

1 SOUTHEAST ALASKA FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE
2 REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING
3
4 PUBLIC MEETING
5
6 VOLUME I
7
8
9 Alaska Native Brotherhood Meeting Hall
10 Yakutat, Alaska
11 October 27, 2015
12 8:30 a.m.
13
14

15 COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

- 16
17 Michael Bangs, Chair
18 Arthur Bloom
19 Michael Douville
20 Albert Howard
21 Donald Hernandez
22 Harvey Kitka
23 Cathy Needham
24 Patricia Phillips
25 Robert Schroeder
26 Frank Wright
27 John Yeager
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33 Regional Council Coordinator, Robert Larson
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P R O C E E D I N G S

(Yakutat, Alaska - 10/27/2015)

(On record)

CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you all for coming this morning. We'd like to get started here.

I'm going to have Mr. Harvey Kitka take roll call, please.

MR. KITKA: Good morning.

Arthur Bloom.

MR. BLOOM: Here.

MR. KITKA: Frank Wright.

MR. WRIGHT: Here.

MR. KITKA: Patricia Phillips.

MS. PHILLIPS: Here.

MR. KITKA: Michael Douville.

MR. DOUVILLE: Here.

MR. KITKA: Harvey Kitka's here.

Robert Schroeder.

MR. SCHROEDER: Here.

MR. KITKA: Albert Howard.

MR. HOWARD: Here.

MR. KITKA: Donald Hernandez.

MR. HERNANDEZ: Here.

MR. KITKA: Kenneth Jackson.

(No comment)

MR. KITKA: He's not present.

1 Aaron Isaacs.
2
3 (No comment)
4
5 MR. KITKA: Not present.
6
7 John Yeager.
8
9 MR. YEAGER: Here.
10
11 MR. KITKA: Michael Bangs.
12
13 MR. BANGS: Here.
14
15 MR. KITKA: Cathy Needham.
16
17 MS. NEEDHAM: Here.
18
19 MR. KITKA: Mr. Chair, we have a
20 quorum.
21
22 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Mr. Kitka.
23
24 Okay. I'd like to call this meeting to
25 order. We're thankful to be here in Yakutat. We all
26 made it, it looks like except for a couple and I think
27 they were personal problems.
28
29 I'd like to ask Mr. Bert Adam if he
30 would say a few words before the meeting begins.
31
32 MR. LARSON: Mr. Chair, could we just
33 address the technical issues with the phone lines here
34 for a second.
35
36 (Pause)
37
38 MR. LARSON: Good morning. So this is
39 Robert Larson with the Southeast Council. Is this
40 phone working. Can I have somebody answer.
41
42 MR. SHARP: Yeah, Robert, this is Dan
43 Sharp from BLM, you're coming in loud and clear.
44
45 MR. LARSON: Thank you very much.
46 We're having a little issues with our teleconference
47 line this morning. And we're using a cell phone to
48 hook up to the telephone system, so please bear with us
49 and we'll try to speak clearly.
50

1 Thank you.

2

3 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Mr. Adams.

4

5 MR. ADAMS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

6 It's kind of odd being on this side of the aisle at

7 this time, but I'm glad that you made it.

8

9 (In Tlingit)

10

11 Self-respecting, honorable people. To
12 me, you are all that -- under that category because
13 I've had opportunities to spend a lot of time with you
14 and work with you. And it was a privilege for me to be
15 your Chairman for several years. I don't know how long
16 I was, but it was my privilege.

17

18 (In Tlingit)

19

20 Thank you for coming.

21

22 (In Tlingit)

23

24 So good to see you.

25

26 (In Tlingit)

27

28 Again, you know, I'm happy to see you

29 all here. And again, I thank you for coming.

30

31 (In Tlingit)

32

33 It's kind of hard. I'm sorry. Anyhow,

34 thank you for being here.

35

36 (In Tlingit)

37

38 Before I make any further comments,
39 people have been asking about the hall. So I'm going
40 to give a brief history on that. This hall is 90 or so
41 years old now. It was built by hand by people who
42 decided that they needed to have a building of their
43 own to talk about the issues that are really important
44 to them. You know, the ANB Grand Camp was organized in
45 1912 and I think Yakutat was pretty active in 1922 or
46 thereabouts. But they decided that they were going to
47 build a hall. And they got organized and away they
48 went.

49

50 Look up in the rafters up there. They

1 are all hand hewn with a broad ax. And the trees
2 were cut across the bay. And they were hauled across
3 the bay and hauled up on the bank. And people came
4 down with their broad axes and tools and so forth and
5 they started cutting those out. And I don't know how
6 many there is there, but there's quite a bit. And then
7 the rafters underneath the floor is hewn out, too.

8
9 So when we began to renovate it, we
10 figured that we would try to keep as much of the
11 original building, you know, together. The floor is
12 the original floor, as well as the stage. But they took
13 about three years, I believe, you know, to build it.
14 And when it was completed, it became the most important
15 building in town because this is where all -- even to
16 this day it's where all the important meetings are
17 held. You guys are having here. Meetings such as
18 this. Potlatches. We had a potlatch here on Saturday
19 for a person who had passed away. Weddings. You know,
20 dances. I remember coming here as a teenager and
21 cutting up the floor, you know, with a live band. It
22 was so fun.

23
24 But this hall has been very, very
25 important to us. Over the years, after it was built,
26 you know, I think in the '70s or thereabouts, it began
27 to deteriorate quite a bit. And we did the best we
28 could in trying to keep it -- you know, keep it healthy
29 for us. And then we had a fire and this wall kind of
30 burned down. It was destroyed by the fire. And there
31 was talk about, you know, condemning it. Tearing it
32 down. Using some of the material to rebuild and -- you
33 know, and build a new one. Or we could try to save it.
34 And the ANB and ANS had a meeting. And it was a pretty
35 long discussion because it might have taken a couple of
36 meetings before we came to a conclusion, but there was
37 half of the membership that wanted to tear it down and
38 rebuild and the other half wanted to, you know, keep
39 it. Keep it here. So when it came right down to a
40 vote, the ones who decided to, you know, start
41 rebuilding or renovating, you know, won out.

42
43 So over the past, I don't know, nine or
44 ten years, you know, we have been receiving funds
45 through the City and Borough capital budget. They
46 would get funds from the State of Alaska and maybe
47 \$50,000 or so a year we began to put this hall back
48 together. And today we've still got some work to do on
49 it, but don't you think that this is a beautiful hall?
50 Yeah. So we're proud of it. And so, you know, I

1 thought maybe -- people have been asking questions, you
2 know, and so I thought maybe I'd fill in this part of
3 it.

4
5 Many of you know one of the reasons why
6 I had to kind of give up serving on the Council because
7 of, you know, health reasons in my family.
8 Particularly my wife, you know, has been going through
9 ups and downs and so forth. But I think that you
10 people -- you're friends of mine -- on this Council owe
11 her a real debt of gratitude because she allowed me to
12 come to these meetings even though she didn't want me
13 to. Because she knew that I was engaged in something
14 very important. And it had to do with our lifestyle,
15 our subsistence way of life. And so she hung on as
16 long as she possibly could and then some of the last
17 two meetings that I began to come, she started asking
18 me how come -- how much more longer are you going to
19 serve on this Council was her question. And I told her
20 well, I can give it up anytime if you want. And so she
21 says no, you hang in there for as long as you can. But
22 I think you owe her a debt of gratitude because she
23 allowed me to come to these meetings.

24
25 As you all know, I was the one who
26 traveled the longest and the furthest to come to these
27 meetings. It took me almost a week, you know, to leave
28 Yakutat and go to wherever it was we had it. And then
29 to come back. And so a whole week was shot. And it
30 was tough on her particularly during my last couple of
31 three meetings. But I also think that I owe a debt of
32 gratitude to my family for being there for her when she
33 needed them.

34
35 And so today she's happy that I'm able
36 to come down and associate with you once more. It was
37 a great evening last night. To be with you for a short
38 while and to renew all the -- you know, shake your
39 hands and give you real big hugs and, you know, to
40 renew our acquaintances once again. So I'm thankful
41 for you people, you know, and as I look, you know,
42 across the faces here, there are many stories I can
43 share with almost each of you.

44
45 Mike Douville has always supported me.
46 You know, and if anyone tried to give me any trouble,
47 he would put them in their place, you know. And I
48 really appreciated Mike. Although, you know, I was
49 able to stand on my own, but, you know, he stuck up for
50 his Chairman. And he will for you, too, Mr. Bangs.

1 And so he also -- I just turned it over. Will you hold
2 that up? He made that for me, as the Chairman. And
3 then I brought it home with me, you know, every time.
4 I came back. There was a couple of times when I forgot
5 to take it with me and, you know, don't do that, Mike.
6 Because you don't want to meet Mike's wrath if you
7 leave that at home. But I turned it over to Michael --
8 Mr. Bangs this morning. And you're now Chairman for
9 now. And Mike -- Mr. Douville said that I can do
10 whatever I wanted with it. And I decided that it would
11 be proper for the next Chairman to take it over. So I
12 guess the message would be the same for me. Is that
13 you can do whatever you want with it. Take it home and
14 put it on your shelf, if you want. And maybe Mike will
15 build another one for someone else, but I think it
16 would be a real good tradition to pass it on.

17

18 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Bert.

19

20 MR. ADAMS: And Albert, I have some
21 real fond memories and not so fond members of Floyd.
22 Because we got on the Council at the same time and we
23 were real close buddies, you know, at the very
24 beginning. And we sat by each other, you know, and he
25 was always whispering in my ear, you know. But he was
26 a hard taskmaster. When I became Chairman, he wanted
27 to be Chairman. He wanted to be Chairman pretty bad,
28 but the Council, you know, made their choice. And so
29 then I sat up in the Chairman's position and then he
30 sat in the audience, but he still gave me a hard time.

31

32 But I wanted to share a story with you
33 that I thought was really classic. He knows that I
34 don't drink, you know, coffee or alcohol. You know, I
35 don't have any bad habits at all. I don't drink
36 coffee. I don't smoke. I don't drink alcohol. I
37 don't chase women, you know. And he knew all of that.
38 But we were in Petersburg. And we got up in the
39 morning, you know, and we were all gathered in the
40 lobby there, waiting to go up to the ANB hall to our
41 meeting. And right next door to, you know, the lobby
42 of the hotel was a place where you can get refreshments
43 and, you know, drinks and coffee. And so we decided to
44 get up and leave, but he left a little bit before us
45 and he said he was going to get himself a mocha or
46 something. And he asked me if I wanted one. And
47 knowing that, you know, I don't use caffeine, he pulled
48 a trick on me. And he ordered a double shot into my
49 mocha. And we were sipping on it. And it was a 16-
50 ounce one. Okay? And I don't know whether you guys

1 noticed it or not, but I was conducting the meeting
2 that day. And the next thing, you know, about mid-
3 morning or so, I was slurred -- my speech was getting
4 slurred and everything, you know. And I was getting
5 nervous and everything. And I turned over to Albert
6 and I asked him what did you put in my drink anyhow.
7 And he said a double shot.

8

9 (Laughter)

10

11 MR. ADAMS: Wow. You know, but he --
12 you know, he was -- like I said, he was a hard
13 taskmaster. And he's the one who made me a better
14 Chairman at every meeting. Because he -- not only was
15 he still whispering in my ear, but he was telling me
16 little tricks of the trade here and there. I really
17 appreciate it. I appreciated it.

18

19 And I see my friend Harvey Kitka over
20 there. When I was -- I was born in Sitka. And how
21 much time do you have.

22

23 (Laughter)

24

25 MR. ADAMS: And my father, you know --
26 you know, I was -- as I mentioned in my introduction,
27 was (In Tlingit). So I'm (In Tlingit). But he and my
28 mother married the afternoon she graduated from high
29 school at Sheldon Jackson. And so they decided to make
30 their home there. And I came along in February. And
31 it was during the Depression and he was having a hard
32 time finding work. And he would show up at this dock,
33 you know, to long shore every morning. Every morning
34 he would show up down there. And they would hire other
35 people, you know, and so he'd go home. But the next
36 morning, even before other people showed up, I was told
37 that he would be there because he needed that job real
38 bad. He fished during the summer. He seined. He had
39 a boat called the Eagle. I don't know whether you
40 remember that or not, Harvey.

41

42 But he finally got a job. And he was
43 doing a night shift one time and -- the graveyard shift
44 -- and he didn't get home until 7:00 a.m., I believe.
45 And my mother started going into labor three months
46 before I was supposed to be born. I was supposed to
47 have been born in April. Instead, February came around
48 and she was home all by herself. Her water broke and I
49 -- and she gave birth to me on the floor there. And
50 she couldn't do anything until my father came home.

1 And when he saw what was happening there, he ran all
2 the way down to the cottages where his mother, you
3 know, Elizabeth Kadashan, lived. And they raced back
4 up and they started putting her -- you know, my mother
5 at ease. And I was so small, they said, that they used
6 a box and -- a cardboard box and they made an incubator
7 out of it. Okay. Pillows and cottons and hot water
8 bottles and all that. And they put me in there. My
9 mother said that my hands still had, you know, the --
10 they weren't completely developed. And so the doctor
11 came. Looked over my mother and me. And he says I
12 can't help either of them. And he left. And so it was
13 my grandmother and a nurse -- a public health service
14 nurse -- who decided that they were going to stick with
15 us and help us through this crisis. My mother got well
16 and I managed to, you know, pass all of the tests
17 eventually. And here I am.

18

19 But I don't know whether I was going to
20 share that story with you or not, but I wanted you to
21 know that I do believe that the Creator sent me here
22 for a purpose. And one of them was to deal with
23 subsistence issues and to be on this Council. And I
24 hope that I have served you well. And do appreciate
25 each and every one of you for your support. And you'll
26 always be in my heart.

27

28 Cathy, when you first came on, I was so
29 happy. And do you know why? We never had a fish
30 biologist or a biologist on this Council. And I
31 thought that you would be a real great asset to us.
32 And it proved to be right, and you have been really
33 great.

34

35 Welcome to Albert. And I hope that you
36 will be able to fill some big shoes from the guy who
37 preceded you. When I got involved in the Council,
38 Robert Schroeder over there was sitting over there in
39 Bob's spot. And, you know, we served how many years
40 together?

41

42 MR. SCHROEDER: Not enough.

43

44 MR. ADAMS: Not enough. Okay. And I
45 don't even know why you left, but I was sad to see
46 that. But look at John Yeager from Wrangell. That's
47 where my roots are from, you know. And it's been great
48 getting to know each and every one of you.

49

50 Don Hernandez, Frank Wright, and

1 Michael Bangs, I think we were about all together.
2 Just about the same time coming on the Council. And as
3 I listened to Donald and Mike, you know, get involved
4 in subsistence issues, you know, I was really pleased
5 with the way that you conducted yourself. And the
6 knowledge and the information that you gave from your
7 life's experiences, you know, to this Council. Because
8 one of the things that we always stressed is that even
9 you we may be commercial fishermen. We may be other
10 user groups, you know, like hunting and fishing and so
11 forth, we can use that as examples in our lives because
12 of the experience that we have with hunting and fishing
13 and gathering and so forth.

14
15 But to be able to have those
16 experiences, you know, was really great as far as I was
17 concerned. Because when it came right down to, you
18 know, the discussions and evaluation of the proposals
19 that came before us, we always emphasized that even
20 though you might be a big game hunter, you might be a
21 commercial fisherman or so forth, you have to vote.
22 Because we are dealing with subsistence issues and that
23 was the emphasis that we put on there. And I saw that
24 happen with Michael Bangs and with Donald Hernandez.
25 So I do appreciate, you know, your contribution to this
26 Council.

27
28 And let me see. Is Tina here?

29
30 MS. PHILLIPS: No.

31
32 MR. ADAMS: No? How come?

33
34 MS. PHILLIPS: She's vacationing.

35
36 MR. ADAMS: You're Tina? You're Tina?

37
38 (Laughter)

39
40 MR. ADAMS: Okay. Well, I appreciated
41 Tina. You know, she just sat there real quiet, you
42 know. And then she'd say Bert, you've got to turn on
43 your mic, you know, and turn it off.

44
45 (Laughter)

46
47 MR. ADAMS: And it was something.
48 There was one time if you remember in Sitka when she
49 kept harping me about turning on and off the mic was I
50 started issuing fines, you know, particularly on myself

1 because I kept forgetting it. But who's the guy that
2 -- from the State. I can't remember his name right
3 now.

4

5 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: George Pappas.

6

7 MR. ADAMS: George Pappas, you know,
8 poor guy. I guess he must have made \$100 off of us,
9 off of the fines. Because I fined him for coming in
10 late and then I fined him for a whole bunch of other
11 reasons, you know. We were raising money for the Girl
12 Scouts, you know. And then he had to excuse himself,
13 so I fined him for leaving early, you know. And so the
14 guy was really a good sport about it though. And it
15 was great to be able to be involved in issues like
16 that. We did have a lot of humor in this body. And so
17 I think I'd better just, you know, quit now and so you
18 guys can move on.

19

20 Gunalcheesh.

21

22 Thank you very much.

23

24 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Bert.

25 Thank you for your words and inviting us to your home.

26 And we would be honored if you would lead us in prayer

27 before we go to work.

28

29 MR. ADAMS: Would everyone please rise.

30

31 Our kind and gracious Heavenly Father,
32 we are so grateful for this beautiful day. And we are
33 grateful for this body of people who have come to
34 Yakutat to talk about subsistence issues and discuss
35 how we can solve the problems that are before us with
36 these issues. We are grateful for those who have
37 devoted their time and their lives to the problems of
38 solving subsistence issues in Southeast Alaska. We are
39 so grateful, Father, that thou has provided us with
40 good people to do this. We pray that thou would
41 continue to bless them and help them with their time on
42 this Council. And that their families will be willing
43 to allow them to come to these meetings and to talk
44 about these important issues. We dedicate our lives
45 unto this effort, Father, and we pray now for thy
46 spirit to attend us throughout this meeting. And we do
47 so in the name of thy son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

48

49 IN UNISON: Amen.

50

1 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Yes, Bert. Just one
2 note there. We would like you to stay till noon, if
3 you could.
4
5 MR. ADAMS: Pardon?
6
7 CHAIRMAN BANGS: If you could stay till
8 noon.
9
10 (Pause)
11
12 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Okay. Thank you.
13
14 I would like to have Victoria Demmert
15 come up.
16
17 Oh, excuse me. Bert.
18
19 (Pause)
20
21 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Bert.
22
23 Ms. Demmert. Ms. Demmert.
24
25 MS. DEMMERT: If you don't hear me, I
26 can sit. But normally when we're addressing people, we
27 stand. So -- but I will defer to whoever is doing the
28 recording.
29
30 And I just wanted to say that -- thank
31 you to Bert for all his years that he has taken and
32 sacrificed time and away from his family. Because
33 subsistence is so important to us in the Villages and I
34 know to his heart. And you know the old saying that
35 you give a man a fish and, you know, that he eats for a
36 day. But if you teach him to fish, you know, he will
37 feed his family. Well, you have to remember that you
38 give a Tlingit a mic, and you'll sit all day.
39
40 (Laughter)
41
42 MS. DEMMERT: (In Tlingit) I want to
43 welcome all of you here. My name is Victoria Demmert.
44 I'm honored and privileged to be the President of the
45 Yakutat Tlingit Tribe. I'm humbled by the
46 responsibility and trust that our Tribal citizens give
47 to us on the Council. And to me, as the President, to
48 speak on their behalf.
49
50 And before I go any further, I want to

1 recognize one of the Council Members of the Yakutat
2 Tlingit Tribe, who has been a Council Member for many
3 years, Ray Sensmeier.

4

5 And I also want to thank Bert Adams,
6 who has been the president of the Yakutat Tlingit Tribe
7 prior to me for many, many years. More than ten years,
8 right? And I'm on my tenth year. So we worked well
9 together and we still do.

10

11 I am the granddaughter of Olaf Abraham,
12 from the Ahrnklin River, who's Teikweidee. And I'm
13 also the granddaughter of Susie Bremner Abraham, (In
14 Tlingit) originally from Chitina, before we migrated
15 who knows how many years ago. As we discuss in -- when
16 people ask us how long ago was that, the migration from
17 the north and south, to us it was yesterday. Because
18 that's how oral history works. When your grandparents
19 are teaching you and you're sitting at their knee,
20 you're hearing the story like it just happened. So for
21 us, history is just now.

22

23 And so that's why everything is so
24 important to us. And those of you who know this -- and
25 hello, Frank. Good to see you. Those of you who know,
26 know how it works and how it's like yesterday your
27 ancestors' footsteps were all over the land. And it's
28 like yesterday that they lived and died. Wars were
29 fought and blood was spilled. There were babies and
30 laughter. There was traveling and potlatches. And
31 that's all like yesterday. So it's real important to
32 us to honor what they did before us.

33

34 And it's not living in the past. It's
35 taking the best from the ancestors and moving it
36 forward. And part of that is our subsistence. And
37 subsistence is a strange word. Subsistence has gotten
38 this word like something that we're allowed to do from
39 the Villages. And those of you from the small towns
40 know it's a way of life. It's how we live and how we
41 eat. And if you've looked at the prices and you see
42 the price of fuel, oil is \$4.50 and that's if you're on
43 the elders special deduction. Our milk is over \$10.00
44 a gallon. Travel back and forth, those -- you all know
45 traveling back and forth to the Villages, how expensive
46 it is. We can't go to the store and buy a steak. We
47 can't go to the store and buy a burger. A lot of the
48 time we can't do it because it's not good for our
49 health. We don't know what's in it. We don't know who
50 shot it full of whatever. And we get our nourishment

1 from the sea and from the land. And in a respectful
2 way.

3
4 And so I'm so pleased that there is a
5 Board that cares about this and understands that our
6 life depends on the word subsistence. Because the
7 connotation is so much more than some people realize.
8 As my family went out to get a moose -- and we've got
9 growing young grandsons now. Some in their teens and
10 some at ten. You all know how they can eat and eat and
11 eat. And so we desperately need the moose.
12 Desperately need the moose. And before we go, we pray.
13 We pray for the moose that will give his life. We pray
14 for favor from our Lord above. We pray and ask our
15 ancestors who lived on the ground to have favor on us.
16 And then we go. And we pray that our shot is true and
17 that the animal won't suffer. Because we believe the
18 animal comes and gives its life. That time that that
19 is happening, we have a belief that during this time
20 you stay quiet so because -- because you're a part of
21 the hunters. You're not running around and being silly
22 or crazy or cleaning your house because you will clean
23 away the game from your hunters. And so you have to
24 sit quiet. You have the little ones sit quiet. And
25 you just go about your life in a quiet and peaceful
26 way.

27
28 And then when you think the hunters
29 should be coming back, the feeling that you have inside
30 is a feeling of please, will we eat this winter.
31 Please have favor on us, Lord. And when we see the
32 boat coming down, the anticipation fills you. You're
33 at tears and you're at joy. Tears because you know
34 your face has to be right if the men come without
35 anything and fear that there isn't going to be meat.
36 And so we go up and down the beach, waiting for them to
37 come down the river or from where it is the hunters are
38 hunting. And the -- as you see the boat sitting low in
39 the water and you know they have something. There's
40 something. That anticipation and that joy, that's our
41 life. When we go fishing, that's our life. That's our
42 life when we go hunting.

43
44 And I just want you all -- that I know
45 that you who live it understand. And that you who may
46 be new to it will understand. And remember that as you
47 deliberate, you deliberate about our lives. And I
48 really appreciate that you come to the Villages. That
49 we can take part and hear the deliberations and maybe
50 talk to you on the side and get to know you because we

1 need to be involved, too. I know you cannot do what
2 you do in a vacuum. And it is up to us in the Villages
3 to tell you what we feel and tell you what we need.
4 Because if we don't work together on this, it doesn't
5 work.

6
7 So I just want to welcome you to our
8 land. Welcome you as you have stepped foot in
9 beautiful Yakutat. I want to let you know that when
10 the canoes would pull up to the land and they'd be
11 singing their way in and the host would be singing
12 back, we may not be able to do that, but the spirit is
13 still there as we sing you onto our land and welcome
14 you. And during the time that you are a guest, we
15 protect you and we feed you.

16
17 And I just want to tell you one, little
18 story. Remember when a Tlingit has a microphone. One,
19 small story about the raven. When the raven created
20 Yakutat, he said he was looking for a place. He wanted
21 a place where he could have as his very own. But he
22 didn't want to be bothered by everyone traveling
23 through, so he said this will be a very difficult place
24 to come to. But to make the long story short, he said
25 it will also be a very difficult place to leave.
26 Because when you leave, you will leave a part of your
27 heart. We hope that you leave a part of your heart
28 because that means you'll come back.

