KOEHLER: Sorry, this is Will.

41

42 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh, go ahead,  
43 Will.

44

45 MR. KOEHLER: Yeah, I just wanted  
46 to.....

47

48 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And then Jody  
49 and then Charlie.

50

0083

1 MR. KOEHLER: Yeah, I just wanted to  
2 add that I'm starting to understand this proposal. I'm  
3 sorry if I'm a little bit behind here but I'm starting  
4 to wrap my head around it. Going back to that subject  
5 of the Pickeral Lake Trail, that's so remote and, you  
6 know, there's no practical place to land either way. I  
7 don't know -- I would think that we would probably be  
8 able to not just open up that can of worms and keep  
9 that line there because the likelihood that there's  
10 going to be anyone connected to this particular hunt,  
11 that they're going to be anywhere near that trail one  
12 side or the other, is probably a moot point. So at  
13 this point, maybe rather than try and make a new line,  
14 I -- I apologize if I started to open a can of worms  
15 because it's probably a moot topic, that maybe we can't  
16 see the line but maybe it doesn't really matter because  
17 no one's going to be very close one way or the other of  
18 that line.

19  
20 So that's all I've got.

21  
22 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Jody, go  
23 ahead.

24  
25 MS. POTTS JOSEPH: I'll let -- I'll let  
26 Gloria speak first.

27  
28 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Gloria.

29  
30 (No comments)

31  
32 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Gloria, you  
33 had asked to speak earlier and I guess I apologize I --  
34 you had had Karen speak so did you have something else  
35 to say.

36  
37 MS. STICKWAN: I just wanted to say my  
38 name is Gloria Stickwan. And this doesn't take away  
39 their hunting, you know, they can always hunt under  
40 their regulations in Unit 12. This doesn't take  
41 anything away from the Upper Tanana villages and as Jim  
42 Simon said they still have their ability to hunt under  
43 Federal regulations, we're not taking anything away,  
44 it's an -- educational outreach has to be done with OSM  
45 and AITRC.....

46  
47 (Teleconference interference -  
48 participants not muted)

49  
50

0084

1 MS. STICKWAN: .....and maybe that's  
2 how to resolve this.

3  
4 REPORTER: Wait a second, hang on  
5 Gloria. So I have other people talking and different  
6 conversations and we're trying to listen to Gloria.  
7 Please check your phone and see if it's muted so we can  
8 hear what Gloria has to say. I'd appreciate that  
9 respect to the speaker.

10  
11 Thank you.

12  
13 Go ahead, Gloria.

14  
15 MS. STICKWAN: Anyways, that's just  
16 what I have to say, you know, this can be resolved just  
17 by education outreach, and that's what I have to say.

18  
19 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thanks,  
20 Gloria.

21  
22 Jody.

23  
24 MS. POTTS JOSEPH: So I am  
25 understanding this even better than what I thought I  
26 had understood before. But, you know, OSM had made a  
27 comment that they cannot use the traditional use -- or  
28 traditional territory boundaries and I think that's  
29 something that we also need to move forward on changing  
30 and working on is recognizing our traditional use  
31 boundaries rather than only the boundaries that were  
32 made for, you know, everything else like the -- the  
33 GMUs, the Feds, State lands, I think our traditional  
34 use boundaries have value. And I think it should  
35 really be applied here in this case. But I do agree  
36 that the Tok River would be the best option to move  
37 forward with this.

38  
39 But I think it's well overdue to start  
40 recognizing traditional use boundaries by indigenous  
41 people.

42  
43 MS. LINNELL: Madame Chair, if I might.

44  
45 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Can I get  
46 Charlie next.

47  
48 MR. WRIGHT: No, I was just -- that she  
49 wanted to speak.

50

0085

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh, okay,  
2 well, you had had your hand up and you would be next.  
3 But I am getting discussion here from the public  
4 so.....

5  
6 MS. LINNELL: I'll.....

7  
8 MR. GLANZ: She's coming.

9  
10 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: This is for --  
11 that's all right -- Karen had some input.

12  
13 MS. LINNELL: I just want to say that  
14 the description of the Traditional Use Territory is  
15 fixed, they have the file, the KMZ files, they filed it  
16 on their maps, they can publish it in the Federal  
17 regulation, they have that and if they put that in  
18 there, there's no need to define it because they have  
19 it on those maps. And we -- we don't have to codify it  
20 or put it into anything because they have it. We've  
21 sent it to the Secretary, we've sent it to OSM, we've  
22 sent it legal, the -- the Federal Solicitor, every --  
23 they have that, it's not going to change. And -- and  
24 this is just for issuing of permits instead of going  
25 to BLM and the National Park Service for a permit, they  
26 come to AITRC for a permit, one place, one shot and --  
27 and they report to us. It doesn't, like Jim said,  
28 change their ability to hunt.

29  
30 So I -- I agree that we don't need to  
31 have that, they -- all they have to do is print it, add  
32 it to that book, the Federal hunt regulation book.

33  
34 MR. SIMON: And that would address  
35 Will.....

36  
37 MS. LINNELL: And that would address  
38 Will's concerns as well. Thank you.

39  
40 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. We're  
41 kind of getting off track but it is something we took  
42 up, we tabled and we did a lot of discussion before.  
43 But, Charlie, did you have something else -- no, okay.  
44 I do want to say that we were agreeing on one thing but  
45 I don't know that we're agreeing 100 percent about the  
46 Tok River drainage and taking in -- it's all the  
47 Federal land and I am here to represent Mentasta and  
48 that I see going up to the Tok River and taking in that  
49 Federal land that's west of the road but I don't see  
50

0086

1 people flying over into this remote area. I don't know  
2 that it's necessary to be in this proposal and I guess  
3 that's where I'm hanging my hat, that's where we might  
4 not agree. So it's lunchtime, and I think we need to  
5 maybe come up -- somebody needs to speak up and have a  
6 motion ready.....

7

8 MS. WESSELS: Madame Chair.

9

10 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: .....we did  
11 not take.....

12

13 MS. WESSELS: This is Katya. Pardon  
14 the interruption. I think you need to go through the  
15 proposal procedure process because we did not go  
16 through it. The Council jumped into discussion. We  
17 really need to give an opportunity to the, you know,  
18 ADF&G, any Federal, any tribal, other Regional Advisory  
19 Councils, ACs, SRCs, just ask if they have any comments  
20 on this proposal because the Council started going into  
21 discussion, you're talking about the motion, that is  
22 not how the proposal procedure should be taken.

23

24 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: We're  
25 supposed to be asking questions, I get it Katya, okay.  
26 It's lunchtime. I think we'll break -- do you think 30  
27 minutes is enough for us here, 30 minutes, and then  
28 we'll come back in. It's 12:21 so let's just say 1:00  
29 o'clock. And I will go through the procedure, I have  
30 it in front of me, I'm going to have someone print it  
31 for me and we'll go from there.

32

33 I'll see you back from lunch at 1:00.

34

35 (Off record)

36

37 (On record)

38

39 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: We are  
40 sitting here eating and we are ready to adjourn -- no,  
41 we're having a big discussion so give us a few minutes  
42 please.

43

44 MS. WESSELS: Sure.

45

46 (Off record)

47

48 (On record)

49

50

0087

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, we're  
2 back. And I think I'm only five minutes late. Okay.  
3 I -- we were on this proposal and I have to announce to  
4 the public that you have to treat us with respect and  
5 understand that we shouldn't be participating in  
6 discussion and it's just us, without an officer in  
7 here, our Coordinator, and we're going to try to keep  
8 it that way and we'll continue on with the meeting.

9  
10 And we were on this proposal and we're  
11 going to go through as I was instructed by Staff, to go  
12 through the process. And now did I miss any.....

13  
14 MS. WESSELS: Madame Chair, this is  
15 Katya. Why don't we do the roll call to make sure that  
16 everyone is -- all the Council members are online.

17  
18 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Roger.

19  
20 MS. POTTS JOSEPH: Okay, so I'm going  
21 to ask for the folks who are on -- the Council members  
22 online to please say if you're present.

23  
24 Nick Henry.

25  
26 (No comments)

27  
28 MS. POTTS JOSEPH: Andy Bassich.

29  
30 REPORTER: Okay, wait a second, who's  
31 calling this roll.

32  
33 MR. BASSICH: Present.

34  
35 MS. POTTS JOSEPH: This is Jody Potts  
36 Joseph, the Secretary.

37  
38 REPORTER: Thank you.

39  
40 MS. POTTS JOSEPH: Andy Bassich was  
41 that you that said present.

42  
43 MR. BASSICH: Yes, it was.

44  
45 MS. POTTS JOSEPH: Thank you.

46  
47 Don Woodruff.

48  
49 MR. WOODRUFF: Present.

50

0088

1 MS. POTTS JOSEPH: Thank you.

2

3 Will Koehler.

4

5 MR. KOEHLER: Present.

6

7 MS. POTTS JOSEPH: Thank you.

8

9 Everyone at the Fairbanks meeting are  
10 also present, all the members.

11

12 REPORTER: And can you list them  
13 please.

14

15 MS. POTTS JOSEPH: Yes.

16

17 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you,  
18 Jody.

19

20 MS. POTTS JOSEPH: We have Sue,  
21 Will.....

22

23 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Bill.

24

25 MS. POTTS JOSEPH: .....or Bill. Jody,  
26 Charlie, Charlie and Linda are all present.

27

28 REPORTER: Thank you.

29

30 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, thank  
31 you. So the next thing on the agenda, if there's any  
32 more tribes or ANCSA Corps to comment on it is the  
33 agencies. And I'm just going to call all ADF&G, are  
34 there any comments.

35

36 MR. BURCH: Hello, Madame Chair, this  
37 is Mark Burch with the Department of Fish and Game. Do  
38 I understand correctly -- I had to come over from the  
39 other meeting, that you're taking comments now on WP22-  
40 36.

41

42 MR. WRIGHT: Yes.

43

44 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes.

45

46 MR. BURCH: Yes, we're ready to provide  
47 some -- our comments if you are able. This is Mark  
48 Burch for the record from the Department of Fish and  
49 Game.

50



0089

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Go ahead.

2

3 MR. BURCH: This proposal effectively  
4 serves as a cleanup proposal for the community harvest  
5 permitting system that was implemented by Wildlife  
6 Special Action 18-19 for the 2021 and 2022 hunting  
7 season. ADF&G still contends the Federal Subsistence  
8 Board did not have the authority under ANILCA to  
9 approve this system. Congress never authorized the  
10 Federal Subsistence Board the ability to delegate  
11 administration of a Federal subsistence hunt to any  
12 non-governmental organization or to delegate the  
13 authority to determine who is authorized to hunt to  
14 that governmental -- non-governmental organization.

15

16 Of the particular aspects of this  
17 proposal, Fish and Game takes the following positions:

18

19 ADF&G supports allowing community  
20 members to opt out of community harvest system and  
21 retain -- and retaining their individual harvest  
22 limits. Forcing hunters to a community harvest system  
23 seems unnecessary and discriminatory against any  
24 individuals who may wish to retain their individual  
25 status.

26

27 Also, it is recommended that quota or  
28 bag limits be on number of participating hunters in the  
29 Federal or State harvest rather than quotas and bag  
30 limits should be based upon the system -- the status of  
31 the available resource and the harvestable surplus  
32 based on biological metrics. ADF&G takes no position  
33 on defining the geographic boundaries of eligibility --  
34 of available communities as the most recent census  
35 designated places established in the U.S. Census  
36 Bureau. As ADF&G has formally commented, all Federally-  
37 qualified users communities should be included and not  
38 just the ones organized under the Ahtna territory.

39

40 ADF&G is concerned over the language  
41 that delegates the harvest reporting to the Ahtna  
42 InterTribal Resources Commission and then be submitted  
43 to the land managers and the Office of Subsistence  
44 Management, rather than through the Federal  
45 registration permits, joint State/Federal registration  
46 permits or State harvest tickets. If the proposal  
47 still passes, it will be necessary for consistent  
48 updates given the Federal agencies, or else have a  
49 report of the issue with the data request, ADF&G area

50

0090

1 biologist made to the Federal agencies in the fall of  
2 2021 and multiple contacts having to be made to BLM and  
3 OSM in order to receive an answer.

4

5 Any harvest report should include  
6 antler data for bull moose, the spread, brow tines,  
7 spike-fork -- spike or fork, et cetera in order for  
8 wildlife managers to accurately ascertain harvest  
9 levels of bulls from otherwise protected age classes.  
10 This is necessary to properly manage harvest levels to  
11 maintain bull to cow ratios at appropriate levels.

12

13 Thank you, Madame Chair.

14

15 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you,  
16 Mark. Council members, do you have any questions of  
17 ADF&G.

18

19 (No comments)

20

21 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, hearing  
22 none, any other -- let me see what's on my -- somebody  
23 needs to print this for me.

24

25 MS. WESSELS: Madame Chair, this is  
26 Katya. I can do it for you if you would like me to.

27

28 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I can do it.

29

30 MS. WESSELS: Okay.

31

32 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Is there any  
33 Federal agency comments.

34

35 (No comments)

36

37 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Is  
38 there any other tribal comments.

39

40 (No comments)

41

42 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: The Advisory  
43 Group comments, has any other Regional Advisories met  
44 on this Katya.

45

46 MS. WESSELS: I believe that perhaps  
47 Barbara Cellarius has a report on.....

48

49 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: No, I'm

50

0091

1 asking.....

2

3

MS. CELLARIUS: I.....

4

5

MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: .....about

6

the.....

7

8

MS. WESSELS: I'm sorry, C.....

9

10

MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: .....Regional

11

Advisory Councils.

12

13

MS. WESSELS: Oh, other Regional

14

Advisory Councils. yes, the Southcentral talked about

15

this proposal and Pippa Kenner, I think, has a summary

16

of their recommendation.

17

18

MS. KENNER: I am here Katya.

19

20

MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, Pippa.

21

22

MS. KENNER: Hello -- hi. Hello,

23

Madame Chair. For the record this is Pippa Kenner with

24

OSM. The Southcentral Alaska Council took this

25

proposal up in the fall of 2021 and recommended

26

supporting WP22-36 with modification that the community

27

harvest system in Unit 12 will be implemented only on

28

Ahtna Traditional Use Territory instead of all Federal

29

public lands in Unit 12. The Council supported the

30

proponent's requested modification. The precise

31

description of Ahtna Traditional Use Territory in Unit

32

12 will be based on the map in the analysis and a

33

description will be written in conversation with the

34

proponent. any necessary changes to the community

35

harvest system framework will be worked out by the

36

proponent in conversation with Federal Staff.

37

38

Thank you, Madame Chair. That's the

39

end of my presentation.

40

41

MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you,

42

Pippa. Okay, the next one on the list is, is there any

43

Fish and Game Advisory Committee comments.

44

45

MR. WOODRUFF: Sue, Eagle AC did not

46

take this up.

47

48

MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, thanks,

49

Don. Neither did the upper Tanana unless somebody can

50

0092

1 correct me. There's so many things that people have to  
2 get on top of.

3

4 All right, next is the Subsistence  
5 Resource Commission. Barbara, do you have anything  
6 additional.

7

8 MS. CELLARIUS: Nothing beyond what I  
9 shared earlier that the SRC supported the Wrangell --  
10 this is Barbara Cellarius of the Wrangell-St. Elias  
11 Subsistence Resource Commission voted to support a  
12 modified version with the OSM modification plus an  
13 additional modification to limit the land in Unit 12 to  
14 that portion within the Ahtna Traditional Territory,  
15 and the vote was 4/1 with three abstentions.

16

17 Thank you.

18

19 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, thanks,  
20 Barbara. And I don't think there was any SRCs that  
21 took it up. And next is a summary of written public  
22 comments.

23

24 (No comments)

25

26 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Katya, do you  
27 have any summary of any written public comments.

28

29 MS. WESSELS: Madame Chair, I'm asking  
30 Staff if they have that summary. I actually do not have  
31 that summary. My apologies.

32

33 MS. KENNER: Madame Chair, this is  
34 Pippa.

35

36 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Pippa, go  
37 ahead.

38

39 MS. KENNER: Yeah, for the record, this  
40 is Pippa Kenner with OSM. There were no written public  
41 comments received on this proposal. Thank you.

42

43 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you.  
44 Okay. Now, are there -- anyone online have any  
45 comments. This is the part for public testimony.  
46 We've had some public testimony already and I apologize  
47 to Staff and the public, it was probably done out of  
48 order. So I'm asking is there any other public  
49 testimony for this proposal.

50

0093

1 (No comments)

2

3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, hearing  
4 none. Is there any motion.

5

6 MR. KOEHLER: Sue, I'd make a motion if  
7 I can. This is.....

8

9 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Is that Will.

10

11 MR. KOEHLER: .....Will.

12

13 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Go ahead,  
14 Will.

15

16 MR. KOEHLER: I make a motion that we  
17 adopt -- let me get my numbers right here -- that we  
18 approve WP22-36 with the modification that divide the  
19 boundary be the Tok River as we had talked about before  
20 lunch.

21

22 MR. WOODRUFF: This is Don, I'll  
23 second.

24

25 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

26

27 MS. KENNER: Madame Chair, just.....

28

29 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So.....

30

31 MS. KENNER: .....just -- Madame Chair,  
32 just to clarify, I don't mean to interrupt you but did  
33 the maker of the motion mean the OSM addendum with  
34 modification?

35

36 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: No.

37

38 MR. KOEHLER: This is -- this is Will.  
39 But my understanding, just -- we were talking about  
40 putting a boundary on the Tok River and that seemed to  
41 make a fair amount of sense before we broke for lunch.

42

43 (Various people talking in Fairbanks)

44

45 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Will, do you  
46 want to further clarify it.

47

48 MR. KOEHLER: Well, if I -- I'll try  
49 to. We're trying to -- it's my understanding and  
50

0094

1 please interrupt me if I'm wrong but my understanding  
2 is, is we're trying to set the boundary. The boundary  
3 was already modified before, it used to include all of  
4 Unit 12 and then it was modified to include only the  
5 Ahtna Traditional Use Territory and I am suggesting  
6 that we modify it further by including everything --  
7 let me see if I got my directions right here but  
8 stopping where the Tok River crosses the road; does  
9 that make sense. You said it better Sue.

10

11 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes, south --  
12 well, south of the Tok River is your intention.....

13

14 MR. KOEHLER: Yes.

15

16 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: .....and  
17 where it crosses the road -- okay. All right. I  
18 believe the OSM -- I worked with them, Lisa, a lot and  
19 she knows our intent and our intent is what they like  
20 to hear and they can work with us on that.

21

22 MS. GREDIAGIN: Yeah, Madame Chair,  
23 this is Lisa.

24

25 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes, go  
26 ahead.

27

28 MS. GREDIAGIN: Yeah, I'd just like to  
29 clarify to Member Koehler that there are additional  
30 modifications in the OSM conclusion that's part of the  
31 addendum so that Unit 12 boundary is only one of the  
32 modifications and, again, we worked with AITRC back in  
33 December following the Council's meeting in the fall to  
34 work out some of the other issues that came up during  
35 that fall Council meeting and this addendum reflects  
36 those modifications that OSM and AITRC worked out  
37 together and the only issue, I think, that AITRC had  
38 really had -- you know, still needed some resolution  
39 with, that Unit 12 boundary. So, again, as Pippa  
40 asked, you know, if you're intent is to support the OSM  
41 conclusion that's, you know, in the addendum with the  
42 additional modification of that Unit 12 boundary to  
43 just be south of the Tok River bridge.

44

45 MR. KOEHLER: Yeah, now I'm -- I'm  
46 sorry.....

47

48 MR. BASSICH: Madame Chair, Andy.

49

50

0095

1 MR. KOEHLER: .....I'm sorry, I'm a  
2 little lost here right now, trying to find what  
3 addendum and modification we're exactly.....  
4

5 MS. GREDIAGIN: Oh, yeah, it's on.....  
6

7 MR. KOEHLER: .....talking about.  
8

9 MS. GREDIAGIN: .....Page 17 of the  
10 analysis. So hopefully you have the revised.....  
11

12 MR. KOEHLER: Thank you.  
13

14 MS. GREDIAGIN: .....analysis, it was  
15 supplemental material.  
16

17 MR. KOEHLER: I see, thank you.  
18

19 MS. GREDIAGIN: So, yeah, if you look  
20 under -- on Page 17 it has the addendum and the OSM  
21 conclusion and so that whole paragraph outlines  
22 additional modifications to this proposal.  
23

24 MR. BASSICH: Madame Chair, Andy.  
25

26 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Andy, go  
27 ahead.  
28

29 MR. BASSICH: Yeah, thank you. I'd  
30 just maybe like to make a suggestion. I know this is  
31 always very difficult via teleconference. But I think  
32 the closer that a motion can be stated to follow what  
33 is in our book and the recommendations by OSM, which I  
34 think what I'm hearing, is the intent is the same,  
35 we'll avoid a lot of confusion. So it might be more  
36 helpful to keep us from going down a rabbit hole to  
37 withdraw the motion and remake the motion and use the  
38 language provided in the book for the preliminary  
39 conclusion of the OSM analysis to include those  
40 modifications, and that might just simplify it and help  
41 us from the confusion.  
42

43 Thank you, Madame Chair. Just a  
44 suggestion.  
45

46 MS. KENNER: Madame Chair. Madame  
47 Chair, this is Pippa.  
48

49 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Go ahead,  
50

0096

1 Pippa.

2

3

4 MS. KENNER: Hey, thanks. If I might  
5 interject, for the record this is Pippa Kenner with  
6 OSM. One of -- one important item that AITRC and Ms.  
7 Linnell clarified for us is the use of the -- whether  
8 or not you could be a recipient of a designated hunter  
9 and importantly in the addendum that -- that has --  
10 that language has been modified to better represent  
11 Ahtna's intent. So, again, following what Lisa said,  
12 in the addendum is our final conclusion and you might  
13 consider using that as the basis for your motion. You  
14 might have questions about that and I am prepared to  
15 answer them why you should be using the final  
16 conclusion in the addendum.

16

17

Thank you.

18

19

MR. KOEHLER: This is Will, can.....

20

21

22

MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Are you okay  
with that.....

23

24

MR. KOEHLER: .....I say something.

25

26

27

MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes, go  
ahead, Will, you're the maker of the motion.

28

29

MR. KOEHLER: Yeah.

30

31

32

MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: If it needs  
modifying.....

33

34

35

MR. KOEHLER: Yeah, Yeah, I'm -- I  
think.....

36

37

38

MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: .....go  
ahead.