29
30 And the one thing we want to say, our
31 strangers, our friends that we have not yet met, when
32 you come back you will not be a stranger. When you
33 come back you will be a friend. And we will take you
34 out and show you how we live, where we live, and help
35 you enjoy and love the land as much as we do.

36
37 So have a good meeting and welcome to
38 Yakutat.

39
40 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you very much,
41 Victoria.

42
43 I'd like to at this point have
44 introductions of everyone in the audience and the
45 Council.

46
47 Mr. Wright.

48
49 MR. WRIGHT: Mr. Bangs, thank you. I
50 feel like I have to respond to Victoria, you know.

1 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Please do.
2
3 MR. WRIGHT: My name is (In Tlingit).
4 I'm (In Tlingit) from (In Tlingit). And my uncle is
5 Herman Davis, my true uncle. And the words you speak --
6 I'll say it again. When the subsistence thing came in
7 and the State people were in Hoonah, I said -- I told
8 them subsistence, that's easy. And they said no, it's
9 real complicated. I said no, that's us. That's who we
10 are. And the words you spoke, believe in your heart.
11 In Yakutat, my heart is here. I am a coho from Sitka,
12 but we migrated down south from Yakutat. So I was
13 happy to hear your words.
14
15 Gunalcheesh.
16
17 MS. DEMMERT: Gunalcheesh.
18
19 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Frank.
20
21 Okay. Could we start with
22 introductions, with Ms. Oehlers, please.
23
24 MS. OEHLERS: Good morning. My name is
25 Susan Oehlers. I am with the Forest Service here in
26 Yakutat. And I work in Wildlife and Subsistence
27 Program. So we're very happy to have everyone here and
28 welcome you to Yakutat.
29
30 MR. ARDIZZONE: Good morning. I'm
31 Chuck Ardizzone. I'm the Deputy Assistant Regional
32 Director for the Office of Subsistence Management. I
33 work for Gene over there and I'm happy to be here.
34
35 MR. WALLACE: Good morning. Lee
36 Wallace, Organized Village of Saxman and President.
37
38 Thank you.
39
40 MR. LIND: Good morning. My name is
41 Orville Lind. I am the son of Fred and Abby Lind. And
42 my grandparents are Dora and Fred Lind-(indiscernible),
43 from the Village of Chignik. I'm honored and excited
44 to be here.
45
46 Quyana. Gunalcheesh.
47
48 MR. EDWARDS: I'm Larry Edwards. Good
49 morning. I live in Sitka and I work for Greenpeace.
50

1 MR. CAPRA: I'm Jim Capra, with the
2 National Park Service. I'm the Dry Bay Ranger and the
3 Subsistence Coordinator for Glacier Bay National Park
4 and Preserve.

5
6 MS. DEMMERT: Victoria Demmert,
7 President of the Yakutat Tlingit Tribe.

8
9 MS. CELLARIUS: Good morning. My name
10 is Barbara Cellarius and I'm the Subsistence
11 Coordinator and Cultural Anthropologist for Wrangell-
12 St. Elias National Park and Preserve. I'm based in
13 Copper Center.

14
15 MS. SILL: My name is Lauren Sill. I'm
16 with the Department of Fish and Game, Division of
17 Subsistence, based out of Juneau and do subsistence in
18 Southeast.

19
20 MR. WOLFE: I'm Ralph Wolfe. I work
21 for the Yakutat Tlingit Tribe. I'm the office manager.

22
23 MR. CASIPIT: I'm Cal Casipit. I'm the
24 Subsistence Staff Biologist for the Forest Service in
25 Juneau, Alaska Division Office.

26
27 MR. MEYER: I'm Spence Meyer. Born and
28 raised in Yakutat. I'm a Council Member of the Yakutat
29 Tlingit Tribe. Thank you.

30
31 MR. REEVES: Good morning. I'm Jeff
32 Reeves. I'm with the Forest Service. I'm a
33 subsistence biologist and I cover Ketchikan and Prince
34 William island areas.

35
36 MR. SUMINSKI: Good morning, everyone.
37 My name is Terry Suminski. I'm from Sitka. I work
38 with the Forest Service. I'm the Subsistence Program
39 leader for the Tongass National Forest.

40
41 MR. ROBBINS: Good morning. Harold
42 Robbins. I'm a local subsistence user.

43
44 MR. CHEN: Aloha, Council members. My
45 name is Glen Chen with the Bureau of Indian Affairs. I
46 am honored and glad to be here. I wanted to mention
47 that we've added someone to our BIA Staff. Her name is
48 Rosalie Grant. You might know her from Petersburg.
49 She wishes she could be at this meeting, but she had to
50 go to some training. But you'll see her in the future.

1 Thank you.
2
3 MR. WHITFORD: No comment.
4
5 (Laughter)
6
7 MR. WHITFORD: My name is Tom Whitford.
8 I'm the Regional Subsistence Program Leader for the
9 Forest Service. And also a member of the InterAgency
10 Staff Committee.
11
12 MS. HOWARD: Good morning. I'm Amee
13 Howard. I'm the Policies Coordinator for the Office of
14 Subsistence Management.
15
16 Thank you for having me.
17
18 MS. HARDIN: Good morning, everyone.
19 My name is Jennifer Hardin. And I'm the Anthropology
20 Division Chief in the Office of Subsistence Management.
21
22 MR. PELTOLA: Good morning, you all.
23 I'm Gene Peltola, Junior. I'm the Assistant Regional
24 Director at the Office of Subsistence Management.
25
26 MR. LIND: I forgot to mention that I'm
27 the Native liaison for the Office of Subsistence
28 Management.
29
30 (Laughter)
31
32 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Okay. Thank you, all.
33 And thank you all for being here.
34
35 I'd like to start with Mr. Bloom. And
36 if you could introduce yourself as the -- on the
37 Council here and give a very brief description of what
38 you do.
39
40 Mr. Bloom.
41
42 MR. BLOOM: Yes. I'm Art Bloom from --
43 I represent Tenakee Springs. And I'm a commercial
44 fisherman and a subsistence user.
45
46 MR. WRIGHT: All right. My name is
47 Frank Wright. I'm from Hoonah. I'm a subsistence
48 user, commercial fisherman, and Board Member in the
49 Association for about 25 years. And I'm here.
50

1 (Laughter)

2

3 MR. DOUVILLE: I'm Mike Douville. I'm
4 from Craig. I'm a full time commercial fisherman. I
5 do subsistence. I serve on the Craig City Council.
6 I'm also a member of the Craig Tribal Association. Or
7 not a member, but a Council Member. I'd like to thank
8 Yakutat for having us.

9

10 And if I may, I'd like to thank Bert
11 for all these years of being on the Council. And his
12 Chairmanship, he always showed great patience with his
13 Council and other people. And always had a great sense
14 of humor. But I miss most is he was also our best
15 storyteller.

16

17 (Laughter)

18

19 MR. HERNANDEZ: My name is Don
20 Hernandez. I'm from Point Baker on Prince of Wales
21 Island. And also a commercial fisherman and a
22 subsistence hunter and fisherman as well.

23

24 MR. LARSON: Good morning. My name is
25 Robert Larson. I live in Petersburg. I work for the
26 Forest Service. I'm the Council's Coordinator. If you
27 need something from the Council or have something for
28 the Council, I am the person you come to. I would like
29 to say that there is a sign-up sheet on the table in
30 the back. I'd appreciate it if everybody could sign
31 in. And I don't that mean that literally. If you
32 could please print and make your name legible, that
33 would be very much appreciated.

34

35 There's also some blue cards in the
36 back. And those are to testifier cards, that's what
37 they say at the top of them, if you wish to address the
38 Council and provide comments or testimony please fill
39 out a blue card give it to me and I will make sure that
40 it gets to the Chairman.

41

42 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you. And if
43 things go wrong.....

44

45 (Laughter)

46

47 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Okay. My name is Mike
48 Bangs. I live in Petersburg. I'm a commercial
49 fisherman and an avid subsistence user.

50

1 MR. KITKA: Good morning. My name is
2 Harvey Kitka. I'm from Central Alaska. And I wanted
3 to say a few things. I'm a subsistence user. I gave
4 up my original standing, so it's strictly a subsistence
5 user. But I want to say one thing. Bert has been a
6 friend of my family for a long time. So long ago that
7 when he was little my parents wanted to adopt him .
8 He's always been my brother.

9
10 Thank you.

11
12 MS. PHILLIPS: Good morning. My name
13 is Patricia Phillips. I'm the mayor of the City of
14 Pelican. I'm a mom and a wife and a grandma and a
15 community member. I was born at Mount Edgecumbe
16 Hospital when it was a public health hospital. My
17 mom's from Wainwright. My dad's from Afognak. And my
18 mom went to Mount Edgecumbe Board School. My parents
19 met there and married and raised us in Sitka. But I've
20 lived in Pelican for 43 years.

21
22 One of the reasons I love serving on
23 this Council is the cultural connections that we get,
24 the Villages we go to, the communities we go to. And
25 one of my fondest memories on this RAC is here in
26 Yakutat when George Ramos gave us his welcoming
27 ceremony. And we had the eagle feathers blown on us
28 and a prayer of success in our endeavors as subsistence
29 management advisors. And, you know, that cultural
30 component that Bert Adams brought in his membership and
31 as our Chair. You know, like Mike Douville was saying,
32 the stories that we hear of the ancient ways. Bert was
33 talking about this building and how it was hewn out of
34 hand axing. Well, I counted 30 rafters above us. And
35 that's not all of them. And there's probably that many
36 below us. But I just feel like we're enveloped with
37 the ancestors, their spirit. And it's carrying us
38 forward into the future and, Victoria said it so well,
39 and so anyways, that's who I am and I thank you for
40 inviting us back.

41
42 MR. SCHROEDER: I'm Bob Schroeder,
43 presently retired. I came to Alaska in the early '80s.
44 I thought I'd work for a couple of years helping
45 administer this great new law, ANILCA. And how long
46 could that possibly take before they took care of
47 problems and then I'd go on to do something else.
48 Well, that turned into over 30 years. And I've had
49 really the good fortune to work with many of the people
50 in the room on projects in communities, documenting

1 subsistence so it could be protected. Thank you so
2 much. And in the course of doing things, I actually
3 figured out I catch fish and cheat a few things. And
4 thank you much for that.

5
6 It was my good fortune to be the
7 Council Coordinator with Chairman Bert Adams. And that
8 was a true pleasure. I really appreciated the close
9 working relationship and the productivity of this
10 Council in particular. And I think it's done an
11 outstanding job in -- I'll sort of brag. I think it
12 sort of leads the State in terms of Regional Advisory
13 Councils. So that's the brag part. I'm currently
14 retired. I spend my time on volunteer activities. And
15 I'm really honored to be on the other side of the table
16 as a Council Member.

17
18 Thank you.

19
20 MR. HOWARD: Good morning. I'm Albert
21 Howard. Mr. Adams talked about Floyd Kookesh, he's the
22 one that talked me into this. I've worked with him for
23 years. I served as Mayor for three years and the
24 status quo was beating me up pretty bad.

25
26 (Laughter)

27
28 MR. HOWARD: And Floyd jumps in and he
29 said that's enough. You guys did that to me as mayor.
30 You're not doing that to him. I got to know him real
31 well. I got -- spoke at his service, you know, and
32 just about started crying when I thought about it.
33 And, you know, Floyd would have looked at me and said
34 what are you crying about.

35
36 (Laughter)

37
38 MR. HOWARD: I have a lot of good
39 memories of him. He called me one day. I thought he
40 called to see how we were doing fishing because I work
41 as a sportfishing guide in the summertime. A lot of
42 the things I've done in my life seems to give me a good
43 understanding of what's happening in our community. I
44 was a commercial seiner for seven years. I caught
45 halibut. We did crab from Lituya Bay up to here one
46 season. I've also power trolled with a good friend of
47 mine. All through high school I worked deck handers
48 for my dad. Back then we didn't have much of a deck
49 because he had an 18-foot Olympic we commercial fished
50 on.

1 I have a problem with the word
2 subsistence. Because growing up, that word didn't
3 exist. I'm full-blooded Tlingit. I'm Raven
4 (indiscernible) like my mother and her mother. I'm
5 pretty proud of the fact that I'm full-blooded Tlingit.
6 I've heard -- or I'll just talk about having to walk in
7 two worlds. And the older I get, the more I understand
8 that. And the longer -- well, I try to address the
9 subsistence issue not for myself, but our elders tell
10 us to be a leader, you have to have children. That way
11 you're not speaking for yourself. You're speaking for
12 your children. And to me, I'm raising my sons the same
13 lifestyle my dad raised me in. My mother didn't have
14 any brothers, so I didn't have any uncles to raise me
15 as to their hunting culture. Usually, the -- because
16 an uncle is going to be tougher on the nephew than the
17 father would be. My dad was pretty tough anyway, but --
18 so sometimes you're going to hear my voice. And it
19 isn't out of hate or anything. My voice will come out
20 of frustration.

21
22 At first it started with the passion to
23 keep our way of life going because I wanted my sons to
24 see what I've seen. See the abundance of what the
25 resource has to offer. So -- and I see it going away.
26 So I have concerns about that. And when it feels like
27 they aren't being heard, then I get louder. But I
28 appreciate hearing our Tlingit views from different
29 areas.

30
31 I'm also a veteran, as my dad was a
32 veteran of World War II. I have three other brothers
33 that are veterans. They're actually a Vietnam veteran.
34 And just real quick I want to thank you. I served in
35 Desert Shield, Desert Storm and they said that wasn't
36 much of a war. And I thought about why people would
37 say that. It's because of everything that was learned
38 in Vietnam. You should see the technology we have to
39 kick somebody's behind with and what they learned from
40 your service over there. So thank you.

41
42 I'm also on the City Council, the
43 Tribal Council, the Regional School Board, and I'm
44 currently serving as Mayor. I just got appointed
45 again. You'd think I would have learned the first
46 time.

47
48 (Laughter)

49
50 MR. HOWARD: Thank you.

1 MS. NEEDHAM: Good morning. My name is
2 Cathy Needham. I am -- I live in Juneau, I'm
3 originally from Ketchikan, Alaska. I'm part Tsimshian
4 from Metlakatla and part Haida from Kasaan. I own a
5 small environmental consulting firm and we work with
6 Tribal and rural communities throughout the State on
7 natural resource based issues. I have the pleasure of
8 working with the Yakutat Tlingit Tribe doing water
9 quality monitoring work in the Yakutat Forelands. And
10 it's an honor to be here.

11
12 Thank you.

13
14 MR. YEAGER: Good morning. My name is
15 John Yeager. I'm from Wrangell. And I'm a commercial
16 fisherman. Also a fishing guide and a subsistence
17 user.

18
19 REPORTER: Good morning. I'm Meredith
20 Downing with Computer Matrix out of Anchorage. And I'm
21 very happy to be here.

22
23 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you.

24
25 Thank you all. I'd like to go into
26 review and adopt this agenda so that we can get to
27 business here. Is there anything you'd like to amend
28 it with.

29
30 Ms. Phillips.

31
32 MS. PHILLIPS: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I
33 move to adopt the agenda as a guide, I'd like to add an
34 agenda item.

35
36 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Do we have a second.

37
38 MR. KITKA: Second.

39
40 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Okay. It's been moved
41 and seconded to adopt the agenda as a guide. And we
42 have some amendments.

43
44 MS. PHILLIPS: I'd like to add the item
45 extraterritorial jurisdiction, the Kootznoowoo
46 petition.

47
48 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Any other amendments.

49
50 (No comments)

1 And I think old business would be
2 appropriate for that. Put it as C.
3
4 I would also like to amend the agenda
5 to include a Prince of Wales wolf briefing. And we'll
6 add it under new business. That would be F.
7
8 MR. LARSON: G.
9
10 CHAIRMAN BANGS: G. That will be a
11 wolf briefing.
12
13 Any other amendments.
14
15 (No comments)
16
17 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Hearing none, I would
18 entertain a call for the question.
19
20 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Question.
21
22 CHAIRMAN BANGS: The question's been
23 called. All those in favor of adopting the agenda as
24 amended as a guideline, say aye.
25
26 IN UNISON: Aye.
27
28 CHAIRMAN BANGS: All those opposed.
29
30 (No opposing votes)
31
32 CHAIRMAN BANGS: agenda approved.
33
34 Okay. Being as we've had our Council
35 books for quite some time, which is a really good
36 thing, you should have all had time to read through the
37 previous meeting's minutes. But I'll give you a quick
38 moment to re-cap and see if there's anything that we
39 need to address.
40
41 Anyone have any questions about the
42 previous meeting's minutes.
43
44 (No comments)
45
46 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Hearing none, I will
47 entertain a motion to accept.
48
49 MR. WRIGHT: I move to accept the
50 minutes of the last meeting.

1 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Mr. Wright.
2 Second.

3
4 MR. YEAGER: Second.

5
6 CHAIRMAN BANGS: It's been moved and
7 seconded to approve the previous meeting minutes. All
8 those in favor, say aye.

9
10 IN UNISON: Aye.

11
12 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Opposed.

13
14 (No opposing votes)

15
16 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Okay. Motion passes.

17
18 Okay. I'd like to move onto Council
19 Reports. And we'll start with Mr. Yeager.

20
21 MR. YEAGER: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
22 Quickly, the Wrangell area -- the sockeye fishery on
23 the Stikine River appeared to be found very adequate.
24 And the number of people I spoke with didn't have any
25 issues obtaining their sockeye needs this spring. Also
26 had a good berry season. And the area moose season's
27 over. There was a fair amount of moose taken on the
28 Stikine. I don't have the exact number yet on that,
29 but there was also unfortunately an amount of illegal
30 bulls shot as well up there. So hopefully we'll be
31 able to -- at the AC level would get that in Wrangell.
32 And then there's a continued concern for the
33 transboundary mine issue. And our community would like
34 to keep that on the radar as much as possible.

35
36 Thank you.

37
38 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you.

39
40 MS. NEEDHAM: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I
41 just have a few, quick points. Since we last met in
42 March, I've worked with the C&T Committee. We had a
43 teleconference with OSM Staff and then we also had a
44 meeting yesterday, where I formally turned over my
45 position as the Chair of the C&T Committee to Mr.
46 Hernandez, who's going to do a great job moving forward
47 and brief you later today.

48
49 In the Southeast Region, I work on a
50 number of fish projects on Prince of Wales Island. And

1 I wanted to make note that in Hydaburg we expected
2 large returns of sockeye based on previous years
3 escapements. And Hetta Lake got less sockeye than
4 Klawock Lake did this year, coming in at about 7,000
5 fish. And the needs within the community were not met.
6 The amount of effort for subsistence in Hydaburg was
7 high and the number of fish that were actually
8 harvested was lower than it's been in years. And it
9 seems to be a different trend than maybe what was
10 happening across the rest of the Region. And I think
11 Hydaburg is going to be looking at the potential of
12 that fish -- given that we should have had a large
13 stock of fish coming back because we had great
14 escapement numbers four or five years ago, looking at
15 where fish may be being caught in the commercial
16 fishery. That they're not being able to make it back
17 into Hetta Lake.

18

19 And then finally I wanted to mention on
20 behalf of the Central Council of Tlingit and Haida,
21 that the Bureau of Indian Affairs funded them for a
22 large scale transboundary water quality monitoring
23 project. And so I've been hired to work with Central
24 Council of Tlingit and Haida on doing a water quality
25 sampling on the Taku, the Stikine, and the Unuk Rivers.
26 And so the reason why I bring this up in my Council
27 report is because this has been an issue that this
28 Council has been raising as a concern for a number of
29 years now. And it's good to see that there a Tribal
30 organization out there that's able to secure funding to
31 actually get some -- start filling in some data gaps
32 and do longer term monitoring on rivers that are
33 important in terms of fish species across our Region.

34

35 And with that, I'll turn it over.

36

37 MR. HOWARD: Good morning. Thank you,
38 Mr. Chairman. In Angoon we seem to have the same
39 concerns that we've already had for years and that's
40 towards our.....

41

42 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Excuse me, Albert. We
43 have technical difficulty. Could you stop for just a
44 moment? I'm sorry.

45

46 MR. HOWARD: Okay.

47

48 CHAIRMAN BANGS: We lost our
49 connection. Yeah. Let's take a five-minute break
50 here.

1 (Off record)

2

3 (On record)

4

5 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Okay. Please take
6 your seats. Please take your seats. Okay.

7

8 Thank you.

9

10 All right. I apologize, Mr. Howard,
11 for the interruption there. But if you would like to
12 continue with your introduction.

13

14 MR. HOWARD: Does that mean I have more
15 time now, Mr. Chairman? I started by talking about the
16 sockeye concern for our community members. That seems
17 to be an ongoing issue that we have been trying to
18 address for years. Again, we had low returns to all
19 systems within Chatham because the effort was there to
20 catch them. The fish just weren't there to catch. And
21 I hear that because apparently I'm the guy everybody
22 talks to about it now.

23

24 So last year, we had a tough time with
25 the deer population. And I think that's just because
26 of the lack of snow. So it looks like we're going to
27 have a pretty good hunting season this year when my
28 youngest son's already got the freezer full. So took
29 all my fun away.

30

31 Like the silver showed up pretty early
32 this year. We caught them at the end of June. And
33 usually we don't catch them in Angoon until the middle
34 of July. And it goes all the way through the end of
35 October. But then they were gone again by the middle
36 of August, so it was a strange year for salmon.

37

38 Working with the Tribe, I think we're
39 looking to address the sockeye issue from the Tribal
40 standpoint this time versus the Corporation, taking on
41 the ETJ petition. I'm on the Tribal Council and, you
42 know, any of you why know Floyd. I've learned how to
43 address the Council and be strong about it. Because
44 I'm not speaking for me. I'm speaking for my kids and
45 trying to address that concern.

46

47 There's a lot of issues there in Angoon
48 we're trying to address, but to help anybody
49 understand, when you come from a community with 80
50 percent unemployment, all you have is the resource

1 around you to make a living off of and to feed your
2 family. Someone said at a Tlingit and Haida meeting
3 they couldn't explain the feeling of going home with a
4 bunch of fish in your boat or deer or seal or clams.
5 Or anything we use to eat. So I thought about that.
6 And a way for you to understand that feeling, it's the
7 same as a person taking home a paycheck. The same
8 feeling. The same feeling you have on payday is the
9 same feeling we have when we go home with something.
10 When you spend, you know, \$40 for five gallons of gas
11 sometimes, you know, it might be the last \$40 in your
12 pocket and you're taking a gamble.

13

14 So when we sit around the table like
15 this, the decisions we're going to make as Board
16 Members affects people. You know, I sat and thought
17 about this for a long time. What is my responsibility
18 here. And to me, it's to interpret what my elders
19 thought I should have today. When they sat at the
20 table to give up what originally belonged to the elders
21 as part of a deal, they made sure certain rights of
22 ours are protected. And to keep any divides from
23 happening, they decided to change it to subsistence
24 users, which included non-Natives.

25

26 I think when we make decisions here, it
27 should be based on subsistence priority, as it was
28 intended. As it was written. Not open to
29 interpretation. If you're going to interpret it, try
30 to interpret it as it was originally written and why it
31 was written the way it was.

32

33 I call myself the original subsistence
34 users. We're the original -- the first user group. We
35 were the first ones to use the resource, so -- if it
36 seems like I get angry sometimes, it's going to be out
37 of frustration of it seems like I've been pushing this
38 rock up the hill for quite a few years.

39

40 So thank you, Mr. Chairman.

41

42 MR. SCHROEDER: Thank you, Albert.

43

44 I have a few things to mention that are
45 my concerns. This is following on what Albert said.
46 ANILCA was passed 35 years ago. The Federal Program
47 has been in existence for 20 or 25 years. Basically,
48 I'd say that things are successful in that harvest
49 levels continue to be more or less the same as what
50 they were earlier. However, I don't think that as a

1 Council we should accept a real status quo on the way
2 we do things or the way that ANILCA is interpreted.
3 Sometimes it's really frustrating when we're pushing on
4 things like rural determination processes or changing
5 the way that C&T is one. But I think we need to keep
6 in mind is what we are doing is we're helping implement
7 this law which was aimed at protecting subsistence
8 users.