39

40

41

42

43

44

45

46

47

48

49

50

MR. KOEHLER: I think Andy gave good  
advice there. But I think maybe if I can just loosely  
explain what I'm trying to suggest. Mainly what I have  
a -- I have a concern over and I may be completely off  
base here but my concern is I see very large chunks of  
very, very rural land, remote land taken in on this  
hunt as part of the hunt area that won't actually be,  
practically speaking, used, by the hunters that are  
included on this, if I understand correctly. And so as  
somebody that's within some of this really remote area,



0097

1 I guess that's a slight concern to me. So that's what  
2 I'm trying to do is by basically trying to define the  
3 area where the hunt is most likely going to take place.  
4 Does that make sense to anybody at all?

5

6 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I believe it  
7 does. So they're just -- they're just -- OSM just  
8 needs to know, for the record, that you just changed  
9 the boundary and that was all your intent was for the  
10 motion.

11

12 MR. KOEHLER: That is correct.

13

14 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Now, does  
15 everyone understand that totally.

16

17 FAIRBANKS PERSON: Yes.

18

19 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. That's  
20 all we're talking about right now is the boundary has  
21 changed, the rest of the OSM addendum is still in  
22 there.

23

24 MS. POTTS JOSEPH: So 2, 3, 4 and 5 is  
25 all still good, it's just the boundary.....

26

27 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, Jody,  
28 go ahead and identify yourself and say -- okay.

29

30 MS. POTTS JOSEPH: This is Jody. So  
31 basically the 2, 3, 4 and 5 is still in there and  
32 that's fine, it was just the beginning part of the  
33 boundary and that was just changed to the Tok River at  
34 the Tok Cutoff would be the northern boundary of the  
35 traditional use area.

36

37 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Right.

38

39 MS. POTTS JOSEPH: Which is fine. I  
40 would second that motion.

41

42 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. And we  
43 have a second and does everyone understand the motion  
44 now.

45

46 MR. GLANZ: Yes.

47

48 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All the rest  
49 of the -- and -- and are you okay with that Will?

50

0098

1 MR. KOEHLER: Yes. Yes, that makes  
2 sense to me.

3  
4 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Do we  
5 have.....

6  
7 MS. WESSELS: Madame Chair, this  
8 is.....

9  
10 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: .....any more  
11 discussion.

12  
13 MS. WESSELS: .....so would -- this is  
14 Katya. Madame Chair, this is Katya. Could you please  
15 restate the motion then for the record.

16  
17 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

18  
19 MR. KOEHLER: I can try to do that. It  
20 might be very -- Sue might really do a better job of it  
21 actually. I can do it if you want me to Sue, but I  
22 think you'd do a better job of it.

23  
24 MS. WESSELS: Is it something like  
25 support as modified by OSM in the analysis addendum  
26 with further modification to the Unit 12 area  
27 descriptor to include Federal public lands south of the  
28 Tok River Bridge along the Tok Cutoff. Is that  
29 something that we understand that that's what the  
30 Council's intent is, and you can.....

31  
32 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes,  
33 that's.....

34  
35 MS. WESSELS: .....correct me if I'm  
36 wrong.

37  
38 MS. POTTS JOSEPH: Can we.....

39  
40 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: No -- yes,  
41 that is the intent.

42  
43 MS. WESSELS: Okay.

44  
45 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And I believe  
46 we could work on our intent and it's the -- if Staff  
47 has a question they should ask it now. So do I need to  
48 restate it Katya or am I doing a lousy job here?

49  
50

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1 MS. WESSELS: No, if you're -- you're  
2 not -- Madame Chair, you're not doing a lousy job,  
3 you're doing a great job. I just like if the Council  
4 agrees with what I just summarized here that is fine  
5 then.

6  
7 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Jody.

8  
9 MS. POTTS JOSEPH: Katya, this is Jody,  
10 could you please restate that again just one more time  
11 for clarification.

12  
13 MS. WESSELS: Yes. What I have written  
14 here is support as modified by OSM in the analysis  
15 addendum with further modification to the Unit 12 area  
16 descriptor to include Federal public lands south of the  
17 Tok River Bridge along the Tok Cutoff.

18  
19 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Anyone  
20 have any questions or any more discussion.

21  
22 MS. POTTS JOSEPH: I'll second it.

23  
24 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh, it's been  
25 seconded. We did.....

26  
27 MS. POTTS JOSEPH: Oh, it is, okay.

28  
29 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER:  
30 .....that.....

31  
32 MR. GLANZ: I'll call the question.

33  
34 MS. POTTS JOSEPH: Okay.

35  
36 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. And  
37 the question's been called for. Is there any  
38 opposition to the motion.

39  
40 (No opposition)

41  
42 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Hearing none  
43 we have unanimous consent on the motion as we tried our  
44 best to identify it. And if OSM Staff has any  
45 questions they can contact us. And thank you  
46 everyone. That was a hard one to get through.

47  
48 Thank you.

49  
50

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1 MR. GLANZ: You're doing fine.

2

3

4 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. All  
5 right, so now we have -- hopefully it's just a report  
6 on deferred Fisheries Proposal FP21-10. For the new  
7 members this is the one that we will have the meeting  
8 next week. And I have a Scott Ayers to give a report,  
9 on the update.

10

11 MR. AYERS: Yes, thank you, Madame  
12 Chair. Members of the Council. Can you all hear me  
13 all right.

14

15 MR. GLANZ: Yes, you're fine.

16

17 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: We hear you  
18 good here.

19

20 MR. AYERS: Wonderful, thank you.  
21 Again, this is Scott Ayers. I'm the new Fisheries  
22 Division lead at OSM. I'm here today to provide a  
23 brief update on deferred fisheries proposal, FP21-10,  
24 which would create a new fisheries subsistence --  
25 Federal subsistence fishery for salmon in the Lower  
26 Copper River adjacent to the Copper River Highway.  
27 This is only a briefing. There's no action needed on  
28 this one.

29

30 Fisheries Proposal 21-10 requests the  
31 Federal Subsistence Board implement a salmon  
32 subsistence fishery in the Lower Copper River adjacent  
33 to the Copper River Highway with a harvest limit of 15  
34 salmon, other than pink salmon, for the first two  
35 members of a household, and 10 salmon for additional  
36 household members. It would limit chinook salmon  
37 harvest to five per household. Allowable gear types  
38 would be dipnet, rod and reel, spear or gaff. The  
39 proposal was submitted by Jessie Carter and Robert  
40 Jewell of Cordova.

41

42 FP21-10 was presented to the  
43 Subsistence Regional Advisory Councils for their  
44 recommendations during their fall 2020 meetings and to  
45 the InterAgency Staff Committee for their comment prior  
46 to going to the Federal Subsistence Board for action.  
47 The Southcentral Council supported the proposal with  
48 the OSM modification that required reporting salmon  
49 harvest to area managers within 48 hours. The Eastern  
50 Interior Council opposed the proposal. The Board, at

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1 their January 2021 meeting chose to defer action on  
2 this proposal to allow conflicting user groups to meet  
3 and attempt to reach a compromise. The Board  
4 justification for this action was that the proposal  
5 resulted in a disagreement between Regional Advisory  
6 Councils and tribal communities and other Federally-  
7 qualified subsistence users. They noted that the  
8 deferral would give the Southcentral and Eastern  
9 Interior Regional Advisory Councils time to meet and  
10 work toward a compromise that could be supported by  
11 those affected. The Board did not want to pit  
12 subsistence users against each other over a very small  
13 proportion of the fishery and it relayed its faith in  
14 the Regional Advisory Council process and believes that  
15 Councils may be able to create a consensus proposal  
16 that the Board could consider in the future.

17  
18 That brings us to the present. A joint  
19 meeting of the Eastern Interior and Southcentral  
20 Councils has been scheduled on March 16th via  
21 teleconference to take up this deferred proposal.  
22 Meeting book materials have been mailed to the members  
23 of both Councils. Staff have updated the original  
24 analysis to include recent harvest information, created  
25 new maps of the area in question, compiled a list of  
26 frequently asked question that have arisen and created  
27 other materials that may assist the Councils in coming  
28 to a compromise. The materials will also be posted on  
29 the OSM website. The Board will act again on this  
30 proposal at an upcoming meeting after the Council's  
31 conclude their business. Exact date when the Board  
32 will meet to discuss FP21-10 has not been determined  
33 yet.

34  
35 Thank you for your time and please let  
36 me know if you have any questions.

37  
38 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Questions.

39  
40 (No comments)

41  
42 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, hearing  
43 none, I just want to -- for the Council this will come  
44 up at that meeting Wednesday, the Subsistence Resource  
45 Commission, as I did report earlier, did meet on this  
46 and they took it up and opposed it. There were six  
47 members present, some were absent. Six to zero. And  
48 they have a concern about creating a new fishery given  
49 recent low numbers including the failure to meet the  
50

0102

1 State of Alaska's amounts necessary for subsistence in  
2 some years, especially in the upper reaches of the  
3 river. Cordova residents have other salmon harvest  
4 opportunities and additionally, a concern that the  
5 Federal Subsistence Board sent this proposal back to  
6 the RACs with directions to reach a compromise which  
7 amounts to being told that the fishery needs to be  
8 allowed and that no working group was established as a  
9 way for the RACs to further discuss it.

10

11 So this was for information and  
12 information only. We can't do any action at this  
13 meeting. I just thought I'd let you know that.

14

15 Are there any other questions.

16

17 (No comments)

18

19 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Next  
20 -- thank you, Scott. Next is a report on the hunter  
21 ethics education and outreach. Katya.

22

23 MS. WESSELS: Yeah, thank you, Madame  
24 Chair. For the record this is Katya Wessels. I don't  
25 really have a report on this topic because not much  
26 happened on this topic during the last two years but I  
27 thought since we have a few Council members that are  
28 new I would like to give a short overview of what was  
29 done by the Council over the last several years so just  
30 to let you know starting in about 2009 this Council  
31 became increasingly concerned about escalating user  
32 conflict in the region and voiced the need for hunter  
33 ethics education program.

34

35 The Council continued to bring this  
36 issue to the Board's attention and requested hunter  
37 ethics education in its 2010, 2013 and 2015 annual  
38 reports. Then in 2016 the Federal Subsistence Board  
39 directed that there's full support on the Board's part  
40 for this effort and the Board is looking forward to a  
41 successful program. That kind of kickstarted the  
42 hunter ethics education initiative. So during the  
43 winter of 2017 there was a Council -- there was a work  
44 group comprised of OSM, State and Council  
45 representatives and there was a break out session where  
46 this topic was discussed. Council voted to adopt  
47 hunter ethics education as a regular agenda item for  
48 all future Council meetings during the winter for 2017.  
49 Then during the summer of 2017 OSM developed an action  
50

0103

1 plan on creating the program and timeline for its  
2 implementation. The plan and timeline were presented  
3 to the Board during its July 17th session and the Board  
4 approved that plan and timeline and directed OSM to  
5 proceed.

6  
7 So the intent of this hunter ethics  
8 initiative first is to develop a positive and  
9 collaborative volunteer hunter outreach and education  
10 program using partnerships and stakeholders consensus  
11 and this program is not intended to be a substitute for  
12 the State of Alaska Hunter Education Program.

13  
14 So the goals of this initiative were  
15 outlined to strive towards understanding and tolerance  
16 for different cultural hunting values; reduce user  
17 conflicts between user groups through education and  
18 outreach; encourage respect in the field and work  
19 towards better hunter ethics in the field for all user  
20 groups.

21  
22 So the Council wanted to work and  
23 collaborate with Federal land management agencies,  
24 State of Alaska, Native tribal organizations and hunter  
25 organizations, air taxis and transporters. The Council  
26 also wanted to be inclusive and move forward in a  
27 positive way and to create a dialogue between  
28 subsistence and sport, commercial users.

29  
30 The first part of this work kind of --  
31 in September 2017, the OSM facilitated the first  
32 brainstorming workshop and it was held in September of  
33 2017 in Fairbanks. So the workshop was funded through  
34 the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Program connecting  
35 people. 23 stakeholders including Council members,  
36 OSM, BLM and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Air  
37 Force, State of Alaska, TCC and UAF participating in  
38 that workshop. The workshop objectives were to  
39 initiate an open dialogue and exchange of ideas,  
40 identify existing user conflict problems, collectively  
41 contribute to the development of ethics education  
42 outreach strategy, jointly develop ideas for pilot  
43 projects that can be implemented. So three concepts of  
44 the pilot projects were developed at the 2017 workshop.

45  
46 The concept 1 was local community  
47 liaison. A target hunter outreach program. And that  
48 concept was partially implemented. Amanda Pope, who  
49 was there earlier was one of the hunter liaisons  
50

0104

1 working with the hunters in Central.

2

3 Concept No. 2 was a campaign to  
4 establish hunting ethics within a target group. It was  
5 Hunt Like an Alaskan initiative.

6

7 And there was another concept, No. 3,  
8 Hunt with Heart, It's an Alaskan Way, was the concept  
9 of a statewide public outreach campaign. Nothing's  
10 been done in that direction.

11

12 So during the winter of 2018 there was  
13 a roundtable discussion at this Council's meeting, 20  
14 people participated in that roundtable discussion.  
15 Yukon Flats National Wildlife Refuge reported on making  
16 steps towards implementation of Concept 1, local  
17 community liaison. The Council members made  
18 suggestions to improving all three pilot concepts at  
19 that winter roundtable.

20

21 Then in October 2018 OSM organized  
22 another workshop which was much more widely attended.  
23 40 participants took part in this workshop including  
24 representatives of Arctic Village Council, Nenana  
25 Native Association, Manley Traditional Council, Native  
26 Village of Venetie, Alaska Chapter of Safari Club  
27 International, Alaska Outdoor Council, Alaska Wild  
28 Sheep Foundation, Division of Subsistence, ADF&G,  
29 hunter information and training program, ADF&G, Ahtna  
30 InterTribal Resource Commission, Tanana Chiefs  
31 Conference, Council of Athabascan Tribal Governments,  
32 Eileson Air Force Base, Fort Wainwright, UAF, Doyon,  
33 Council members, OSM, BLM, NPS, U.S. Fish and Wildlife  
34 Service representatives were at the meeting. The  
35 workshop objectives were to continue a broader open  
36 dialogue and exchange of ideas, further development  
37 built upon the three pilot project concepts, form  
38 smaller working committees of partners to move project  
39 concepts forward. So that's what was happening at the  
40 end of 2018.

41

42 And after that, unfortunately, OSM  
43 suffered a lot of Staff shortages so nothing really got  
44 moved forward except for a few other things that  
45 happened in 2018. The outreach -- ethics education  
46 outreach initiative was presented at the November 2018  
47 annual Sportsmen Rendezvous at Safari Club  
48 International Alaska Chapter, that hosted that event.  
49 So there was a little bit of outreach work done with

50



0105

1 Hunt Like an Alaskan pilot project, it was building  
2 relationship with the military personnel. The  
3 subcommittee for that pilot project met, they had a  
4 teleconference on February 27th, 2019, and then an in-  
5 person meeting on March 4th and participants were Fort  
6 Wainwright, Eileson Air Force Base, Ahtna InterTribal  
7 Resource Commission, Alaska Outdoor Council, Yukon-  
8 Charley National Park, Arctic, Kanuti, Yukon Flats  
9 National Wildlife Refuges, BLM, Eastern Interior  
10 Council members and OSM.

11  
12 And that's where things stopped, again,  
13 like I said, due to the Staff shortages and then, of  
14 course we had the pandemic and Staff shortages  
15 continued. So OSM is hoping to continue this  
16 initiative we build up our Staff. I just wanted to  
17 give this short overview to the Council members, new  
18 and old, kind of refresh the memory of the Council  
19 members that already participated in this initiative  
20 and so the new Council members know what was done so  
21 far. And I can provide the materials about what I just  
22 said to all Council members if there is interest, like  
23 for the first workshop we have a published report and,  
24 you know, there's other information that's available.

25  
26 So that concludes my short  
27 presentation, thank you.

28  
29 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right.  
30 Thank you, Katya. I would say send that report to the  
31 new members. That would be great for them to see it  
32 and we'll take it from there. Any questions.

33  
34 (No comments)

35  
36 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I'd like to  
37 report for the record that Jody has -- she has to take  
38 one of her children to a doctor's appointment and she  
39 had to leave. She's going to call in if she can but  
40 she will not be present here for a little bit and then  
41 I'll have her call in -- let us know when she calls in.

42  
43 So if there's no questions we'll move  
44 on to the next subject.

45  
46 (No comments)

47  
48 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you,  
49 Katya.

50

0106

1 MS. WESSELS: Thank you.

2

3 MS. POPE: Hello.....

4

5 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: The Fisheries  
6 Resource Monitoring Program. Did I interrupt a  
7 question.

8

9 MS. POPE: Yes, this is Amanda Pope. I  
10 just kind of wanted to.....

11

12 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh, hi,  
13 Amanda.

14

15 MS. POPE: .....say something about the  
16 hunter liaison if that's okay.

17

18 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Absolutely.  
19 I knew we kind of put you off so I apologize, yes, go  
20 ahead.

21

22 MS. POPE: I just -- first of all I  
23 wanted to apologize for trying to bring up this topic  
24 at the beginning of the meeting. I totally forgot that  
25 it was under the hunter ethics topic so my apologies to  
26 that.

27

28 So last year I -- I had done the  
29 program and I turned in my report and I spoke to Jody  
30 and I'm not sure who else is new to the Council. I had  
31 suggested if she wanted a copy of the report I can give  
32 her one via email. And I also wanted to extend that  
33 opportunity to the other Council members if they still  
34 wanted to see the report from last year. I wasn't able  
35 to attend the meeting last fall due to me being out on  
36 the trapline with my family. And I guess I kind of  
37 wanted to get any concerns or questions or feedback  
38 about my report from either the Council, or any of the  
39 folks online.

40

41 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you,  
42 Amanda. Yes, I remember your.....

43

44 MS. WESSELS: Madame Chair, this is  
45 Katya.

46

47 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: .....report  
48 -- yeah.

49

50

0107

1 MS. WESSELS: Yes, I would like to let  
2 everyone know that the report that Amanda is talking  
3 about, it's actually published on our website in the  
4 meeting materials for the fall of last year. So if you  
5 go to the Eastern Interior meeting materials, the  
6 current materials, there is a link to the archives and  
7 if you go to the archives you can see the 2021 hunter  
8 liaison report and Amanda Pope is the author.

9

10 Thank you.

11

12 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Appreciate  
13 the report there, Katya.

14

15 MR. BASSICH: Sue, this is Andy.

16

17 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: But -- yes,  
18 Andy, go ahead.

19

20 MR. BASSICH: Yeah, thank you. I just  
21 wanted to commend Amanda for the job she's doing and as  
22 far as the hunter ethics program goes I'd like to ask  
23 her if she has any suggestions or improvements to the  
24 program. She's probably one of the more instrumental  
25 people in initiating this on the ground and I think it  
26 would be really helpful to all parties involved to kind  
27 of get her feedback on where she thinks there could be  
28 improvements or enhancements or expansion of it. And I  
29 wanted to let our Eastern RAC know that through our AC,  
30 I have bridged this with the Fortymile -- Tok Fortymile  
31 AC, and they are interested in it as far as initiated  
32 something along the Taylor Highway, although we haven't  
33 gotten into any detail. So I guess to summarize,  
34 Amanda, do you have any suggestions, insights, anything  
35 that might help us to improve this both on the Taylor  
36 Highway and it seems to me there's a really strong need  
37 on the Steese Highway in the Central region, and that  
38 area, so any comments you might have I'd love to hear.

39

40 Thank you for your work. I think this  
41 is a really important thing for us to keep going. And  
42 I also want to recognize Katya for keeping this alive.  
43 Vince Mathews, while he was with us, was also very  
44 instrumental and unfortunately with Covid, you know,  
45 this kind of got delayed. We were making good progress  
46 and then Covid hit and it really slowed the ball. But  
47 I'm really thankful that Amanda is doing the job she's  
48 doing and I'd really like to continue to see this  
49 expand within our region.

50

0108

1                   Thank you, that's all I have, Madame  
2 Chair.

3  
4                   MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you,  
5 Andy. It's the Upper Tanana Fortymile Advisory  
6 Committee, a lot of work. Anyone else.

7  
8                   (No comments)

9  
10                  MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Amanda, we  
11 really appreciate you and it was really great to see  
12 you this morning and I apologize, too, I'm praying to  
13 the good Lord that we meet in person next meeting. So  
14 thanks Amanda.

15  
16                  MS. POPE: Yes, this is Amanda Pope.  
17 Thank you for all the positive feedback. And to Andy,  
18 I noticed with my experience of trying to confront  
19 people the best I can, have only gotten -- I mean I've  
20 gotten a lot of feedback and just from all the  
21 education awareness that I've been doing, I've gotten  
22 positive feedback from the hunters themselves on  
23 telling me thank you.

24  
25                  I guess the one concern that is kind of  
26 coming up from hunters is that I have been getting  
27 continuously asked what -- so whenever I talk to folks  
28 I ask them general questions, I don't get any personal  
29 information, I tell everybody I'm not a law enforcement  
30 officer, I'm just a local subsistence hunter trying to  
31 help educate folks, I pass out like local Native maps  
32 of the area. The -- I guess the question was from the  
33 hunters was that what is this -- what does the  
34 information I get from them going to help the Council,  
35 or the Board, what -- what will the information be used  
36 for. A lot of the -- so whenever I ask a question it's  
37 very general, I ask what -- what Game Unit they're  
38 going into, what animal they're hunting, I try to catch  
39 them before they go out, to interview them, and then I  
40 try to catch them when they come back to try to see if  
41 they're successful or not, to see if there was ways  
42 that I could have helped them more regarding, like maps  
43 or I give suggestions on, like, the hunt X -- Xhuntmap  
44 app, so I encourage hunters to use that app because  
45 it's very detailed and it's updated regularly.

46  
47                  So the hunters that I've encountered  
48 over the last three years have been, I guess kind of  
49 scared, because they're thinking that with me getting  
50

0109

1 the information from them, which is very general  
2 information, that they think it's to exclude them from  
3 being able to hunt the area that they're going to, and  
4 have been hunting for years, over generations. So I  
5 guess that's the only, I guess, goal, that I wanted to  
6 work on is to try to make people comfortable that's  
7 coming into the area by still following the law and I  
8 pass out hunting regulation books to help or remind  
9 people if they didn't have a copy of it.

10

11 So I guess that's probably the negative  
12 aspect of it.

13

14 MR. BASSICH: Madame Chair, Andy.

15

16 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Go ahead,  
17 Andy.

18

19 MR. BASSICH: Yeah, thank you. And,  
20 thank you for that Amanda. I would assume that that  
21 would be kind of a normal response. I mean I think  
22 most people are a little bit protective to begin with  
23 and maybe a little bit, shall we say, concerned, about  
24 government oversight, or law enforcement oversight or  
25 whatever. I think the main thing that we've talked  
26 about in a lot of our meetings on hunter ethics is  
27 trying to reassure people that this is a program that's  
28 set up to teach respect, and so that all parties  
29 involved and use of all the resources in the area,  
30 whether it's hunting or fishing or photography or  
31 boating, whatever, it's all about learning about each  
32 other and respecting each other. It's not about being  
33 exclusive, it's about being inclusive. And so as long  
34 as that, you know, keeps being put out there, but I  
35 think that's a natural reaction from people, but it's  
36 good to hear that that seems to be the biggest concern  
37 that people have and that might be something that we  
38 can start to try and talk about the next time the  
39 hunter ethics committee kind of meets and maybe fine-  
40 tune a little bit of the materials going out to people.

41

42 So, yeah, thanks for sharing that, I  
43 just wanted to kind of share that perspective. I've  
44 kind of experienced the same thing when I've talked to  
45 people about it and that seems to be the best way to  
46 reassure them, is that it's about teaching respect for  
47 all the parties involved and for anybody who was  
48 involved in some of our exercises when we did meet as a  
49 group, is that, through the Eastern RAC subcommittee

50

0110

1 there, that the specialists that came in, that's a lot  
2 of what they talked about, when they were successful,  
3 it's about teaching people how to respect everybody's  
4 rights to the use of the resource, so just keep that in  
5 mind.

6  
7 That's all I have, thank you.

8  
9 Appreciate your comments, Amanda, and  
10 your work. And I'm really hoping that as Covid winds  
11 down we can get back on the ball with this and keep it  
12 moving. And, once, again, thank you Katya for keeping  
13 it alive.

14  
15 That's all I have, Madame Chair.

16  
17 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, thank  
18 you, Andy. Anything else, any questions.

19  
20 (No comments)

21  
22 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right,  
23 thank you Amanda. Okay, next on the agenda is new  
24 business, Fisheries Resource Monitoring Program, Cory  
25 Graham.

26  
27 MR. GRAHAM: Hi, Madame Chair, this is  
28 Cory, I'm ready when you are.

29  
30 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Go ahead.

31  
32 MR. GRAHAM: Madame Chair. Members of  
33 the Council. My name is Cory Graham and I am a  
34 Fisheries Biologist for the Office of Subsistence  
35 Management.

36  
37 I'm going to start by giving the  
38 Council -- or providing the Council with an update  
39 regarding the Fisheries Resource Monitoring Program.  
40 This is not an action item.

41  
42 We are currently in the final phase of  
43 the 2022 Monitoring Program funding cycle. The Federal  
44 Subsistence Board met in early February and endorsed  
45 the final Monitoring Program funding plan. The  
46 Assistant Regional Director of OSM just approved the  
47 funding plan and all applicants have been notified of  
48 the status of their submissions. With this cycle  
49 coming to an end, it's time for the Councils to begin  
50

0111

1 developing priority information needs for the 2024  
2 Monitoring Program call for proposals.

3

4 Priority information needs, which you  
5 may hear referred to as PINS are an important component  
6 of the Monitoring Program as they identify issues of  
7 local concern and knowledge gaps related to subsistence  
8 fisheries. Further, priority information needs guide  
9 the funding process by determining the types of  
10 projects that are submitted for funding and providing a  
11 framework for evaluating and selecting project  
12 proposals.

13

14 We are asking for volunteers from the  
15 Council to meet by telephone this summer to identify  
16 knowledge gaps and information needed for management of  
17 subsistence fisheries in their region. The draft list  
18 of priority information needs that is developed by the  
19 volunteers will be presented to the Councils for final  
20 approval during their fall 2022 meetings. Again, this  
21 isn't an action item but if there's anyone on this  
22 Council that would like to volunteer to help develop  
23 priority information needs for the next cycle it would  
24 be greatly appreciated.

25

26 That concludes my presentation  
27 regarding the Fisheries Resource Monitoring Program  
28 update.

29

30 Are there any questions or volunteers  
31 that would like to help develop priority information  
32 needs.

33

34 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, thank  
35 you, Cory. Council members, anybody.

36

37 MR. BASSICH: Madame Chair, Andy.

38

39 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Go ahead,  
40 Andy.

41

42 MR. BASSICH: Yeah, thank you. You can  
43 put me on the list when you begin to work on the next  
44 set of priorities so just feel free to contact me and  
45 I'll make time to participate at whatever level you  
46 guys need on the fisheries issues on the Yukon River.

47

48 Thank you.

49

50

0112

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any more  
2 volunteers, that's a scary word.

3  
4 Linda.

5  
6 MS. EVANS: This is Linda, I'll  
7 volunteer.

8  
9 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Did you get  
10 that.

11  
12 MR. GRAHAM: Thank you, Madame  
13 Chair.....

14  
15 MS. EVANS: Linda Evans.

16  
17 MR. GRAHAM: .....yes, I did.

18  
19 MS. EVANS: Linda Evans.

20  
21 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, thank  
22 you. Anyone else.

23  
24 MR. WOODRUFF: This is Don Woodruff,  
25 I'll volunteer.

26  
27 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That's pretty  
28 good guys and gals. Anyone else.

29  
30 (No comments)

31  
32 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right,  
33 thank you very much. Next on the agenda is the U.S.  
34 Fish and Wildlife Service Yukon River presentation by  
35 Gerald Maschmann and Holly Carroll.

36  
37 MS. CARROLL: Hello, through the Chair,  
38 this is Holly Carroll.

39  
40 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes, hi, go  
41 ahead, Holly.

42  
43 MS. CARROLL: Thanks very much, I am  
44 going to keep it brief. We did cover last season at  
45 the previous meeting so we'll keep it nice and brief  
46 today if we can but I do have a script that I'm going  
47 to follow just so I don't forget anything.

48  
49 My name's Holly Carroll. I work for  
50



0113

1 the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Fairbanks Office,  
2 but I am based in Anchorage. I'm the Federal  
3 Subsistence Fisheries Manager for the Yukon River. I'm  
4 going to keep the focus of this brief update for the  
5 upcoming season.

6  
7 The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service does  
8 has a core mission to consult with Federal tribes and  
9 our Yukon team has been working to expand and improve  
10 this government to government consultation process. In  
11 the fall of 2021 we held a series of formal tribal  
12 consultation meetings with Yukon River tribes. These  
13 consultations were teleconferences and they were meant  
14 to seek feedback on how tribes would like to be  
15 consulted in the future and we appreciated the direct  
16 communication our management team had with tribal  
17 members to have meaningful participation in  
18 decisionmaking process. We recognize the importance of  
19 coordination, consultation, and followup between the  
20 Service's subsistence management team and the  
21 Federally-recognized tribes along the Yukon River. And  
22 we look forward to creating and maintaining effective  
23 working relationships.

24  
25 To that end, formal tribal consultation  
26 meetings are going to be offered again this spring and  
27 we are looking at dates the week of April 18th to  
28 discuss fishing next season and any topic of concern  
29 that the tribes want to take up with us. We will be  
30 sending emails to every Yukon tribe regarding these  
31 teleconferences and the dates and time and we encourage  
32 tribal leaders or their designees to participate in  
33 these meetings.

34  
35 The formal salmon outlooks will be  
36 published by the Yukon River Joint Technical Committee  
37 the last week of March. That document can be found at  
38 yukonriverdotcome. Once the outlook's are published,  
39 the Service will work cooperatively with the Alaska  
40 Department of Fish and Game, fishermen and other  
41 stakeholders to finalize our pre-season management  
42 strategy. The 2022 outlook and proposed management  
43 strategy is going to be discussed in-depth at some at  
44 the Yukon River Panel meeting that's coming up the week  
45 of April 4th. It'll be discussed at the Yukon River  
46 InterTribal Fish Commission, I don't have those meeting  
47 dates yet. And the Yukon River Drainage Fishermens  
48 Association pre-season meeting which will be held in  
49 Anchorage on March 24th.  
50

0114

1                   Additionally, Yukon households can  
2 expect the outlook flier detailing the salmon outlooks  
3 and our management strategy to be mailed to their homes  
4 in late April.

5

6                   So the official outlooks are not yet  
7 available. Based on the past two seasons and  
8 indications from the Bering Sea juvenile trawl surveys  
9 managers are expecting another very poor season for  
10 chinook salmon with a run size potentially smaller than  
11 what we saw in 2021. As many of you know the 2021  
12 chinook run warranted full closures to harvest.

13

14                   Unfortunately chum salmon forecast may  
15 or may not be as accurate as they have been in the past  
16 based on the last two seasons record low abundance.  
17 Therefore, it is likely that fishing for summer chum  
18 will also be closed early in the season until a  
19 harvestable surplus is projected. If the runs continue  
20 to be poor fishing restrictions may be like last year  
21 with salmon fishing limited or closed even into the  
22 fall season.

23

24                   While this news is incredibly  
25 disheartening and upsetting for many, we are trying to  
26 make sure that fishermen have the information now so  
27 that they can prepare for the upcoming season.

28

29                   Conserving the fish now, while runs may  
30 be low, will ensure that most of the fish will make it  
31 to the spawning grounds and hopefully fishing will  
32 improve in future seasons. Fishermen should plan to  
33 harvest other species using 4 inch mesh gillnets,  
34 dipnets and possibly manned fishwheels this coming  
35 season.

36

37                   Managers will be watching the lower  
38 Yukon test fishery, the Pilot Station sonar, and, as  
39 always, listening to local fishermen to assess the  
40 strength of the incoming salmon runs. If runs come in  
41 better than anticipated additional fishing  
42 opportunities may be implemented based on the amount of  
43 surplus fish available.

44

45                   The managers want to acknowledge the  
46 very serious hardship the last two seasons have caused  
47 Yukon River families. We also want to thank Yukon River  
48 fishermen for their compliance during these difficult  
49 years and commend those tribes and communities that are  
50

0115

1 taking steps to provide fishing gear, freezers, and  
2 coming up with creative solutions to compensate for  
3 loss of salmon meals. Yukon fishermen have shown  
4 incredible resiliency in adapting to the changing  
5 environment and these salmon run sizes.

6

7 And we may not be out of the woods yet  
8 but we are doing everything we can to study what is  
9 contributing to the declines in chinook and chum salmon  
10 and we've partnering with other agencies and scientists  
11 to collaborate more than ever on marine and freshwater  
12 research.

13

14 The Service, and particular, our Yukon  
15 team has undertaken a focus on studying the disease  
16 ichthyophonus, and while this disease has been around  
17 and has been studied for many years, the levels in  
18 chinook are cyclical and they had dropped quite low in  
19 recent decades. However, fishers in the middle river  
20 reported an increase in ichthyophonus in chinook salmon  
21 during the 2020 and 2021 seasons and suggested further  
22 studies of this disease are needed. This motivated  
23 Fish and Game and the Service partner on a longer-term  
24 study to look at this disease in the lower river and  
25 how it compares to the upper river and whether disease  
26 severity could be a cause of mortality before the fish  
27 spawn. ADF&G has plans to sample at or near their test  
28 fishery project at Pilot Station sonar and Eagle sonar  
29 and the Service will sample in the middle river at  
30 Rampart Rapids and the upper river at Fort Yukon.  
31 Unfortunately sampling will require that approximately  
32 180 to 200 chinook salmon be sacrificed at these four  
33 locations along the river. This is necessary because  
34 there are no established methods for detecting the  
35 disease or measuring the severity in live fish. Some  
36 may feel that sacrificing chinook salmon for a study is  
37 unacceptable when subsistence fishers are being  
38 restricted, but all the chinook sampled at these  
39 locations will be distributed within the local  
40 community. The fish organs from the same fish that  
41 will be sampled for ichthyophonus will also contribute  
42 to multiple other studies that will look at fish  
43 health. One of them will examine egg quality, looking  
44 for thiamine in the eggs, and that's one of the  
45 components that eggs need to be viable. One will look  
46 at heat stress proteins in the gill tissue to see if  
47 there is non-lethal ways that we can detect heat  
48 stress. Another one would also look to see if  
49 paralytic shellfish toxins are present from the food

50

0116

1 they're eating.

2

3

4 Informational fliers on this study have  
5 been forwarded to the proposed sampling communities and  
6 we're seeking partnerships with the tribes in these  
7 villages to distribute the fish equitably. If you  
8 would like more information about the ichthyophonous  
9 project please contact me or Fred West with Fish and  
10 Game.

10

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11 Lastly, Covid could still disrupt field  
12 operations this summer but at this time, the Service  
13 plans on operating the Eastfork Andreafsky River weir,  
14 and the Trajeendrik River sonar projects. We also  
15 received funding for the Gisasa River weir and we are  
16 undertaking our hiring right now. We did have a poor  
17 -- we had a poor batch of hiring where we didn't get  
18 enough crew yet to fulfill all three of these projects  
19 so we are going to do a second run and try to get some  
20 crew hired for all three of these. At this time we are  
21 about five Staff members short but we are going to see  
22 if we can get more employees for these projects.

24 So that's our update from U.S. Fish and  
25 Wildlife Service. Typically at this time I like to  
26 offer Deena Jallen or Christie Gleason to see if they  
27 have any additions for the summer and fall salmon  
28 management with Fish and Game.

30 MS. JALLEN: Hi. Thanks for that  
31 Holly. This is Deena Jallen with the Department of  
32 Fish and Game. And thank you very much for that very  
33 good comprehensive report. That covered a lot of going  
34 over the meetings this spring, with dates of upcoming  
35 meeting, a very preliminary forecast which will be  
36 released later after the JTC report. We'll discuss  
37 (indiscernible - cuts out) pre-season meetings as well  
38 as the preliminary information that we have now.

40 The only thing I have to add is that on  
41 the statewide side, we have proposals are due for the  
42 Alaska Department of Fish and Game, the Board of Fish  
43 process, those proposals are due April 11th. So if  
44 there's any regulations that you want to modify or  
45 change or additional regulations in the State Fish and  
46 Game regulations, those proposals are due coming up  
47 pretty soon this spring. And if you have any questions  
48 about existing regs or proposed changes that you want  
49 to see please feel free to give myself or Christie

0117

1 Gleason a call and we can help walk through the regs  
2 that we have and any ideas for potential new or  
3 different regulations.

4

5 And with that I'll turn it over to  
6 Christie if she's got anything to add.

7

8 MS. GLEASON: Hi, members of the RAC.  
9 This is Christie Gleason with the Alaska Department of  
10 Fish and Game. I'm the Yukon River Fall Season  
11 Manager. So I work with Deena and Holly and Gerald. I  
12 don't have anything to add to Holly's report for this  
13 coming season. I do want to address a question from  
14 fishermen. They have been asking what type of research  
15 are we doing to study salmon and what do we know so far  
16 about the salmon declines. So just a brief update on  
17 these topics.

18

19 Some salmon research that we're  
20 starting this season for fall season includes a coho  
21 salmon radiotelemetry project. We're restarting the  
22 Sheenjak River sonar project in the Upper Yukon area  
23 and we're also pursuing funding to study year specific  
24 roe stress and reproductive growth in fall chum salmon  
25 during their time they spend in the ocean to better  
26 understand these salmon declines. And while we don't  
27 know the cause of the salmon declines in the last two  
28 years, our initial thoughts so far are pointing towards  
29 the marine environment. We do have some indication  
30 that the prey quality and the fitness of juvenile chum  
31 salmon may be poor due to the warmer ocean water  
32 temperatures in our northern Bering Sea juvenile salmon  
33 surveys that we conduct with NOAA, and these surveys  
34 have been conducted in the northern and the southern  
35 Bering Sea for about the last 20 years.

36

37 Another thing we're doing is we have  
38 some researchers that are working with NOAA and they're  
39 currently surveying salmon during the wintertime in the  
40 North Pacific Ocean and they're looking at a few things  
41 such as climate change, competition at sea, the role of  
42 predators at sea and they're doing this research in  
43 collaboration with other countries such as Russia and  
44 Japan and Canada. So we've been sharing updates about  
45 the research so far on our ADF&G Facebook pages and  
46 we'll be providing updates next winter as well.

47

48 So that's all I have. I'll standby if  
49 you guys have any questions.

50

0118

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Any questions  
2 Council members.

3  
4 MS. EVANS: Question.....

5  
6 MR. BASSICH: Madame Chair, Andy.

7  
8 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, there's  
9 a question here. First is Linda and then you Andy.

10  
11 Go ahead Linda.

12  
13 MS. EVANS: It's for Holly. When you  
14 do the test fishing in the different areas, you said  
15 you said you're going to give the fish to the nearest  
16 communities. Is there a process where you're going to  
17 give the fish by so that it's spread equally around the  
18 community and not -- not just one person gets it  
19 or.....

20  
21 MR. WRIGHT: A moment.

22  
23 MS. CARROLL: Yeah, through the Chair.  
24 This is Holly Carroll, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.  
25 And Linda, I presume you're talking about the  
26 ichthyophonous study, not so much the test fishing. I  
27 know I can let Fish and Game speak to how the test fish  
28 are given away. But as far as the ichthyophonous study,  
29 so the sampling that will occur at Rampart -- in fact  
30 we were supposed to have a meeting with the community  
31 of Rampart today with the tribe, and we had to  
32 reschedule, I think many folks are involved in this  
33 meeting but, yeah, we hope to partner with the tribe of  
34 the two neighboring communities through the sample area  
35 and see how they'd like to distribute the fish. We'd  
36 really like the tribe to be in charge of how the fish  
37 are given away. And same with Ft. Yukon. So, yeah,  
38 that is our hope, that the community would tell us how  
39 they'd like those fish distributed and we have a way to  
40 gut them and keep them fresh but we will need to get  
41 them to the communities, we may even be able to help  
42 with some gas monies. We probably can't get them  
43 further than the two nearby communities just because of  
44 the logistics of having to like freeze them and also  
45 they will be quite a small sample size on a daily  
46 basis. So, yep, we should be in touch with rampart.  
47 We've already had meeting with the community of Tanana  
48 and we are hoping to have a meeting soon with Ft.  
49 Yukon, though we haven't got one scheduled yet with  
50

0119

1 their tribe.

2

3 MS. EVANS: Thank you.

4

5 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, thank  
6 you. Council members, other.....

7

8 MR. WOODRUFF: Sue, I have a comment.

9

10 MR. BASSICH: Sue, I have a comment.

11

12 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER:  
13 .....questions or -- yeah, Donald, go ahead.

14

15 MR. BASSICH: This is Andy.

16

17 MR. WOODRUFF: Yeah, I'm sorry.

18

19 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, I.....

20

21 MR. BASSICH: Go ahead, Don.

22

23 MR. WOODRUFF: Sue, I want to thank  
24 them for giving us an update on the marine fisheries.  
25 I think that that's a critical part of our subsistence  
26 and survivability of age 2 and age 3 fish, chinook.

27

28 (Teleconference interference -  
29 participants not muted)

30

31 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, that's  
32 it Don.

33

34 MR. WOODRUFF: Well, and I also want to  
35 reiterate that Fish and Game is going to the  
36 ichthyophonous study in Eagle and we've had a long  
37 discussion about treating the fish honorably and  
38 getting them to the elders in the community and the  
39 families that have children.

40

41 That's all I've got.

42

43 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you,  
44 Don.

45

46 Andy.

47

48 MR. BASSICH: Thank you, Madame Chair.  
49 Just to build a little bit on the ichthyophonous

50

0120

1 studies. One thing that didn't come out in the briefs  
2 today is that it's not just ichthyophonus that will be  
3 looked at, there's a wide range of testing and sampling  
4 that will be done on these fish to try and maximize the  
5 knowledge gain by these incidental mortalities caused  
6 through the testing program. Primarily it's for the  
7 ichthyophonus but there are many different types of  
8 samples and tests that will be done to try and maximize  
9 that. I wanted to get that out to the public. That's  
10 my understanding.

11  
12 And then the other comment I wanted to  
13 make, it's not so much a question, but a comment, we've  
14 heard that the marine environment is probably the  
15 largest cause of why we're having salmon declines. The  
16 takeaway in my book is that the marine environment is  
17 not in a productive regime right now, it's very  
18 unproductive, and that's what's really hurting our  
19 salmon, both chum and king salmon. And I'd like to get  
20 on the record that this Council has, for many, many  
21 years been bringing up the issue of hatchery production  
22 in Alaska, and around the Pacific Rim, both in Canada,  
23 Alaska and Asian countries, including Russia. And it  
24 is my very strong belief that during these times of low  
25 productivity out in the marine environment hatchery  
26 production is having an exacerbated effect on wild  
27 stocks and there are many studies that have proven that  
28 hatchery production fish are larger and more robust and  
29 can out-compete wild stocks at a very young age. So I  
30 just want to get it on the record and bring it to  
31 people's attention that this is something that we  
32 really do need to address.

33  
34 And I would -- I don't know if the  
35 Fisheries Monitoring Program can do any research. I'm  
36 under the understanding they can't do anything out in  
37 the marine environment but they certainly should be  
38 gathering information on the long-term productivity,  
39 and production of hatchery fish and their contribution  
40 to the marine environment. And so I would encourage  
41 this Council to stay vigilant on that and for all  
42 tribal members along the Yukon River to voice their  
43 opinions, if they have them, on this hatchery  
44 production and what it's doing to our -- potentially  
45 doing to our wild stocks. That's an area that needs to  
46 be studied because I believe that it is having a much  
47 greater effect in these low productive years.

48  
49 So I just wanted to make sure that got  
50



0121

1 on the record for the Subsistence Board to look at, and  
2 I would strongly encourage that research be done in  
3 that area.

4

5 Thank you, Madame Chair, that's all I  
6 have.

7

8 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thanks, Andy.  
9 You might want to reiterate that at our next meeting.

10

11 Okay, other Council members, anything.  
12 Any questions.

13

14 (No comments)

15

16 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Next  
17 on the agenda is the temporary special actions of  
18 FAS22-1 through 4, Yukon River chinook and summer fall  
19 and chum salmon.

20

21 Pippa and Cory.

22

23 MR. GRAHAM: Hello, Madame Chair, this  
24 is Cory. I'll be presenting this update.

25

26 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, go  
27 ahead.