9
10 And so I think that we should continue
11 to do that good work and recognize that some of the
12 procedures that were adopted in this 35 or 25 years may
13 need to be revised. And they may need to come more in
14 tune with really the intention of ANILCA. And we now
15 have some experience in these many years, so we have
16 something to stand on in suggesting changes there.

17
18 Let's see. A secondary is I'll kind of
19 double down on transboundary issues. I think maybe
20 we'll talk about that a little bit more when we get to
21 the response -- the letter from the Council to the
22 Board. So I'll hold on some of those things.

23
24 Let's see. Another point is I really
25 think the Council should spend a bit more attention and
26 de-brief better on data gathering activities for
27 subsistence. Because when we do have controversial
28 management issues that come before us, we really need
29 to back up our decisions with good data. And when we
30 don't have an issue, kind of data gathering is a little
31 bit -- it's almost a boring issue. I mean why do it.
32 But I think we need to really be aware of what data
33 gathering is going on through the State or through
34 other groups and to weigh in on what we think should
35 take place with the limited resources that are
36 available there.

37
38 A third area is coming at us like an
39 asteroid from outer space. But it's not from outer
40 space at all. It's from burning too much fossil fuel --
41 is climate change. And the change is upon us. And
42 this is something that the Council needs to consider.
43 If we think we're going to be around for the long time
44 -- in the long term, that will be our issue.

45
46 And lastly, we may not have really
47 pressing forest management issues at this moment, but I
48 would really encourage the Council to make sure that we
49 get briefings and that we weigh in on forest management
50 issues. Everything from the big ones which have to do

1 with timber sales and cutting to other forest
2 management issues, such as rehabilitation and
3 restoration of the land that was so seriously damaged
4 by over-harvesting at an earlier period. But there
5 also may be many other management issues that really
6 are appropriate for us to comment on and weigh in on.

7

8 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

9

10 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Bob.

11

12 Ms. Phillips.

13

14 MS. PHILLIPS: Thank you, Chairman
15 Bangs. I do want to talk about my attendance of the
16 Board of Fish meeting from the Council proposals, but I
17 will save those comments for the Agenda item,
18 extraterritorial jurisdiction. But I would like to
19 talk about it from a local -- Alaska Department of Fish
20 and Game local Advisory Committee perspective. And
21 that is I service the Chair and Pelican's -- on behalf
22 of the RAC or local Advisory Committee, I submitted
23 proposals to the Board of Fish for issues pertinent to
24 the Pelican Lisianski Inlet area. And we just -- we
25 have certain lines that we have to fish within. We're
26 a trolling community, commercial and hand troll, power
27 troll community. And like our guys get a lot of king
28 salmon. Well, not a lot, but they get some. And so we
29 want to move our line out.

30

31 That was one of the proposals we want
32 to submit at the next round so that our guys could -- I
33 mean we live in Pelican year round and we have limited
34 commercial business opportunities. And so we look at
35 some place like Sitka who's line is out where they --
36 they get a lion's share of the quota. And we've seen a
37 proposal from Yakutat. They want to move their line
38 out so that they can catch a little more king salmon
39 because they live here year round, too. So we want to
40 move our line out a little bit so we can catch king
41 salmon. I mean why does Sitka get so much of the
42 winter king and the rest of us in Southeast don't.

43

44 So, you know, why do I bring that up.
45 Because, you know, as the mayor of the Community of
46 Pelican, I had -- you know, we get these grant
47 application announcements. So the Community
48 Development Block Grant Program, which is a Federal
49 program that the State administers sent out a notice
50 about, you know, of the application. But in order to

1 be eligible, you have to be low to moderate income to
2 apply. Well, based on the 2010 census, my community is
3 like at 45 percent low to moderate income. But we're
4 like looking at one another going how can that be.
5 Well, when you have people who don't live in your
6 community year round, but they claim Pelican as a
7 residence. And their income is part of that census
8 data, it changes what your income level is community
9 wide. So in order to be eligible, we were able to do
10 our own income survey throughout the community. And we
11 surveyed 41 households. We are at 90 percent low to
12 moderate income in our community based on the survey
13 that we did earlier this month.

14

15 And we're primarily commercial fishing.
16 Power troll, hand troll, salmon, commercial salmon
17 fishing. And it's our way of life. And our way of
18 life also includes subsistence. So you can't separate
19 commercial from subsistence in my community because
20 it's a part of our way of life. And so when I come to
21 you and talk to you about my way of life, I'm looking
22 at the power troller that is barely making it this --
23 and he's wondering how he's going to make it through
24 the winter.

25

26 So, you know, we choose to live in
27 Pelican. We know that. And we love it there. It's a
28 way of life that we just -- you know, many of us are
29 long time residents. And we're down to like 120 of us
30 that are there year round.

31

32 But we see the effects of what's going
33 on. I mean Mr. Schroeder talked about climate change
34 effects. I mean we used to get now and then some of
35 these torrential downpours, but now they're like seven
36 inches of rain 40 hours. We've had four of them within
37 the last six weeks. I mean and they're getting to be
38 more and more. And so what we have happening is these
39 complete washout of stream beds. And the stream beds
40 washing up on the shoreline. And I was telling Mr.
41 Frank -- and you have all this dead debris or even live
42 debris just washing down the inlet and up onto the
43 shorelines. It kind of makes you wonder what's going
44 to happen with the salmon stocks that are in our stream
45 systems.

46

47 One of the issues that came up during
48 that -- our local AC was that we saw that 10,000 cohos
49 were taken from our stat area. And so we tried to
50 change lines so we could determine are those cohos

1 bound for Lisianski streams or are those cohos milling
2 around at Soapstone, going inside. Into the inside
3 waters. Well, the seiners took it as we were wanting
4 to cut them off. But we were just wanting to get
5 better data. I mean that's a thing that's lacking. If
6 they're taking 10,000 cohos out of Lisianski, then it's
7 going to affect our ability to go up to the stream and
8 get our own cohos.

9
10 But anyways, we have some -- you know,
11 and I think in every community you always have someone
12 who is a designated hunter or fisher. And they bring
13 back extra, you know, harvest that is shared in the
14 community. With needy families. Within the community.
15 And that's an important program that our community
16 takes that -- it's a pattern of harvest and sharing.
17 But we don't go and get the permit that says that we
18 are a designated hunter or a designated fisher. It's
19 just who we are. It's a customary and traditional
20 pattern of a way of life.

21
22 So anyways, the deer are in good
23 numbers and are very healthy.

24
25 And that's my report. Thank you.

26
27 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Ms.
28 Phillips.

29
30 Mr. Kitka.

31
32 MR. KITKA: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
33 Sitka has some -- probably some unique things. But
34 first of all, I'd like to talk a little bit about our
35 thank you for standing behind us when we asked for the
36 herring -- the portion that was taken to the Board and
37 passed. And you guys passed it for us. I wanted to
38 thank you guys for standing behind us on that part.

39
40 We still have a sea otter problem
41 within Sitka, but one of the main problems with it is
42 that even though they -- they seem to disappear, but
43 they only disappear for a short time and they come
44 back. And when the food has come back, they come back
45 again, too. So they're not really dying off. They
46 just move. But they always come back. And the whole
47 outside coast of Baranof Island is -- they're pretty
48 much gone with some of the seafood we get.

49
50 Right now, my children haven't had an

1 abalone -- probably they don't even know what it tastes
2 like anymore. So some of our gumboot beds are gone.
3 Sea urchins -- and we don't get very much of that
4 anymore. It's amazing how much those critters eat.

5
6 We also have some concerns with our
7 sockeye this year. Their sockeye in a lot of places
8 have disappeared. No telling what caused that problem
9 because some of the places were always -- there was
10 always a lot of return. But Klagg Bay which usually
11 was our fallback area only had a total of 3,000 fish
12 return. And 1,000 of that was caught in the waters.
13 Only about 1,500 made it up the stream, which is a very
14 small amount compared to what usually goes up that
15 stream.

16
17 We still have some problems with the
18 herring, but it's mostly with the State. Mostly it's
19 getting them to spread out how they fish the herring,
20 how they manage the herring. Last year they fished
21 basically where we subsist. And caused the fish to
22 spawn someplace else where the quality of the eggs --
23 the eggs was not nearly as good as it used to be.
24 Because there was so much volcanic silt in it and
25 caused some problems with our diet.

26
27 We're having some problems with this
28 global warming that's starting to affect our clam beds.
29 We now have to get -- take some clams to some people to
30 find out if they're edible or not. Because some of
31 them are getting very toxic. So some of the things
32 that are coming up are kind of scary.

33
34 And I think I'll stop there for now.

35
36 Thank you.

37
38 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Mr. Kitka.

39
40 Mr. Hernandez.

41
42 MR. HERNANDEZ: Thank you. It's always
43 kind of interesting as you sit at the latter part of
44 the table here, hearing other people's reports. And
45 you realize that you have a lot of the same concerns as
46 some people.

47
48 Last January, in southern end of
49 Southeast Alaska where I live on Prince of Wales
50 Island, middle of January look at the highest peaks on

1 Prince of Wales Island -- and I look at Kuiu Island as
2 well -- and there was no snow on the highest mountains
3 in mid-January. It was a little worrisome. We knew
4 were weren't going to have a snow pack. Then came --
5 well, first of all, in the latter part of April we had
6 the strongest winds that I can ever remember. I've
7 been in Point Baker for a little over 30 years. And I
8 know people that have, you know, lived there
9 continuously for over 70 years. And this is the
10 strongest wind anybody had ever seen in that community.
11 Probably blew 100 miles an hour. And that was in
12 April. I mean not in November. It's pretty unusual.

13
14 Then came May. Never rained. I don't
15 think it rained for -- it was about six weeks it was no
16 rain at all. Nothing. And we knew there was no snow
17 pack. And there was a lot of concern about what was
18 going to happen with the fish streams for that summer.
19 And then the fish started returning. And two years ago
20 it was just this huge pink salmon run. And we thought
21 we'd see lots of pink salmon, although two years ago we
22 didn't have near the heavy returns in southern
23 Southeast, as they had in northern Southeast. But
24 still expected good returns. And it was almost a no-
25 show. It was very disappointing pink returns in
26 southern Southeast. Coho returns also were poor.
27 Sockeye systems seemed to be suffering kind of Region-
28 wide. Possibly more concern in southern Southeast than
29 northern Southeast.

30
31 And then came the fall. And as Patty
32 pointed out, we had these torrential rains. It's hard
33 to believe that we could still be setting rainfall
34 records in Southeast Alaska, but we did, you know. And
35 more concern about those eggs in the stream. You know,
36 were they getting washed out? What happened two years
37 ago? Did those eggs get washed out? I couldn't
38 remember if we had any real bad storms.

39
40 But Bob Schroeder kind of mentioned,
41 you know, climate change as being an important topic
42 and I think yeah. Yeah, I think it is. I think we
43 have some concerns here for the future. And I kind of
44 have concerns. I think -- just my casual observations
45 over the years, I think southern Southeast is kind of
46 getting affected a little bit more than the northern
47 end. Kind of everything south of Frederick Sound seems
48 to -- you know, general trend seems to be a little
49 worse, in my view.

50

1 And I guess one of the things that I
2 look at is, you know, the milder climate in the south.
3 The snow pack. But something else we also have in
4 southern Southeast isn't so prevalent in northern
5 Southeast is a, you know, rather intensive harvest of
6 our forest. And when we talk about climate change,
7 there's a lot of things that people wish we could do to
8 maybe abate that a little bit, but probably in the long
9 run there really isn't probably much that's going to
10 happen to stop climates from changing here in the
11 future. We don't seem to have the will or the means to
12 do it.

13
14 But the one thing that can mitigate
15 climate change here in Southeast Alaska is this forest
16 that we have. That's the biggest factor we have in
17 protecting our resources. You know, it has the ability
18 of kind of counteracting some of these harmful effects
19 that we see. You know, the dry periods and the heavy
20 rains. You know, that forest will protect us from
21 that. And if we continue to remove this forest and our
22 important watersheds as we have done in the past and
23 seem to want to -- a lot of people seem to want to
24 continue in the future, I think we're toast personally.

25
26 So, you know, I hope that this Council
27 can have some more input into forest management, as
28 well as fish and wildlife management here as we proceed
29 to help alter that outcome.

30
31 So thank you.

32
33 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Don.

34
35 Mr. Douville.

36
37 MR. DOUVILLE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
38 I'll just touch on a couple of things. You know,
39 sockeye seems to be an issue. Even Sarkar, I've got
40 emails from people that live there. And they're quite
41 concerned about it. And there's nothing we can do, but
42 it's a -- like a Board of Fish type of thing. But we
43 are hopefully going to do monitoring there.

44
45 Karta seemed to have a decent run. And
46 the escapement of sockeye into Klawock system was about
47 7,700, which is pretty good really. So I think that
48 our efforts to get the waters closed above the bridge
49 there was a real positive thing. So hopefully that
50 will continue to get better.

1 There was some issue about the Wrangell
2 moose hunt and stuff like this, we'll gather
3 information on that sometime in the future and maybe we
4 could look at that. Whether we could do anything about
5 it or not seems to be some conflict with the State and
6 the Federal hunt.

7
8 But if you remember a couple of years
9 ago, we had unusually really warm fall, summer. And I
10 believe that affected the pink runs. The water was
11 just too warm. And we -- it affected our egg take in
12 Prince of Wales hatchery. Usually we have a real high
13 recovery of those fish or a high hatch rate. But even
14 though the eggs looked good, they were exposed to too
15 warm of water and they don't -- they lose their
16 viability. And we experienced some of that.

17
18 And as far as logging, I agree with you
19 that the logging particularly with the State -- under
20 State regulation is much too liberal. It leaves
21 virtually no stream buffers or you can log clear to the
22 beach. Federal standards are much stricter, but I
23 don't know if we could ever address anything like that.
24 But, you know, we just have 65,000 acres of Corporation
25 land that will be logged in the near future. And is
26 being logged today under those same State standards.
27 So it's a concern.

28
29 Thank you.

30
31 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Mike.

32
33 Mr. Wright.

34
35 MR. WRIGHT: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

36
37 One good thing that happened in Hoonah
38 this year was that we finally got the hydro power
39 hooked up. They figured that it would probably save
40 about 100,000 gallons of diesel fuel that would have
41 burned. You know, that hydro electric plant that was
42 just built was started probably before I was born. I
43 mean they had -- there was some old equipment up there
44 that was there. And it stopped when a guy named -- we
45 called him Sardines -- had got hurt. And then it got
46 stopped. It stopped. They didn't continue on with
47 building that thing. But it's up and running now, so --
48 and that's -- hope it helps with this environmental
49 issue that we have now. The warming of our planet.
50

1 The dungeness crab, there was a
2 proposal put in to get to keep the dungeness crab from
3 being -- from the commercial fishermen coming into our
4 little area behind our island to put dungeness crab
5 pots in there. And it was this year -- it was the
6 first year that they stopped them from coming in there.
7 And it used to be hundreds of pots put behind the
8 island there where commercial came in. And you didn't
9 dare put your pot there because they'd pull it anyway.
10 So that helped a lot. You know, so now I go back
11 there. It's local pots that are there. So that makes
12 it better for us.

13
14 You know, so -- and then the sea
15 otters. Of course we're going to complain about the
16 sea otters until something drastic happens to them. I
17 think there's some kind of disease up north that
18 there's -- they're wondering why sea otters are dying.
19 But, you know, any living animal, I wouldn't want
20 things like that to happen. But when sea otters are
21 starting to come into Port Frederick, the Tribe has put
22 a program where the Tribal Members could go hunt them.
23 And furs are being processed. And then the furs will
24 be sewed and put together so that we can gain the money
25 back we get from the sea otter skins that are
26 processed.

27
28 So -- but there's a line from the
29 Cannery Point out to Crisp Point which is right at the
30 entrance of Port Frederick that we say we can hunt, but
31 I know there's some people that go outside the lines
32 and do it. And that's fine with me because, you know,
33 when you see a sea otter as far down as Point Augusta
34 and across on Home Shore side, hundreds of them, you
35 know, it's kind of -- you don't go get cockles in Home
36 Shore anymore because there's no more. They're done.
37 You know, and like I said last year, there was eight
38 guys that went over on a seine boat to go get cockles
39 and they said they probably got one bucket out of the
40 whole -- of the eight people that were there. So you
41 know that these critters are really destroying our
42 subsistence way of life. You know, they eat more than
43 we eat. That's for sure.

44
45 The deer population is healthy. You
46 know, some guys are already harvesting what they need,
47 so -- because of last year, you know. In front of my
48 house, you know, I think I only had about one foot of
49 snow. Usually it's all the way up to my window. You
50 know, but it's -- last year winter was really, really

1 mild compared to a few years ago. And so the
2 population seems to be pretty healthy.

3
4 You know, another problem I think we're
5 having is with the ferry system. The ferry system is
6 really being cut back. And so, you know, buying food
7 in Hoonah is ridiculous. You know, just an example.
8 One ten-pound bag of rice costs 24 bucks. You to go
9 Costco, a 25-pound costs 16 bucks. You know, you're
10 talking over twice the amount of what it is. You know,
11 and milk. You know, it's the same thing. Over \$10 a
12 gallon. You know, it's kind of ridiculous. You know,
13 and people -- I always try and make an excuse to go
14 take my truck in. Then I call people and ask them what
15 do you need. You know, and then you just pay me back
16 when I get back. You know, and so trying to help out
17 people to, you know, get some food that they can.

18
19 And I think that our younger people are
20 missing out because they don't -- well, they eat food
21 that isn't good for them. They don't go do the work to
22 go out, go subsistence hunt. They don't go do the work
23 to go. And, you know, I get kind of frustrated when I
24 see a kid, all they do is sit there and play with them
25 stupid games. I call them stupid because there's no
26 physical work playing. You've got a strong thumb and
27 that's about it.

28
29 (Laughter)

30
31 MR. WRIGHT: You know, so when we were
32 kids, I remember we -- I don't think we had our
33 telephone until I was about 14 years old. You know,
34 you don't see kids playing anymore. You don't see --
35 you know, we used to have a hill. We used to run up
36 the hill and slide down. And then down at the cannery
37 there was an ice pond down there. And no kids go down
38 there and play. I mean when the pond freezes up,
39 they're still home playing those stupid games. You
40 know, I was glad my daughter never got into that, you
41 know, and she's.....

42
43 Our fishing season was pretty dismal.
44 You know, there was a 58 million forecast and I think I
45 read in Pacific Fishing there was only a 32 million
46 caught this year. You know, and we lucked out that,
47 you know, we caught enough for my crew and, you know,
48 make a couple of bucks.

49
50 You know, and I was in Lisianski when

1 it rained there. I'll tell you. I had a deck bucket
2 on deck. We went to sleep. The deck bucket was full
3 the next morning we got up. I mean it was raining that
4 hard. I mean we were anchored in my cove and I was --
5 there was not even -- there's probably a little stream
6 there, but you had a river coming down in about three
7 or four places in that little cove there. You know,
8 and when it rained in there, I had a whole bucket. One
9 bucket during the night. I mean gee whiz. And that's
10 not seven inches. That's about 12 inches. You know,
11 God.

12

13 Anyway, we have -- I think we have a
14 lot of work to do on the subsistence issue. And, you
15 know, it's like I said, you know, for us that live in
16 small places, you know, we couldn't exist without it.
17 And it's part of a way of life. And I think that we
18 need to continue on working on it, as we are.

19

20 Thank you.

21

22 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Frank.

23

24 Mr. Bloom.

25

26 MR. BLOOM: Mr. Chairman. I think for
27 the most part in Tenakee Springs the subsistence needs
28 of the residents were met. I appreciate the comments
29 of all of you, all of the other Council members. I
30 think in summary, just as I listen to all of you, you
31 know, the subsistence resources depend on the habitat
32 and the environment. And a lot of mention about
33 logging. So I thank you for all your comments. I
34 don't think I need to repeat it. Thanks.

35

36 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Art.

37

38 I just would have to say that I think
39 most of the concerns from the Petersburg area
40 concerning the Southeast have been already spoken to.
41 I would like to add that -- or reiterate what Mr.
42 Yeager said about the moose. Moose harvest was good,
43 but there is concern about how we are going to need to
44 address the illegal take, which was much higher than
45 usual. So that was.....

46

47 We did have a real bumper crop of rain
48 though at this latter part of the summer. And I think
49 it made up for one of the driest months on record, too.
50 The month of May, where we didn't get any rain at all

1 to speak of.

2

3 But anyway, I'd like to add that we are
4 going to have a fundraiser lunch for the high school
5 group here today. And we were hoping that we would try
6 to take advantage of this weather, but we want to make
7 sure we were able to get through Agenda, so we're going
8 to do the field trip on Wednesday, during lunch
9 tomorrow. And Mr. Adams is going to be our guide. And
10 we're going to go to Cannon Beach. Probably see sights
11 along the way and hopefully we'll get a break in the
12 weather as well.

13

14 And then tomorrow morning he is going
15 to grace us with his sourdough pancake breakfast. And
16 Bert's going to do that as well tomorrow. And that's
17 here. And I'm not sure on the time.

18

19 Bert, do you have.....

20

21 MR. ADAMS: What time is our -- 9:30
22 again?

23

24 CHAIRMAN BANGS: No. I think we'll
25 start earlier tomorrow. I'd like to start around 8:00.
26 Between 8:00 or 8:30, depending on what your schedule
27 was for breakfast. But earlier would be better.

28

29 MR. ADAMS: I could have -- I think
30 maybe at 7:00.

31

32 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Okay. So 7:00 o'clock
33 would be the beginning of the breakfast. And we'll try
34 to make sure that there is coffee ready sooner than
35 that so we could kind of wake up first.

36

37 Okay. Thank you, Bert.

38

39 Other than that, I think that'll --
40 that's my report. I would like to give Bert a -- he
41 requested a chance to make a few comments.

42

43 Mr. Adams.

44

45 MR. ADAMS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman,
46 for allowing me to have this time.

47

48 You know, I talked about, you know, the
49 construction of this hall, you know, and everything
50 that went to it. But I just wanted to point out in the

1 back of the room here, on this wall you'll see two
2 plaques. And on those plaques are the names of the
3 people who were the timber fallers and the people who
4 worked on this hall. All volunteer work. And, you
5 know, the sisters, they provided breakfast, lunch, and
6 dinner as the men came down here and worked on this
7 building. So I just wanted -- I know some people -- I
8 noticed them, you know, looking at the pictures and
9 examining those plaques over there. I just wanted you
10 to know that those are the men who built this hall.
11 And you can see it took a great many of them. So I
12 just wanted to share that with you.

13

14 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

15

16 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Bert.

17

18 MR. ADAMS: Oh. Another thing, too. I
19 just wanted to recognize the -- you know, he's been on
20 the Council before and he's been a stalwart and a hard-
21 working individual to have Saxman retain its rule
22 status, you know. And the Council has always been
23 behind him. And so I just wanted to recognize him as
24 one of the hardest workers I have ever seen in regards
25 to subsistence issues that pertain, you know, to the
26 communities. And that is having been retaining their
27 rule status.

28

29 Thank you very much.

30

31 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Bert.

32

33 Okay. I'd like to cover the Annual
34 Report reply. And I'd like Mr. Larson to give us a
35 brief summary of that, if he could.

36

37 MR. LARSON: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

38

39 The Annual Report reply from the Office
40 of Subsistence Management is on page 12 of your Council
41 book. And I don't really have anything to comment on
42 that except that at this meeting we normally start the
43 Annual Report process, so you should be thinking about
44 Annual Report topics for a little later in the meeting.

45

46 Thank you.

47

48 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Mr. Larson.

49

50 Chuck.

1 MR. ARDIZZONE: Mr. Chair, I just
2 wanted to make it clear that the report reply is
3 actually from the Board, not from the Office of
4 Subsistence Management, which is kind of technical, but
5 the Board actually reviewed it and approved it, so it
6 comes from the Board, not from our office.

7

8 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you.

9

10 I have one question for Mr. Larson
11 about the tracking of the activities of the Commission
12 of the Transboundary River situation that we sent the
13 letter off. And I was hoping that we could get a
14 little bit of an update on that, its progress.

15

16 MR. LARSON: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

17

18 Let me -- do you have a specific spot
19 here that -- let me look at this. And you're speaking
20 of the mining issue as -- where are we at here?

21

22 CHAIRMAN BANGS: It's the progress of
23 the Joint Boundary Commission. And it says in our book
24 that you had been tracking this. And I was just
25 wondering if you had an update for us.