28

29 MR. GRAHAM: Thank you, Madame Chair.  
30 Madame Chair. Members of the Council. For the record,  
31 my name is Cory Graham and I'm a Fisheries Biologist at  
32 the Office of Subsistence Management. I'm presenting  
33 four fisheries special action requests, FSA22-01, 02,  
34 03 and 04 that request the Federal Subsistence Board to  
35 close the Yukon River drainage to the harvest of  
36 chinook and summer and fall chum salmon except by  
37 Federally-qualified subsistence users and to further  
38 reduce the pool of Federally-qualified subsistence  
39 users based on an ANILCA Section .804 analysis.

40

41 Today we are requesting your Council to  
42 make a recommendation to the Board regarding these  
43 special action requests. These special action requests  
44 were submitted by a resident of Rampart, the Holy Cross  
45 tribe, the Eagle Village tribe and a resident of  
46 Huslia. OSM received these requests over the last  
47 couple of weeks. I'll read to you the proponent  
48 justification of all four requests.

49

50

0122

1                   The proponents say that they're asking  
2 the Board to uphold the conservation and priority  
3 consumptive uses provisions under Title VIII of ANILCA  
4 by assuming management of Yukon River drainage chinook  
5 and summer and fall chum salmon throughout the 2022  
6 season. They continue: Significant changes have  
7 occurred since the Board last considered Yukon River  
8 drainage salmon special action requests in 2015. Yukon  
9 chinook and chum salmon populations have suffered  
10 catastrophic declines in abundance in recent years. In  
11 the 2021 season there were no opportunities to harvest  
12 Yukon chinook and chum salmon creating significant food  
13 security concerns among Yukon River tribes and  
14 residents.

15  
16                   In the proposal the proponent explains:  
17 The current Yukon River salmon management system  
18 wherein the State manages the chinook and chum salmon  
19 fisheries, with passive consent but no direct  
20 intervention by the Federal in-season managers for over  
21 a decade is not working and has repeatedly failed to  
22 uphold the provisions of ANILCA. Over the past decade  
23 this pattern of passive and ineffective Federal  
24 oversight of State management has allowed:

25  
26                   No. 1. Other uses including commercial  
27 fishing to have priority over subsistence harvest by  
28 Federally-qualified subsistence users including during  
29 years when our long-term average customary harvest  
30 amounts of chinook salmon were not achieved.

31  
32                   No. 2. Escapement goals necessary for  
33 conservation and rebuilding our declined chinook salmon  
34 run have not been met in a number of years including a  
35 failure to meet escapement goals to Canada in 2007,  
36 2008, 2010, 2011, 2019, 2020 and 2021 and;

37  
38                   No. 3. Inequity of harvest wherein  
39 some portions of the Yukon River drainage were open for  
40 chinook salmon harvest while other portions were  
41 arbitrarily closed to harvest.

42  
43                   These proponents finished by stating  
44 Federal management is necessary to ensure the healthy  
45 conservation of chinook and chum salmon stocks as  
46 required by ANILCA in order to support future  
47 subsistence harvest. Without Federal management when a  
48 sustainable harvest of chinook and chum salmon is  
49 available in the future, Federally-qualified users will  
50

0123

1 not be ensured the priority and opportunity for  
2 customary and traditional uses of the Yukon chinook and  
3 chum salmon that is required by Title VIII ANILCA, or  
4 -- our customary and traditional subsistence uses will  
5 be compromised by other regulatory regimes that do not  
6 prioritize subsistence uses.

7

8 So there we have the proponents  
9 justification for submitting these four special action  
10 requests.

11

12 The next steps are to receive  
13 recommendations from the four affected Councils, which  
14 are the Western Interior, Eastern Interior, Yukon  
15 Kuskokwim Delta and Seward Peninsula Councils.

16

17 The Western Interior Council met and  
18 acted that request action request that we received at  
19 that point, FSA22-01. The Western Interior Council  
20 supported the special action request with modification  
21 to include coho salmon.

22

23 The Yukon Kuskokwim Delta Council met  
24 and acted on three special action requests we had  
25 received at that time, FSA22-01 through 04, the Yukon  
26 Kuskokwim Delta Council supported all three special  
27 action requests with modification to exclude the Black  
28 River.

29

30 The Seward Peninsula Council met and  
31 acted on these three same special action requests. The  
32 Seward Peninsula Council supported all three special  
33 action requests with modification to include coho  
34 salmon and to exclude the Black River from the request.

35

36 OSM is also in the process of  
37 organizing public hearings and tribal consultations.  
38 These public hearings will be announced in news  
39 releases and information will be posted at OSM web  
40 page. Council Coordinators will send these  
41 announcements to Council members. Public hearings are  
42 scheduled on Tuesday March 29th from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m.,  
43 and Thursday March 31st, 6 through 9:00 p.m., and  
44 tribal and ANCSA consultations are scheduled for April  
45 5th but we don't have a time for those yet but, again,  
46 that will be made available to the Council.

47

48 And for the last step, OSM is in the  
49 process of scheduling a public meeting of the Board to  
50

0124

1 act on these special action requests. This meeting is  
2 scheduled for May 4th, but, again, we don't have a time  
3 for that yet and Council Coordinators will send this  
4 announcement to the Council members when it becomes  
5 available.

6  
7 Pippa Kenner, who's an Anthropologist  
8 for OSM and Holly Carroll, our Yukon Federal Fisheries  
9 Manager are on the line to help me answer your  
10 questions regarding these special action requests.

11  
12 Thank you for your time, Madame Chair  
13 and members of the Council. Again, this is an action  
14 item. We are asking you to make a recommendation to  
15 the Board to either approve, reject, modify, or defer  
16 these special action requests to the next fisheries  
17 regulatory cycle. Again, these special action requests  
18 are to close the Yukon River drainage to the harvest of  
19 chinook and summer and fall chum salmon except by Yukon  
20 Kuskokwim Delta and to further reduce the pool of  
21 eligible Federally-qualified subsistence users based on  
22 an ANILCA Section .804 analysis.

23  
24 Thank you, Madame Chair.

25  
26 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, Council  
27 members, do we have -- nothing -- I don't know, does  
28 anyone have a copy of them.

29  
30 MR. WRIGHT: I wrote it.

31  
32 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: There's a  
33 Council member that wrote one. Which one is yours?

34  
35 MR. WRIGHT: 01.

36  
37 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: 01. Okay.

38  
39 MR. WRIGHT: There's a copy right here.

40  
41 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

42  
43 MS. WESSELS: Madame Chair, this is  
44 Katya. Madame Chair.

45  
46 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes. Yes, go  
47 ahead.

48  
49 MS. WESSELS: Yeah, the copies of all  
50

0125

1 the special action requests can be found on the Eastern  
2 Interior meeting materials page. It's in the  
3 supplemental materials on that page and supplemental  
4 material No. 5, 6, 7, and 8 and there is also a fact  
5 sheet, which is supplemental material No. 4.

6  
7 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: But it's in  
8 our book or it's just online?

9  
10 MS. WESSELS: It is just online because  
11 we received them like very recently so we didn't have a  
12 chance. I think Special Action 22-01 has been emailed  
13 to the Council members but I do not believe that 02,  
14 03, 04 were.

15  
16 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.  
17 Council members, any questions right now of the  
18 presenter on this.

19  
20 (No comments)

21  
22 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Charlie.

23  
24 MR. BASSICH: Yeah, this is Andy.

25  
26 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, Charlie  
27 Jagow and then you Andy.

28  
29 MR. JAGOW: Okay. And I may be  
30 confused here. But it sounds like two of the Councils  
31 wanted to modify.....

32  
33 REPORTER: Okay, hang on. Charlie,  
34 hang on a minute. Sue, I can't hear Charlie and  
35 there's background too. So everybody try to mute your  
36 phone, star, six or mute.

37  
38 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: There's a  
39 three second delay. You can speak Charlie.

40  
41 MR. JAGOW: This is Charlie, for the  
42 record. My question is -- my understanding is two or  
43 three of the Councils went through this but with a  
44 modification to include the Black River and I was  
45 wondering what their justification was for that.

46  
47 MS. KENNER: Madame Chair, this is  
48 Pippa.

49  
50

0126

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Go ahead.

2

3 MS. KENNER: Thank you, Madame Chair.

4 And to the member, for the record this is Pippa Kenner  
5 with OSM. This is kind of complicated particularly for  
6 new members but I'll try to answer that.

7

8 There are three communities that are  
9 situated quite a ways south of the mouth of the Yukon  
10 River drainage and they do some fishing up in the Black  
11 River drainage and the Black River drainage is  
12 considered a tributary to the Kuskokwim River. And so  
13 if the river closed to all but Federally-qualified  
14 subsistence users, those three communities would not be  
15 able to go up into the Black River and harvest. The  
16 reason is that they do not have a customary and  
17 traditional use determination for salmon except for  
18 chum -- fall chum salmon in the Yukon River drainage.  
19 And so to take care of them -- so they wouldn't be  
20 closed out, even if there was an opportunity to fish by  
21 Federally-qualified subsistence users the Council opted  
22 to remove them -- remove the Black River area from the  
23 request.

24

25 I'm not sure if that answered your  
26 question. I'm available to clarify more if you ask.

27

28 MR. JAGOW: Yeah, this is Charlie, that  
29 answers my question, thank you.

30

31 MR. MASCHMANN: Madame Chair, this is  
32 Gerald Maschmann with Fish and Wildlife Service, can I  
33 clarify?

34

35 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Certainly, go  
36 ahead, Gerald.

37

38 MR. MASCHMANN: Thank you, Madame  
39 Chair. There's two Black Rivers on the Yukon. There's  
40 one up by Charlie Jagow and there's one at the mouth  
41 and we're talking about the one at the mouth.

42

43 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.  
44 There's a smile over his face right now -- yeah, okay.  
45 Council members, any other questions.

46

47 MR. BASSICH: Andy Bassich.

48

49 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh, Andy, go

50

0127

1 ahead. I'm sorry.

2

3 MR. BASSICH: Yeah, that's okay. Thank  
4 you very much, Madame Chair. I have a couple of  
5 questions. I'm just going to do them one at a time.

6

7 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

8

9 MR. BASSICH: My first question to  
10 managers, any managers is do we have any data on the  
11 numbers of fish harvested by non-Federally-qualified  
12 users over the years on the Yukon River? And I guess  
13 the reason -- I'll clarify the reason for the question.  
14 Is it seems to be that probably 99 percent of all fish  
15 harvested on the Yukon River are harvested by  
16 Federally-qualified subsistence users so I'm wondering  
17 why this -- you know, what impact this would really  
18 have. I know a small amount are probably taken by  
19 people from the Fairbanks region or other people but  
20 I'd like to know if there are any numbers documented on  
21 a how many fish are taken by non-Federally-qualified  
22 people. And if we can't answer that right now, that's  
23 fine, but I think that's important information for our  
24 Council.

25

26 MS. CARROLL: Yeah, Madame Chair, this  
27 is.....

28

29 MS. KENNER: Yeah, this is.....

30

31 MS. CARROLL: .....this is Holly  
32 Carroll.

33

34 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Go ahead,  
35 Holly.

36

37 MS. CARROLL: Yeah, I'm the Federal  
38 Subsistence Manager and, you know, that's a really  
39 great question that Andy's asking. And one of the  
40 reasons we wouldn't have an immediate answer to that is  
41 that what he's talking about is, you know, if -- if the  
42 river was closed and only harvest was allowed was for  
43 Federally-qualified users only, there's certain  
44 communities that would be excluded. And -- but what  
45 he's also sort of touching on, that we didn't talk  
46 about here is that a lot of the Yukon actually would  
47 still have State managed waters because this action  
48 would only apply to Federally -- Federal waters, those  
49 waters that flow through Federal adjacent lands --

50

0128

1 adjacent Federal lands, and so there would still be  
2 areas of the river, certain parts of -- most of  
3 District 6 or most of the Tanana River and then certain  
4 parts of the upper part of District 5 which are closed  
5 to the road system, those would be under State managed  
6 waters, and so this wouldn't apply to those waters  
7 anyway, this action.

8  
9 And so when you're talking about the  
10 types of harvest that we currently see in the Federally  
11 -- in the Federal waters because -- and Pippa did not  
12 give the entire list of all the communities that are  
13 qualified users, but nearly every single community on  
14 the Yukon is Federally-qualified users and so what he's  
15 alluding to is not many people would be excluded from  
16 those waters, but Pippa did touch on something where  
17 those Coastal communities who have traditionally been  
18 harvesting either in the river, or on the Coast, so  
19 that would be Hooper Bay, Scammon Bay and Chevak, they  
20 would be left out of the ability to fish for chinook  
21 and summer chum in Federal waters. So that kind of  
22 harvest, if we were looking at the chinook harvest  
23 there, that could be a couple thousand fish from those  
24 people who do traditionally harvest those and have been  
25 for decades. They also harvest thousands of summer  
26 chum and -- so they would not be allowed to do that in  
27 the mainstem river.

28  
29 One thing that we've been drawing  
30 attention to for those communities is that if they  
31 wanted to request a customary and traditional use  
32 determination for those species they could do so at the  
33 next Federal Subsistence Board cycle. And I believe  
34 OSM would even be able to help them with that and can  
35 work with their communities on that.

36  
37 But -- so as far as who might be left  
38 out or what kind of harvest difference we would see,  
39 one type of difference would be that people who are not  
40 Federally-qualified users, or people who reside in the  
41 Fairbanks Northstar Borough -- so let's say you have a  
42 traditional camp along the upper part of the  
43 river, maybe Stevens Village, Circle, Ft. Yukon, but you  
44 are a resident of Fairbanks or Anchorage, technically  
45 you would not be a Federally-qualified user and so you  
46 would not be one of the people who can take the salmon.  
47 You might be able to help family members with the  
48 smoking of the fish, the handling of the fish but you  
49 wouldn't be able to participate in the take, and so  
50



0129

1 would this reduce the overall harvest by thousands of  
2 fish, I think the answer is no, I think we would see a  
3 minimal reduction in who's able to harvest the fish.

4

5 That was a really longwinded answer. I  
6 guess I want to ask if OSM wants to clarify anything I  
7 might have confused.

8

9 MS. KENNER: Yeah, this is Pippa Kenner  
10 with OSM, Madame Chair.

11

12 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Go ahead.

13

14 MS. KENNER: Yeah, through the Chair.  
15 I'd like to try to answer the member's question. I  
16 happen to have it in front of me. For a five year  
17 average between 2013 and 2017, the Fairbanks Northstar  
18 Borough which is probably the home of the majority of  
19 the non-Federally-qualified users who are harvesting  
20 salmon in the Kuskokwim [sic] River drainage, that five  
21 year average was 96 chinook, 262 summer chum, and the  
22 five year average for fall chum was 3,392.

23

24 Additionally, I have that one of the  
25 big difference -- one of the effects if these special  
26 actions were approved by the Board is that in Federal  
27 public waters, Federal subsistence fishing schedules,  
28 openings, closures and fishing method would be  
29 determined by the Federal fisheries manager. We would  
30 no longer be following State emergency orders.

31

32 Thank you, Madame Chair.

33

34 MS. CARROLL: Madame Chair, this is  
35 Holly Carroll. I did want to make a clarification on  
36 one of Pippa's points.

37

38 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes, go  
39 ahead, Holly.

40

41 MS. CARROLL: She accidentally  
42 mentioned the Kuskokwim River and what she meant to say  
43 was the Yukon River. And the other thing that's  
44 important to note is that fishermen who are from the  
45 Northstar Borough and want to fish on the Yukon River,  
46 they require a permit, and that permit is given out by  
47 the State. If there is a Federal special action that  
48 applies to Federal waters only, those people, you know,  
49 will still need a permit to fish in State waters. So

50

0130

1 depending on the management of the State and the  
2 Federal managers, maybe they would be aligned, maybe  
3 they would be different. But let's say there's an  
4 opening, let's say there is a fishery opening in  
5 Federal waters and it would be only to non-Federally-  
6 qualified users, now let's say that the State and the  
7 Federal managers agree that there is a harvestable  
8 surplus, they might have a similar opening in State  
9 waters. Those harvests that you see that Pippa pulled  
10 up, those would not necessarily change because those  
11 people could still go get permits and fish in State  
12 waters. You just wouldn't see any of those permitted  
13 fishers fishing in Federal waters.

14  
15 So hopefully that still clarifies it a  
16 little bit further.

17  
18 MR. BASSICH: Madame Chair, Andy,  
19 followup.

20  
21 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Go ahead.

22  
23 MR. BASSICH: Yeah, thank you. Thank  
24 you for that really quick analysis, Holly and Pippa.  
25 The point I'm -- the bottom line, the point I'm trying  
26 to make, I think, is taking this special action request  
27 is not going to reduce the harvest of chinook, fall  
28 chum or summer chum in any real meaningful way in my  
29 opinion and I think that it sets things up for people  
30 to create some controversy and maybe some competition  
31 with each other, animosities. And I think it's coming  
32 at a bad time when we all need to be working together  
33 and I think we can focus on more positive ways to  
34 conserve salmon and make sure that people have salmon  
35 when possible.

36  
37 The second question I had and I think  
38 you kind of hit on this, is this action would not  
39 affect State waters and the map that I requested be  
40 sent to everybody about a week or so ago shows that  
41 basically the Tanana region and where there's road  
42 access to the Yukon River by the majority of people who  
43 would be fishing is completely unaffected by this  
44 because those are State waters. So, again, this action  
45 request would not really have much teeth to stopping  
46 any harvest.

47  
48 I just wanted to make one final comment  
49 and that is that the reason why we're in such a bad  
50

0131

1 condition isn't because we're not getting the fish to  
2 the people who want it, everybody wants it, the reason  
3 is there just aren't enough fish, period. We have --  
4 we have escapement goals, which were mentioned in this  
5 special action request that have not been met many,  
6 many years, that's contributing to the decline of  
7 salmon. So you can't expect to harvest salmon for  
8 anybody on years when the abundance is low like last  
9 year and even meet escapement goals, and that is a  
10 primary concern for rebuilding stocks, you must meet  
11 escapement goals consistently if you want to rebuild  
12 stocks. So I think really what the people on the Yukon  
13 River need to begin to talk about is a very consistent,  
14 extremely small harvest of chinook salmon on the years  
15 of low abundance so that the maximum amount of fish can  
16 get to the spawning ground to begin to rebuild and that  
17 has to take place of a -- for a minimum of one life  
18 cycle, six years. And I realize the hardship,  
19 everybody feels it, I feel it, but if we're really  
20 serious about rebuilding salmon we have to start  
21 talking about how maybe we can all take just one or two  
22 salmon to keep the traditional aspects of it alive in  
23 our communities and to begin to seek other resources to  
24 take the place of them.

25

26 Those are my feelings, those are my  
27 comments. I think those are the things we really need  
28 to be talking about and we need to work together on  
29 this in the Yukon River and not start throwing stones  
30 at anybody and blaming anybody. We're all in this  
31 together, we need to come up with solutions, positive  
32 solutions, none of them are going to be 100 percent  
33 acceptable to everyone because as well as been pointed  
34 during this meeting, salmon is a huge resource need for  
35 people on the Yukon River but the bottom line is  
36 they're just not there. So you can't harvest on low  
37 abundance years and rebuild at the same time. So we  
38 need to make some serious decisions as fishers on the  
39 river. What's more important to us, do we harvest fish  
40 right now or do we put those fish in the bank and try  
41 and rebuild these for future generations of people.

42

43 Those are the questions we have to ask  
44 ourselves and those are the things we need to talk  
45 about.

46

47 Thank you, Madame Chair.

48

49 And no disrespect. I think -- I

50

0132

1 understand the intent of this but I will tell you right  
2 now when we take a motion on this, I'm not going to  
3 support it because it's not going to achieve anything  
4 and, if anything, all it's going to do is set up  
5 conflict and animosities when we should be working on  
6 solutions to work together and minimize harvest and try  
7 and maximize our rebuilding effort. Those are the  
8 commitments we need to make in my opinion.

9  
10 Thank you, Madame Chair, that's all I  
11 have.

12  
13 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, Andy, I  
14 think you're making comments to a motion but I am going  
15 to allow -- I allowed you to do that and not ask a  
16 question so maybe end them with questions from now on  
17 everybody. Charlie Wright, I'm calling on you, your  
18 hand is raised, so go ahead on this.

19  
20 (No comments)

21  
22 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, I  
23 called on Charlie and I had the doggone phone on mute  
24 so you got to start all over Charlie, go ahead, I  
25 apologize.

26  
27 (Laughter)

28  
29 MR. WRIGHT: All right, thank you,  
30 Madame Chair.

31  
32 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.

33  
34 MR. WRIGHT: The SAR doesn't ask for  
35 fishing this summer, it's also conservation minded  
36 otherwise I wouldn't have put it in. I'm very  
37 conservation minded and I worry about the people's  
38 ability to eat equally when there's an abundant amount  
39 of fish. I am not asking -- it doesn't say in there  
40 anywhere can we fish this summer. The SAR is  
41 conservation minded.

42  
43 It's the law and it's been going on for  
44 a long time without the Federal stepping in or doing  
45 anything about it, about us struggling and sacrificing.  
46 The Yukon salmon situation fits under the provisions of  
47 ANILCA, this is SAR -- this SAR simply asks for the  
48 Federal Subsistence Board to do their jobs by limiting  
49 Federal qualified harvest -- harvest to Federally-  
50

0133

1 qualified users if there's enough fish. The SAR is  
2 simply asking that all provisions of ANILCA be upheld  
3 by the Federal Subsistence Board at all times. It's  
4 just simply asking them to do the job and follow the  
5 ANILCA law.

6  
7 There's a lot more to do with it than  
8 said today so we should give everybody a little time to  
9 do their homework and read about it and find out about  
10 all sides of it. We can't make determinations off of  
11 not knowing all the pros and cons so I'd recommend  
12 people read up on it. We got meetings coming up.

13  
14 That's all I had to say for right now,  
15 thank you.

16  
17 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. I just  
18 need a little bit of help here from Staff. So there's  
19 four of them and I guess they all say similar things.

20  
21 MR. WRIGHT: Exactly.

22  
23 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah. So the  
24 -- and this is an action item for us and God Bless  
25 Marcy she actually had this printed for us so now we're  
26 looking at something that was online and now we can  
27 physically see it, so am I to go through this like from  
28 the beginning of how we deal with regular proposals.

29  
30 Can you answer that for me, Katya.

31  
32 MS. KENNER: Madame Chair, while  
33 Katya's getting ready to come on -- no, public comment  
34 would be at the call of the Chair. No other process is  
35 required other than motion, discussion, deliberation  
36 and vote.

37  
38 MS. WESSELS: Thank you, Pippa. This  
39 is Katya. Yes, Sue -- Madame Chair, since this is a  
40 special action request that was received by the Federal  
41 Subsistence Board, at this point we're looking for a  
42 recommendation from this Council that we can pass on to  
43 the Board when they're going to deliberate these  
44 special actions -- these four special actions. I know  
45 as Cory pointed out in his presentation, there will be  
46 opportunities, several opportunities for the public to  
47 provide their public comments, public feedback to the  
48 Board during the public meetings and for the tribes  
49 also additionally during the tribal consultations. You  
50

0134

1 can allow public comments if you wish at this meeting  
2 but that is not what the request is right now, the  
3 request from the Council is to formulate the Council's  
4 opinion on these pending special action requests.

5

6 Thank you.

7

8 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay,  
9 thank.....

10

11 MS. KENNER: Madame Chair.....

12

13 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: .....you,  
14 Katya, that helps. Yes, did you have additions.

15

16 MS. KENNER: Yeah, Madame Chair, this  
17 is Pippa Kenner with OSM. When the member asked about  
18 what the harvest of salmon is in the State subsistence  
19 and personal use fisheries in the -- done by residents  
20 of the Fairbanks Northstar Borough, which is a non-  
21 subsistence area, I think the member might also be  
22 interested to know what recent commercial harvest have  
23 been. Much of the commercial fishery in the Yukon  
24 River drainage is conducted in Federal public waters,  
25 particularly in the lower river.

26

27 Thank you.

28

29 And my point is that the commercial  
30 fishery would not be able to open.

31

32 Thank you, again.

33

34 MR. WRIGHT: Through all that time when  
35 they weren't making escapement they were.

36

37 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I was -- I  
38 just asked a question about this commercial harvest, is  
39 -- and I asked Charlie off record, I'm sorry that I  
40 didn't have the mic turned on. There's a commercial  
41 fishery still going on?

42

43 MR. WRIGHT: Not at this time.

44

45 (Various people talking in Fairbanks)

46

47 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, she  
48 alluded to it was and Charlie's saying, no, there isn't  
49 one.

50

0135

1 MR. BASSICH: Summer chum. Summer  
2 chum.

3  
4 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.  
5 Someone is hollering in summer chum. Okay there's a  
6 commercial fishery for summer chum but not.....

7  
8 MS. KENNER: Madame Chair, this is  
9 Pippa.

10  
11 (Various people talking in Fairbanks)

12  
13 MS. KENNER: You might better.....

14  
15 MR. BASSICH: Madame Chair.

16  
17 REPORTER: Okay, hang on. Hang on  
18 Pippa. Pippa, hold on. So I'm going to need one  
19 person to talk at a time. I got Sue, Charlie, Pippa,  
20 so just one at a time please, thanks.

21  
22 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, I'm  
23 just going to butt in here right now, I apologize,  
24 Tina, but I think we're only talking over each other  
25 because of this bloody delay. But, Holly go ahead.

26  
27 MS. CARROLL: Thanks, Madame Chair.  
28 This is Holly Carroll, Yukon Fishery Manager from U.S.  
29 Fish and Wildlife Service. I think you're asking a  
30 great question. There is not directed commercial  
31 fishing for chinook, there is in some years when the  
32 abundance is good, there is a directed commercial  
33 fishery for summer chum and for fall chum. And because  
34 the summer chum overlap with chinook, there may be  
35 opportunity for summer chum harvest while there are  
36 chinook restrictions in place. But often the chinook  
37 commercial -- or excuse me -- summer chum commercial  
38 fishing that would occur often occurs in the very lower  
39 part of the river in District 1, and sometimes in the  
40 lower part of District 2 or District 2, and it almost  
41 never occurs before the final week of June or the first  
42 week of July and so usually at that time nearly all of  
43 the chinook have passed through the river, but there  
44 are occasions in previous years when the abundance of  
45 summer chum have been high and when the abundance of  
46 chinook warranted it, that those commercial fishers may  
47 retain chinook in that commercial fishery if they catch  
48 them in their six inch gillnets and they may retain  
49 them for subsistence use.

50

0136

1                   So I just wanted to clarify that for  
2 everyone's understanding.

3  
4                   I will add, though, that last year  
5 there was no commercial fishery whatsoever for salmon.  
6 And with the coming run sizes we are predicting zero  
7 commercial fishing again.

8  
9                   MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That's  
10 extremely helpful, thank you.

11  
12                  MS. KENNER: Madame Chair, this is  
13 Pippa Kenner.

14  
15                  MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, Pippa,  
16 additional information I take it.

17  
18                  MS. KENNER: Yes. If you read -- if  
19 you read the special action request in detail, I think  
20 that one of the issues that they bring up is  
21 occasionally there has been a lower river commercial  
22 fishery for like fall chum salmon and before we realize  
23 that the run is weak and not just late, so we might  
24 have some commercial harvest while later the upper  
25 river is closed to harvest because we see the salmon  
26 passing the Pilot Station sonar, in real life it's a  
27 weak run.

28  
29                  Thank you.

30  
31                  MR. WOODRUFF: Sue, this is Don.

32  
33                  MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah. Don,  
34 go ahead.

35  
36                  MR. WOODRUFF: Thank you. I want to  
37 thank Charlie for his participation in the .804  
38 process. I think we're having some good discussion  
39 about this and without that I don't think that would be  
40 happening. And at our last meeting, I said it's the  
41 stakeholders, the people that are going hungry that are  
42 going to try and solve this problem and I appreciate  
43 everyone working together.

44  
45                  Thank you.

46  
47                  MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, and for  
48 me it's this -- the commercial harvest. I've been on  
49 this Council for 20 years and I actually was tendering  
50



0137

1 on the Yukon before I got on this Council and it's when  
2 the Yukon kings crashed. I went up there to work and  
3 there wasn't -- I got one fish delivered to me. So  
4 it's really hard to watch what's going on here. I  
5 don't know how managers do it but it's really hard with  
6 the commercial harvest happening when you guys are  
7 closed up river. And further discussion would be  
8 helping someone like me.....

9

10 MR. GLANZ: Yeah.

11

12 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: .....and it  
13 will help us when we get into this next meeting. It's  
14 the same thing.

15

16 Charlie.

17

18 MR. WRIGHT: I'd like to say some more.

19

20 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Go ahead.

21

22 MR. WRIGHT: Well, the SAR will make  
23 sure that there ain't no commercial in times of  
24 hardship and it'll make sure that the salmon are spread  
25 out through the river equally, meaning that Andy  
26 Bassich, we'll make sure that he gets some fish up  
27 there at his place and everybody along the river gets a  
28 fair share instead of only one end of the river getting  
29 it. I don't like to point figures at nobody but  
30 everybody on the river is having a hard time, not  
31 getting no food put away, no fish in the freezer, it's  
32 not about one area, it's about everybody getting fish  
33 equally. Having something to eat. That's who I work  
34 for is the people, the stakeholders on the river that  
35 are going hungry right now, they have no meat, no fish,  
36 they have nothing on the shelves in their store.  
37 That's what made me write this SAR is the people are  
38 going hungry and that's my job to make sure that they  
39 get food. Period.

40

41 Thank you.

42

43 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.  
44 Further -- I don't have to go through that long process  
45 so we can have discussion here. Is there further  
46 discussion.

47

48 MR. JAGOW: I guess I got a question.

49

50

0138

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.  
2 Charlie Jagow has a question.

3  
4 MR. JAGOW: Yeah. When exactly would a  
5 special action, like what would be the criteria for  
6 that going forth in a given season.

7  
8 MR. WRIGHT: In any time?

9  
10 MR. JAGOW: Yeah.

11  
12 MR. WRIGHT: The lack of opportunity  
13 for people to.....

14  
15 MR. JAGOW: Okay.

16  
17 MR. WRIGHT: .....get food, put fish in  
18 their freezers and on the table.

19  
20 MR. JAGOW: So it would be, in other  
21 words, a number.....

22  
23 MR. WRIGHT: In the years of low  
24 numbers.

25  
26 MR. JAGOW: Yeah. So there would be a  
27 specific count number though?

28  
29 MR. WRIGHT: Well would have to go into  
30 conservation and cut people off from eating.....

31  
32 MR. JAGOW: Yeah.

33  
34 MR. WRIGHT: .....where we have been  
35 for a long time and sacrificing, that puts us where  
36 we're at right now.

37  
38 MR. JAGOW: But there would be a  
39 specific.....

40  
41 MR. WRIGHT: I don't know if there's a  
42 number. But when they tell us we can't fish in the  
43 upper river that's specific enough.

44  
45 MR. JAGOW: Okay. Okay. So in other  
46 words, when there's a shutdown.....

47  
48 MR. WRIGHT: Yep.

49  
50

0139

1 MR. JAGOW: .....up the river.

2

3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Does that  
4 help you.

5

6 MR. WRIGHT: Here -- right here, it  
7 says the whole aim of ANILCA is to provide a  
8 subsistence priority during times of restrictions for  
9 rural communities who have no reasonable access to  
10 other resources. They're hungry.

11

12 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Questions.

13

14 MR. WRIGHT: No.

15

16 MR. BASSICH: Madame Chair, Andy.

17

18 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Andy, go  
19 ahead.

20

21 MR. BASSICH: Yeah, I'm wondering is  
22 there a motion on the table, I don't remember hearing  
23 one but I'm.....

24

25 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: There --  
26 there isn't.

27

28 MR. BASSICH: .....just bringing that  
29 up for Robert's Rules of Order here.

30

31 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, but I  
32 let you talk about it first without any motion so I am  
33 allowing the rest of them to do the same. I'm sorry.

34

35 MR. BASSICH: No, that's fine, I'm just  
36 curious, I mean when were we going to make a motion --  
37 I'm happy to hear the discussion, I think it's really  
38 important, I'm just trying to follow a little bit of  
39 protocols and I was just.....

40

41 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

42

43 MR. BASSICH: .....if we need a motion  
44 then maybe Charlie could make a motion to support his  
45 thing and then we can continue our discussion. I'm  
46 just trying to make it better for the record keeper,  
47 Madame Chair.

48

49 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I appreciate

50

0140

1 it. Yeah, I know I -- I allowed you all to have  
2 discussion and that does happen often when something  
3 gets introduced like this. So every now and then we  
4 relax the rules. But, yes, you bring up a point, we  
5 need to have a motion to continue to discuss.

6

7 MR. WRIGHT: Well I'll make the motion  
8 to support as amended FSA22-01 to go forward.

9

10 Thank you.

11

12 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, Charlie  
13 Wright has made the motion.

14

15 MR. GLANZ: I will second it, Madame  
16 Chair.

17

18 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And Bill has  
19 seconded it for the Special Action 01, correct?

20

21 (No comments)

22

23 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So you're not  
24 addressing the other ones, we're just addressing 01.

25

26 MR. WRIGHT: Well, we could do the  
27 whole -- they're all there -- so we could do 01, 02, 03  
28 and 04.

29

30 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: What is your  
31 pleasure?

32

33 MS. EVANS: Well, they're basically all  
34 the same, correct.....

35

36 MR. WRIGHT: Yeah.

37

38 MS. EVANS: .....yeah.

39

40 MR. WRIGHT: But they all count because  
41 they're coming from four different villages.

42

43 MS. EVANS: Uh-huh.

44

45 MR. WRIGHT: So I support all of them.

46

47 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, so your  
48 motion is to support all four.

49

50

0141

1 MR. WRIGHT: My motion is to put -- to  
2 support FSA22-01, 2, 3 and 4 going forward. Thank you,  
3 Madame Chair.

4  
5 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Is it okay  
6 with the second?

7  
8 MR. GLANZ: Yes, I second it also.

9  
10 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. And  
11 Bill Glanz seconded it. Okay, further discussion.

12  
13 MR. BASSICH: Andy.

14  
15 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Go ahead  
16 Andy.

17  
18 MR. BASSICH: Yeah, thank you, Madame  
19 Chair. I just want to -- I want people to understand  
20 where I'm coming from and, Charlie, this isn't nothing  
21 against your motion, I understand why you're doing it  
22 very well. I guess my concern is I don't see the  
23 effectiveness of it in the long run because, quite  
24 frankly, if there aren't enough fish to harvest then  
25 there's no real point in it.

26  
27 But I understand what you're trying to  
28 do and I definitely applaud that. Conservation is the  
29 primary thing we need to do. I just feel, personally,  
30 that there are other things we can spend our time and  
31 effort on that will be more productive than that.

32  
33 I also recognize with over 20 years of  
34 studying the fisheries on the Yukon River, I understand  
35 the incredible economic importance to even a limited  
36 summer chum harvest when it's abundant enough, in not  
37 only in the lower river, but sometimes the middle  
38 river, that's incredibly important because that's an  
39 incredibly poor region for people to live. So I'm just  
40 being thoughtful of the economic situation there. And  
41 that's not taking away from the middle or the upper  
42 river in their food needs by no means. But the point  
43 of the questions that I was asking earlier is that I  
44 just don't see by limiting a handful of people that the  
45 harvest is going to be reduced, and I think it'd be  
46 much more productive for all the people on the river to  
47 make the commitment to only take one or two king salmon  
48 even if there is an opening and let the rest of the  
49 fish pass by. I think that would be far more effective  
50

0142

1 than just closing the door on everyone. And I think  
2 the emphasis on the salmon harvest needs to be a  
3 commitment by people long-term for minimal harvest and  
4 to start looking for other resources and ways to meet  
5 your needs.

6  
7 But I totally understand where you're  
8 coming from and I feel like, you know, in some ways I'd  
9 like to be able to support it but I just don't think  
10 that for me, personally, I don't think it's going to be  
11 effective and I think it's a little bit diversive in  
12 the Yukon River. I just really feel like we need to  
13 have positive discussions about people but I do -- I do  
14 understand why you're doing this.

15  
16 And the last thing I'd like to make is  
17 in the future, you know, we're all going to disagree  
18 with each other from time to time but I take quite a  
19 bit of offense when people make kind of personal  
20 attacks or point out personal names to people when  
21 they're doing things. We all have our passions. We  
22 all have our opinions. And it's not proper, it's not  
23 ethical and it's not right to call out other members on  
24 your Council in a negative way. So I just want to  
25 bring that up because I certainly don't want to hear  
26 that again.

27  
28 Thank you, Madame Chair. That's all I  
29 have to say on the subject.

30  
31 MR. WRIGHT: I apologize if you took it  
32 the wrong way.

33  
34 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah.  
35 Charlie, go ahead, Charlie Wright.

36  
37 MR. WRIGHT: Andy, I wanted to let you  
38 know that I, in no way, meant to insult you in no way,  
39 I just was simply stating that we all need fish just as  
40 equal. And I apologize if I did offend you in any way.

41  
42 MR. BASSICH: It's okay, Charlie, we  
43 know each other. I respect you greatly. So no  
44 offense.

45  
46 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right,  
47 thank you guys. I have a question and 20 years of  
48 working -- I think it's 21 right now, of working on the  
49 Yukon River fishery, and watching what's going on, so  
50

0143

1 am I to understand that if this happened, the Federal  
2 could still open.....

3

4 MR. WRIGHT: In their waters, yeah.

5

6 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: .....in their  
7 waters. So then you guys would be more restrictive  
8 than the State.

9

10 MR. WRIGHT: Well, it'll be -- it'll be  
11 about equal and there'll be opportunity equal across  
12 the board. The people that I worry about and trying  
13 not to insult, would be like Andy said, there's people  
14 in the river that sell a few fish, in the middle river,  
15 gets an opportunity also but if you look at who  
16 approved, the coastal, they all approved, all the  
17 people down there already approved of this so I think  
18 in my mind that they're all worried about feeding their  
19 people right now and having some food and worrying  
20 about conservation and making sure the wild stocks of  
21 salmon stay in the Yukon. That's kind of one of the  
22 driving facts also is that we need to make sure that  
23 these wild stocks stay in the river for future  
24 generations to eat. And I have more than one reason  
25 for doing it, and that's one, conservation, and making  
26 sure the wild stocks stay. And it seems to me that  
27 everybody who has approved this is worried about  
28 conservation and substance and having food in the  
29 future. That's one of the main things that's on my  
30 mind.

31

32 Thank you, Madame Chair.

33

34 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh, thank  
35 you, Charlie. If it's okay with the Council members I  
36 have a couple more questions here. Are the managers,  
37 are they working together and seeing -- I mean like  
38 what's the numbers, are the numbers pretty great on  
39 State lands -- or State waters, I'm sorry.

40

41 MR. WRIGHT: Well -- this is Charlie,  
42 Madame Chair.

43

44 MS. CARROLL: Madame Chair, this is  
45 Holly Carroll.

46

47 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Go  
48 ahead Holly.

49

50

0144

1 MS. CARROLL: Sorry, I didn't mean to  
2 speak over Member Wright. I would defer to him.

3  
4 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Charlie.  
5 You're perfectly well to speak and she can speak after  
6 you.

7  
8 MR. WRIGHT: I lost my thought now.

9  
10 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: No, you were  
11 going to answer the question about how many numbers of  
12 fish were taken in the State waters.

13  
14 MR. WRIGHT: Well, it's not a -- let  
15 her go first and I'll think about it.

16  
17 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.  
18 Charlie needs to think about it, and I get it Charlie,  
19 go ahead, Holly.

20  
21 MS. CARROLL: Okay. I want to take a  
22 stab at a couple things. I'm hearing some great  
23 conversation but I do feel the need to clarify a couple  
24 things. I'm not trying to take a position on this  
25 special action, that is the Board's decision, but I do  
26 want to clear up misconceptions.

27  
28 I was at the previous YKDelta RAC and I  
29 do not believe there were many residents from Hooper  
30 Bay, Scammon Bay or Chevak, in fact the Chevak member  
31 I'm used to working with was not on the call. So I do  
32 think some of the coastal communities may not yet know  
33 that they are excluded as Federally-qualified users for  
34 chinook and summer chum. That is something we need to  
35 work on letting them know about. So I do not feel that  
36 we know, yet, how those communities feel about this. I  
37 just wanted to throw that out there.

38  
39 Another thing is that when we're  
40 talking about ANILCA and Section .804, it does say that  
41 whenever it is necessary to restrict the taking of fish  
42 and wildlife on such lands for subsistence uses in  
43 order to protect the continued viability of such  
44 populations or to continue such uses, priorities shall  
45 be implemented through the appropriate limitation based  
46 on the application of the following criteria: So  
47 customary and direct dependence on the population as  
48 the mainstay of livelihood, as Mr. Wright mentioned;  
49 local residency and the availability of alternative  
50



0145

1 resources. But I do want to remind people, and this  
2 came up in a previous meeting, that ANILCA also does  
3 require us as managers to protect the populations for  
4 future viabilities so it does not ensure that there  
5 will be fishing under ANILCA if there is not a  
6 harvestable surplus. So that's a clarification I've  
7 made at both the recent RAC meetings.

8

9

10 Then to the question about whether the  
11 State and Federal managers are going to work together.  
12 You're asking a really good question, Madame Chair,  
13 because if we're going to have -- if this were to pass  
14 and you were to have the Federal managers managing the  
15 Federal waters and the State managers managing the  
16 State waters, we have been working very well together.  
17 We meet daily during the season. We meet pre-season.  
18 And we discuss all of the forecasts, and we come to a  
19 consensus on the management strategy. That has already  
20 happened, for instance, we have to do that now in order  
21 to prepare our presentations to the Yukon River Panel  
22 and to the pre-season meeting. So we do not make  
23 management decisions that are out of consensus, at  
24 least we have not in the past six years. Me, as the  
25 Federal manager, at any time I can take management  
26 actions in the Federal waters if I felt that I was not  
27 in agreement with the State managers. But we have been  
28 able to assess the data together and make agreements  
29 and that includes the forecasted runs that we're seeing  
30 now and our management strategy for the upcoming  
31 season. So no matter what the Board decides, I think  
32 it's safe to say that this Yukon management team of the  
33 Federal team and the State team would do our best to  
34 continue to coordinate so that State waters and Federal  
35 waters, so that the management actions looked similar.  
36 I don't see all of a sudden us disagreeing on our  
37 management strategy.

38

39

40

41

42

43

44

45

46

47

48

49

50

Hopefully that clarifies things for  
you.

MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes, thank  
you. Charlie.

MR. WRIGHT: Yeah, I.....

MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: This is  
Charlie Wright.

MR. WRIGHT: This is Charlie. And,

0146

1 thank you, Madame Chair. I think that if we move  
2 forward and get into these special meetings for the SAR  
3 that we could then talk numbers and amending the SAR.  
4 It's not set in stone in any way or formed at this  
5 point, as far as I can understand, and things can  
6 change. So we can, in the meantime, do a little  
7 reading and familiarize ourself and go forward in a  
8 positive way that can help people into the future,  
9 whatever way it may end up being.

10

11 Thank you, Madame Chair.

12

13 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Just  
14 so we're all understanding things and it's probably I'm  
15 a little slow today it seems, so maybe it's.....

16

17 MR. GLANZ: At least I ain't falling  
18 asleep this time.

19

20 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: .....as I get  
21 older.

22

23 (Laughter)

24

25 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: But I have a  
26 couple questions and then I -- to help us procedurally.  
27 There has been some people asking me, by text, about  
28 the procedure and it says -- we will take this up  
29 again, even though we make some kind of vote here today  
30 and so my questions -- these are the couple questions I  
31 have. There was very little public comment and the  
32 other regions -- did any of the other RACs take public  
33 comments on these special actions.

34

35 (No comments)

36

37 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Can Pippa  
38 answer that.

39

40 MS. KENNER: I'm sorry, Madame Chair,  
41 can you repeat your question.

42

43 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Did any of  
44 the other RACs that's already voted on this take public  
45 comment?

46

47 MS. KENNER: Thank you for the  
48 question, Madame Chair. For the record, this is Pippa  
49 Kenner, no, they did not. Hold it, I'm going to back  
50

0147

1 up. No, nope, they did not. Thank you, Madame Chair.

2

3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. And  
4 then would this special action be temporary?

5

6 MR. WRIGHT: It would revisit every  
7 year.

8

9 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.  
10 Charlie is telling me.....

11

12 MS. KENNER: I'm going to -- I have  
13 to.....

14

15 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: .....it would  
16 be revisited.....

17

18 MS. KENNER: .....interrupt,  
19 Madame.....

20

21 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: .....every  
22 year.