26

27 MR. LARSON: Yes, Mr. Chair. I do.
28 And the update is that the Transboundary Commission has
29 decided not to take up the Transboundary mining issues.
30 So that there is a -- our governor -- not our governor,
31 but our -- it's the lieutenant governor has a group.
32 And they're very concerned over the Transboundary
33 mining issue, as well as there's people in the U.S. and
34 Canada. We had a report last year from the Salmon
35 without Borders people, but they -- and there has been
36 some discussion about having these other group be
37 proactive in addressing the Transboundary mining. And
38 they have decided not to do that. So thank you.

39

40 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Mr. Larson.

41

42 I might add that we first discussed
43 this Transboundary issue -- it must have been at least
44 two years ago. Before there was any really noticeable
45 media coverage. And I know for one point in my
46 community, bringing it up to the City Council at that
47 time before it was a Borough, and they were totally
48 unaware of what was coming down the river systems. And
49 I think that other members of this Council went to
50 their communities as well to kind of open the thought

1 pattern as to what could happen in the future if we
2 didn't address this. So I appreciate the Council's
3 work on this from a couple of years ago. And finally
4 now it's starting to become an awareness of the whole
5 State. So I appreciate that.

6

7 At this point, I'd like to invite Mr.
8 Wayne Owen to address just a recognition.

9

10 MR. OWEN: Good afternoon, Mr. Chair
11 and Committee. My name is Wayne Owen. I am the Alaska
12 Region Forest Service Director for wildlife fisheries,
13 watershed ecology, and subsistence programs. And in
14 short, I've been sent by the Regional Forester to talk
15 to you today. It's my great pleasure.

16

17 As you all know, there is a change in
18 leadership in the Regional Advisory Committee here over
19 the last year. Our longstanding and good friend Bert
20 Adams, Mr. Kadashan, you know, stepped aside for new
21 leadership. And I wanted to express my personal thanks
22 for his years -- many years of service. The Regional
23 Forester Beth Pendleton similarly expressed her
24 gratitude for his many years of service. And I have
25 from Forrest Cole his appreciation for your service as
26 well.

27

28 I'd like to acknowledge Bert's -- and I
29 have like two pages of biography, but I'll make this
30 short. What I most appreciate about Bert and the
31 service that he has done for the Forest Service and the
32 Advisory Committee is his breadth of background. Bert
33 has a degree in Political Science. Bert is a published
34 author. He's a successful artist and a champion of his
35 Native culture. I can think of no higher praise than
36 those things for a man grown up in a place like this,
37 in a tradition of service to his community and to his
38 culture.

39

40 So with that, I have a small token of
41 the Forest Service's appreciation. A traditional
42 retirement gift in the Forest Service is a gold pan
43 inscribed to Bertram J. Adams, Senior, for your
44 extraordinary service and leadership to the Southeast
45 Alaska Subsistence Regional Advisory Council from 1999
46 -- it says to 2015 -- '14. Right. So Bert, thank you
47 very much. It's my pleasure to be here at this time
48 and see you once again. And I'll offer this to you.

49

50 MR. ADAMS: Thank you.

1 (Applause)
2
3 MR. ADAMS: Well, I guess for the first
4 time in my life I'm speechless.
5
6 MR. OWEN: All right. We're out.
7
8 (Laughter)
9
10 MR. ADAMS: But Wayne, thank you for
11 being the representative of the Forest Service to make
12 this presentation to me at this time. I never thought,
13 you know, that I was deserving of any type of
14 recognition for the work that we all do as Regional
15 Advisory Councils, but it's been a pleasure.
16
17 Just one little correction. I did not
18 get a degree in Political Science. It was in English.
19
20
21 (Laughter)
22
23 MR. OWEN: I'm reading my biography.
24 I'll let you correct me.
25
26 (Laughter)
27
28 MR. OWEN: But I think we all know the
29 political will that it takes to work in the subsistence
30 realm in the State of Alaska.
31
32 MR. ADAMS: Oh, well. If you want to
33 recognize me for that.
34
35 MR. OWEN: Honorary degree for you,
36 Bert.
37
38 (Laughter)
39
40 MR. ADAMS: Okay. And then you
41 mentioned the fact that I was being retired from the
42 Forest Service.
43
44 MR. OWEN: No. No. No. No.
45
46 MR. ADAMS: Does that include the
47 benefits, too?
48
49 (Laughter)
50

1 MR. OWEN: This is a traditional gift
2 that we give retirees.
3
4 MR. ADAMS: That's what I'd do.
5
6 MR. OWEN: It is a measure of our
7 acceptance.....
8
9 MR. ADAMS: Oh, okay.
10
11 MR. OWEN:and esteem for you.
12
13 MR. ADAMS: Well.
14
15 MR. OWEN: To include you amongst our
16 colleagues.
17
18 MR. ADAMS: Great. Thank you very
19 much. And my thank you to Beth and to -- is it.....
20
21 MR. OWEN: Forrest.
22
23 MR. ADAMS: Forrest.
24
25 MR. OWEN: Yeah.
26
27 MR. ADAMS: I've had a longstanding
28 relationship Forrest and I forgot his name.
29
30 (Laughter)
31
32 MR. ADAMS: But when you get to my age,
33 you know, you can be forgiven for that. Okay.
34
35 MR. OWEN: So the good.....
36
37 MR. ADAMS: Go ahead.
38
39 MR. OWEN: So the good news, Bert, is
40 you forgot his name. And he's only been retired since
41 April. I think everybody in Yakutat's going to
42 remember your name a lot longer than Forrest Cole's.
43
44 MR. ADAMS: Oh. I didn't know he
45 retired.
46
47 (Laughter)
48
49 MR. ADAMS: Anyhow, thank you.
50 Gunalcheesh again.

1 MR. OWEN: Gunalcheesh.
2
3 MR. ADAMS: Thanks.
4
5 MR. OWEN: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
6
7 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you. Thank you,
8 Wayne.
9
10 (Applause)
11
12 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Oh. Wait a minute.
13 Wait a minute, Bert. Bert, you're not excused yet.
14 Please sit.
15
16 (Laughter)
17
18 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Can we have Ms. Barb
19 Cellarius, please.
20
21 MR. ADAMS: I just wanted to go back
22 there and cry.
23
24 (Laughter)
25
26 MS. CELLARIUS: Again, I'm Barbara
27 Cellarius. I'm with the Park Service. And I have a
28 letter from the Park superintendent. And so I'm just
29 going to read it because I think that's the easiest
30 thing to do.
31
32 I'm writing to thank you for your 15
33 years of service on the Wrangell-St. Elias National
34 Park Subsistence Resource Commission. The Park very
35 much appreciates the time you have taken out of your
36 busy schedule to advise us on issues of importance to
37 subsistence users. We feel it is very important to
38 hear from local residents such as you. I appreciate
39 the many times you have shared important cultural
40 lessons during our meetings. Your wisdom and insight
41 regarding many complex subsistence issues and your
42 leadership in finding compromise when no easy answer
43 existed. I hope you will keep in touch with us and I'm
44 certain our paths will cross in Yakutat or elsewhere
45 sometime soon. Best wishes, Eric Veach, who is our
46 acting superintendent.
47
48 And we have a plaque for Bertram J.
49 Adams, Senior, Kadashan, in recognition of service on
50 the Wrangell-St. Elias National Park Subsistence

1 Resource Commission.

2

3 (Applause)

4

5 MR. ADAMS: Thank you very much,
6 Barbara. Barbara and I have had a long working
7 relationship during my tenure as a member of the
8 Wrangell-St. Elias National Park Subsistence Resource
9 Commission. Let me share with you in the audience how
10 this appointment came about. I was first, you know,
11 appointed to be the -- on the Southeast Regional
12 Advisory Council. And this body appoints an individual
13 to sit on the seat of the Wrangell-St. Elias National
14 Park Subsistence Resource Commission. And so I was
15 lucky enough to be able to be appointed. And I
16 remember going to my first meeting and coming back and
17 giving a report. Big Bill Thomas, you know, was
18 chairman then. And so I gave my report. And then the
19 first thing he asked me, he says have you been elected
20 chairman yet. And I said no. He said what's the
21 matter with you anyhow, you know.

22

23 (Laughter)

24

25 MR. ADAMS: And I said well, this was
26 only first meeting, you know. I'm just, you know,
27 getting to learn it, the ropes and everything up there.
28 But eventually I did get elected chairman. And I
29 served that right up until the time that I -- almost
30 until the time that I was released. But it was a great
31 pleasure for me to be able to go there. I remember I
32 guess Eric is probably the only one that is there right
33 now, is acting as the superintendent. But had real
34 good experience with Eric when -- several years ago
35 when Wrangell-St. Elias came down to try to figure out
36 what the heck was going on with the East Alsek River.
37 And I went along for the trip.

38

39 Were you here then? No. Okay.

40

41 And so I had an opportunity to see how
42 the workings of biologists go. And that's how come I
43 was so happy, you know, when Cathy came on board
44 because I realized, you know, that the Regional
45 Advisory Council was missing somebody with that
46 caliber. And I hope you stay for a long time.

47

48 And so I was able to learn from Eric
49 and those who were there, you know, about the thing to
50 look for, you know, in a declining riverbed. And it

1 was a really educational experience for me. Then
2 having to go up there twice a year into the Copper
3 River area and meet with the people there and get
4 acquainted with the commission members was also one of
5 the most endearing experiences I have ever had, along
6 with, you know, working with you people.

7
8 So my appreciation is greatly extended,
9 you know, to the Wrangell-St. Elias Commission. And I
10 hope you give them my best regards. And I do hope to
11 see you all again. So gunalcheesh and thank you very
12 much.

13
14 (Applause)

15
16 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Bert.
17 Okay. I'd like to back up just a little bit here.
18 Before we break for lunch, I'd like to readdress the
19 letter -- the Annual Report response letter and ask if
20 there's anyone on the Council that has any comments or
21 questions about that response.

22
23 Ms. Phillips.

24
25 MS. PHILLIPS: Thank you, Chairman
26 Bangs. On the annual response from the Federal
27 Subsistence Board, item one, Transboundary River
28 mining, the Council wrote the Council would also
29 appreciate any support the Board can provide to
30 initiate a water quality monitoring program on the
31 Transboundary Rivers. And then the response was as for
32 the Council's request that the Board support the
33 initiation of water quality monitoring program on the
34 Transboundary Rivers, the Board lacks the authority or
35 funding to initiate such a program itself. And I would
36 just -- I kind of question that reply to us in that the
37 Board itself is the regional directors of five Federal
38 agencies that manage land in the State of Alaska. And
39 seems to me that like watershed ecology is just one of
40 the their mandated responsibilities. And it just seems
41 like there should be a resource to tap into.

42
43 And I was really glad to hear in the
44 Council comments that Cathy Needham is working with
45 Central Council Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of
46 Alaska on water quality monitoring on the Stikine, the
47 Taku, and the Unuk. So that reply to me is not
48 substantiated, in my opinion. And that there could be
49 a more -- an opportunity for co-management with the
50 Tribes to do some long term water quality monitoring.

1 Thank you.

2

3 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Ms.
4 Phillips. I think that's a very good point. And I
5 think it's been in the news lately that they're in the
6 process of securing funding and going ahead with the
7 project. And I'm not sure what entity is going to
8 proceed with that water testing, but I'm hoping that it
9 happens sooner than later.

10

11 Any other.....

12

13 MS. PHILLIPS: Yes.

14

15 MR. SCHROEDER: Yes, Mr. Chair. I
16 don't know if we should -- I think the Council is
17 likely to have some follow-up on Transboundary River
18 mining, whether that there may be some Council actions
19 or further questions to put in an Annual Report.
20 Should we hold on those or talk about them now.

21

22 CHAIRMAN BANGS: We will be discussing
23 our Annual Report later on in the Agenda. So I think
24 it would probably be more appropriate to add that to
25 our Annual Report.

26

27 MR. SCHROEDER: Another item directly
28 related to the response is your Council Coordinator can
29 track the activities of that Commission and inform you
30 of its progress. Is Mr. Larson going to do that at
31 some time in this meeting.

32

33 CHAIRMAN BANGS: I just requested that
34 he update us on it and he did. He has nothing new at
35 this point.

36

37 Ms. Phillips.

38

39 MS. PHILLIPS: Thank you, Chairman
40 Bangs. I'd like to follow-up on my train of
41 discussion. And it is that there is already a Tribal
42 entity -- a Regional Tribal entity that will be doing
43 water quality monitoring. And we should continue to
44 support that activity, especially if there could be
45 further co-management monitoring.

46

47 Thank you.

48

49 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Patty.

50

1 Any other comments or questions about
2 the response letter.

3
4 (No comments)

5
6 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Okay. I think -- oh,
7 Mr. Douville. Excuse me.

8
9 MR. DOUVILLE: I just have a question
10 about Patty's statement. Did we incorporate your
11 concerns -- and they are ours also -- but into our
12 Annual Report.

13
14 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Yes, Mr. Douville. I
15 think that would be appropriate to include that when we
16 discuss the Annual Report.

17
18 Ms. Phillips.

19
20 MS. PHILLIPS: Thank you, Chairman
21 Bangs. I'm going to reserve my extraterritorial
22 jurisdiction comments about the annual letter under the
23 Agenda item.

24
25 Thank you.

26
27 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Okay. Thank you.

28
29 Mr. Schroeder.

30
31 MR. SCHROEDER: Just the response,
32 number four on the correspondence policy. And I
33 appreciate that we did get a response on the
34 correspondence policy, but I think that we might
35 consider further communication on this with the Board
36 in that the intent of the correspondence policy is not
37 to in some way throttle or diminish the ability of the
38 Council to communicate; however, the delays in
39 forwarding -- reviewing and forwarding correspondence
40 on has been such that that -- the effect has been to
41 throttle the involvement of the Council.

42
43 So a possible suggestion when we get to
44 that would be that we request a time specific limit on
45 correspondence turnaround. I'm bringing that up
46 because I was involved in the initial discussion
47 setting up a correspondence policy. And whether the
48 time limit made it into the written policy or not,
49 under discussion with Chairman Thomas was that -- or
50 excuse me -- Chairman Littlefield was that it would be

1 a reasonable turnaround time, meaning like two or three
2 days. Similar to if we were doing correspondence just
3 among Council Members where someone would get back to
4 you with comments in two or three days and then move
5 things on.

6

7 So I think that's still a bit of a
8 fault zone here. And this response is an improvement,
9 an acknowledgment, but I don't consider it adequate.

10

11 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Mr.
12 Schroeder. Good point. Maybe that would be something
13 that we could also include a follow-up with the Annual
14 Report.

15

16 Thank you.

17

18 Any other comments or questions about
19 the response letter.

20

21 Ms. Phillips.

22

23 MS. PHILLIPS: Thank you, Chairman
24 Bangs. So the item three, subsistence user
25 representation on the North Pacific Management Council.
26 It was to request a designated subsistence seat on the
27 North Pacific Council. The Federal Board responded
28 that there had been some recent developments with by-
29 catch management. And I am just curious to know what
30 measures that the Federal Board has been taking that
31 could be assisting with some of these by-catch issues
32 that deal with salmon bound for the Yukon. And it
33 would have been interesting if they had written that in
34 their response to us.

35

36 Thank you.

37

38 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Ms.

39 Phillips.

40

41 Any other questions or comments.

42

43 (No comments)

44

45 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Hearing none, I think
46 that we'll check with -- the lunch is I think getting
47 close to being prepared. Maybe we could take a short
48 break. We will address the -- some of the comments.
49 There's some public testimony that we will try to get
50 to right after lunch.

1 So at this point we'll recess for lunch
2 and we'll be back at -- what is it, a little after
3 noon. How about 1:15. That will give us a little more
4 than an hour.

5
6 (Council nods affirmatively)

7
8 CHAIRMAN BANGS: So 1:15 we'll
9 reconvene. Thank you.

10
11 (Off record)

12
13 (On record)

14
15 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Okay. Thank you,
16 everyone. I'd like to start this next part of the
17 meeting with some public testimony. And we'll start
18 with Larry Edwards.

19
20 MR. LARSON: Mr. Chair, Mr. Edwards has
21 a power point. It's going to take a second to get the
22 computer up and running.

23
24 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Okay. Just as long as
25 it's.....

26
27 MR. EDWARDS: Do you want somebody to
28 go before me then? So it's.....

29
30 CHAIRMAN BANGS: If it would help you
31 get it set up quickly and Mr. Wallace is willing to
32 step up. I don't know if he's ready or not.

33
34 Mr. Wallace, are you ready to testify?

35
36 Okay. Then we'll just take just a
37 short minute here. It won't take long, will it, to set
38 that up.

39
40 (Pause)

41
42 MR. EDWARDS: Thank you very much for
43 the opportunity to speak to the Council. My name is
44 Larry Edwards. I'm a longtime resident of Sitka and
45 I'm representing Greenpeace.

46
47 I just wanted to relate some news and
48 provide some updates on kind of the bigger scale
49 picture of what's happening with impacts on the forest
50 from logging in Southeast Alaska. The most recent news

1 is back in May, Greenpeace and several organizations
2 filed a lawsuit against the Forest Service's Mitkof
3 Island timber sale project. A quite large one.
4 35,000,000 board feet done under a lightweight
5 environmental assessment instead of an EIS. Our
6 opening briefs in that case were due a couple of weeks
7 ago. And a week before that the Forest Service decided
8 they were going to withdraw the project. So that one
9 at least for the time being is off the table. And
10 subsistence issues related to deer were front and
11 center in that one for people in Petersburg and
12 Kupreanof.

13

14 We also have under litigation the Big
15 Thorne Project, which is the biggest one in the Tongass
16 and over 20 years down in Prince of Wales. I'm sure
17 most of you have heard about that. That one's in the
18 9th Circuit Court of Appeals right now. It's fully
19 briefed and we're waiting for a schedule for oral
20 arguments and an appointment of a three-judge panel on
21 that.

22

23 Then as far as Forest Service timber
24 sales coming down the pike, there are three large ones.
25 The FEIS drafted the decision for the Saddle Lakes
26 Project on Revilla Island, east of Ketchikan. And the
27 proposed decision on that is for 47,000,000 board feet.
28 And if I remember right, it's about 4,000 acres in
29 total of logging, mostly clear cuts.

30

31 And then before long we'll be seeing a
32 draft EIS on the Wrangell Island project, which I'm not
33 sure how big that one's going to come out to be. It
34 was originally proposed for 200,000,000 board feet. It
35 sounds like it will probably be maybe 80 or 100.
36 Somewhere in that range. A lot of impact on an island
37 that's already been very heavily logged through many
38 entries over the past decade, since the '50s.

39

40 And another large project that was out
41 for review recently on Kupreanof Island about
42 30,000,000 board feet, which is all except for
43 1,000,000 it's second growth. But it's the largest
44 second growth probably on the Tongass. And that
45 project plays into a larger scale impact on that island
46 that involves logging on pretty much all the non-
47 Federal ownerships that we see in play in southern
48 Southeast Alaska. So you've got estate timber sale
49 being proposed by Division of Forestry near the Town of
50 Edna Bay. University of Alaska has pretty much the

1 whole south shore of the island between Halibut Harbor
2 and Edna Bay and that is under contract to Alcan
3 Logging already. And then Sealaska, the bill that
4 passed on the budget rider last December got a large
5 land holding there. And I understand that that
6 includes about 5,200 acres of old growth, as well as a
7 lot of second growth. So, you know, looking ahead in
8 the longer term, you're likely to have close to 12,000
9 acres of continuous clear cut on Western Kupreanof
10 Island.

11
12 The Forest Service has also recently
13 made mention -- there was an article on this about a
14 Chamber of Commerce meeting in Ketchikan recently where
15 the Forest Service is beginning planning on timber
16 sales on three bays, on Southeastern Kuiu Island, a
17 sale at -- at least was previously mentioned. I'm not
18 sure what the current status is for about 40,000,000
19 board feet around Naukati. More logging on Zarembo
20 Island and then Shrimp Bay on Revilla -- North Revilla
21 Island. So that's kind of the Federal end of things.

22
23 And a little bit of mention of other
24 things that are going on, on Kupreanof, on other
25 ownerships. But one thing that I really wanted to talk
26 with you a lot about and give you, you know, a view of
27 what may be coming down the pike is the State and the
28 timber industry have been pushing very hard for a
29 2,000,000 acre carve out, out of the forest on the
30 Tongass, to be given to the State or perhaps other
31 entities that aren't Federal. And the idea is to boost
32 up the timber industry and basically get it back if not
33 to the old glory days, closer to that. And that could
34 have some very large impacts because this is all done
35 under the Alaska Forest Practices and Resources Act,
36 which I view as being quite weak. It's mainly aimed at
37 aquatic resources. And that works at least in terms of
38 buffers depending on what kind of land ownership it is.

39
40 So on the State lands, it's 100-foot
41 buffers and some provisions for between 100 and 300
42 feet out from the streams. It's similar in some ways
43 to the protections on the Tongass. There's slightly
44 different regulations for other public lands, which
45 would include the University and Alaska Mental Health
46 Trust and perhaps other entities. And then there's
47 separate provisions for private land, which would
48 include the Native Corporation lands. And those have
49 fairly minimal buffers of 66 feet on anadromous
50 stretches.

1 If we could go to the next slide,
2 please. This is a map that was prepared by the
3 Division of Forestry and it comes out a publication
4 from a year ago by a group called the Tongass Working
5 Forest Group, which a lot of people haven't heard of.
6 It was started by two people in the Department of
7 Natural Resources in their official capacities, along
8 with a couple of people from the industry. They were
9 the incorporators of this organization. And they've
10 been getting funding from both Division of Forestry and
11 the Forest Service to do advance planning for building
12 up the industry.

13
14 So what you have here are five working
15 circles that are 50 miles radius. Each one of these
16 would have a marine access facility associated with it
17 where log ships could be loaded. So you've got one in
18 Klawock. One at Ward Cove. One in Wrangell. One in
19 Kake. And one up in Hoonah. And I got the citation
20 for it there at the bottom, part of the name of the
21 document.

22
23 My last slide is the references. And
24 I've given your Staff those reference documents, so
25 that's in the record for you. So you can find it and
26 look at the whole document.

27
28 If we go to the next slide, this is out
29 of a document by the same organization. It came out
30 early this year. It's one of 12 maps. This one
31 happens to be for Revilla Island. And the green lines
32 there are existing isolated log road systems. Each of
33 these had a floating logging camp associated with it in
34 the past. The idea now is to build 54 miles of roads
35 to interconnect those, so you have one system that
36 basically goes from the south end of the island to the
37 north. The leftmost red segment, it's kind of in
38 between the two purple parts there, is the Shelter Cove
39 Road, which is very along in the planning. It already
40 has a Legislative appropriation to build it. The
41 Forest Service is looking at approving that in concert
42 with its decision on that Saddle Lakes timber sale that
43 I mentioned.

44
45 So a lot of these road systems on these
46 12 maps I think are already funded. There's another
47 one that's not mapped which is funded that could be
48 built very soon which goes from north of the runway on
49 Gravina Island, which is where the Ketchikan airport
50 is, would go across to the west side of the island at

1 Vallenar Bay, where Division of Forestry is planning a
2 timber sale. So this raises a lot of alarm to me.
3 Just, you know, the scale of what's being planned.
4 It's aimed both at extracting old growth, as well as
5 second growth as it becomes mature enough.

6
7 We could go to the next slide. This is
8 a section out of a map that the Forest Service had on
9 the wall when they did their Tongass Land Management
10 Plan open houses back in April. The red marks on there
11 are places where there are second growth now that's
12 large enough to get two logs out of a tree. But the
13 reason I put this up there is Alaska Mental Health
14 Trust is working out a land exchange right now with the
15 U.S. Forest Service. Mental Health Trust has land
16 scattered around communities in Southeast. You can see
17 the purple down on the lower right on Gravina Island
18 and near Ketchikan. That's Mental Health Trust. Their
19 other holdings near right behind Wrangell, right behind
20 residential areas, in Petersburg, Sitka, and a few
21 other places. And those lands have proven to be
22 undevelopable either because the timber is not
23 economic. They can't get it out easily or it would
24 result in landslides. So this land trade is being
25 worked out. And what the Mental Health Trust would get
26 out of the trade are those two green areas, which total
27 18,000 acres.

28
29 Now, the one over at the right is kind
30 of up at the head of George Inlet. And I'll be talking
31 a little bit on the next couple of slides about that
32 little square grey area just to the left of it, which
33 is also a Mental Health Trust parcel. And then there's
34 also a green one that they would be getting just to the
35 east of Tuxekan Island there, Sea Otter Sound area. So
36 the one on Revilla Island is about 8,000 acres and the
37 other one I think is about 10,000. They would be
38 trading -- or no. Yeah. 12,000 acres. They're
39 trading 18,000 acres for 20,000 if this deal works out.
40 There's another green one in the middle, over there by
41 Hollis.

42
43 Next slide, please. This is a photo I
44 took first week of this month of the Leask Lake parcel
45 that Mental Health Trust has at George Inlet. This is
46 about 4,000 acres of parcel and mostly clear cut.
47 There's some lower value timber left, but it kind of
48 gives you an idea of the scope of things that happen
49 under the Forest Practices Act. Clear cut sizes --
50 regardless of what kind of ownership it is, State or

1 other public or private, there's no limit on clear cut
2 size. And there are no provisions to speak of really
3 in the Forest Practices Act for wildlife. There's
4 nothing really in there that's enforceable. There is
5 some consultation provided in there with Fish and Game,
6 but how that comes out isn't really specified in the
7 Act at all.

8

9 Next slide, please. This is a closer
10 up of the same parcel. Mental Health Trust land again.
11 And I'll be showing slides from various different
12 ownerships. I'm not trying to, you know, point a
13 finger at any particular one, but I'm just trying to
14 give an idea of how this Forest Practices Act is going
15 to work out for subsistence and other resource
16 interests if things go ahead with this two-lane acre
17 land exchange that I mentioned. That, you know, could
18 end up in the budget rider at the end of this year
19 even.

20

21 Go ahead. This is flying across
22 Revilla now to Cleveland Peninsula on the west end.
23 This is a recent -- Sealaska clear cut. You can see a
24 stream there that is missing buffers. But that's not
25 an anadromous or resident fish stretch. There's
26 actually a barrier falls off to the left. So the
27 anadromous and resident part of the stream is to the
28 left of that. But, you know, as Council Members were
29 commenting early today, you know, there's a lot of
30 concern about how we're getting these really heavy
31 torrential rains. A lot heavier than in the past. You
32 know, setting records and becoming more frequent. And,
33 you know, possibilities for blow down and buffer strips
34 and things like that. So we need to be thinking about
35 what effect this kind of logging in upper stretches of
36 streams is going to have in the longer term looking
37 ahead, especially if these kind of things happen on a
38 wider scale than they have in the past by putting
39 2,000,000 into direct State management.

40

41 Next slide, please. This is looking at
42 that same clear cut clearing straight in the middle
43 ground, Cleveland Peninsula in the background and the
44 clear cut in the foreground is on Kasaan Peninsula on
45 Prince of Wales.

46

47 Next slide. And this is looking over
48 on the left side of Prince of Wales. The body of water
49 at the bottom is Big Salt Lake Bay. There's cutting on
50 various land ownerships there. The smaller scattered

1 cuts are Forest Service. The big one below that kind
2 of horizontal line is a Sea Alaska cut that I think was
3 done in the 1980s. And the white markings up above
4 point out what until recently was an old growth habitat
5 reserve that was -- it's a medium sized one and was
6 considered to be one of the very important ones on
7 Prince of Wales Island. And that connected, you know,
8 through some of the stream buffers are left. For
9 example, Big Salt Bay with a standing creek which is up
10 to the north, as well as being a habitat reserve just
11 in its own right is sitting there on its own.

12

13 Next slide, please. And this is the
14 same area that I pointed out in white that was cut
15 earlier this year. This was a land trade that happened
16 in that deal that passed Congress last December. So
17 that's a former old growth reserve.

18

19 And next slide. This is the South Horn
20 Bay timber sale. This is Southeast State Forest land,
21 a Division of Forestry project. So, you know, in all
22 of these clear cut size is unlimited. I don't think
23 there's an adequate look at cumulative impacts,
24 especially as -- if we get another 2,000,000 acres of
25 this added into the equation for the State to be
26 logging.

27

28 So that's pretty much what I had, I
29 guess. I guess another thing that I missed is the way
30 the Forest Practices Act works. And the way it works
31 for State input and also into State timber sales. The
32 State has something called the One Voice Policy. And
33 at least as far as the Federal logging, it's
34 orchestrated through something called the State Tongass
35 Team, which has membership that are department heads
36 from pretty much all the State departments,
37 representatives of the governor's office and the State
38 Department of Law. And the way this has worked is that
39 in the past as comments have come up like from the
40 Wildlife Conservation Division, funneled up through the
41 Habitat Division, they've got kind of filtered out.
42 And then there was very heavy filtering that happened
43 by the Chairman of the State Tongass Team, who was a
44 Department of Natural Resources employee. So that the
45 comments that the Forest Service ended up getting on,
46 for example, the Tonka Timber sale near Petersburg and
47 the Big Thorn Timber sale, the concerns of the Fish and
48 Wildlife biologists got weeded out. They never got
49 before the public. They never got before the Forest
50 Service. So that also carries over into how the

1 Department is able to comment on planning or, you know,
2 State control of its regulations through the Forest
3 Practices Act.

4
5 So I think we've got some real problems
6 here that I hope the Committee will give some attention
7 to going ahead.

8
9 Thank you.

10
11 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Larry.

12
13 Is there any questions or comments.

14
15 MR. EDWARDS: Just one more slide here.
16 I've got a list of the references here. And as I said,
17 there's a folder with these three referenced documents
18 in there. So it's the two from the Forest Working
19 Group and a report that I did on that One Voice Policy.

20
21 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you.

22
23 Mr. Bloom.

24
25 MR. BLOOM: Through the Chair. Mr.
26 Edwards, I've got two questions that will be inter-
27 related. One is most of the logs that were taken --
28 obviously you mentioned Mental Health Trust and then --
29 well, where did they end up. And then secondly it was
30 my understanding that much of the logging on the
31 Tongass that the National Forest did was subsidized.
32 How is the Mental Health Trust land -- who's
33 subsidizing that. How is that?

34
35 MR. EDWARDS: Well, I guess the answer
36 to the first question. When you have quasi-
37 governmental or private entities, it's really hard to
38 know where all their markets are. But my understanding
39 is that it's mostly export. And as far as subsidy,
40 it's partly subsidized through the weaker regulations.
41 So, you know, the standards that roads are built to or,
42 you know, what might happen with, you know, logging
43 practices on the upper reaches of streams above the
44 resident or anadromous portion and the size of the
45 clear cuts. So that has a direct effect on the
46 economics of the logging that's done.

47
48 Plus, when you're doing export, my
49 understanding is that the logs are worth about three
50 times as much as if they're logged within the region.

1 So all those things I think fit into why the economics
2 are different on the National Forest versus these other
3 ownerships.

4
5 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Did anyone else have
6 any questions for Mr. Edwards.

7
8 (No comments)

9
10 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Larry.

11
12 MR. EDWARDS: Thank you.

13
14 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Okay. Next we're
15 going to cover some old business. And I think Chuck
16 has some information on rural determination for us.

17
18 MR. ARDIZZONE: Mr. Chair, for the
19 record, Chuck Ardizzone.

20
21 If the Council turns to pages 18
22 through 33, there's some information in there on the
23 rural process. The first item is a news release which
24 is based on what the Board took action in July on rural
25 and some other issues that are the materials that were
26 presented to the Board at that meeting. And then
27 there's some bills that were introduced by Don Young
28 and Lisa Murkowski.

29
30 I'm just here to give a quick update on
31 what action the Board took and where we are in the
32 process. So at the July Board meeting, the Board took
33 all the comments from the Councils and all the
34 materials from Staff and they broke the rural
35 determination process into three different phases.

36
37 Phase one is the Board addressed the
38 current secretarial proposed rule and voted to
39 recommend to the Secretaries to adopt the rule as
40 written.

41
42 Phase two was the Board had to
43 determine a starting point for non-rural
44 determinations. So the Board published a direct, final
45 rule to adopt the pre-2007 non-rural determinations.

46
47 And then phase three was to give Staff
48 direction to come up with options to determine future
49 non-rural determinations for the Board's consideration
50 at its meeting in January of 2016.

1 So all that took place in July. So
2 currently the final rule for the Secretaries and the
3 direct final rule that the Board issued are in D.C.
4 They've been in D.C. for quite a while. We're waiting
5 for D.C. to raise them for publication into the Federal
6 Register. I can't speak to why there's a holdup, but
7 we had hoped to have everything published in October.
8 It may slide into November, but our Staff is
9 continually contacting D.C., trying to push those two
10 rules forward so they will get published and can be
11 finalized.

12
13 And then in January, Staff from OSM has
14 to come up with some options to present to the Board.
15 Well, by January Staff has to come up with some options
16 to present to the Board on how the Board will do future
17 non-rural determinations. We have a sub-committee
18 that's put together of Staff and ISC members. And
19 they're working to get options together to present to
20 the Board, so the Board can move forward with the next
21 round of -- or at least come up with ways they can do
22 non-rural determinations in the future.

23
24 And that's my status. If anybody has
25 any questions, I'll try to answer them.

26
27 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Anyone have any
28 questions.

29
30 Mr. Hernandez.

31
32 MR. HERNANDEZ: Yeah. Thank you, Mr.
33 Chairman.

34
35 Chuck, for this future where we're --
36 the Board is going to be proposing the non-rural
37 determinations, has it been decided yet how the
38 Councils are going to fit into that process when it
39 does happen?

40
41 MR. ARDIZZONE: No. So where we're at,
42 we're at the stage of Staff kind of brainstorming to
43 bring some options to the Board. The Board will pick
44 an option that they think is feasible. Then we'll come
45 back out to the Councils for Councils' input on, you
46 know, the process that the Board would like to do. And
47 then as always, anytime there's a decision made by the
48 Board, there's always input from the Councils. We
49 always seek guidance from the Councils and their
50 recommendations. It would be the same idea. We just

1 don't have it figured out yet. And that's what we're
2 trying to do. And that's what the Board will address
3 in January.

4
5 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Any other questions.

6
7 (No comments)

8
9 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Chuck.

10
11 MR. ARDIZZONE: Thanks.

12
13 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Okay. Next on the
14 Agenda is a report from the Working Group on Customary
15 and Traditional Use Determination. And I think Mr.
16 Hernandez is going to give us the report.

17
18 MR. HERNANDEZ: Yeah. Thank you, Mr.
19 Chairman. I guess I should start out by maybe a little
20 bit of explanation. I think as Cathy mentioned this
21 morning in her opening comments, she has been the Chair
22 of this sub-committee since it was formed. And we've
23 had two meetings since the sub-committee was formed.
24 We had one teleconference that happened this summer.
25 That was a fairly lengthy teleconference. And then we
26 just had a meeting yesterday afternoon. And at that
27 meeting yesterday afternoon, Cathy asked that somebody
28 else on the committee take over as Chair to follow
29 through with the next phase. She's done an excellent
30 job as the Chair in getting us this far and keeping
31 everybody organized and coming up with some good ideas,
32 but she just felt that being one of the newer members
33 on the Council and not having as much experience, you
34 know, in this customary and traditional use as some of
35 the rest of us, that maybe it would be better if
36 somebody else kind of carried on from here. So I
37 agreed that I would attempt to do that. So that's why
38 I'm here instead of Cathy.

39
40 And maybe as a little bit of recap, as
41 you may remember we formed the sub-committee to attempt
42 to come up with a proposal that the Council could move
43 forward dealing with customary and traditional use
44 determinations. And at our previous -- or two meetings
45 ago I believe we did put forward a proposal. We ask
46 that that proposal be reviewed, analyzed. And at that
47 time we kind of realized that it was sort of a
48 preliminary proposal that probably needed a lot more
49 work and flushing out before it was something that
50 maybe we knew could work forward, but we asked the

1 Staff to analyze it kind of as a pre-analysis just to
2 see if we were on the right track and where we could go
3 from there.

4
5 And at our previous meeting, we had the
6 results of that pre-analysis. And the sub-committee --
7 the Council all heard that analysis. And I guess I'd
8 probably characterize it maybe as -- and hopefully the
9 rest of you would agree that it probably brought forth
10 a lot of confusion for a lot of people as to, you know,
11 where we were going with this. Our concept was also
12 kind of passed around through other Advisory Councils
13 statewide and there seemed to be a fair amount of
14 opposition. Some Councils were maybe with us, but all
15 in all, confusion about what we were trying to do as a
16 Southeast Council seemed to be the order of the day.

17
18 So after that pre-analysis, the sub-
19 committee got together again this summer on a
20 teleconference and we had Staff involvement. We had --
21 Ameer Howard was online and Jennifer was there.

22
23 I forgot your last name. Sorry.

24
25 MS. HARDIN: Hardin. Jennifer Hardin.

26
27 MR. HERNANDEZ: Hardin. Jennifer
28 Hardin was in on that. And we had a fairly lengthy
29 discussion about that analysis and, you know, just
30 where we were going to go next.

31
32 I guess I should also mention that
33 previous action by the entire Council at our last
34 meeting, we sent a letter to Staff with a list of
35 questions that we hoped that they could answer and
36 report back to the Council with those answers to some
37 of our questions to help us move forward. At our
38 summer teleconference they hadn't had the answers to
39 those questions. Here at this meeting, we found out
40 yesterday that they still are working on the answers to
41 those questions. They're running them through numerous
42 different factions. Legal Department being one of
43 them. So they haven't been able to answer those
44 questions. We probably will still see some answers to
45 those questions which may be helpful as we move
46 forward.

47
48 But the sub-committee yesterday decided
49 that we would probably recommend to the rest of the
50 Council that we do proceed in an effort to eventually

1 have a proposal dealing with customary and traditional
2 use that we could move forward with. However, in the
3 interim, until we can arrive at a good proposal, we
4 felt that it may be in the interest of the Council to
5 pursue some kind of an understanding with the Board.
6 Possibly with the Secretaries, considering that this
7 whole process has been initiated by the Secretarial
8 review. And so we're really responding to something
9 that the Secretaries asked us to do. So we may want
10 to, you know, communicate our wishes directly with
11 them.

12

13 And what our immediate recommendation
14 would be would be to essentially work with the
15 regulation we have in place now. And that's the one
16 you're probably familiar with that kind of lays out the
17 eight criteria. It also states that customary and
18 traditional use determinations will be made on the
19 basis of specific communities, for specific communities
20 and areas dealing with specific wildlife populations
21 and fish stocks. That's kind of the main parts of that
22 existing regulation that -- I think those are the
23 things that the Council probably had the -- that's
24 probably what initiated our Council wanting to come up
25 with something different. We don't -- in the past
26 we've stated that we're not sure that those provisions
27 in the regulation work as well for the Southeast
28 Region.

29

30 But as a result of our meeting
31 yesterday, and we did have Chuck Ardizzone sitting in
32 with us, which was very helpful, we thought it would be
33 -- we would recommend to the Council that we try and
34 clarify some of the wording in that existing regulation
35 and kind of come to some kind of an agreement with the
36 Board and the Secretaries as to how the Southeast
37 Council for the Southeast Region interprets that
38 regulation, the wording in that regulation and come to
39 an understanding that, you know, the Council can work
40 with that regulation as long as we both agree that some
41 of the specifics of what the interpretation of that
42 regulation are.

43

44 I guess maybe it's best to state that.
45 That any law or regulation is always subject to
46 interpretation. And quite often it's how you interpret
47 it makes all the differences. You know, the words are
48 there, but they can mean different things to different
49 people. And in our case, take the eight criteria, for
50 example. We've had objections to using those eight

1 criteria. Well, as the Staff pointed out, you know,
2 those eight criteria, they don't have to be -- you
3 know, it's not a checklist. It's more of a holistic
4 approach. And we would like to make sure that we both
5 understand exactly what that means. And is that
6 something that the Southeast Council can work with.

7
8 And another example was the Southeast
9 Council in our proposal that we put forward, we wanted
10 to deal with Southeast more in general terms as far as
11 communities and areas are concerned. And, you know,
12 depending on how you read that wording of the
13 regulation, it states that the determinations will be
14 made based on, you know, specific communities and
15 areas. You know, that's a -- are we talking about
16 specific communities or more specific areas, as the
17 Council would like to view it. So, you know, things
18 like that we -- if the Council could come to some
19 agreement on what we would like to communicate to the
20 Board and the Secretaries as to how we would like to
21 see those regulations implemented in the Southeast
22 Region.

23
24 Another thing we would want to stress
25 is the Southeast Council was very concerned about
26 deference given to the Councils in the determinations.
27 And, you know, Staff assures us that there is deference
28 given to the Councils; however, you know, we don't see
29 that in regulation. And the Council has always been
30 unsure as to whether that deference would apply given
31 changes to Boards and changes to administration and
32 such factors like that. We would like to see maybe a
33 little more assurance that that deference will be
34 given, you know, in the future under all circumstances.

35
36 So we still have some issues. We would
37 still like to investigate whether we can come up with a
38 better regulation through proposal process. But in the
39 meantime, as I said, our recommendation is that we try
40 and craft some understanding with the Board and the
41 Secretaries as to how we might proceed in the interim,
42 given the regulation we're operating under presently.

43
44 So I think that would pretty much sum
45 it up, Mr. Chairman.

46
47 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Don. That
48 was well-spoken. That helped me understand a lot more.
49 And I had been on the Work Group off and on just to try
50 to keep up to speed. And it helped me a lot.

1 And what I wanted to know if the
2 Council had any questions towards the Work Group.

3
4 Albert.

5
6 MR. HOWARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
7 This is something new to me. And it's the first time
8 I'm hearing about it, so you have to bear with me. But
9 I've been part of the subsistence issue in Angoon for
10 quite a while and now we're looking at use
11 determination. My question is whose traditional use
12 are you looking at. As far as making your
13 determination on traditional use, are you looking at it
14 from possibly my traditional use or Frank Wright's
15 traditional use or Harvey Kitka's traditional use.
16 What I've learned being on our Tribal Council is each
17 Tribal Council speaks for itself. Something to keep in
18 mind, you're charged with a responsibility that's
19 pretty complex.

20
21 As a Native, our traditional use is
22 different. I'll give you an example. We just had our
23 path party where the (In Tlingit) are thanking the
24 eagles for taking care of their lost loved ones. Now,
25 traditionally we use our own Native foods we get from
26 the resource. Who determines -- you know, if you went
27 to that party, you would see that our traditional foods
28 weren't existent there. Because regulations have been
29 applied to us that I believe -- you said so yourself.
30 You know, you've got to watch. When you make a new
31 regulation, someone interprets it different. Well,
32 they've interpreted our elders wanting to save our
33 rights to do what we've always done.

34
35 Someone's interpreted the manage for
36 abundance, as an example. So you're looking at the
37 stream. There's not much fish coming back to that
38 stream. It's not everyone else's fault that's catching
39 the fish on the way to the stream. It's my fault
40 because I'm standing there at the stream. And I'm
41 catching the last of the five that they allowed to come
42 to the stream.

43
44 So when you're charged with this
45 responsibility, I've also seen it -- if you're going to
46 make a regulation, the person they're going to come
47 down on is the people in my hometown. Because someone
48 came up with this determination that this is
49 traditional. This is a traditional use determination.
50 There isn't one. Because we never know how many of our

1 people we're going to lose or how many path parties are
2 going to come the next fall.

3

4 So you're charged with a huge
5 responsibility that's going to have some -- to me, I
6 see some ramifications on my community members that --
7 that seems to be every time we turn around to feed
8 ourselves, somebody's trying to write us a ticket.
9 Somebody's trying to take our rifle from us. Take our
10 boat from us. Our right to do what we've done. A
11 right that exists in the books that somebody's
12 interpreting the wrong way.

13

14 So we've got to be careful with the
15 findings you come up with. And if you want to err on
16 one side, you know, you almost want to err to end up
17 with the subsistence users with more than you think he
18 should have. Because if you don't, you're going to
19 move us all out of existence.

20

21 I don't know how you're going to find
22 your answer. The State of Alaska has 239 -- it had
23 been to 239 Federally recognized Tribes that each have
24 their own determination. So that's something to keep
25 in mind. And it's something I'm going to watch out for
26 because this type of thing will get interpreted and the
27 outfall is going to be on my community members.

28

29 So you're charged with something that
30 to me, I can't even wrap my head around because I can't
31 speak for people in Kake. I can't speak for people in
32 Sitka. I can't determine what their traditional use
33 is. That's their business. Our Tlingit people tell me
34 that's not my house.

35

36 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Excuse me, Albert.
37 Did you have a question for Mr. Hernandez.

38

39 MR. HOWARD: So I guess my question is
40 what is going to happen with this information.

41

42 MR. HERNANDEZ: Well, no. Thank you,
43 Albert. As you very well stated, some of what this
44 Council has been wrestling with through this whole
45 process. It's just caused a lot of heartache over the
46 years because of the importance of just like you said,
47 what we do with those customary and traditional use
48 determinations. And it can be very hard to get it
49 right. And sometimes we, you know, really agonize over
50 the fact that we may not get it right. And we really,

1 you know, need a lot of input from a lot of local
2 people on how it's done.

3
4 And we want to have a lot of leeway
5 essentially as to how we go about this process. We
6 don't want to be too constrained by regulation in what
7 we do. So yes, you're exactly right. That's what
8 we're trying to do. And we do recognize the importance
9 of it. And just one thing I -- you know, I do need to
10 point out and something we also have wrestled with is
11 that, you know, under Title VIII of ANILCA it's, you
12 know, customary and traditional use. And to me, this
13 is my personal opinion and I've expressed this before.
14 That to me, traditional and customary are different
15 words and they have different meanings to different
16 people. Tradition to you is a very real thing. You
17 know what it is. As you said, you know what tradition
18 is. You don't -- you know, we don't have to determine
19 that. Custom, on the other hand, is a different word
20 and has a different definition. And they use it
21 together. They say customary and traditional. So how
22 are -- you know, how are we as a Council supposed to
23 blend those two what I think are different concepts.
24 And, you know, Title VIII of ANILCA is for rural
25 residents and the State's explicitly, you know, Native
26 and non-Native alike.

27
28 So it's one of things this Council --
29 all the Councils have to try to do is try and, you
30 know, work within those -- the wording of that law.
31 You know, and that's the other thing I was talking
32 about. We have laws. They have words. How you
33 interpret those words is very important. And they mean
34 different things to different people. So yes, the
35 whole process is very difficult and agonizing. And
36 that's why we're involved in this to begin with. So
37 yes, I do appreciate your comments though.

38
39 Thank you.

40
41 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Don. And
42 thank you, Albert.

43
44 Ms. Phillips.

45
46 MS. PHILLIPS: Thank you, Chairman
47 Bangs.

48
49 So Don, I think you would do a really
50 good job of explaining this, but the -- we were trying

1 -- well, I was getting hung up on this .804 and C&T.
2 And I think our summer teleconference really -- you
3 know, I said on the record that I disagreed with you.
4 But now I want to let you know that I agree with you on
5 -- because you submitted a -- you know, a summary of
6 where you thought this was going. So could you explain
7 that to the RAC.

8
9 MR. HERNANDEZ: Yes. I guess what
10 you're saying is our proposal that we did put forward
11 for this pre-analysis more or less followed the wording
12 of Section .804 of ANILCA, which deals with when there
13 is a shortage of resource and resources have to be
14 allocated essentially among subsistence users. And the
15 Council decided to use the wording from .804, which was
16 -- I don't have it here in front of me, but based on
17 your proximity to where the resources are and how much
18 use in the past, you know, individual communities had
19 of that resource. And that was all supposed to be
20 evaluated in time of shortage to allocate resources.

21
22 And I disagreed. I ended up
23 disagreeing with that approach. I mean I agreed with
24 it when we put it forward, but after thinking about it
25 for a while I kind of came to the conclusion that a lot
26 of the confusion that was happening with this proposal
27 and particularly around the State with the rest of the
28 Councils was that our proposal essentially was using
29 wording from that .804 determination to -- as the basis
30 for making customary and traditional use
31 determinations. And the two processes are related, but
32 they are different. And I thought that is what was
33 causing the confusion. You definitely have to have
34 customary and traditional use determinations in order
35 to determine the subsistence uses which will be decided
36 under an .804 determination, but it's really two
37 different processes.

38
39 You know, the customary and traditional
40 uses is just an identification of what people do. And
41 the .804 process is a deliberative process of, you
42 know, which of those people who have been determined to
43 have a customary and traditional use, who gets to
44 priority essentially in times of shortage. So like I
45 say, different goals. We were trying to use the same
46 language. It kind of made it very confusing. So I
47 thought we should get away from that. And that's where
48 we, you know, tried to come up wording for a totally
49 separate -- a new proposal that we essentially got
50 bogged down in.