23

24 MS. KENNER: I have to interrupt,  
25 Madame Chair, I have been corrected. The Western  
26 Interior Council did ask for public comment. The  
27 YKDelta Council did not. And the Seward Peninsula  
28 Council did not. Can somebody correct me if that's  
29 wrong.

30

31 MR. GRAHAM: Madame Chair, this is Cory  
32 Graham.....

33

34 MS. KENNER: Madame Chair.

35

36 MR. GRAHAM: .....with OSM. I believe  
37 that public comments were given at all three RAC  
38 meetings.

39

40 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, yeah,  
41 that's important to us here and myself to do it right  
42 and if there is public comment I will take it but I  
43 have a couple more questions.

44

45 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Charlie just  
46 answered my question about a special action is temp --  
47 it's every year, it has to be revisited every year, are  
48 we correct in that?

49

50

0148

1 (Pause)

2

3

MS. KENNER: Madame Chair, this is  
4 Pippa. You're asking the duration of this special  
5 action request, the request is for one fishing season,  
6 from June 1st to September 30th after which it would  
7 end if -- if some -- and another special action request  
8 would need to be submitted.

9

10 Thank you, Madame Chair.

11

12 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you,  
13 Pippa. And then my last question and maybe it's  
14 already been answered but I'm going to ask it again.  
15 If this passed, this one year passed, what would the  
16 State likely do, can they answer that?

17

18 MS. CARROLL: Madame Chair, you have  
19 the Federal -- the State manager on the line, Deena  
20 Jallen, I'm sure she'd be willing to speak to what her  
21 predictions and management strategies are for the  
22 coming season.

23

24 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: That would be  
25 great.

26

27 (No comments)

28

29 MS. CARROLL: In the past she's had  
30 issues getting unmuted, Deena Jallen are you able to  
31 speak.

32

33 MS. JALLEN: Hi, hello, can you hear me  
34 now.

35

36 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes, go  
37 ahead.

38

39 MS. JALLEN: Hi, yeah, thank you, this  
40 is Deena Jallen with the Alaska Department of Fish and  
41 Game. Yeah, every time I go on and off mute I miss a  
42 couple seconds of conversation.

43

44 I believe the question was, what was  
45 our management strategy for this season?

46

47 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: No. My  
48 question is if this special action were to pass, what  
49 would the State do?

50

0149

1 MS. JALLEN: I think that -- you know,  
2 it's been awhile since we've dealt with special  
3 actions. I think, you know, kind of whether or not it  
4 passes or not, we manage according to our management  
5 plans and our management plans have priority for  
6 escapement goals and then if it looks like we're going  
7 to have escapement goals then we manage to provide  
8 subsistence opportunity. In the case of our summer  
9 chum management plan we don't -- we're not -- you know  
10 the plan directs us to not allow fishing for  
11 subsistence unless the run is going to meet the  
12 drainage-wide escapement goal of half a million fish.  
13 And so right now our projection for the season is below  
14 that half a million threshold. If it becomes above  
15 that half million threshold then we would consider  
16 openings for subsistence fishing. We're guided by the  
17 plans that are in our regulation, and managing to meet  
18 escapement goals and to meet the guidelines laid out in  
19 the plans. So I'm not entirely sure how it would work  
20 out in-season. I think even if this did pass, Holly  
21 and I are still going to be communicating daily. These  
22 fish travel up river, they start in the lower Yukon,  
23 you know, maybe start entering the river June 1 and it  
24 takes them a month to get up river and as they travel  
25 up stream they're going to be going in and out of  
26 Federal waters, in and out of State waters, you know,  
27 that coordination of the timing and the opening and the  
28 opportunity it's kind of a -- it's a complicated --  
29 it's a lot of balls in the area that we're -- that  
30 we're continuously looking at in-season to manage these  
31 runs as they get up stream. And, of course, it's  
32 unfortunate that, you know, the fishing conditions up  
33 river look vastly different from fishing conditions  
34 down river. In the lower river they see every single  
35 salmon come through the river and that's why their  
36 fishing openings, if they're on a subsistence schedule,  
37 are typically short, two 36 hour periods per week. As  
38 the fish travel up river there get to be fewer and  
39 fewer fish as they peel off to their spawning grounds,  
40 which may be in Federal and State waters as they peel  
41 off. By the time fish get up closer to the US/Canada  
42 border, there may be very few fish traveling by at any  
43 given time. And so that's why, typically, in a good  
44 season when there's no subsistence restrictions those  
45 areas are open 24 hours a day seven days a week to help  
46 balance out those differences and opportunity. So, you  
47 know, even if this passes we still have to work  
48 together, we still have to work together to balance  
49 opportunities based on the runs we're seeing in-river.  
50

0150

1 You've got a mix of projects that are both State and  
2 Federally-run. We still need to mesh all that data  
3 together, all the information together and help make  
4 the decisions that are also helpful for fishermen so  
5 that they're not trying to, you know, figure out if  
6 they are in this section of the river, are they in  
7 Federal waters, if they go up stream two miles, are  
8 they in State waters. So there would still be a lot of  
9 coordination that would still continue to happen  
10 throughout the season.

11

12 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, thank  
13 you. Any other questions, Council members.

14

15 MS. WESSELS: Madame Chair, this is  
16 Katya.

17

18 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Go ahead,  
19 Katya.

20

21 MS. WESSELS: Yeah, I just need to  
22 clarify about the public comments at the other  
23 Council's meetings. Actually there were no public  
24 comments allowed during the Seward Peninsula and  
25 YKDelta meeting. There were two public comments  
26 allowed during the Western Interior meeting and that  
27 was at the insistence of one of the Council members  
28 that the Chair of the Western Interior allowed those  
29 two public comments. We were just checking our records  
30 so we needed to clarify this.

31

32 Thank you.

33

34 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, thank  
35 you. So it's up to the Chair to allow public  
36 comment.....

37

38 MS. WESSELS: Yes, it is up to the  
39 Chair.

40

41 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: .....at our  
42 meeting.

43

44 MS. WESSELS: Yes. But like I said  
45 earlier there will be opportunities for the public to  
46 call into two public hearings and also for the tribes  
47 to provide comments during the tribal consultations.

48

49 Thank you.

50

0151

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, it just  
2 seems weird that this.....

3  
4 MR. BASSICH: Madame Chair.

5  
6 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: .....is just  
7 dropped on us here and then we don't have -- I've had  
8 people ask about it. So first of all I heard your  
9 voice Andy -- Charlie Wright and then you.

10  
11 Go ahead, Charlie.

12  
13 MR. WRIGHT: I just wanted to state  
14 that there was very little time for public knowledge  
15 and that might have had something to do with public  
16 comment that came into those meetings. Because it was  
17 just sprung on them without any prior knowledge of it  
18 so I think that had a lot to do with it.

19  
20 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, and I  
21 appreciate that. And I agree but I want to ask you  
22 guys, if there's someone online that does want to have  
23 a public comment, we're open to it.

24  
25 MR. WRIGHT: Yes, we are.

26  
27 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, that's  
28 the way I feel.

29  
30 MR. WRIGHT: Yep.

31  
32 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Okay.  
33 So Andy you're next.

34  
35 MR. WRIGHT: It's about the people.

36  
37 MR. BASSICH: Thank you. I have a  
38 question for OSM, at both of the other meetings the  
39 YKDelta and the Western, I'm just wondering if it was  
40 brought up, especially to the YKDelta that this SAR  
41 would completely close all commercial fisheries, if the  
42 chinook abundance was low, was that fully explained to  
43 them or did they just miss that. Because I just --  
44 understanding the fisheries and knowing the people I  
45 know down there, I have a hard time understanding why  
46 they would close -- vote to close their subsistence  
47 summer chum fisheries automatically if the chinook  
48 don't come in, even if they're abundant enough for a  
49 harvest, it's such an important part of their economy.  
50

0152

1 So I'm just curious if that discussion took place or if  
2 that was just something that was missed. i think  
3 that's important information to understand.

4

5 Thank you, Madame Chair.

6

7 MR. WRIGHT: Andy, this is Charlie.

8 Did you mean their commercial harvest would be lost or  
9 did you -- but you said subsistence, I just wanted to  
10 know if you were saying that right or you just missaid  
11 it.

12

13 MR. BASSICH: Yeah, thank you, I  
14 misspoke Charlie. I mean their commercial harvest  
15 would be closed to all fishing even if summer chum was  
16 abundant enough to have a small opening. So I guess  
17 I'm asking the fisheries biologist, and those at OSM  
18 that attended that meeting, was that discussion brought  
19 up at their meeting. That's the only information I'm  
20 looking for.

21

22 Thank you, Charlie for that correction.

23

24 (No comments)

25

26 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, can  
27 someone answer that.

28

29 (Pause)

30

31 MR. GRAHAM: Madame Chair, this is Cory  
32 Graham with.....

33

34 MS. KENNER: Yeah, this is.....

35

36 MR. GRAHAM: .....OSM -- oh, I'll let  
37 Pippa go -- sorry.

38

39 MS. KENNER: I'm sorry, I -- once again  
40 I do not think I got all of the question. I believe  
41 the question was if this special action request is  
42 approved by the Board, could a commercial fishery open  
43 in the Yukon River drainage; is that correct?

44

45 MR. BASSICH: Negative.

46

47 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: No. Andy  
48 restate your.....

49

50



0153

1 MS. EVANS: No, are (Indiscernible -  
2 away from mic).  
3

4 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: .....question  
5 again.  
6

7 MR. BASSICH: The question is -- this  
8 is Andy. Would you like me to restate the question,  
9 Madame Chair, this is Andy.  
10

11 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes, Andy I  
12 would.  
13

14 MR. BASSICH: Okay, sorry, there was a  
15 bit of a delay there. So, Pippa, the question is, at  
16 the YKDelta meeting, was there discussion about the  
17 fact that if this SAR was to be approved, that their  
18 commercial fisheries for summer chum would be closed if  
19 chinook salmon are not abundant enough and managers  
20 needed to pass all chinook salmon. So basically what  
21 I'm asking is was there discussion -- did they fully  
22 understand that by voting for this they were, in  
23 effect, closing all opportunities for their commercial  
24 harvest of summer chum if chinook come in weak, even if  
25 there's an abundance -- enough for a small commercial  
26 fisheries.  
27

28 Thank you, Madame Chair.  
29

30 MS. KENNER: Yes, Madame Chair, this is  
31 Pippa Kenner with OSM. Through the Chair. The Council  
32 discussed that there would likely be no fishing for  
33 salmon on the Yukon River drainage this coming summer,  
34 that included a closure to the commercial fishery.  
35 Thank you.  
36

37 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you.  
38 That answers the question.  
39

40 MR. GLANZ: Yes, it did.  
41

42 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Man and I'm  
43 getting feedback too. What I want to do now is see if  
44 there is anybody online that would have any public  
45 comments regarding this special action.  
46

47 MR. SIMON: Yes, Madame Chair.  
48

49 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Can you  
50

0154

1 identify yourself, please.

2

3 MR. SIMON: Yes, this is Jim Simon with  
4 Tanana Chiefs Conference.

5

6 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Go ahead,  
7 Jim.

8

9 MR. SIMON: Thank you. I've  
10 appreciated the conversation today. Some of the  
11 questions about who would be excluded if the Federal  
12 Subsistence Board took action on this proposal and I  
13 think it important for OSM Staff to clarify the  
14 responses that only the Fairbanks Northstar Borough  
15 would be excluded. Because I think that depends on  
16 whether or not the Federal Subsistence Board would  
17 adopt a subsistence user prioritization under ANILCA  
18 .809. Because if that subsistence user prioritization  
19 paralleled the 2015 analysis, that would also exclude  
20 Manley Hot Springs, Minto, Nenana, so those harvests  
21 that were asked about -- even though they're Federally-  
22 qualified, .804 prioritization reduces the pool of  
23 eligible Federal subsistence users. So I think the  
24 Council may wish to inquire more of Federal Staff to  
25 better explain what the implications and Andy's  
26 previous question about what are the non-Federal  
27 harvest levels. I think that that should -- you may --  
28 you may wish to have a secondary of what are the  
29 harvest levels of priority communities identified under  
30 the .804 analysis.

31

32 Thank you.

33

34 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.  
35 Council members any questions of the presenter.

36

37 (No comments)

38

39 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, thank  
40 you. Is there any other public comments.

41

42 (Teleconference interference -  
43 participants not muted)

44

45 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I'm hearing a  
46 voice, is there someone else who wanted to do a public  
47 comment.

48

49 MR. GLANZ: (Indiscernible - away from  
50

0155

1 mic)

2

3

MS. SHOCKLEY: Hello. Hello.

4

5

MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: If someone

6

wants to.....

7

8

MS. SHOCKLEY: Hello.

9

10

MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, go

11

ahead, identify yourself.

12

13

MS. SHOCKLEY: This is Dorothy

14

Shockley, can you hear me.

15

16

MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes, go

17

ahead.

18

19

MS. SHOCKLEY: Okay. I thought I

20

understood this -- this special request but after all  
the discussion, it's just really confusing. But in all  
due respect, I do support subsistence users having  
priority. I mean it's ridiculous that we are not able  
to fish when all other users are able to fish,  
especially in the ocean. So I just wanted to make that  
comment.

26

27

Thank you.

28

29

MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Just for me,

30

could you restate your name again and where you're  
from,

31

32

MS. SHOCKLEY: Dorothy Shockley, Manley

33

Hot Springs, Fairbanks.

34

35

MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you.

36

Thank you very much. Is there any other questions of  
Dorothy, Council members.

37

38

(No comments)

39

40

MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, hearing

41

none, is there any other public testimony.

42

43

(No comments)

44

45

MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And you have

46

to unmute your phone, that gets a little hard to

47

48

49

50

0156

1 remember at times.

2

3 (No comments)

4

5 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. I  
6 don't hear any. Interrupt if you haven't unmuted your  
7 phone.

8

9 Okay, we have a motion on the floor and  
10 I just -- like she just said, the more you hear about  
11 it the more I got confused too. So can you address  
12 some of this or -- or Charlie Wright, or how do you  
13 want to proceed.

14

15 MR. WRIGHT: Well, if there's no more  
16 comment or questions I guess we just recommend to  
17 support and move forward.

18

19 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Take a vote  
20 on it.

21

22 MR. WRIGHT: Yeah, the motion's already  
23 been -- it's already on the table.

24

25 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.

26

27 MR. GLANZ: Yeah, seconded and ready to  
28 go.

29

30 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. I do  
31 want to speak to my opinion of what we're doing here.  
32 This is really hard because I am here as a commercial  
33 and sport person and I try to do a good job of both  
34 because I wear all the hats. And I hear what Andy's  
35 saying but I also have to say, Charlie, I -- I think  
36 you send a message and for me, personally, I guess I  
37 just -- I want us working together, I don't want to  
38 see, you know, anybody pitted against anyone. And it's  
39 my understanding -- and I'm voting this way because  
40 it's my understanding that the lower Yukon, who are the  
41 commercial fishermen, they are -- they are in favor of  
42 this, is what I'm hearing and if I'm understanding it  
43 correctly, this would be based on my vote, I'm really  
44 torn at midpoint here, but at this time I want to send  
45 a message, I want to see managers do something about  
46 these fish. They need a lot of help. I want to see  
47 the escapement goal met and I'm hoping that this does  
48 not burn any bridges between user groups and I guess  
49 I'm going to have to say that I'm ready to vote.

50

0157

1                   Everyone else. And I'm voting my  
2 heart, I guess, and I pray that it sends a message that  
3 things need to be -- all these things that they talked  
4 about need to be met to get the escapement.

5

6                   MS. WESSELS: Yeah, Madame Chair, this  
7 is Katya.

8

9                   MR. KOEHLER: Madame Chair, this is  
10 Will. I have a quick question, would it be possible  
11 that we could just restate the motion right before  
12 voting, just for clarity.

13

14                   Thank you.

15

16                   MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes. yes,  
17 that's my job and I haven't done it yet, and I betcha  
18 Katya's about to do it.

19

20                   MS. WESSELS: I was not about to do it  
21 but Will read my mind. I was going to ask you, Madame  
22 Chair, to restate the motion on the record so we're  
23 clear and the Council is clear on what they're voting.

24

25                   MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And just to  
26 make sure I don't mess it up I'm going to ask Charlie  
27 to restate the motion, he made it.

28

29                   MR. WRIGHT: I made the motion to  
30 support as amended to move forward. Madame Chair,  
31 thank you.

32

33                   MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: To support,  
34 name them off.

35

36                   MR. WRIGHT: On Proposal FSA22-01, 2, 3  
37 and 4, I move to support as amended.

38

39                   MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So the motion  
40 is to support F -- Federal Special Action 22-01, 2, 3  
41 and 4, which to my understanding that creates an .804  
42 on the Yukon River.

43

44                   Okay. Do we all -- does everybody  
45 understand the motion.

46

47                   MS. WESSELS: Madame Chair, this is  
48 Katya. I guess I do not understand the motion. What  
49 -- the maker of the motion, Charlie Wright, said he

50

0158

1 supports FSA22-01, 02, 03, 04 as amended, would --  
2 could the maker of the motion please clarify what is  
3 the amendment.  
4

5 MR. WRIGHT: The amendment from the  
6 original was to add fall chum, summer chum and coho as  
7 I remember right. I just -- when I made the -- when I  
8 submitted the proposal I only said king salmon and they  
9 added the other salmon to it.

10

11 MS. KENNER: Madame Chair, this is  
12 Pippa Kenner.  
13

14

15 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, now  
16 I'm.....

17

18 MS. KENNER: I would like to make a  
19 clarification.

20

21 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Well, give  
22 her a try because I think.....

23

24 MS. KENNER: All right, yeah, these --  
25 these fisheries special action requests that we have  
26 received include chinook and summer and fall chum  
27 salmon, they do not include coho. Thank you.

28

29 MS. WESSELS: So, Madame Chair, this is  
30 Katya. Is the amendment to include coho salmon and  
31 exclude Black River as was proposed by the Western  
32 Interior and YKDelta Councils?

33

34 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And Charlie  
35 you are saying?

36

37 MR. WRIGHT: Yes.

38

39 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: The answer is  
40 yes.

41

42 MS. WESSELS: Okay, thank you. Yeah,  
43 also I just wanted to add that Seward Peninsula RAC  
44 supported these modifications as well to add coho  
45 salmon and exclude Black River. Thank you.

46

47 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. So I  
48 think we -- one more questions.

49

50 MS. EVANS: Linda Evans. Are we adding

0159

1 coho you said?

2

3 MR. WRIGHT: No. No. Just the Black  
4 River and the fall chum.

5

6 MS. EVANS: Oh, okay, thank you.

7

8 MR. WRIGHT: My -- my mistake.

9

10 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Are we clear,  
11 Council members, because we've been going back and  
12 forth and it's very confusing.

13

14 MR. WRIGHT: Yeah, it's even got me  
15 confused now.

16

17 (Laughter)

18

19 MS. EVANS: It just seems like wanted  
20 to.....

21

22 MS. WESSELS: Madame Chair, this is  
23 Katya again. I have a member -- I have a question to  
24 Member Wright. Are you saying that your motion does  
25 not include coho?

26

27 MR. WRIGHT: Well, they said -- I was  
28 just told by Pippa that it was not included.

29

30 MS. WESSELS: It was not included in  
31 the original special action request but the YKDelta and  
32 Western Interior and Seward Peninsula voted to include  
33 coho into -- as an amendment into those special action  
34 requests.

35

36 MR. WRIGHT: Okay, well, that's what I  
37 stated when I first restated it and I was told that  
38 they didn't so now you clarified it, so let's add it.

39

40 MS. WESSELS: Okay, so just to clarify  
41 the motion on the floor is to support FSA22-01, 02, 03,  
42 04 with the modification to include coho salmon and  
43 exclude Black River; is that correct?

44

45 MR. WRIGHT: Yes, Ma'am. Yes, Ma'am.

46

47 MS. WESSELS: Thank you. Thank you.

48

49 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right.

50

0160

1 Does every Council member understand the motion on the  
2 floor now? If you don't please speak up.

3

4 (No comments)

5

6 MR. GLANZ: Madame Chair, I'd like to  
7 call for the question.

8

9 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. The  
10 question has been called for and Katya can you do a  
11 roll call vote unless -- I don't think Jody's online --  
12 Jody are you online and want to do it or should we have  
13 Katya.

14

15 (No comments)

16

17 MS. WESSELS: Madame Chair, I can do  
18 it.

19

20 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Go ahead,  
21 Katya. Go ahead.

22

23 MS. WESSELS: All right.

24

25 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Go ahead.

26

27 MS. WESSELS: I will start with Linda  
28 Evans.

29

30 (No comments)

31

32 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: You got to  
33 vote.

34

35 MS. WESSELS: Linda, are you online.

36

37 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: She is.

38

39 MS. EVANS: Okay. Just a  
40 clarification. An affirmative vote adopts this SR --  
41 what do you call it.....

42

43 MR. WRIGHT: Ask her to clarify what  
44 she said.

45

46 MS. WESSELS: Special action request.

47

48 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Would you  
49 restate it for her so she understands it please.

50



0161

1 MR. WRIGHT: Oh, what a yes means.....

2

3 (Various people talking in Fairbanks)

4

5 MS. WESSELS: You want me to

6 restate.....

7

8 (Various people talking in Fairbanks)

9

10

11 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh, okay.

12 Linda wants to know if a yes supports it.

13

14 MS. WESSELS: Yes will support it.

15

16 MS. EVANS: Okay, I vote yes.

17

18 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: You got that.

19

20 MS. WESSELS: Okay, thank you. Yes, I

21 got it.

22

23 Bill Glanz.

24

25 MR. GLANZ: Yes.

26

27 MS. WESSELS: Thank you.

28

29 Andy Bassich.

30

31 MR. BASSICH: Opposed.

32

33 MS. WESSELS: Thank you.

34

35 Charlie Wright.

36

37 MR. WRIGHT: Yes.

38

39 MS. WESSELS: Charlie Jagow.

40

41 MR. JAGOW: Yes.

42

43 MS. WESSELS: Don Woodruff.

44

45 MR. WOODRUFF: Yes.

46

47 MS. WESSELS: Will Koehler.

48

49 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Will just

50

0162

1 told me he got cut off.

2

3 MS. WESSELS: Okay, we can.....

4

5 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And he told  
6 me his vote and I.....

7

8 MS. WESSELS: .....get back to him.

9

10 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

11

12 MS. WESSELS: We can get back to him

13 Sue.

14

15 Jody Potts, are you back on the phone.

16

17 (No comments)

18

19 MS. WESSELS: Okay, it looks like Jody  
20 is absent.

21

22 Nicholas Henry, are you on the phone.

23

24 (No comments)

25

26 MS. WESSELS: Okay, it looks like  
27 Nicholas is not on the phone currently.

28

29 Sue Entsminger.

30

31 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes. And I'm  
32 voting yes because of -- as I stated earlier.

33

34 MS. WESSELS: Okay, thank you.

35

36 Will Koehler, are you back on the  
37 phone.

38

39 (No comments)

40

41 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: You got to  
42 unmute it.

43

44 MR. KOEHLER: Oh, sorry, yes, I am and  
45 I vote to oppose. Thank you.

46

47 MS. WESSELS: Okay. So we have two  
48 votes in opposition and six votes for the motion -- for  
49 the -- supporting the motion so the motion passes.

50

0163

1 Thank you.

2

3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And two

4 absent. Okay.

5

6 MS. WESSELS: Yeah.

7

8 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Now we

9 need a break. We're going to give it 10 minutes and

10 we'll be back at 3:57, or 4:00 o'clock.

11

12 MR. GLANZ: 4:00 o'clock, yeah.

13

14 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: 4:00 o'clock.

15

16 (Off record)

17

18 (On record)

19

20 MS. WESSELS: Madame Chair, this is

21 Katya, I'm back on, I got dropped off the call.

22

23 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, give us

24 a few minutes and we'll come back.

25

26 MS. WESSELS: Okay.

27

28 (Pause)

29

30 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

31

32 MR. GLANZ: Anyway.....

33

34 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Uh-huh.

35 Yeah, here -- we just took a few minutes here to honor

36 Bill. A lot of people did not know that he lost his

37 wife in January and he was just telling us about it.

38 So I guess.....

39

40 MR. GLANZ: December actually, but,

41 yeah.

42

43 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Oh.

44

45 MR. GLANZ: Yeah.

46

47 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: It was in

48 December he said but at any rate it was really hard

49 because it happened when we were trying to plan another

50

0164

1 meeting and God Bless your heart and soul.

2

3 MR. GLANZ: Yeah.

4

5 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: It was really  
6 hard on him because of all these meetings and that's  
7 why we're sitting here in this room so we can help Bill  
8 out.

9

10 MR. GLANZ: Yeah.

11

12 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: It's very  
13 difficult to be on the phone in Central.

14

15 MR. GLANZ: Boy is it, it drops me so  
16 fast.

17

18 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah. Okay.  
19 We just had to have a little moment here for us here so  
20 all right we're back in session and I'm hoping we can  
21 get through this agenda tomorrow.

22

23 MR. GLANZ: Me too.

24

25 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: The next  
26 thing is call for Federal fish proposals, and Cory's  
27 going to address it for us. And most of us know the  
28 procedure on how this all works so if you could  
29 consolidate it and not so -- make it too long that  
30 would help us out here. Go ahead, Cory.

31

32 MR. GRAHAM: Thank you, Madame Chair.  
33 Again for the record my name is Cory Graham and I'm a  
34 Fisheries Biologist with OSM. I'll now provide an  
35 update on our call for Federal fisheries and shellfish  
36 proposals. This is an action item for your Council.  
37 Relevant materials for this presentation should be  
38 located in Tab 5 of your workbook.

39

40 The Federal Subsistence Board will be  
41 accepting proposals this winter and into spring to  
42 change Federal regulations for the subsistence take of  
43 fish and shellfish on Federal public lands and waters  
44 for the 2023 through 2025 regulatory cycle. The Board  
45 will consider proposals to change Federal fish and  
46 shellfish seasons, harvest limits, methods and means  
47 and customary and traditional use determinations. The  
48 window of opportunity to submit proposals is not yet  
49 opened. However, as a Council, you may vote on

50

0165

1 fisheries proposals and submit them to your Council  
2 Coordinator. Once the window officially opens,  
3 Coordinators will submit the proposals on your behalf.  
4 The general public will need to wait until the window  
5 for fisheries proposals has opened, which should be  
6 sometime soon and will stay open for at least 30 days.  
7 There will be a public news release from our office  
8 announcing the window once the dates are set.  
9 Proposals from the public will need to be submitted to  
10 the regulations.gov website. The proposals will be  
11 analyzed and presented to the Councils during their  
12 fall 2022 meeting for Council recommendations.  
13 Proposal analysis and Council recommendations will be  
14 presented to the Federal Subsistence Board for their  
15 actions during the January 2023 fisheries regulatory  
16 meeting.

17  
18 That concludes my update.

19  
20 Does the Council have any questions or  
21 regulatory proposals to put forward.

22  
23 And one quick reminder, the Council can  
24 develop proposals at any time during the meeting, and  
25 not just during this agenda item.

26  
27 Thank you.

28  
29 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes, thank  
30 you. And thank you for not going through that whole  
31 thing, we have it in our books and most of us are  
32 familiar. And, so, yes, right now this will be open  
33 until the end of the meeting. If anyone has any  
34 fisheries proposals, if something is in someone's brain  
35 right now you can bring it up now and I'm going to have  
36 to remind myself to do that at the end of the meeting  
37 too. But this is a time for Federal fish proposals.  
38 Anyone have any.

39  
40 (Teleconference interference -  
41 participants not muted)

42  
43 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I hear a dog.

44  
45 MR. WRIGHT: A hungry dog.

46  
47 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: The person  
48 with the dog barking, you might want to mute your phone  
49 unless you want to speak.

50

0166

1 MR. WRIGHT: A hungry dog who wants  
2 some fish.

3

4 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you.  
5 Okay, right now, Council members do not have anything  
6 zooming right up so if you have anything, please --  
7 that you want to submit as a proposal from this RAC  
8 this is the time to do it. Otherwise we'll take up the  
9 proposals that come before us in the next meeting.  
10 Okay, thank you very much, Cory.

11

12 And now we have the Alaska Department  
13 of Fish and Game, Nome, Beaver Creek, Grayling project  
14 update from Lisa Stuby.

15

16 MS. STUBY: Thank you, Madame Chair and  
17 members of the Council. For the record I'm Lisa Stuby,  
18 I'm with the Division of Sportfish in Fairbanks, Alaska  
19 and I'm going to give you a brief update to the Beaver  
20 Creek, Arctic grayling radiotelemetry project.

21

22 The primary objectives of this two year  
23 radiotelemetry study are to better understand the life  
24 history of Arctic grayling in Beaver Creek paying  
25 particular attention to the wild and scenic portion in  
26 the White Mountains National Recreation Area. The  
27 project is still in its infancy but the main objectives  
28 are to describe seasonal movements, run timing and  
29 distributions of Arctic graylings during fall 2021  
30 through September 2023 and identify and examine  
31 spawning, overwintering and summer feeding areas. This  
32 radiotelemetry study and understanding more about their  
33 life history will help us identify an appropriate index  
34 area to conduct an abundance study in 2023.

35

36 So in July 2021 and it's a cooperative  
37 project between ADF&G and the BLM. So during July 2021  
38 we, along with Chris Clark, the Fisheries Biologist  
39 with BLM, deployed 90 radio transmitters from the Nome  
40 Creek, put in point, to near Victoria Creek, 21  
41 tributaries off of the Quartz Creek trail and 38 in the  
42 road accessible Nome Creek itself. And we are  
43 documenting movements with a stationary tracking  
44 station on Nome Creek near the mouth of Beaver Creek to  
45 look at migration timing data of fish moving between  
46 these two creeks and also utilizing nine of the aerial  
47 tracking flights. So far one flight has been conducted  
48 during late December of 2021. It was kind of hard to  
49 get out before then because of inclement weather. But  
50

0167

1 anyway all of the radiotagged fish have moved out of  
2 Nome Creek and the tributaries off of Quartz Creek  
3 trail, which was kind of expected for Arctic grayling  
4 and were found throughout the main stem. Particularly,  
5 a couple of locations really stood out, where Beaver  
6 Creek starts at the confluence of Champion and Bear  
7 Creeks, kind of near Richard's Cabin and on down to  
8 Trail and Wickersham's Creek, which is near the  
9 Borealis LeFevere cabin. Another notable spot was  
10 between Fossil and Colorado Creeks, which is nearest to  
11 the Wolf Run and Caribou Bluff cabin. Some fish I've  
12 noticed have traveled up to 90 miles to their  
13 overwintering spot and others not very far from where  
14 they were tagged and this is, you know, in particular  
15 fish that are -- because we tagged all the way down  
16 pretty much to the edge of the wild and scenic portion  
17 in the White Mountains National Recreation Area. Many  
18 of the fish did not travel far from where they were  
19 tagged. Now movement timing out of Nome Creek to  
20 overwintering areas generally began during early  
21 September and continued through late November. You  
22 know they are definitely, you know, slow down during  
23 the overwintering period but they're not totally asleep  
24 and I have noted some movement in Beaver Creek back and  
25 forth in front of the Nome Creek confluence recorded by  
26 the stationary tracking station. The latest on March  
27 8th.

28  
29 Now, BLM is especially interested in  
30 conducting habitat analysis for overwintering, spring  
31 spawning and summer feeding areas which is what we're  
32 going to concentrate on this year in 2022. We are  
33 planning to visit overwintering areas during March 21st  
34 through 24th, and conduct water quality measurements,  
35 like pH, temperature, conductivity, dissolved oxygen,  
36 alkalinity and flow and compare to similar work that  
37 was conducted as part of a Master's thesis back in  
38 1993. Also we plan to assist BLM with their assessment  
39 inventory monitoring habitat analysis during June  
40 through July 2022.

41  
42 And I'll take any questions.

43  
44 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you.  
45 Council members, any questions.

46  
47 (No comments)

48  
49 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, hearing  
50

0168

1 none we'll move on. The next thing on the agenda is  
2 fisheries closure reviews discussion from our Fisheries  
3 Division, Cory.

4

5 MR. GRAHAM: Thank you, Madame Chair.  
6 Again, for the record my name is Cory Graham and I'm a  
7 Fisheries Biologist with OSM. During the upcoming  
8 fisheries regulatory cycle OSM Staff will review  
9 closures to Federal subsistence fisheries similar to  
10 the wildlife closure reviews during your last cycle.  
11 Because the fisheries closure review process is  
12 relatively new I wanted to briefly describe OSM's  
13 closure review policy and provide the Council with a  
14 list of the fisheries closures that will be reviewed  
15 during the upcoming regulatory cycle. This is not an  
16 action item.

17

18 Title VIII of ANILCA establishes a  
19 priority for the taking of fish and wildlife on Federal  
20 public lands and waters for non-wasteful subsistence  
21 uses over other consumptive uses. Under certain  
22 circumstances specified in Title VIII, the Board is  
23 authorized to restrict, close and reopen Federal public  
24 lands and waters to the taking of fish and wildlife.  
25 Like other Board established rules closures are subject  
26 to change during the regulatory cycle. It is the  
27 Board's policy that Federal public lands and waters  
28 should be reopened when the closure is no longer  
29 necessary. To help ensure that closures do not remain  
30 in place longer than necessary, the Board has directed  
31 OSM to review existing closures.

32

33 REPORTER: Okay, hang on Cory.

34

35 MR. GRAHAM: I think I have an echo.

36

37 REPORTER: Yep. Okay, hang on a  
38 second. If everybody can mute your phone. Sue, you  
39 guys mute your phone there, too. If everybody  
40 participating in the call.....

41

42 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I put it on  
43 mute.

44

45 REPORTER: Okay. Everybody check your  
46 phone, star, six or mute, that's what causes, you know,  
47 the echo. Go ahead, Cory.

48

49 MR. GRAHAM: Sorry for that.

50



0169

1 OSM will review half of all closures  
2 during each applicable regulatory cycle. Closure  
3 reviews will include analysis of all relevant  
4 considerations and OSM will recommend an action for the  
5 Council's consideration on the closure. The types of  
6 actions the Council can recommend include, to retain,  
7 which means the closure remains in the regulations  
8 unchanged. A second option is to modify, which means a  
9 change directly related to the actual closure, for  
10 example, adjusting the dates that the closure's  
11 effective, assigning an expiration date or broadening a  
12 closure to both subsistence and non-subsistence users.  
13 A third option is to rescind, which means to remove the  
14 closure from the regulations. If rescinded, applicable  
15 regulations from the closure area would apply. The  
16 last option is to defer, which means the closure  
17 remains in place until that time the Board takes up the  
18 closure again, normally no longer than the next  
19 applicable regulatory cycle.

20

21 I want to point out changes to harvest  
22 limits and seasons or allowable gear types cannot be  
23 made through any of these options. These changes would  
24 require a parallel proposal to be submitted with the  
25 closure review.

26

27 During the upcoming regulatory cycle we  
28 will be bringing forward fisheries closure reviews for  
29 the Council's consideration at the fall 2022 meeting.  
30 OSM will be reviewing two closures in the Eastern  
31 Interior region. The two closures are Nome Creek and  
32 Delta River. OSM will also be reviewing two three  
33 closures located in the Western Interior region. The  
34 three closures are Jim River, Bonanza Creek and Kanuti  
35 River.

36

37 This concludes my presentation of the  
38 closure review update. Are there any questions from  
39 the Council.

40

41 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Council  
42 members, any questions.

43

44 (No comments)

45

46 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Hearing none,  
47 we'll -- thank you very much Cory. Next on the agenda  
48 is the Joint YK, Western Interior, Seward Penn and  
49 Eastern Interior draft letter to the National Marine

50

0170

1 Fisheries bycatch. This is supplemental, it's not in  
2 our book.

3

4 MR. GLANZ: Yep.

5

6 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So some of us  
7 here, it's really hard to be able to see this stuff  
8 when we don't have Staff providing it. But go ahead,  
9 Katya.

10

11 MS. WESSELS: Yes, thank you, Madame  
12 Chair. For the record my name is Katya Wessels and I'm  
13 with OSM. Yeah, Council members, this draft letter --  
14 the first draft was developed by the YKDelta Council.  
15 It was snail mailed to you and also emailed. You can  
16 also find this draft letter on the Federal Subsistence  
17 Program Management website and the Eastern Interior  
18 meeting materials in the supplemental materials portion  
19 of that page and that's supplemental material No. 3.

20

21 So I hope you had a chance to review  
22 that very proposed draft language and like I said the  
23 letter was first proposed by the Yukon Kuskokwim Delta  
24 Council and they thought to make the message stronger  
25 and to present a unified voice across the Yukon River  
26 with the other three Yukon Councils, Western Interior,  
27 Seward Peninsula, Eastern Interior they decided to  
28 invite all of these Councils to sign on to this letter.  
29 Your Council, you know, is one of the four Yukon  
30 Councils.

31

32 So I just want to give a little bit of  
33 an overview of the current situation, describing that  
34 letter. So in 2021 chinook and chum salmon runs failed  
35 which resulted in complete closure with severe  
36 restrictions of subsistence salmon fishing for all  
37 communities along the Yukon and Kuskokwim Rivers,  
38 tributaries and coastal areas. Closures are expected  
39 this year again in Western Alaska. The subsistence  
40 communities are bearing the majority of the conservation  
41 burden and subsistence needs are not being met while  
42 the Bering Sea trawl fleet, the pollock fishery  
43 continues unabated. North Pacific Fisheries Management  
44 Council reports the Bering Sea, Aleutian Islands chum  
45 salmon bycatch upward of 570,000 chum and chinook  
46 salmon bycatch limit hardcap is currently set at 45.

47

48 So the -- what would the Council -- if  
49 your Council decides to sign on to this letter, what  
50

0171

1 will all of the four Yukon Councils request from the  
2 North Pacific Fisheries Management Council.

3  
4 So the first request basically  
5 requesting a significant reduction of chinook, and chum  
6 salmon bycatch in the Bering Sea, Aleutian Islands  
7 commercial fishery. The chinook salmon bycatch can be  
8 reduced up to 16,000 upper limit hardcap which is  
9 approximately half of the chinook bycatch caught last  
10 year. Chum salmon bycatch can be reduced less than  
11 half, perhaps, and we are asking here for the Councils  
12 recommendations. The Western Interior Council  
13 recommended 250,000 upper limit, and YKDelta also  
14 supported this 250,000 hardcap for the chum salmon  
15 bycatch. The Seward Peninsula recommended --  
16 specifically for chinook they recommended 10,000  
17 chinook cap and for chum 150,000 cap. So that's how  
18 the other Councils, what they wanted to be put into the  
19 letter.

20  
21 So that's the first ask. The caps for  
22 bycatch.

23  
24 The second ask is the Councils are  
25 requesting that two subsistence or if you want to call  
26 them tribal seats, are established on the North Pacific  
27 Fisheries Management Council to represent subsistence  
28 users. And subsistence needs to be considered when  
29 making management decisions for the Bering Sea  
30 commercial fisheries. TEK is critical for subsistence  
31 salmon conservation management. And this was done on  
32 other Councils like for example the Pacific Fisheries  
33 Management Council has, I think, one or two of these  
34 kind of seats and with low salmon returns subsistence  
35 priority, which is granted in ANILCA is being  
36 effectively eliminated currently.

37  
38 So what we're requesting from this RAC  
39 is, first, for you to -- it's an action item, so for  
40 the Council to make a decision if the Council wants to  
41 be one of the signatories on this Yukon River Council's  
42 letter to the North Pacific Fisheries Management  
43 Council. And if you want to join other Councils in  
44 advocating for subsistence priority and fulfillment of  
45 subsistence needs. And the second ask is the one to  
46 encourage the Council, if you decide to sign on to this  
47 letter to include your own views or points in this  
48 letter, you know, considering the needs of your region.  
49 I f you want to propose different caps that were  
50

0172

1 suggested by other Councils you're welcome to. I will  
2 just repeat the caps again. For chinook salmon it was  
3 16,000 for Western Interior and YKDelta, and Seward  
4 Peninsula suggested 10,000 chinook cap. And for chum  
5 salmon Western Interior and YKDelta suggested 250,000  
6 hardcap. And Seward Peninsula suggested 150,000 chum  
7 cap.

8  
9 So -- oh, additionally, Seward  
10 Peninsula, they wanted to put an additional stipulation  
11 for the two seats, if they are established, on the  
12 North Pacific Fisheries Management Council to  
13 subsistence tribal seats, they wanted to put a  
14 stipulation that the appointees to these seats don't  
15 have any affiliation with pollock fisheries interest or  
16 no affiliation with CDQs.

17  
18 So that concludes my presentation of  
19 the joint letter. Again, YKDelta, Western Interior,  
20 and Seward Peninsula all supported this letter and are  
21 all going to be the signatories on this letter. Now  
22 it's up to your Council to decide what you're going to  
23 do.

24  
25 Thank you.

26  
27 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you,  
28 Katya. We were just wondering -- Linda and I remember  
29 voting that we do want to be signatories to the letter  
30 at the last meeting and now we just need to.....

31  
32 MS. WESSELS: Yeah, it was -- yes,  
33 that's correct, Madame Chair. That's correct. It was  
34 discussed in general terms at the last meeting, I  
35 failed to mention it, but we didn't have a draft. Now  
36 we have a draft so you have a little bit better  
37 understanding of the language and Councils voted on  
38 different things.

39  
40 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, thank  
41 you. And -- yes, any questions Council members. I  
42 wrote down what YK and Western Interior, the cap was  
43 16,000 and.....

44  
45 MR. BASSICH: Madame Chair.

46  
47 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: .....250,000  
48 -- of chinook and 250 for chums -- yes, go ahead,  
49 Donald.

50

0173

1 MR. BASSICH: No, this is Andy.

2

3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Sorry, I got  
4 the voice wrong, it must be a weird phone, go ahead  
5 Andy.

6

7 MR. BASSICH: Thank you. Yes I would  
8 agree to sign on with this. I very strongly support  
9 that. I would like to add an additional thing from our  
10 region and that would be to look into doing genetic  
11 studies and look at the impacts of the Area M June  
12 fisheries on fall chum returns to Western Alaska and,  
13 in particular, to the Yukon River. There is a long,  
14 very strong history of very heavy harvest in the Area M  
15 June fisheries for fall chum bound for the Yukon River  
16 and, given, our poor returns that could very well be  
17 one of the contributors to our poor returns. We had  
18 extensive discussion during the Yukon River Panel  
19 meeting earlier this winter about the Area M fisheries,  
20 it's been on the radar for a long time. At one point  
21 in time when the fall chum crashed in the early 2000s  
22 there were caps put on this, restrictions, but they  
23 very quickly were reduced within, or were eliminated  
24 within two or three years but there is a history of  
25 genetics being recorded of Yukon River fall chum. So I  
26 would like to add that to the letter for concern for us  
27 as that impacts our region, the Eastern RAC's region  
28 dramatically with the need for fall chum salmon.

29

30 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yes, Andy I  
31 hear you but I guess I would.....

32

33 MR. BASSICH: And.....

34

35 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: .....suggest  
36 to our RAC -- before you go on -- I would suggest that  
37 that be a separate letter from this RAC so we don't  
38 convolute the other letter, would you agree?

39

40 MR. BASSICH: That's fine. Yeah,  
41 that's fine. I just want to bring it up because I  
42 think it's critically important to fall chum and it  
43 needs to be looked at very closely by the State.

44

45 MS. WESSELS: Madame Chair, this is  
46 Katya.

47

48 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, go  
49 ahead.

50

0174

1 MS. WESSELS: I would like to ask a  
2 clarification question. If the Council decides to send  
3 a separate letter with these two points that was  
4 proposed by Member Bassich, do you want to draft this  
5 letter to the State or to the North Pacific Fisheries  
6 Management Council.

7  
8 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Andy.

9  
10 MR. BASSICH: Both. Both.

11  
12 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah.

13  
14 MS. WESSELS: Thank you.

15  
16 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: You got it  
17 Katya.

18  
19 MR. BASSICH: They both have a hand in  
20 it. They both would need to be involved in doing the  
21 -- recreating or reinitiating and I believe that there  
22 is a request for that. I can't remember what entity  
23 has submitted that but I think that has been submitted  
24 by some entities to reestablish that genetic testing in  
25 that June fisheries.

26  
27 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.  
28 Council members, we got two subjects going on here  
29 right now. Do you want to handle the separate letter,  
30 does that sound agreeable to everyone, if not say so.  
31 And then just because we're talking about it right now  
32 I would entertain a motion to that effect now and then  
33 go back to the caps that we need to make a decision on.

34  
35 MR. BASSICH: So, Madame Chair, Andy,  
36 I'll make a motion.

37  
38 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Go ahead.