1 So that's where we are in trying to
2 make a recommendation for how we can work with this
3 existing regulation and wording till we could possibly
4 come up with something better. So does that answer
5 your question?

6
7 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Yes, Patty. Follow-
8 up?

9
10 MS. PHILLIPS: Yeah. Thank you, Mr.
11 Chair.

12
13 So Don, but it also -- but it has a
14 thread back to, you know, 30 years ago, the way the
15 State did it was to restrict subsistence users, which
16 is what we're -- that's not our intention. Our
17 intention is not to restrict subsistence users.
18 Recreational isn't restricted. Sport isn't restricted.
19 Comm fish is, you know, in terms of management. But
20 it's not a mechanism to restrict subsistence. We're
21 supposed to be protecting -- preserving and protecting
22 subsistence.

23
24 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Patty.

25
26 Any other questions for Don.

27
28 Mr. Schroeder.

29
30 MR. SCHROEDER: Thanks, Don, for
31 summarizing things and also for taking the job on. I
32 do see that we're at a point where -- you mentioned
33 this, but just to clarify that really the Council is in
34 a position to -- or through the Group to make like a
35 Council statement on how we view C&T. And then we
36 would be following that in subsequent actions?

37
38 MR. HERNANDEZ: Yes. I think that
39 would be our goal. To see if we can have a Council
40 recommendation that we could follow through with.
41 Right.

42
43 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Ms. Phillips.

44
45 MS. PHILLIPS: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

46
47 Since this started with a Secretarial
48 review, and that the Federal Subsistence Board should
49 do that review, and the Federal Subsistence Board
50 brought that back to the RACs. And then upon our

1 review of the other RAC comments, we found that that
2 presentation was given inconsistently across the State.
3 And so we asked them to go back and re-submit it so we
4 could see what their comments were. It's turned into a
5 here it comes again sort of an issue, which -- across
6 the State. So we -- you know, if we more narrow it
7 down to how it addresses Southeast and then submit our
8 findings on our recommendations as a comment to the
9 Secretaries as a result of their Secretarial review
10 four years ago.

11

Thank you, Mr. Chair.

12

13

CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Patty.

14

15

16

Ms. Needham.

17

18

MS. NEEDHAM: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

19 I'd like to follow-up. I support what Ms. Phillips
20 just said. And I have before me the words that came
21 out of that Secretarial review. It asked that the
22 Federal Subsistence Board review customary and
23 traditional use determination process to provide clear,
24 fair, and effective determinations in accord with Title
25 VIII goals and provisions. And so that -- and that's
26 going back to the very beginning of why this Work Group
27 was formed, was that we needed to be able to do just
28 that.

29

30

And so I like Patty's idea of being
31 able to go back to the Secretary and say we've -- you
32 know, what we've done in terms of due diligence to
33 review this. And to assure that the process provides a
34 clear, fair, and effective determinations in accordance
35 with Title VIII of ANILCA.

36

37

And I would also state that along those
38 lines, I do not believe -- and anybody in the Agencies
39 can correct me if I'm wrong. But I do not believe that
40 there is a current C&T process policy that the Federal
41 Subsistence Board exercises. And I say that because
42 when we first started working on this issue, it was
43 after the 2007 draft policy had gone through the entire
44 public review process. And then the policy itself was
45 not adopted. And so without that policy, that leaves
46 that regulation that we've been looking at and trying
47 to form a proposal that would change the things that
48 we've been concerned about in that regulation. It
49 still leaves that regulation in place and up to the
50 interpretation of that regulation by whatever the

1 current make up of the Board is. And that -- and who
2 is actually administrating subsistence ANILCA Title
3 VIII in Alaska, which currently is the Federal
4 government. It used to the State government.

5
6 One never knows where it will be in the
7 future. Hopefully, it continues to stay in the Federal
8 government, but you just never know.

9
10 Thank you.

11
12 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Cathy.

13
14 Mr. Ardizzone, did you have comments.

15
16 MR. ARDIZZONE: Mr. Chair, Ms. Needham
17 is correct. There is no policy at the moment; however,
18 I will say we do have Staff working on an internal OSM
19 policy so we are, as you said, fair and consistent on
20 C&T determinations, which once finalized, we hope to
21 take to the ISC and to the Board. And hopefully that
22 will get their buy-in and we will have a consistent
23 policy that's in writing, so we won't have any issues
24 in the future with future Boards.

25
26 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Chuck.

27
28 Any other questions for Mr. Hernandez.

29
30 Mr. Albert Howard.

31
32 MR. HOWARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
33 When you read the Native, non-Native concerning
34 subsistence, what are your thoughts on that?

35
36 MR. HERNANDEZ: Well, if you're asking
37 for my personal thoughts, I think kind of like I
38 mentioned, for the Native subsistence users, you know,
39 there's a definite tradition. It's -- like I say, you
40 know what it is. I don't have to tell you what it is.
41 These are longstanding traditions that are in place
42 that you practice.

43
44 When you get into the non-Native
45 subsistence users, that's where I think -- and I don't
46 know if -- what was going through the mind of the
47 people that wrote Title VIII when they did, but they
48 used that word customary. And if you look up customary
49 in the dictionary, it doesn't necessarily have a long
50 term connotation. Customary is a usual practice.

1 Something that essentially becomes customary. You
2 know, you do it long enough and it's just the usual
3 practice of a people. And I think that applies more
4 towards the non-Native users. I mean obviously our use
5 of the resources here has been far less in -- over
6 time, but they do recognize through ANILCA that we do,
7 you know, have a use as rural residents. And it's --
8 in my view, that's more of a -- I don't feel that I
9 have a long tradition of use, you know, of these
10 resources, but I do have a customary use. And somehow
11 we have to factor that into the determinations.

12

13 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Do you have a follow-
14 up, Albert?

15

16 MR. HOWARD: If I may for a second.
17 The reason I ask you that is sitting here thinking
18 about what your statement and your hangup on the
19 Native, non-Native part of this was living in Angoon as
20 long as I have, you know, a non-Native will come in and
21 marry a Native and they become a part of our community.
22 You're sitting there. You're thinking well, why did
23 they put that in Title VIII. I'm sitting here thinking
24 the same thing. And then there's the rural designation
25 when it comes to Title VIII. So that's a small
26 community. You know, when a non-Native moves into our
27 community and marries one of our Natives, we accept
28 that and we want them to be a part of the community. A
29 functioning, producing part of the community. And so
30 you almost can put them in one.

31

32 When you look at the Natives, there's
33 no written language. The reason it's put in there is
34 to show the State that we accept it that way. And the
35 other reason I believe it was put in there was lessons
36 learned in the south, where you gave the Natives all
37 the rights to 50 percent of the resource and then you
38 have the non-Natives that were pretty upset about that.
39 So when you're sitting there, keep in mind that on
40 occasion a non-Native will come into our community and
41 we accept them as one of our own and part of the
42 functioning community. So maybe that was why it was
43 put in Title VIII the way it was put in there.

44

45 So then it gets you back to
46 traditional. That also -- you know, there being a part
47 of the community, not every non-Native is accepted that
48 way. But the ones that are, you know, they'll take
49 care of our -- the Native part of their family. And
50 I'll give you an example. You know, a non-Native man

1 comes and marries a Native woman. He's charged with
2 taking care of her. So, you know, that family will
3 teach him how. You know, show him the streams. Show
4 him where to fish, how to fish. How much you need to
5 get you through the winter. That's a traditional use.
6 Everybody at home knows how much fish we need to get us
7 through the winter. The only people that don't
8 understand how much fish we need to get through the
9 winter or the deer and everything else -- the berries
10 are the -- seems to be the State of Alaska.

11
12 So just to help you a little bit, keep
13 that in mind when you're trying to figure out. And
14 kind of not so much pay attention to the Native, non-
15 Native part, but focus on Title VIII itself. And the
16 intent of subsistence when it was put in place. It
17 wasn't to separate the two groups. It was to include
18 two groups as one with the same standing. So when you
19 go back to traditional, think about it as Natives
20 accepting non-Natives into their community. And
21 they're now a part of our traditional use. Each
22 community does their own thing in their own way. So if
23 that helps you any, at least keep that in mind.

24
25 That's correct, Mr. Chair.

26
27 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Mr. Howard.

28
29 Anyone else.

30
31 Mr. Douville.

32
33 MR. DOUVILLE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
34 I believe we started off -- and correct me if I'm
35 wrong. Is that we had an opportunity for this review.
36 And our customary and traditional use, a lot of wording
37 came from the State. And it was not written into Title
38 VIII of ANILCA. We simply wanted to use the words that
39 were written in Title VIII for these customary use
40 determinations. That's what we're trying to do. Or
41 that was our intent. So you understand we're not
42 trying to change the wording or meaning of anything
43 that's written in Title VIII. We're trying to
44 eliminate some of the stuff that was a carryover from
45 the State; am I right?

46
47 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Mike, for
48 clarifying that. I think you're correct. That it is
49 in the wording. And it's in the interpretation of the
50 wording. And I think that's where the Work Group has

1 been working towards, but there has been a lot of
2 obstacles along the way.

3

4 And from my standpoint, I would
5 encourage -- I would recommend that the Work Group
6 continues forward. And unless there is an objection
7 from the Council, I would direct the Work Group to keep
8 moving forward with this and update the Council Members
9 on any progress.

10

11 Any comments.

12

13 Ms. Needham.

14

15 MS. NEEDHAM: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

16

17 I think it would be beneficial for the
18 Work Group because even though I'm not chairing the
19 Work Group, I'm still on it. If you thought about the
20 recommendation that Mr. Hernandez just brought forward
21 from the Work Group and have the Council have an action
22 item based on do they want to move in the direction
23 that the Work Group recommended specifically, which was
24 to -- well, maybe Mr. Hernandez can repeat what the
25 Working Group's recommendation to the Council was. And
26 then maybe the Council should discuss and decide if
27 they want to charge the Work Group with that.

28

29 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Mr. Hernandez.

30

31 MR. HERNANDEZ: Yes. Yeah. Thank you,
32 Cathy.

33

34 I guess the recommendation was that we,
35 you know, get some ideas from the rest of the Council
36 preferably as to what we might want to communicate to
37 the Secretaries as to how the Southeast Regional
38 Council will make customary and traditional use
39 determinations using the existing language, but
40 interpreting it in a way that the Southeast Council
41 feels is appropriate for Southeast Region.

42

43 And that was part of the -- part of our
44 original intent through all of this is that we wanted
45 to -- I guess we recognize the fact that maybe on a
46 State-wide basis with all the Regional Councils they,
47 you know, may have different ideas about how to make
48 customary and traditional use determinations. And
49 conditions are different here in Southeast Alaska and
50 we want to have some autonomy as to how those

1 determinations are made in this Region. So I think we
2 need to communicate that to the Secretaries and see if
3 we can't come to an understanding that, you know, we
4 can do that even possibly with the existing language as
5 long as it's interpreted in the way the Southeast
6 Council feels appropriate for this Region.

7

8 So I think that's what our
9 recommendation is. For the Council to make some
10 recommendations along those lines.

11

12 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Don.

13

14 So would you entertain making a motion
15 to that effect, Cathy, so that we can take action?

16

17 MS. NEEDHAM: Let's see. I move that
18 the Southeast Regional Advisory Council respond to the
19 directive given by the Secretary of Agriculture and
20 Secretary of the Interior for reviewing the customary
21 and traditional use determination process and create a
22 response to them that the Southeast Alaska Regional
23 Advisory Council would like to make -- develop a -- I
24 don't know. I've got to go backwards. I have no idea
25 what I'm recommending.

26

27 (Laughter)

28

29 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Okay. Understandable.
30 It is a very complex issue.

31

32 MS. NEEDHAM: This is why I'm no longer
33 the Chair of the C&T Work Group.

34

35 (Laughter)

36

37 CHAIRMAN BANGS: So maybe we could
38 develop language.

39

40 Mr. Schroeder.

41

42 MR. SCHROEDER: Well, just in the
43 interest of helping out on this, the C&T group has been
44 working on this for quite a while. There is a lot of
45 discussion on the record already and that the Regional
46 Council has heard. And I think it could be appropriate
47 to charge the C&T Working Group to come up with a
48 statement reflecting the views of the Council. And to
49 transmit that to the Board and the Secretaries. And
50 that that statement would also serve as a guideline for

1 actions by this Council in future C&T determinations.
2 How's that.

3

4 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Mr. Schroeder, would
5 that be appropriate to come up with the wording before
6 the end of this meeting so that we could take action on
7 the statement? And then forward that statement on?

8

9 MR. SCHROEDER: Patty says we can do
10 it.

11

12 (Laughter)

13

14 MS. PHILLIPS: I said go ahead.

15

16 MR. SCHROEDER: Sure. We should be
17 pretty close. And, you know, quite often on these
18 things there's a little bit more crafting to do that
19 benefits from taking a few more days or letting Mr.
20 Larson do his magic.

21

22 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Okay. Thank you, Mr.
23 Schroeder. I think that would be a good direction to
24 move into. If you could come up with the correct
25 wording, then we could take action and move forward
26 with it.

27

28 Unless there's any objection from any
29 of the Council.

30

31 (No comments)

32

33 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Okay. With that done,
34 we will -- I hate to back up. I apologize, Mr.
35 Wallace. I wanted to get you in on the rural
36 determination discussion. But if you have your
37 comments for your public testimony now, that would be
38 great.

39

40 Thank you.

41

42 MR. WALLACE: Thank you, Mr. Chair and
43 Council Members. And I'd like to thank Yakutat for
44 hosting us. And first of all, I'd like to thank
45 Southeast RAC for supporting Saxman for all these
46 years. Actually, right now we're at 106 months that
47 this item has been on the organized Village of Saxman's
48 Agenda.

49

50 Back in July, prior to the FSB

1 workshop, the week before that I went and -- I was
2 invited to testify in Don Young's sub-committee as a
3 bill he was going to introduce which mirrored Senator
4 Murkowski's. Through our attorney's advice, they said
5 go ahead and support the bills. We were going to leave
6 no stone unturned as it's been 106 months since we've
7 had really a final ruling on this issue. At the July
8 workshop meeting there was a lot of discussion on time
9 lines. So definitely we should have had some Federal
10 Registrar notices out prior to this. Because at the
11 July meeting they said between four and five weeks
12 there should be one out on Phase 1. By September,
13 Phase 2 ruling should have been out. Now here we are
14 in October, almost the end of October.

15
16 So I was really uncertain and I was
17 really concerned about the lack of seeing a published
18 notice come out. The only thing this morning when I
19 had some sidebar conversations with different Agency
20 Staff members inquiring what is the delay. And as we
21 all know now, it's been sitting in Washington, D.C.
22 with the Secretaries. And what I'm understanding is
23 that they're kind of waiting for the right moment. The
24 present time is the right moment because we are at 106
25 months right now.

26
27 You know, in July, when I made visits
28 to Murkowski's office and Don Young's office, they
29 discussed well, maybe with the President's visit to
30 Alaska, that could be one of the gifts that he could
31 bring to Alaska. That didn't happen. That would have
32 been an appropriate time.

33
34 Another appropriate time passed, AFN.
35 You know, back in 2009, the Secretary made an
36 announcement that our way of life is broken. I'm not
37 using the Secretary's words, but mine and ours. It's
38 our way of life. It's broken. And so we've been under
39 this review process since 2009. And so now is the
40 appropriate time for the Secretaries to act.

41
42 With that, definitely I'm going to be
43 drafting up some letters to the Secretaries, copying
44 our Congressional members for the Secretaries to act.
45 Act now. And I will urge and request Southeast RAC to
46 also do the same thing. Write those letters to the
47 Secretaries. That could be an action item coming out
48 of these three days of meetings.

49
50 In the past you have written letters to

1 the Secretaries. And so I will urge you again to draft
2 up a letter to the Secretaries to act now. Now is the
3 appropriate time.

4

5 And again I just want to thank you and
6 thank this Council for supporting Saxman's rural
7 determination for all these years.

8

9 Thank you.

10

11 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Lee.

12

13 Any questions for Mr. Wallace.

14

15 (No comments)

16

17 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thanks again.

18

19 Okay. I have a little update
20 information. There is some extra lunch plates in the
21 kitchen if anybody's still hungry.

22

23 (Laughter)

24

25 CHAIRMAN BANGS: And the cheerleaders
26 are going to provide us a sack lunch tomorrow. Salmon
27 salad sandwiches and chips. And they wanted a head
28 count. Oh, excuse me. And water. Okay. Good. I was
29 going to say you have to bring your own beverage, but --
30 and water. So we would like to get a headcount of
31 those that would be interested. So we could maybe put
32 something back there that they could put a check by or
33 write your name so we get an accurate number before we
34 leave tonight. And that way they'll know how many
35 lunches to fix for our little field trip with a sack
36 lunch.

37

38 And then I'd like to ask who is on the
39 telephone listening in by teleconference. Is there
40 anybody there.

41

42 (No comments)

43

44 MR. LARSON: Is there anybody on the
45 phone who would like to speak.

46

47 (No comments)

48

49 CHAIRMAN BANGS: It doesn't -- anybody
50 there.

1 (No comments)

2

3 CHAIRMAN BANGS: I guess there isn't.
4 So we'll move to our next item. Extraterritorial
5 jurisdiction. And we have an update from Wayne Owen.

6

7 MR. OWEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
8 I'm happy to talk to you and the rest of the Council
9 today about where we are together with the
10 extraterritorial jurisdiction petition from
11 Kootznoowoo, Incorporated.

12

13 I think, you know, just in summary, the
14 Board sent a letter to the Secretaries this last
15 summer, describing what the Board felt like was the
16 Board felt like was the local solution to the primary
17 concerns identified in the petition. We are currently
18 waiting for a response from the Secretaries on that
19 letter that went.

20

21 And I am pretty sure, Robert, that the
22 Council got a copy of that letter. Yes. So we have
23 not yet heard again must like the last case. You know,
24 we wait for a response for that.

25

26 In the interim, since that letter has
27 occurred though, just sort of to give you a full and
28 complete understanding of what's going on, Kootznoowoo,
29 Incorporated sent the Forest Service a letter saying
30 what they thought were outstanding concerns associated
31 with, but also in addition to the petition from
32 Kootznoowoo, Incorporated. The original one from so
33 many years ago. The Forest Service tendered a response
34 to that letter, you know, which if I can summarize --
35 oh, okay. Okay. So you've seen that. Just in
36 summary, that letter was where things were and the
37 Forest Service remains committed to working with the
38 Community of Angoon, you know, for their development
39 and subsistence needs and all that.

40

41 So I don't want to take a lot of time,
42 you know, giving you a lot of extra details, but I am
43 more than happy to address any questions or have any
44 conversation that's necessary.

45

46 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Wayne.

47

48 Questions.

49

50 Mr. Albert.

1 MR. HOWARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
2 I'd like to hear about the letter. I haven't seen it.
3 I'm also in Kootznoowoo, Incorporated's Board. I
4 haven't seen the letter and I haven't been able to get
5 any information, so I'd like to hear about it.

6
7 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

8
9 MR. OWEN: Through the Chair and Mr.
10 Howard, I don't have the letter in front of me. That
11 letter was sent I believe in July, if I remember that
12 correctly to Ms. Love, you know, from the Regional
13 Forester, outlining several specific items that were
14 identified in the letter that was penned by Mr.
15 Loescher about Kootznoowoo's position on where the
16 Forest Service and Kootznoowoo's relationship was with
17 respect to the Angoon community.

18
19 Some of the things that were brought up
20 were hydro power licensing, airport, you know, other
21 economic development things. So I'm sure we can get
22 you the letter.

23
24 Robert, if you can remind me to do
25 that, I will see personally that you get a copy of that
26 letter.

27
28 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you.

29
30 Ms. Phillips.

31
32 MS. PHILLIPS: Is it the May 11th, 2015
33 letter to the Secretaries from Tim Towarak?

34
35 MR. OWEN: That's the letter from the
36 Board to the Secretaries saying that we felt like we
37 had resolved the Angoon or the -- not Angoon, but
38 rather the Kootznoowoo petition from Chairman Towarak
39 to the Secretaries of Interior and Agriculture.
40 Subsequent to that, Kootznoowoo, Incorporated, sent a
41 letter to the Forest Service saying, you know,
42 basically, you know, there are other issues we'd like
43 to continue to work with you on. And we agreed with
44 that. There are a lot of issues that we remain
45 committee to in terms of Angoon. And we outlined how
46 we are moving forward with that or how we would be able
47 to move forward on those outstanding issues. So that
48 letter went to Ms. Love.

49
50 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Albert.

1 MR. HOWARD: You're aware of every
2 process to every Council, every Board. So what are
3 your thoughts on the fact that Board approval wasn't
4 asked for before any of this happened. So a lot of
5 this was done without Kootznoowoo's Board approval. It
6 was done by the Chairman of the Board. And the bylaws
7 state that anything this important has to go past the
8 Board and have Board approval. So what does do to this
9 process, the fact that they didn't have Board approval.

10

11

12 MR. OWEN: Through the Chair. Mr.
13 Howard, the Forest Service has no opinion about the
14 internal workings of Kootznoowoo. I'm sorry.

15

16 MR. HOWARD: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

17

18 Well, I guess my question is -- you
19 know, you guys are honoring a document that hasn't been
20 approved by the Board. And, you know, the Board can
21 take action on that, so I'm not sure if -- and the
22 Tribal Council has taken action on it. One of the
23 proposals that was part of the agreement was to close
24 down Chatham for seining. Mr. Loescher was not given
25 any written or otherwise approval to speak for the
26 Tribe. And he did so by taking that proposal as part
27 of the agreement off the table without Tribal Council
28 approval. So from my understanding, the Tribe is
29 recognized as a government. So it should be a
30 government-to-government. So I guess my question is
31 what does that do to the ETJ petition that the Tribe
32 didn't agree with this. And it was part of the
33 agreement.

34

35

36 MR. OWEN: Thank you, Mr. Howard.
37 Through the Chair. The petition for extraterritorial
38 jurisdiction was tendered by the Corporation and was a
39 process between the Corporation and the Board. And so
40 the Secretaries response to the petition was back to
41 the Board to resolve the petition from Kootznoowoo,
42 Incorporated.

42

43 Now, I understand. I've been to Angoon
44 a number of times. I would not in any way say that I'm
45 an expert on Angoon, but I understand that in any
46 normal circumstances there might be different
47 motivations between a Tribal government and a
48 corporation. And the terms of the petition though --
49 you know, just by process, the Departments of Interior
50 and Agricultural were responding to the petition from

1 the Kootznoowoo, Incorporated. The Tribe -- the Angoon
2 Tribal Council did not submit a petition.

3

4 And we still work, you know, regularly
5 -- Ranger Chad Van Ormer is all the time in Angoon
6 trying to address the issues of the Tribal Council. So
7 I don't want to portray the Forest Service in any way
8 as being indifferent to the Tribal government in
9 Angoon. In fact, I think we invest a lot of time in
10 that. And we take that very serious. And those issues
11 are in front of the Regional Forester on a regular
12 basis. But for the matter of the extraterritorial
13 jurisdiction petition, that was a matter between the
14 Corporation and the Federal government.

15

16 So thank you.

17

18 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Wayne.

19

20 Follow-up, Albert?

21

22 MR. HOWARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

23

24 The question still wasn't answered.
25 The question is when Kootznoowoo gave up the right or
26 made the agreement with the extraterritorial
27 jurisdiction, they included the Tribal Council's
28 proposal as part of that agreement. So that also makes
29 the Tribe part of that petition. Do you see what I'm
30 getting at here? When they went and sat at the table
31 with whoever they sat at the table with, they said ACA
32 will give up their proposal if you guys go along with
33 this agreement. So you're correct. It belongs to
34 Kootznoowoo, but you guys included the Tribe's proposal
35 in something that shouldn't have been included in.

36

37 The ACA put in three proposals with the
38 Board of Fish. The city put in three proposals with
39 the Board of Fish. And so did Kootznoowoo,
40 Incorporated. But when they made the agreement that
41 they made on that petition with the Board of Fish, they
42 included the Tribal proposal in that agreement.

43

44 Now, I've been doing this long enough.
45 I had a conversation with Butch Blazer about this. The
46 fact -- Mr. Chairman, this is something that, you know,
47 you're going to see my frustration with. A process
48 we've dealt with for years. I said this once before.
49 I've never in my life have dealt with less than honest
50 people. This affects my family. This affects my

1 people. So I talked to Mr. Blazer. I told him that a
2 statement was made in the Tribal Council meeting that
3 the seiners have a boat payment to make. That was the
4 answer given to me when we were trying to address this
5 issue.

6
7 Mr. Chairman, the State of Alaska won't
8 give us any data. And the data we do have comes from
9 the Forest Service. And Mr. Chairman, the data we
10 could have gotten from the Forest Service, they put a
11 muzzle on him and wouldn't let him go to the Board of
12 Fish with what he has.

13
14 The other thing I talked to Mr. Blazer
15 about was the fact that another statement was made.
16 Another meeting we were at BIA in Juneau in March.
17 Same person. Decided to tell me it's a perceived
18 interception of our sockeye. I've done everything
19 that's required of me. So has Mr. Floyd Kookesh. This
20 is something that affects all of Southeast Alaska, not
21 just Angoon. All of Southeast. What I've learned from
22 the Forest Service fisheries biologist, fish come in
23 Icy Straight. Go down past Angoon. Down towards Kake.
24 That's their travel route. Somebody doesn't want the
25 rest of us to know that.

26
27 We're charged with the responsibility
28 to manage for abundance. This ETJ petition isn't
29 designed to put anyone out of business. A lot of my
30 friends are commercial fishermen. My son's learning
31 this from me. We don't just hunt. We talk about the
32 laws the State has. The less than honest people I have
33 to deal with when it comes to trying to preserve our
34 way of life.

35
36 I'm not going to stop until this is
37 fixed.

38
39 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

40
41 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Albert.

42
43 Any other questions for Mr. Owen.

44
45 MS. PHILLIPS: Mr. Chair.

46
47 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Ms. Phillips.

48
49 MS. PHILLIPS: Mr. Chair, I do not have
50 a question for Mr. Owen. But I would like to get on

1 with the Agenda item if I have your permission, unless
2 Mr. Owen wishes to make another comment.

3
4 (No comments)

5
6 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Mr. Owen.

7
8 Okay. Is there any discussion about
9 the ETJ.

10
11 Ms. Phillips.

12
13 MS. PHILLIPS: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
14 So ANILCA is the Alaska National Interest Land
15 Conservation Act. And it is to provide the opportunity
16 for rural residents engaged in a subsistence way of
17 life to continue to do so. So we have the annual
18 letter and response from the Federal Subsistence Board
19 on position for extraterritorial jurisdiction.

20
21 The Council represents all subsistence
22 users of the Region, including residents of Angoon, and
23 is concerned that there has been limited communication
24 between the Board or the State on how the issues
25 identified in the position are being addressed. The
26 Council believes they have a role in promoting the
27 continuation of subsistence uses by the residents of
28 Angoon and by extension all the qualified users of the
29 Region. The Council requests a detailed report on the
30 status of the petition and a suggestion on how the
31 Council can remain involved and contribute to the
32 resolution of the issue.

33
34 Response. The Board transmitted a
35 letter to the Secretaries on May 14th, 2015, apprising
36 them of the current status of the events related to the
37 ETJ petition enclosed. The letter details recent
38 actions by the Alaska Board of Fisheries to revise the
39 amounts necessary for subsistence, ANS for salmon in
40 the commercial fishery district near Angoon and Hoonah.
41 And to close various areas in Chatham Straits to
42 commercial fishing, allowing greater than 80 percent of
43 Kanalku sockeye salmon to pass through the area prior
44 to commercial fishing. When the Board receives a
45 response from the Secretaries to its letters, it will
46 forward that response to the Council.

47
48 There were significant communications
49 and actions by the Alaska Board of Fisheries, the
50 Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Kootznoowoo, Inc.,

1 Angoon Community Association, the City of Angoon, and
2 Southeast Alaska Seiners Association to develop and
3 pass these proposals in an effort to find a local
4 solution to this problem. The escapement of sockeye
5 salmon into the local streams will be assessed. The
6 passage of the sockeye over the falls at Kanalku will
7 be studied and the success of the local subsistence
8 fishery monitored during the next few years.

9

10 The Board appreciates the Council
11 acting as a forum for local residents to discuss the
12 effectiveness of these actions and is looking forward
13 to regular reports in the upcoming seasons.

14

15 The Minutes of -- the winter 2015
16 minutes on page eight, Cal Casipit provided a summary
17 of the Alaska Board of Fisheries actions, emphasizing
18 those that relate to the Petition for Extraterritorial
19 Jurisdiction in the waters of Chatham Strait near the
20 Village of Angoon. The Board of Fish adopted proposals
21 that identified an Amounts Necessary for Subsistence
22 Use for residents of Angoon, closed waters to
23 commercial fishing, and adjusted the commercial seine
24 fishery to pass 80 percent of sockeye returning to area
25 streams. Other proposals that were adopted by the
26 Board of Fish closed the subsistence sockeye fishing at
27 Klawock above the bridge. The Board did not adopt
28 annual limits for salmon for non-residents.

29

30 Then Steve Reifenstuhl talked about
31 some enhancement opportunities at Kanalku.

32

33 So I was at the Board of Fish and I was
34 asked to speak on behalf of the RAC on some of the RAC
35 proposals that were before the Board of Fish. And I --
36 we submitted the proposal to readdress the amounts
37 necessary for subsistence use, particularly to separate
38 Angoon -- the community Angoon from the District level
39 amounts necessary for subsistence, so that Angoon had
40 its own ANS. In the end, I believe that the Board of
41 Fisheries did a disservice to the Community of Angoon
42 because they ended up reducing the amounts necessary
43 for subsistence from the original amount allocated for
44 ANS.

45

46 And I'm wondering if that -- those
47 amounts necessary for subsistence are on the household
48 level. But it says here in the Minutes that they also
49 include take from other fisheries, personal use,
50 recreational, and commercial. But did they also

1 include the amounts that are needed for community
2 events, such as potlatches and, you know, cultural
3 events of magnitude that bring a lot of people in that
4 have to have, you know, a lot of the fisheries resource
5 to meet those needs.

6
7 So to me, the amounts necessary for
8 subsistence -- were those in Angoon results. Were
9 those results presented to the RAC. Were those ANS
10 numbers presented to the RAC or just a report saying
11 they pass an ANS. And if not, then those results
12 should come to us as a RAC.

13
14 Also, the action provided for the
15 subsistence priority for rural residents in Angoon,
16 8014 is to protect -- to protect and provide the
17 opportunity for continued subsistence use on the public
18 lands. And we are the administrative structure to have
19 a meaningful role in that protection. I mean we sat
20 through hours and hours of public testimony, very
21 vehement as Mr. Howard's testimony was. And so I just
22 hear their comments echoing through my mind. And as I
23 read and hear and watch what is happening with this
24 petition.

25
26 We are to cause the least adverse
27 impact on rural residents. And for the system to
28 reduce the amounts necessary for subsistence, that's
29 not causing the least adverse impact. That is causing
30 more adverse impact.

31
32 The RAC proposed to establish bag
33 limits on salmon. And our bag limits, they saw merit
34 in it at first. But then they thought oh, no. This is
35 a Region-wide proposal. There are some streams that
36 don't need it. But there are -- like Kanalku, a stream
37 that does need to establish bag limits for all other
38 users except subsistence. I mean subsistence has been
39 doing voluntary closures on Kanalku and yet sport
40 continues to harvest on that river.

41
42 So we have the situation assessments
43 that we -- you know, we've been given purview to. The
44 2/23/2013 situation assessment, which is a U.S.
45 Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution
46 provided recommendations. Recommendations for annual
47 Southeast Alaska Purse Seine Management Plan to address
48 primary issues in the petition. It will take a year
49 and a half to develop those plans. Was that
50 recommendation followed through on.

1 The second recommendation. Regular
2 meetings with the Angoon Alliance, which is
3 Kootznoowoo, Angoon Tribe, and Community of Angoon.
4 Coordinate and develop strategies which address
5 problems raised in the ETJ. Collaborative problem
6 solving. It's not -- okay. We're just going to
7 address the Kootznoowoo petition because Kootznoowoo
8 submitted it. So forget about the Alliance. I mean
9 that's the way I'm viewing this right now. That's the
10 way I'm perceiving what's going on. It's more of a
11 political maneuver than it is to try to find a
12 collaborative solution.

13

14 To close various areas in Chatham. Put
15 into regs certain closed areas in Chatham Straits to
16 commercial purse seine. Those were areas closed by
17 emergency actions already. I mean it's -- to say that
18 oh, we've closed more waters so that 80 percent that
19 pass through -- we don't know that. Because the
20 genetics aren't there. The genetics are from Hawk
21 Inlet north. They're not from below -- they're not
22 from South Chatham. And we need more genetics from
23 that end so we can know, is it truly 80 percent of the
24 sockeye that are being intercepted. When we close that
25 area, then 80 percent more get to go through. We don't
26 know that.

27

28 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

29

30 The Board of Fish results are adverse
31 effects on subsistence users who've been on this
32 resource for nutritional and cultural survival in the
33 Region and Community. This is about food security.
34 These people aren't getting their needs met. They
35 don't have any other commercial viable opportunities in
36 their community except for eke by. And we're taking no
37 heed to that cry from them.

38

39 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

40

41 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Patty.

42

43 There was a lot of testimony at the
44 Board of Fish. I was there for part of it. And I
45 appreciate Patty filling in for me, representing the
46 RAC. But I was at odds with the testimony at the Board
47 of Fish. I think it made it difficult for the Board of
48 Fish to make a decision between a sportfish guide out
49 of Angoon testified that he would not allow -- or it
50 would hurt him if they were to impose a non-resident

1 bag limit on sockeye. Because that's how he made his
2 living. Well, here's a person making a living in the
3 town that wants the fish, but the Board of Fish is
4 charged with, you know, protecting -- or protecting the
5 sportfisherman and making a decision presented to them
6 by the RAC, which we've tried at this numerous times to
7 get an annual bag limit for non-residents. So it's a
8 real difficult situation when this kind of testimony
9 comes out at a Board of Fish meeting. And don't envy
10 Board of Fish at all. They have a difficult job.

11
12 But the situation in Chatham is -- it's
13 a tough one. And I don't understand how the politics
14 ends up in the mix so strongly as it is. But it is a
15 complex issue. And I hope that Mr. Howard can align
16 the Corporation with the Tribe and work things out.
17 And I wish that we would get more information on the
18 progress. I just -- a lot of the information comes out
19 at the meeting and these things that happened months
20 ago. And we didn't receive that information. And I'm
21 not sure why. We were always requesting to be kept
22 abreast of what the progress is. So I hope that
23 changes in the future.

24
25 Ms. Needham.

26
27 MS. NEEDHAM: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
28 I'd like to extend that comment that you just made
29 about kind of this communication back and forth. So
30 this ETJ Petition was submitted. And the Secretaries
31 asked for it to go through a public process. And that
32 public process happened through the venue of the
33 Regional Advisory Council with the Federal Subsistence
34 Board sitting jointly. And then we were asked to make
35 a recommendation to the Federal Subsistence Board on
36 how to address the petition.

37
38 And our recommendation -- if I remember
39 correctly, we stayed up until 11:00 o'clock at night,
40 working extremely hard after listening to hours of
41 testimony. And we came up with the best work product
42 that we could, given the information that we had. And
43 that recommendation included some of the things that
44 Patty mentioned just a few moments ago. And we said we
45 recommend that -- we thought that extraterritorial
46 jurisdiction would apply, but what we were hearing in
47 the public process is that the State and the Community
48 of Angoon and the U.S. Forest Service felt that there
49 were things that they could do together to make the
50 situation better. And so our recommendation said we

1 feel ETJ apply -- is warranted, but we want to give
2 this group -- the Feds, the State, and the Community --
3 the opportunity to work together. So we said three
4 years. This was all recommendation to the Federal
5 Board, which they adopted to give it three years.

6
7 And at the time we tried to put
8 measurable things into our recommendation so that after
9 three years we could evaluate did this work or did it
10 not. And then determine whether or not
11 extraterritorial jurisdiction was still warranted based
12 on the progress that was made in three years. It's
13 been more than three years and we still haven't -- this
14 whole thing has not come back to this body that made
15 the original recommendation, that put a lot of thought
16 into each of the components that we put in there. And
17 so my question is, is it ever going to come back. It
18 sort of seems like it's anti-climatic where it's
19 sitting right now. We worked really hard. Thank you
20 for your recommendation. And then it hasn't come back
21 to us to make any kind of decision about whether or not
22 we feel ETJ is still warranted.

23
24 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Cathy.

25
26 Mr. Owen, comments?

27
28 MR. OWEN: So through the Chair. The
29 Secretaries deadline for us was August 2015. For us to
30 send a response to them. They of course don't have the
31 same, you know, limit on -- you know, or timeline for
32 them. So we responded to them within the three years.
33 We told them what we had done and where we were with
34 that. And -- you know, and the decision as to whether
35 or not that is adequate is left to the Secretaries or
36 not.

37
38 And of course, you know, and -- and I'd
39 like to just really publicly say that, you know, I
40 understand and appreciate Ms. Phillips and Mr. Howard's
41 passion for this subject. I'm not -- I don't want to
42 trivialize it in any way. I firmly personally and
43 professionally believe that this is important and
44 believe that the Tribe should have a voice in this, as
45 well as Kootznoowoo, because it is about their
46 customary, their traditional use of a particular
47 resource and it's important to their survival as a
48 community. Okay. That's -- that is for certain.
49 Okay. And they should have a voice. And they should
50 be communicating to Undersecretary Blazer, who is a

1 good man and understands these things. Okay.

2

3 But for the process that the Federal
4 Subsistence Board was placed into, you know, with the
5 work of the RAC, the outstanding diligent work of you
6 as a group, we came to the time when we had to give a
7 response. We gave the response that we had. We were
8 comfortable with that. And in our letter saying that
9 we continued to invest in and be engaged in the
10 Community of Angoon.

11

12 Do I think that the resolution to the
13 petition solves all the problems or provides for all
14 the needs or corrects all the wrongs that have happened
15 in Angoon over years? Hell, no. Absolutely
16 categorically no. But you all are familiar enough or
17 watch enough Federal process to hopefully understand we
18 had a role, a thing to do, we did. The Forest Service
19 remains engaged and committed in personnel and in
20 resources to Angoon. We're not walking away because
21 we're getting a piece of paper from the Secretary. We
22 believe in the rightness of that cause and we're going
23 to pursue that.

24

25 But right now, in terms of the question
26 to me, was where are we on the Angoon or the
27 Kootznoowoo petition. Where we are is we're waiting
28 for the Secretaries to tell us if we did well enough.

29

30 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

31

32 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Mr. Owen.

33

34 Any other comments on the ETJ.

35

36 Mr. Howard.

37

38 MR. HOWARD: Mr. Chairman, this is a
39 good example of what Angoon has been dealing with from
40 beginning to end. We've jumped through every hoop the
41 State of Alaska has put in front of us. And our last --
42 you know, it came to the end where -- you know,
43 Patricia mentioned that, you know, this is about the
44 people of Angoon and the fact that we weren't getting
45 our sockeye. She mentioned that there was voluntary
46 closure. The State didn't know anything about Kanalku
47 sockeye. Nothing. So we closed Kanalku on our own.
48 And that put our Tribal Members in a tough spot. They
49 had to go across Chatham. Anyone who's been in a boat
50 going across Chatham, you know, it'll be just sunshine

1 and glass calm. You get into Sitkoh Bay. Come out of
2 there and it just could be as miserable as you could
3 think of. And it's seven to twelve miles across
4 Chatham.

5
6 When we deal with an economy of 80
7 percent unemployment, you're going in a Lund with a 15
8 or 20-horse motor on it, you hope it's going to run
9 over and back and not break down. So when we sit
10 around the table like this, we're making a decision
11 that affects those people's lives.

12
13 What I appreciate about this body is
14 I've been sitting here with my phone. Not playing on
15 it, but timing how long everyone gets to sit at that
16 table. My frustration with the State Board of Fish was
17 they gave me three minutes to explain my life to them.
18 And explain to them what our people have to go through
19 to continue living the way we do. You know, it's
20 interesting. I've been at a lot of meetings when Mr.
21 Owens was there. This is about my people. My son. My
22 daughter. This is about my ability to take care of my
23 mother. It would have been my father, too, but he
24 passed away.

25
26 In our Tlingit culture, we've never
27 looked at retirement. You probably have a nice
28 retirement coming. I don't. My retirement is teaching
29 my son how to live off the resource that's in our
30 backyard. A resource that you're allowing to
31 disappear. Let me explain to me when I say you're
32 allowing to disappear. You're the one that made the
33 statement the seiners have to make a boat payment.

34
35 We were in another meeting with him in
36 the Tribal Council. He's the one that made the
37 statement the perceived interception of our salmon.
38 Those comments affect my family. Affect my people.
39 Let me tell you something. I made a statement earlier.
40 I was out in Desert Shield, Desert Storm. I've been
41 shot at for my people. For this country. Wondered if
42 I'd ever come home. In the middle of a desert where
43 there's no trees. The heat is ridiculous. So there
44 isn't much that scares me anymore. The thing that
45 scares me is the smart people we put in place that are
46 going to allow the resource to go away.

47
48 Another statement you made. This was
49 at the BIA meeting in Juneau. We were at the office in
50 Juneau and we had a meeting in March. I'm holding you

1 accountable for what you've said. When you said
2 perceived interception, now you made the -- you also
3 made the statement seiners don't fish until after the
4 sockeye have gone by and they're in the Angoon. Twenty
5 minutes later in the meeting I asked you well, can we
6 open it up for a free for all when we have enough
7 salmon above the falls. What did you say? Now, keep
8 in mind you said you don't open seining until after
9 they go past. You said because there's an early,
10 middle, and late run. We can't do that.

11
12 This is my frustration. I told you
13 it's there. That was passion. Now it's frustration.
14 I'm angry that one person can have the power to do this
15 to a community of 460 people, Native and non-Native.
16 One person. My son's learning this. And we don't
17 always see deer when we're hunting, so we have to talk
18 about something.

19
20 I'm not trying to kill the seine fleet.
21 That wasn't our intent. Title VIII gives us direction.
22 I sat here and I talked about trying to help Mr.
23 Hernandez understand why there was a Native and non-
24 Native rural designation there. I didn't say you were
25 trying to change that. I was trying to help you
26 understand it. To look at it from my point of view and
27 our elder's point of view, there was no such thing.
28 They were trying to make it one. But they wanted it in
29 English so people would understand. Because if you
30 went Native only on that, somebody would have come into
31 town and said you're not a Native. We're going to give
32 you a fine.

33
34 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Albert, excuse me.
35 But we only have so much time. So we.....

36
37 MR. HOWARD: I understand that. Thank
38 you, Mr. Chair.

39
40 CHAIRMAN BANGS: We need to move on.
41 If you have a final, simple, brief summary, that would
42 be great. But we need to move on.

43
44 MR. HOWARD: Well, Mr. Chairman, I'd
45 like this Board to take a look at it as a separate
46 Agenda item and figure out how we can get it back on
47 the table. Or at least address the needs of the
48 community, Mr. Chair.

49
50 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Albert.

1 Thank you for your comments.

2

3 Ms. Phillips.

4

5 MS. PHILLIPS: Thank you.

6

7 After getting on my soapbox, I forgot
8 to ask what I was going to ask. And that is so, you
9 know, what is the mechanisms we do now -- now that
10 we've kind of addressed some points that need -- in my
11 opinion, need to come back on the table. How do we go
12 about that. I mean like the Board of Fish stuff. I
13 guess the ANS stuff, that's been done. I mean we can't
14 go back. I mean they've already surveyed the
15 community. They can't go -- they've already changed
16 it. You know, I guess in three years they could look
17 at it again, but, you know, I don't agree with them
18 lowering the ANS.

19

20 Anyways, but the one where I talked
21 about the bag limit, where we wanted to limit bag
22 limits, well, we can't do it Region-wide, which is what
23 we tried to do. Can we do it for specific small
24 streams like Kanalku. And if we can, how do we go
25 about doing that. That would be another.

26

27 And then the enhancement at Kanalku.
28 You know, with the -- you have to determine -- get
29 additional information on productivity at Kanalku,
30 water chemistry, and specific life history, strategies.
31 I mean how do we -- those came up in our minutes, so
32 how do we make forward movement on those items.

33

34 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Patty.
35 Some of those issues may be addressed through proposals
36 to the Board of Fish on the sportfish regulations
37 again. But I think maybe being stream specific might
38 be a way the Council could effectively change those.
39 I'm not sure how the Board of Fish would address that,
40 but that's a possibility and a good point.

41

42 Mr. Schroeder.

43

44 MR. SCHROEDER: Just procedurally, I
45 wasn't here for the meeting where -- it was before my
46 time or in between my time or something -- when
47 extraterritorial jurisdiction with respect to Angoon
48 was discussed. But Cathy summarized things. And if I
49 understood correctly, Cathy, the Council said well,
50 let's see. There are these things that could be tried

1 for three years. And something like it's back on the
2 table then. If I could direct that through the Chair
3 to Cathy, is that sort of your -- would that be your
4 summary, Cathy?

5
6 MS. NEEDHAM: Well, I believe our
7 recommendation was we felt ETJ was warranted, but we
8 thought giving the entities three years to try to
9 address some concerns might basically make the ETJ
10 petition not warranted. So we wanted to give time for
11 some things to happen. And then this Council was
12 pretty much taken out of the process. We were only
13 given updates of what happened with the things that we
14 recommended to do. And there was a list of five to six
15 action items that we tasked the State and Federal and
16 Community of Angoon of working on. And there were prog
17 -- we had some progress reports made on some of those
18 things. But -- so when I made my comments, I guess my
19 question really is, is it never came back to us.

20
21 Whether or not progress was made, that
22 -- you know, that was the communication that the Board
23 had directly with the Secretaries. And so even though
24 we were the ones that originally said we felt ETJ was
25 warranted, but we were giving this time period in order
26 to work together to try to address the concerns that
27 were out there.

28
29 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you.

30
31 Follow-up, Mr. Schroeder.

32
33 MR. SCHROEDER: So just following up on
34 that, it seems that at least that -- I don't know that
35 we've heard enough information to say that the issue
36 has been resolved or has not been resolved. But we
37 definitely know that there are some questions on
38 whether it's resolved because that's what I'm hearing
39 from Albert and from Patty. So it would seem that ETJ
40 has sort of sprung back to life. And perhaps this
41 Council needs to address this. I doubt that we can
42 come up with something at this meeting because we don't
43 have a full briefing on all the matters that were
44 raised in the earlier meeting, but perhaps that would
45 be a direction for us to go that both recognizes
46 Angoon's legitimate concerns.

47
48 And this has been going on really a
49 long time, Albert. I was in some of the early meetings
50 seven or eight years ago. But we also need to hear

1 real specifically if these -- you could call them
2 mitigation measures or attempts to resolve it. But to
3 really be able to evaluate those. So I don't think
4 that's in the realm of a proposal right at this moment,
5 but maybe that's a direction we could go to get off --
6 to make some progress and to move along.

7

8 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you.

9

10 Patty.

11

12 MS. PHILLIPS: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
13 Thank you, Robert, for -- Mr. Schroeder, for those
14 remarks. You know, because this has been going on for
15 a very long time. I was looking at some of our past
16 briefings and Mr. Kookesh was like -- in his sense of
17 frustration in -- in the lack of their subsistence
18 sockeye needs being met and, you know, the voluntary
19 closures at Kanalku was saying hey, you guys are going
20 to force me to do an ETJ. And we weren't listening to
21 him. And what did they do. They came to us with one.

22

23 So it's like if we think this is going
24 to go away, we heard from the Angoon representative in
25 his Council comments. Well, if you're going to drop it
26 from the Corporation, then I guess I'll have to bring
27 it to you in the Tribal format. So really, let's -- I
28 guess if we can show that we are -- and I hear Mr.
29 Owen. I hear -- hell, no. It's not over. But where
30 in writing is it addressing some of our key points.
31 Are we -- and especially our recommendations. Where is
32 it at.

33

34 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

35

36 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Patty.

37

38 Don.

39

40 MR. HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Mr.
41 Chairman. You know, one of our recommendations which I
42 think we've kind of not mentioned here is that -- and
43 it's also something that could have some concrete
44 action. Is part of the reason in my recollection that
45 they wanted three years to resolve this was essentially
46 two reasons. We needed a Board of Fish cycle, so they
47 could put the proposals through for the Board of Fish.
48 And we were also told that it would require at least
49 three years until we could get some genetic stock
50 assessments up and running and available.