39  
40 MR. BASSICH: Thank you, Madame Chair.  
41 The motion would be to write a letter to the North  
42 Pacific Fisheries Management Council and the State of  
43 Alaska, Department of Fish and Game fisheries to  
44 reestablish genetic testing in the Area M June  
45 fisheries for fall chum and try to identify the impacts  
46 of bycatch of fall chum bound for the Yukon River  
47 fisheries.

48  
49 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And that's to  
50

0175

1 both the North Pacific Management Council and to the  
2 ADF&G.

3

4 MR. BASSICH: Correct.

5

6 MR. WRIGHT: I'd like to say something  
7 before.....

8

9 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

10

11 MR. WRIGHT: .....we go forward.

12

13 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

14 There's a -- Charlie Wright would like to speak. We're  
15 not speaking to the motion then.

16

17 MR. WRIGHT: Thank you, Madame Chair.  
18 Andy I was at a meeting not long ago where the  
19 Commissioner was in that meeting in the panel and he  
20 said they were directing funds for such a project to  
21 determine genetically where those fish were going. And  
22 I also heard him say that they're going to start  
23 checking into the effects that hatchery fish are having  
24 on wild stocks food, and the effects of anything else  
25 in the area. So I think we can write a letter of  
26 support, that'd be really good, but they are trying to  
27 do something to -- in that effect -- just so you know.

28

29 Thank you, Madame Chair.

30

31 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Did you want  
32 to second it.

33

34 MR. WRIGHT: Yeah, I'll second it.

35

36 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. All  
37 right. We got a motion on the floor and a second to  
38 draft a letter to both the North Pacific Fisheries  
39 Management Council and Fish and Game, and it doesn't  
40 hurt to always.....

41

42 MR. WRIGHT: No.

43

44 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: .....keep  
45 throwing it out.....

46

47 MR. WRIGHT: No.

48

49 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: .....on.....

50

0176

1 MR. GLANZ: Yeah.

2

3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So is there  
4 any other discussion on the letter.

5

6 MR. BASSICH: Madame Chair, I'll be  
7 happy to work with anybody from OSM to write that  
8 letter and I think it's going to be important to dig up  
9 a little bit of the past history of the fall -- or  
10 sorry, the June fisheries -- the Area M June fisheries.  
11 There is a lot of data on that. And I'm encouraged to  
12 hear that the Commissioner said that they're going to  
13 follow up on that, but I agree with Charlie, it's  
14 really important to get on the record how it's  
15 impacting our region through the EIRAC.

16

17 That's all I have, Madame Chair, thank  
18 you.

19

20 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right,  
21 thank you. So I think we should maybe have a couple  
22 Council members look at it too, do you want to do  
23 that.....

24

25 MS. EVANS: Yes.

26

27 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: .....Charlie.

28

29 MR. WRIGHT: Sure.

30

31 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And Linda --  
32 there's two of them here that would also look at it and  
33 okay I don't -- is there anything else.

34

35 (No comments)

36

37 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Bill called  
38 for the question.

39

40 MR. GLANZ: I did, yes.

41

42 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, the  
43 question's been called for and I'm going to ask for  
44 unanimous consent for that motion to write the letter.  
45 Is there any opposition.

46

47 (No opposition)

48

49 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Hearing none

50



0177

1 then we'll move back -- that -- that passes  
2 unanimously. Okay, next.....

3

4 MS. WESSELS: Madame Chair, this is  
5 Katya.

6

7 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Go ahead.

8

9 MS. WESSELS: Yeah, I failed to mention  
10 one more addition to the joint letter by the Seward  
11 Peninsula Council. They also wanted to add to the  
12 letter a request for 24/7 camera coverage on board the  
13 boats for bycatch.

14

15 Thank you.

16

17 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: We're all  
18 shaking our head loving that. Was it passed by Western  
19 Interior also and Seward Penn.

20

21 MS. WESSELS: It was not because.....

22

23 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Wait a  
24 minute, by.....

25

26 MS. WESSELS: .....Seward Peninsula  
27 met after Western Interior and YKDelta so they didn't  
28 hear the Seward Peninsula proposal.

29

30 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: So if it's  
31 been added to that letter, are they going to take it  
32 and ask them again or how on that?

33

34 MS. WESSELS: I believe that is just  
35 going to be listed as a separated suggestion by one of  
36 the Councils.

37

38 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I think that  
39 there might be a second Council. Maybe we could just  
40 -- there's five of us here and I don't see any  
41 opposition for it being added -- yeah. So I'm asking  
42 those online if there's any opposition to add it, can  
43 we just do that like that, Katya, or do you want a  
44 motion.

45

46 MS. WESSELS: Madame Chair, thank you.  
47 We will need a motion but also the Council might want  
48 to discuss what kind of cap you want to propose for the  
49 chinook and chum so there are a couple of.....

50

0178

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah,  
2 we're.....

3  
4 MS. WESSELS: .....different points.  
5

6 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: .....taking  
7 one point at a -- yeah, we're taking one point at a  
8 time and that one you just added it and I like to cover  
9 it right when it's brought up and then we're going back  
10 to the caps.

11  
12 MS. WESSELS: Okay. I mean if Council  
13 has a discussion on record what they want to have in  
14 that letter and then to have a motion to support their  
15 proposal then that would work for us.

16  
17 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. So are  
18 you saying that just us supporting that.....  
19

20 MR. BASSICH: Madame Chair.  
21

22 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: .....24/7  
23 camera coverage has to be a separate.....  
24

25 MS. WESSELS: No. No, it does not.....  
26

27 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: .....or can  
28 it be.....  
29

30 MS. WESSELS: .....need to be a  
31 separate motion. I just -- I would like the Council to  
32 discuss on record what caps they are supporting, if  
33 they're supporting the two subsistence tribal seats on  
34 the Council, suggestion as well with no affiliation  
35 with CDQs or pollock fisheries and, you know, then you  
36 can just have a motion whatever was said in your  
37 discussion.

38  
39 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: We  
40 understand.  
41

42 MS. WESSELS: There needs to be only  
43 one motion on this letter.  
44

45 MR. BASSICH: Madame Chair, Andy.  
46

47 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Could we take  
48 two seconds -- just two minutes right now. I want to  
49 recess for two minutes and come right back, hang on and  
50

0179

1 we'll be right there Andy.

2

3 MR. BASSICH: Roger. Roger.

4

5 (Off record)

6

7 (On record)

8

9 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. We're  
10 coming back on record and there is a little bit more  
11 information here from Charlie Wright and then you Andy.  
12 Go ahead Charlie.

13

14 MR. WRIGHT: I will be interviewed to  
15 be put on the Governor's bycatch subcommittee Friday at  
16 noon. So I was asked to submit my name a couple days  
17 ago and they just called me at lunch time.

18

19 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, that's  
20 information. And if we want to do anything about that,  
21 you might even get some support or something, I don't  
22 know. But let's go back, we need to -- Andy.

23

24 MR. BASSICH: Yeah, can I make an  
25 attempt to make a motion and then we could move on.

26

27 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Absolutely.

28

29 MR. BASSICH: Okay. The motion is that  
30 the Eastern Interior RAC would like to support the  
31 letters written -- as presented and would be in support  
32 of 24/7 coverage by camera on vessels, would support  
33 the lowest bycatch numbers drafted in those letters and  
34 is in support of adding two seats with tribal, non-  
35 affiliated with CDQs or the pollock industry which is  
36 stated in those letters.

37

38 Madame Chair.

39

40 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, I think  
41 it would be better to say the numbers instead of the  
42 lowest numbers.

43

44 MR. WRIGHT: Zero.

45

46 MR. GLANZ: Uh-huh, yeah.

47

48 MR. BASSICH: I'm asking for Katya to  
49 fill that in because I -- she was breaking up and I

50

0180

1 never heard the numbers. So if she could fill that in  
2 then that would -- I would agree with that.

3

4 Thank you, Madame Chair.

5

6 MS. WESSELS: Well, the -- Madame  
7 Chair, this is Katya. So Seward Peninsula voted to  
8 have 10,000 chinook cap and 150,000 chum cap. Western  
9 Interior and Eastern Interior [sic] voted to have  
10 16,000 chinook cap and 250,000 chum cap. The lowest  
11 numbers were proposed by the Seward Peninsula Council.

12

13 MR. BASSICH: Madame Chair, this is  
14 Andy making.....

15

16 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.  
17 Andy.....

18

19 (Various people talking in Fairbanks)

20

21 MR. BASSICH: .....the motion, those  
22 lower numbers would be the numbers that I would support  
23 in the motion.

24

25 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And so the  
26 motion is to support the cap of 10,000 chinook and  
27 150,000 chum.

28

29 MR. GLANZ: Yes.

30

31 (Various people talking in Fairbanks)

32

33 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: There's all  
34 these side things I'm hearing zero, zero, zero, but  
35 that's not what we're saying I guess, but, no, that's  
36 it and then your motion would be 24/7 coverage and.....

37

38 MR. BASSICH: Roger. Roger.

39

40 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: .....support  
41 the two members.....

42

43 MR. BASSICH: Yes, and adding.....

44

45 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: .....so  
46 there's three parts -- I'm sorry, go ahead, I was just  
47 trying to restate it. But we're talking over each  
48 other Andy.

49

50

0181

1 MR. BASSICH: Thank you, Madame Chair.  
2 Yeah, sorry you did, you restated it and I'll be quiet  
3 and let you restate it again for the record. Thank  
4 you, Madame Chair.

5  
6 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I really  
7 believe everybody understands the motion and then I  
8 will restate it again when we vote. Any -- did I hear  
9 a second -- I did, Charlie Wright.

10  
11 MR. GLANZ: Yes, indeed.

12  
13 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. The  
14 motion is.....

15  
16 REPORTER: I didn't hear that.  
17 Charlie, did you second.

18  
19 MR. WRIGHT: I did. This is Charlie  
20 Wright, I second the motion.

21  
22 REPORTER: Thank you.

23  
24 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And I will  
25 restate it Tina.

26  
27 REPORTER: Thank you.

28  
29 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: The motion is  
30 to support 24/7 coverage on the vessels out in the  
31 ocean and the 10,000 chinook, 150,000 chum cap and to  
32 add two people from subsistence on to the Board, the  
33 Council.

34  
35 So is there discussion.

36  
37 (No comments)

38  
39 MR. GLANZ: Well, question -- I'd like  
40 to call for the question.

41  
42 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. We  
43 don't -- I think we've discussed this a lot.....

44  
45 MR. GLANZ: Yeah.

46  
47 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: .....as a  
48 Council and Bill's calling for the question. I believe  
49 we all understand it. Does everybody understand the  
50

0182

1 motion.

2

3

(No comments)

4

5

6

MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. I'm going to call for unanimous consent for this motion, if there's any opposition speak so now.

7

8

9

(No opposition)

10

11

12

MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. It's unanimous, the motion passes, and I don't think I need to restate it.

13

14

15

MR. GLANZ: Nope.

16

17

18

MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I did a good job.

19

20

MR. GLANZ: Indeed.

21

22

23

MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. Thank you everyone, deeply appreciate it. Next call for nonrural determination proposals, Liz Williams.

24

25

26

27

28

29

30

31

32

33

MS. WILLIAMS: Thank you, Madame Chair. This is Liz Williams for the record and I'm an Anthropologist with the Office of Subsistence Management in Anchorage. I'm here to provide you with a brief overview of the current call for proposals for nonrural determinations in Federal regulations. This is an action item and these materials are not in your Council book.

34

35

36

37

38

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49

50

A nonrural determination is the process for formally changing in Federal regulation a community's status from nonrural to rural or from rural to nonrural. This is the second call for proposals for nonrural determinations since 2018. Any valid nonrural determination proposals submitted this year will be acted on by the Board in 2025. The call for nonrural determination proposals occurs every four years at the same time as every other fisheries regulatory cycle. The next call for proposals for nonrural determinations will be in 2026.

As you just heard from our colleagues in the Fisheries Division a little bit earlier, the call for proposals has not yet published due to the

0183

1 lengthy clearance process in Washington, D.C. When it  
2 gets published the public comment proposal to change  
3 the regulations period will be open for at least 30  
4 days.

5

6 There's a flier on our website on how  
7 to submit proposals to change nonrural determinations.  
8 The flier includes information on where to submit a  
9 proposal and lists items a proposal must contain to be  
10 accepted for consideration by the Board. The website  
11 address is [www.doi -- Department of Interior](http://www.doi.gov/subsistence/faqs)  
12 [.gov/subsistence/faqs](http://www.doi.gov/subsistence/faqs), which stands for frequently  
13 asked questions but with an S. This flier can be found  
14 near the bottom of the frequently asked questions page.  
15 Additional information may be found in the soon to be  
16 published proposed rule for the 2023 to 2025  
17 subsistence fish and shellfish proposed rule.

18

19 I am getting conflicting information as  
20 to whether or not this is an action item so I would ask  
21 one of my colleagues to please speak to that issue.

22

23 Thanks.

24

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

27

28 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Go ahead.

29

30 MS. WESSELS: Yeah, I will clarify  
31 this. This is an action item only if the Council has  
32 any nonrural or rural determination proposals. That's  
33 the only situation that the Council will need to have a  
34 motion and vote on it. If your Council doesn't have  
35 any rural or nonrural proposals then it is not an  
36 action item, obviously.

37

38 Thank you.

39

40 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, thank  
41 you, Katya. I think that the Council members totally  
42 understand that. This is a potential action item if  
43 they have a proposal, if not we move on.

44

45 So Council members, do you have any  
46 questions or concerns or wanting to do a nonrural  
47 determination proposal. And in our region it's the  
48 Fairbanks Northstar Borough which is already a nonrural  
49 area.

50

0184

1 MR. GLANZ: Yeah.

2

3 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Pretty big  
4 actually in comparison to Anchorage and Wasilla.

5

6 Okay, Council members, anything.

7

8 (No comments)

9

10 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right,  
11 moving rapidly along. Now it's review and approval of  
12 our annual report. Katya.

13

14 MS. WESSELS: Sorry, I had myself on  
15 mute. Thank you, Madame Chair. Yeah, the Council  
16 reports have been included in the Council meeting  
17 materials and it's under Tab No. 7. You can also find  
18 it on our website under the Eastern Interior  
19 meeting.....

20

21 (Teleconference interference -  
22 participants not muted)

23

24 MS. WESSELS: .....materials, subpage.  
25 So the Council developed the topics that are  
26 currently.....

27

28 (Teleconference interference -  
29 participants not muted)

30

31 MS. WESSELS: .....listed in the annual  
32 report during the fall -- I'm sorry, somebody doesn't  
33 have their phone on mute, please check your phone and  
34 make sure they're muted because we're getting  
35 background noise.

36

37 REPORTER: Whoever's driving, can you  
38 put your phone on mute.

39

40 MS. WESSELS: Okay, it sounded like  
41 they may have it on mute now.

42

43 Okay, so the Council develops these  
44 draft annual report topics during their fall 2021  
45 meetings and now this draft annual report is for your  
46 review and consideration. You currently have six  
47 topics on your draft annual report. So the topics are:

48

49 1. Finding solutions for Yukon River

50



0185

1 salmon fisheries problems and better coordination  
2 between groups and stakeholders.

3

4 2. Need for moose count around Rampart  
5 and Nowitna River areas.

6

7 3. Need for improvement of the tribal  
8 consultations process and streamlining OSM processes.

9

10 4. Need for timely delivery of Federal  
11 proposal books.

12

13 5. Food security. More dependence on  
14 moose and caribou and allowing subsistence users to  
15 harvest non-salmon species.

16

17 6. Concerns regarding parallel  
18 meetings scheduled.

19

20 So those are the six topics and at this  
21 point the Council can suggest any corrections,  
22 additions, if you want to add any additional topics you  
23 can do that as well, or if you don't have any changes  
24 that is fine as well. Then you will just need to have  
25 a motion to approve this draft annual report. You will  
26 need to have a motion in any case, but, you know, if  
27 you have some changes we'll make note of these changes.

28

29 MR. WRIGHT: Motion to approve -- I  
30 make a motion to approve, this is Charlie Wright.

31

32 MR. JAGOW: Second.

33

34 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And Charlie  
35 Jagow seconded it to approve our annual report to the  
36 Federal Board. Any discussion.

37

38 MR. WOODRUFF: Sue, this is Don.

39

40 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Go ahead,  
41 Don.

42

43 MR. WOODRUFF: Yeah, could you ask the  
44 other Council members if they perhaps have anything  
45 else they want to add to this annual report besides  
46 these six items. Thank you, Madame Chair.

47

48 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Council  
49 members, do you have anything additional that you would  
50

0186

1 like to add to this letter.

2

3 (No comments)

4

5 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I think it's  
6 getting towards the end of the day and.....

7

8 MR. GLANZ: Yeah.

9

10 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: .....the  
11 productivity is declining. We did discuss this at our  
12 last meeting and we brought up a bunch of topics. And  
13 I think as new Council members, Jody, in particular,  
14 she's not attended -- I don't know if she's ever  
15 attended but she hasn't been on the Council and, you  
16 know, when I first got on that was really hard to  
17 understand what was going on here all the time but we  
18 end up doing an annual report to the Federal Board and,  
19 you know, we can share with Jody tomorrow. Will's been  
20 on this before because he's served on the Council  
21 before. But we do this once a year. So we bring up  
22 topics at one meeting, the letter gets written and then  
23 if there's new topics this is our chance to add it to  
24 it. And Linda go ahead.

25

26 MS. EVANS: Well, what about the  
27 (indiscernible).....

28

29 MS. WESSELS: I'm sorry, Madame Chair,  
30 we cannot hear Linda at all.

31

32 REPORTER: No, we cannot.

33

34 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Sorry, Linda.

35

36 MR. WRIGHT: You're going to have  
37 to.....

38

39 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, hang on  
40 a second.....

41

42 MS. EVANS: Okay, this is.....

43

44 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Linda, go  
45 ahead.

46

47 MS. EVANS: This is Linda Evans, I'm  
48 just wondering about our latest concern we just talked  
49 about here about the bycatch and the.....

50

0187

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: The letter  
2 that was -- you mean those three topics?

3  
4 MS. EVANS: Yeah.

5  
6 MR. WRIGHT: And genetic testing on the  
7 chums, yeah.....

8  
9 MS. EVANS: .....and bycatch and  
10 genetic testing on the -- on the chums.

11  
12 MR. WRIGHT: It could be added to No.  
13 1, finding solutions Yukon River problems.

14  
15 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. The  
16 way to -- do you want to add that?

17  
18 MS. EVANS: I would like to add  
19 that.....

20  
21 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.

22  
23 MS. EVANS: .....if that's okay, I mean  
24 it's a concern.....

25  
26 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay. I  
27 would entertain.....

28  
29 MS. EVANS: .....in the.....

30  
31 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: .....a  
32 motion, Linda, to add the topics you just mentioned as  
33 an amendment to the first one.....

34  
35 (Various people talking in Fairbanks)

36  
37 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: .....or else  
38 have a new -- how do you want to handle that.

39  
40 MR. WRIGHT: Just add it on.

41  
42 MR. GLANZ: It's got to be  
43 (indiscernible) more than that.....

44  
45 (Various people talking in Fairbanks)

46  
47 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: I don't know  
48 if you guys could hear but there was announcement  
49 outside, I hope it didn't distract our audio.

50

0188

1 MR. GLANZ: They won't get in.

2

3 REPORTER: I can't hear anybody  
4 talking, just various voices, so go ahead.

5

6 MS. EVANS: Okay, this is Linda Evans.  
7 I'd like to add our concern about the bycatch and  
8 the.....

9

10 MR. WRIGHT: Genetic testing.

11

12 MS. EVANS: .....genetic testing to No.  
13 1 of this letter that we're -- of these concerns that  
14 we have.

15

16 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you,  
17 Linda. Thank you. So is there any objections, say so,  
18 but I would entertain that that's the moti -- part of  
19 the motion, if we -- this is our annual report and  
20 we're adding these two topics. Is that okay with the  
21 maker of the motion and the second.

22

23 MR. GLANZ: Certainly.

24

25 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: They both  
26 agree. So are there any other additions, Council  
27 members.

28

29 (No comments)

30

31 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thanks Linda.

32

33 MR. GLANZ: Yeah.

34

35 MS. EVANS: You're welcome.

36

37 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay.  
38 Council members if there isn't anything else the motion  
39 is to add these two topics, the bycatch and the  
40 genetics to No. 1 and the rest of it is part of the  
41 motion with no other discussion. Any other discussion.

42

43 (No comments)

44

45 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Okay, hearing  
46 none, I'm asking for unanimous consent -- okay, I'm  
47 hearing no opposition so it passes unanimously.

48

49 MR. GLANZ: Okay.

50

0189

1 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: All right.  
2 It is after -- well, it's two minutes to 5:00. The  
3 next presenter signed off so I'd say let's quit for the  
4 day and we'll start up at 9:00 in the morning.

5  
6 MR. GLANZ: Okay.

7  
8 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: And that next  
9 topic is a -- like an animal rights things, they want  
10 to shut down trapping on Refuges with cruel trapping  
11 Act, and a lot of people.....

12  
13 MR. GLANZ: That one.....

14  
15 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: .....hadn't  
16 even heard about it but I just want -- it's very  
17 important. It was brought to my attention, if it  
18 wasn't brought to my attention I wouldn't have a clue  
19 that it was going on.

20  
21 MR. GLANZ: It won't take long to  
22 figure out that one.

23  
24 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Yeah, I know.

25  
26 (Laughter)

27  
28 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: But we do  
29 need to take it up in the morning. And, hey, thanks  
30 everybody for your patience here, it is very difficult  
31 doing the meeting like this and I'll look forward to  
32 seeing faces next time. So we'll see you tomorrow at  
33 9:00.

34  
35 MR. GLANZ: Okay.

36  
37 MADAME CHAIR ENTSMINGER: Thank you.

38  
39 (Off record)

40  
41 (END OF PROCEEDINGS)

42  
43  
44  
45  
46  
47  
48  
49  
50

0190

1 C E R T I F I C A T E

2

3 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA )

4 ) ss.

5 STATE OF ALASKA )

6

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

10

11 THAT the foregoing pages numbered 02 through  
12 \_\_\_\_ contain a full, true and correct Transcript of the  
13 EASTERN INTERIOR FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE REGIONAL ADVISORY  
14 COUNCIL MEETING, VOLUME I taken electronically on the  
15 8th day of March 2022;

16

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

22

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

25

26 DATED at Anchorage, Alaska, this 16th  
27 of April 2022.

28

29

30

31 \_\_\_\_\_  
32 Salena A. Hile  
33 Notary Public, State of Alaska  
34 My Commission Expires: 09/16/22

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