1 And that would be one recommendation --
2 solid recommendation I would make is I don't know if
3 that's an ongoing process now or not for sure. But we
4 sure as heck need that valuable information. I think
5 we should make sure we at least get letters out that
6 say that we want to see that genetic stock assessments
7 continue and we want to see some results of what we get
8 from that. I think that would be a question in this
9 whole argument.

10

11 So that would be my recommendation.

12

13 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Don.

14

15 John.

16

17 MR. YEAGER: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I
18 agree with Mr. Hernandez. I still that there's a vast
19 amount of information that is not in front of us. And
20 I would like to also remind the Council that every time
21 that Steve Reifenhuth was in front of us, there was
22 never any, to my knowledge, acceptance by the City of
23 Angoon to accept NSRAA's assessment of any of their
24 systems. And so without having that cooperation, how
25 are we going to have that genetic information there,
26 which would be a viable part of any decision-making
27 process that I would go through. So we need to keep
28 that in mind. That the offer has been there, but it
29 has not been accepted, to my knowledge, to this date.

30

31 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, John.

32

33 Any other comments.

34

35 Mr. Larson.

36

37 MR. LARSON: Thank you, Mr. Chair. And
38 one of the comments that I usually talk about is
39 Robert's Rules or Order and decorum at Council
40 Meetings. And I've been remiss maybe in not
41 reinforcing some instructions about the appropriate way
42 to address our Staff and ourselves. So we're all
43 friends here. And this is very -- this is a business
44 where we have passion. We have deep feelings about the
45 subject. But we need to make sure that we don't make
46 it personal. So that's all I have to say about that.

47

48 Thank you.

49

50 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Robert.

1 Frank.

2

3 MR. WRIGHT: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I
4 know -- I think the last meeting we talked about this,
5 we had a person from whoever does our genetic testing
6 saying that they didn't have it. And we were asking
7 why not. Because it was already two or three years
8 already -- we've already been dealing with this and
9 that was one of the requests that we had. So the way
10 it came out was that all of a sudden we came to a
11 standstill again. When we're requesting information
12 from an Agency or -- and they don't come up with the
13 right numbers or how we can rule or where we can go
14 with it, it puts us at a standstill. Because we're an
15 organization that has to deal with facts. And we can't
16 be dealing when well, it might be like this. It might
17 be this way. It might be that way. We can't do an I
18 think it might be that way. We've got to deal with
19 numbers or else it's not going to work.

20

21 So if we're going to -- it's going to
22 come up again in our meeting, so probably we again have
23 to request what we've been asking for in the last time.
24 So that we can properly deal with it.

25

26 You know, so thank you, Mr. Chair.

27

28 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Frank.

29 Good point.

30

31 Mr. Larson.

32

33 MR. LARSON: Mr. Chair, at the last
34 Board of Fisheries meeting where they discussed the
35 Angoon petition, there was a report from the Alaska
36 Department of Fish and Game that was three years in the
37 making regarding the contributions, the stock of origin
38 contributions for sockeye systems in Chatham Straits.
39 I think that possibly prior to what I view as a -- at
40 least a will of the Council for having adequate
41 information, that you give me a chance to provide that
42 study and provide it to you for review. Because as I
43 recall, it seemed to be pretty darn inclusive and it
44 was a -- it was end result of a very intensive effort
45 by the Department of Fish and Game to identify stock of
46 origins of sockeyes. And the Board of Fisheries based
47 much of their opinion on that study. That study was
48 not available to us at the meeting prior to the Board
49 of Fish meeting. It was made available fairly close to
50 the Board of Fish meeting itself. But that -- it was a

1 pretty darn inclusive study. And if you would like, I
2 can provide that for you. It's nothing I can provide
3 right this minute, but I can get it for you.

4

5 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Mr. Larson.

6

7 Mr. Douville.

8

9 MR. DOUVILLE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

10 Am I correct in my opinion it was the Kootznoowoo that
11 brought forth this EKG. So if he's saying that it's
12 been resolved or they've come to terms, what has that
13 got to do with everybody else. I mean there's a lot of
14 problems on the table. And perhaps the Tribe or even
15 the City of Angoon is dissatisfied, but they were not
16 the ones that brought forth the petition. So I guess
17 if those problems are yet to be resolved and
18 Kootznoowoo is happy, well that part of it I think
19 would go away. But should they want to follow-up, they
20 would have to follow the same process. So in effect,
21 from what you said, we're done with that portion of it.

22

23 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Mike.

24

25 Mr. Owen, do you have a response?

26

27 MR. OWEN: Yeah. To clarify,
28 Kootznoowoo, Incorporated, submitted a petition. The
29 RAC and the Federal Subsistence Board gave a
30 recommendation to the Secretary. The Secretary told us
31 we had three years to come up with something. After
32 three years we spent them a response this is what we
33 did. Okay. Now we're waiting for a response as to
34 whether or not that is adequate. Okay. So, you know,
35 I don't know that anybody's saying that anything is
36 good enough or full or complete. We were given a time
37 frame. At the end of the time frame we sent a report
38 saying this is what happened. Tell us what you want to
39 do next. So the Secretaries could take any possible
40 action yet. We don't know. We just don't know that.
41 I think you're right. We're responding to the
42 Secretaries instruction to address the petition from
43 Kootznoowoo. Okay. That doesn't mean that we or
44 anyone else are done dealing with that particular
45 issue, you know, or the issue of fisheries
46 sustainability and community sustainability at Angoon.
47 That's a separate thing.

48

49 So thank you, Mr. Chair.

50

1 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you.

2

3 I personally think that I would like to
4 see this -- maybe a statement from the Council drawn up
5 for our Annual Report, expressing our dissatisfied
6 views on how we've received information or didn't
7 receive it and the uncertainty of what stage it was
8 during the process. I'm hoping that when we get to
9 that point, maybe we could come up with something we
10 could put in our Annual Report, if the Council wants to
11 see that happen.

12

13 Mr. Wright.

14

15 MR. WRIGHT: Mr. Chairman, just a
16 question. Since Kootznoowoo was the petition and then
17 it changes over to the Tribal government of Angoon,
18 does that throw kind of wrench in things or does it
19 just kind of continue on with the same petition.

20

21 CHAIRMAN BANGS: I have no idea. I
22 really don't know. Mr. Owen might be able to answer
23 that. But I think it would be a different petition.
24 Or.....

25

26 MR. OWEN: Mr. Chair, the petition was
27 from Kootznoowoo, Incorporated. If the Tribal Council
28 of Angoon wanted to submit another petition I'm sure,
29 you know, we would be prepared to, you know, go through
30 that process. You know, there are other ways to deal
31 with the issues than extraterritorial jurisdiction
32 petitions. But, you know, the petitions are not
33 transferrable. No.

34

35 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

36

37 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you for that
38 clarification.

39

40 Ms. Phillips.

41

42 MS. PHILLIPS: I would just say I
43 guess, you know, the reality is, is I didn't get the
44 answers I want. I mean I don't think the ANS should
45 have been lowered. I think -- you know, but we also
46 had recommendations that we put together three years
47 ago. And have we gotten answers to those
48 recommendations.

49

50 MR. OWEN: So Mr. Chairman, if I might.

1 There seems to be a regular sort of inter-meshing
2 between what's within the Federal government's
3 authority to act on and the State's authority. And
4 through the Federal Subsistence Board, a Federal
5 organization, there are things that we can touch and
6 things that we can't touch. You know, that's an issue
7 and something for the Secretaries to consider when
8 they're looking at the resolution. But the ANS and the
9 genetic assessments and the commercial fleet
10 regulations and all that, that's within the State's
11 purview. And I'm sorry I don't have -- I would never
12 have anything to say about the State's regulatory
13 actions. I've never said anything about whether or
14 not, you know, they should or shouldn't do anything
15 like that. That's outside of my purview and outside of
16 the Federal purview.

17

18 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you.

19

20 Mr. Bloom.

21

22 MR. BLOOM: As a point of order, Mr.
23 Chairman, may I suggest we take a break from this. A
24 five-minute recess or something.

25

26 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you. Thank you,
27 Mr. Bloom. This is -- well, I was hoping we would be
28 done with this issue for this meeting. I wanted to
29 make sure that we could take a break, but I wanted to
30 get one other thing taken care of just before we take a
31 break. And we'll take a break.

32

33 So is there anything else to address

34 Mr. Owen.

35

36 (No comments)

37

38 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Okay. Thank you, Mr.

39 Owen.

40

41 Now, I was just informed a little while
42 ago that it would probably behoove us to take a hand
43 raise on the lunches tomorrow so that they could get a
44 headcount right now. Anybody that would like to have a
45 sack lunch tomorrow at our field trip, just raise your
46 hand and we'll take a count.

47

48 There's some back there, too. Okay.

49 That's what I got. Great.

50

1 Thank you very much.
2
3 Okay. Let's take a break and we'll --
4 about a 15-minute break.
5
6 (Off record)
7
8 (On record)
9
10 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you. Next we're
11 going to start into proposals. But we have a statement
12 from Mr. Larson when he gets back to his seat.
13
14 MR. LARSON: Thank you, Mr. Chair. One
15 of the projects that I'll make sure that gets done when
16 we get back is that the documents that address the ETJ
17 issue, I'll engage the Admiralty Island District
18 Ranger, who is in our contact with the Community of
19 Angoon and the Angoon Cooperative Association and
20 Kootznoowoo. And I'll share the appropriate documents
21 again and I'll communicate the Council's interest and
22 direction to make sure that everyone is fully informed
23 of exactly where we are and what documents have
24 exchanged hands during this process. So we should all
25 be up to speed appropriately and all at the same place
26 as we wait for a response from the Secretaries.
27
28 Thank you.
29
30 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Mr. Larson.
31
32 At this point I think we'll start into
33 our Wildlife Proposals under New Business. And the
34 first Proposal is WP16-01, Unit 2 Deer Season Change.
35 And Mr. Jeff Reeves, please.
36
37 MR. REEVES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
38 Good afternoon, Council Members. For the record, my
39 name is Jeff Reeves. I'm with the U.S. Forest Service.
40 You can find the Executive Summary for WP16-01 on page
41 34 and the Analysis will begin on page 35.
42
43 Proposal WP16-01 was submitted by the
44 Craig Tribal Association and it requests that non-
45 Federally qualified subsistence users be limited to the
46 harvest of two deer from Federal public lands in Unit 2
47 and that the season ending date for Federally qualified
48 users be extended from December 31 to January 31.
49
50 CTA believes that the changes are vital

1 for the health and well-being of both them, Tribal
2 Members, and for Federally qualified users as mandated
3 by Title VIII. The Proposal was submitted to provide
4 for conservation of the Unit 2 deer population by
5 reducing the harvest by non-Federally qualified users.
6 CTA has also asked for the season extension and that
7 the proponent clarified that the season extension would
8 also include the doe season.

9
10 While Unit 4 has a season ending date
11 of January 31 under Federal regulations, this is not
12 the case for the remaining units in the Southeast
13 Region. There are several factors in Unit 4 that allow
14 for a January season in managing deer populations.
15 First, Unit 4 is less susceptible to winter extreme
16 conditions than the mainland and more interior islands.
17 Two, Unit 4 has very little road access and hunting
18 effort is boat based. And three, Unit 4 does not have
19 wolves and the brown bear predation during this time is
20 virtually non-existent.

21
22 Figure 2 shows pellet-group survey
23 results for Unit 2. Pellet-group data has suggested
24 generally increasing population trend since the low
25 during the late '90s and the early 2000s. It appears
26 that the populations have increased after those severe
27 winters and that by 2010 the Unit 2 deer population was
28 healthy, considered stable to increasing, and at a 12
29 to 15-year high.

30
31 Estimate deer harvest in Unit 2 from
32 1997 to 2013 is found in Figure 3, with harvest by
33 month being found in Table 2. The estimated total
34 harvest averages 2,850 deer during this period.
35 Harvests have been on the increase since 1997 and at or
36 above Fish and Game's Unit 2 harvest objective of 2,700
37 deer since 2005.

38
39 Figure 4 shows estimated female deer
40 harvest in the Unit, which tends to average about 4.2
41 percent of the total harvest. The average number of
42 deer harvested per hunter has risen since the late 90s
43 and has remained stable since 2004. The average number
44 of days it takes to harvest a deer also appears to have
45 been stable since 2007 and is lower than what it was
46 during the late 1990s. This harvest data also supports
47 the pellet-group data indicating that the deer
48 population in Unit 2 is healthy and stable to
49 increasing.

50

1 The majority of hunters harvesting deer
2 in Unit 2 between 2010 and 2012 were residents of Unit
3 2. Hunters from these communities have a higher
4 success rate than other hunters, with that average
5 success rate being 84 percent during that period.
6 Hunters residing in Unit 1A have averaged a 70 percent
7 success rate during that same period and only account
8 for on average about 30 percent of the total unit
9 through deer harvest.

10
11 Non-resident activity in the Unit has
12 been on a slight increase and this may be related to
13 changes in black bear hunting opportunity in the Unit.
14 The proposal would reduce the harvest limit for non-
15 Federally qualified users hunting deer on Federal
16 public lands in Unit 2, but will not change the harvest
17 limit for those individuals hunting under State sport
18 regulations on State or private lands. If adopted, the
19 Proposal would provide Federally qualified subsistence
20 users 31 additional days of opportunity for hunting on
21 Federal lands. The January hunt would only apply to
22 Federal lands and although prior year harvest tickets
23 can we used, Federally qualified users would still
24 require a new State hunting license to participate in
25 the January season.

26
27 Additional deer would be harvested
28 during the January season; however, both State and
29 Federal Managers are unable to estimate to what degree.
30 While the potential harvest may be far lower than other
31 months, the harvest of female deer may increase
32 dramatically beyond current levels as females are in a
33 better physical condition than the bucks during
34 January. Lastly, differentiating between male and
35 female deer during January would be difficult as most
36 bucks have shed their antlers and may have hair growth
37 over their pedicles.

38
39 Staff recommendation is to oppose
40 Proposal 16-01 as Title VIII provides that lands could
41 be closed to non-subsistence users to provide for a
42 subsistence priority; however, associated regulations
43 and case law do not provide the ability for the Federal
44 subsistence program to regulate non-subsistence use.
45 Reducing the harvest limit for non-Federally qualified
46 users in Unit 2 is not needed at this time. Although
47 Unit 2 harvest has been on the increase, the harvest
48 percentage by non-rural residents has not increased
49 dramatically from previous levels. Recent increases in
50 deer per hunter, as well as the decrease in hunt days

1 per deer for all Unit 2 deer hunters suggests that the
2 population in Unit 2 is currently stable and/or
3 growing.

4
5 The Unit 2 Federal season currently
6 provides Federally qualified users eight additional
7 hunting days in July ahead of that offered under State
8 regulations. A closure to non-Federally qualified
9 users for 15 days in the month of August on the
10 majority of Prince of Wales Island Federal lands. A
11 five deer harvest limit and the opportunity to harvest
12 a female deer after October 15th. The current harvest
13 status suggests that these priorities are benefitting
14 Federally qualified users.

15
16 Although a January season exists in
17 Unit 4, the addition of the 31 more hunting days in
18 Unit 2 would most likely negatively affect deer.
19 Managers believe that extending the season in Unit 2 is
20 not the best interest for deer conservation due to the
21 ease of access through an expansive road system, as
22 well as the presence of wolves in the Unit. Lastly,
23 with male deer during January being of poor physical
24 condition than female deer, along with the difficulty
25 in distinguishing the two during the time, the harvest
26 of female deer may substantially increase resulting in
27 conservation concerns.

28
29 Now this concludes my presentation.

30
31 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Jeff.

32
33 Any questions for Mr. Reeves.

34
35 Cathy.

36
37 MS. NEEDHAM: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

38
39 Jeff, can you clarify for me what -- in
40 Unit 1A, that's -- can you remind me what communities
41 reside within Unit 1A and break it down in terms of
42 which ones are Federally qualified and non-Federally
43 qualified users?

44
45 MR. REEVES: Mr. Chairman, Ms. Needham,
46 yes. Obviously, Ketchikan, which is non-qualified.
47 Also in Unit 1 is Saxman, which is Federally qualified.
48 Metlakatla. And correct me I'm wrong, Robert, but I
49 also believe Meyers Chuck may fall in the Unit. I'm
50 not quite sure on Meyers Chuck, but definitely

1 Metlakatla and Saxman.

2

3 MR. LARSON: Yeah, Mr. Chair. He is
4 correct. Meyers Chuck is on the 1A, 1B border. And
5 it's generally considered to be in 1A.

6

7 Thank you.

8

9 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Robert.

10

11 Ms. Needham, follow-up?

12

13 MS. NEEDHAM: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
14 And maybe do we have -- you stated non-resident
15 activity in the Unit may have -- may be -- has been on
16 a slight increase. And so I'm just trying to get a
17 handle on -- like this petition is about -- or this
18 petition. Sorry. This Proposal is about limiting non-
19 Federally qualified subsistence users, so I'm just
20 trying to get a clearer idea of what the harvest by
21 non-Federally qualified users is specifically. I know
22 it's on the rise, but do we know proportionally
23 compared to Federally qualified subsistence users what
24 it is and then where the non-Federally qualified users
25 are coming from besides Unit 1A.

26

27 MR. REEVES: Mr. Chairman, Ms. Needham,
28 in concurring with the Assistant Area Management
29 Biologist for the Unit and when looking at the data,
30 the majority of what was presented in Figure 6, where
31 the -- that shows the black line compared to the total
32 harvest. The majority of that is most likely from
33 Ketchikan hunters. But some of that is Meyers Chuck,
34 Saxman. You know, there are some Federally qualified.
35 The non-resident stuff is -- what it said, it was
36 growing -- yes, it's occurring. But it's not like at a
37 huge level. We're not looking at several hundred deer
38 or a thousand deer. It's, you know, because they were
39 having to buy a single tag that typically they were
40 paying for. But it was noted that non-resident, so
41 out-of-State.

42

43 And as for the portion that's like, you
44 know, I mean people from Anchorage and stuff like that,
45 which I think is maybe, you know, some starting to come
46 down. Because with Kodiak's deer population kind of
47 taking a slight nose dive, it may be happening. But
48 it's probably not at the same level as of course with
49 like Ketchikan and that area being the nearest
50 competition, if that helps you.

1 MS. NEEDHAM: Thank you.

2

3 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Mr. Schroeder.

4

5 MR. SCHROEDER: Mr. Reeves, thanks for
6 a pretty good description here. I've got some
7 questions about just what appears to be reliance --
8 almost exclusive reliance on harvest ticket data. And
9 I know in the past there were real questions about that
10 data being complete or accurate particularly for many
11 of the Prince of Wales communities. If you could
12 comment on that.

13

14 And then the presentation could have
15 used some breakdown about community harvests. That
16 would have been helpful to me.

17

18 Thank you.

19

20 MR. REEVES: Thank you, Mr. Chair and
21 Mr. Schroeder. Yes, there was a period of time where
22 we did have the Unit 2 harvest report. So like when
23 you look at the Figure 6 there, that's why that one
24 only went through 2011. On the other harvest tables
25 where the harvests are expanded out to I believe, was
26 it 2013? You know, some of that came off of the new
27 hunt report system, which those are returned and then I
28 believe expanded upon. We do have a State
29 representative here, too, that might be able to expand
30 further on the State harvest information. So they may
31 be the better individual for, you know, answering
32 specifics on that.

33

34 So the stuff there on Figure 6 though,
35 that definitely is more effective because that was the
36 people that were coming in and they were getting those
37 harvest tickets issued from, you know, the local
38 vendors that were -- you know, if you're going to
39 probably go hunting in Unit 2, that's where you're
40 going to get your harvest ticket. So, you know, that's
41 probably more definitely the most reflective of, you
42 know, of the use that was going on in Unit 2 and what
43 might have been the comp -- you know, the competition
44 use. So that's where like the -- you know, the 30
45 percent of the total harvest kind of averages out from.

46

47

48 I wished I had the further -- you know,
49 those other three years to see, but one thing that I
50 have noticed that of residing in Unit 2 and the

1 increase in the ferry costs and all that from Ketchikan
2 is that actually the number of folks coming over
3 especially, you know, during November has dropped off.
4 And so definitely, you know, increases in ferry fees
5 and fuel and all that has, you know, lowered the amount
6 of effort.

7

8 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Follow-up, Robert.

9

10 MR. SCHROEDER: Just a quick follow-up,
11 I wasn't so concerned about this particular proposal,
12 but we may be facing a situation by next year or the
13 year after or sometime where there is an apparent
14 shortage of deer and where people are saying, as they
15 were saying some years ago, boy, I just can't get my
16 deer. There aren't any deer around. And we need to be
17 tracking what people actually harvest, as to what may
18 be reported on harvest tickets, since there wasn't a
19 great deal of compliance on that or participation in
20 that in previous years.

21

22 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Mr.

23 Schroeder.

24

25 Mr. Hernandez.

26

27 MR. HERNANDEZ: Yeah. Thank you.
28 Jeff, I'm kind of most interested in this Figure 5. It
29 shows the days per deer harvested and the deer per
30 hunter. On the deer per hunter it kind of shows that
31 it's been fairly consistent at about one deer per
32 hunter or less over the last 20 years or so. Is there
33 a breakdown that shows what the deer per hunter would
34 be for a Federally qualified versus a non-Federally
35 qualified hunter?

36

37 MR. REEVES: Mr. Chairman, Mr.
38 Hernandez, this is based off of the cumulative
39 estimates. It's for Unit 2, so it doesn't break down
40 like the days per deer, you know, for a resident of
41 Craig or a resident of, you know, Point Baker or a
42 resident of Ketchikan. And what this also -- so this,
43 if I recall it correctly, not everybody who gets deer
44 tags winds up harvesting a deer. So it's -- I think
45 it's like a cumulative type statistic. But the fact
46 that, you know, over time that the number of days has
47 gone down, you know, it's beneficial to the hunter.
48 They're having to put in less effort. And then
49 obviously, too, that the deer per hunter over time has
50 slightly increased. That, you know, they're being a

1 little bit more successful.

2

3 So again probably the State might be
4 able to elaborate better on that since this is their
5 data that they compile.

6

7 MR. HERNANDEZ: Follow-up.

8

9 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Don.

10

11 MR. HERNANDEZ: Yeah. Okay. So that's
12 a good point. These numbers are for all tags issued,
13 so some of those people may not even have hunted. So
14 it's really not a good indicator to kind of compare.
15 Like, you know, if we want to -- we're talking about
16 reducing a bag limit and from four down to two. And
17 when you look at these numbers it shows that, you know,
18 hardly any -- most people only average about one. I
19 don't know. That's not really very useful to me if
20 you're considering people that don't even hunt, so I
21 guess I kind of needed to know that.

22

23 Thank you.

24

25 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Don.

26

27 Any other questions for Mr. Reeves.

28

29 Patty.

30

31 MS. PHILLIPS: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
32 So the Figure 3 shows since 2007 -- actually since 2005
33 increasing harvest. And showing harvest goal. I mean
34 so how do you -- aren't they wanting to have harvest --
35 equal harvest goal? Or -- and yet it's exceeding. And
36 then you go to Figure 2, it shows annual average
37 pellet-group counts increasing since 2001. So we have
38 an increasing population of deer harvest -- or deer
39 populations. So the proponent is saying limit the
40 other guys to two deer only. And isn't limiting for
41 when it's a conservation concern?

42

43 And then the -- oh, I forgot my other
44 question. Okay. So, right?

45

46 (Laughter)

47

48 MR. REEVES: Mr. Chairman and Ms.
49 Phillips. Okay. Yes. What the proponent thought they
50 were in a sense doing was providing for additional

1 conservation for deer by reducing non-qualified. So
2 for some reason -- and their perception that they -- I
3 guess they believe that there's still competition
4 happening. The pellet counts, you know, for how they
5 totally represent -- and again I apologize that I have
6 to say, you know, the State could probably better
7 answer that.

8
9 And then on the Figure 3 with the
10 harvest, the dash line -- the way it was explained to
11 me, that's what Fish and Game -- or ADF&G hoped could
12 be harvested in an ideal year for the Unit. So that's
13 -- like I said, it's kind of their goal. And yes, the
14 harvest has been over that. Unit 2, especially the
15 last four or five years -- 2006, there was I know a lot
16 of snow that hit. But since then there's been a lot
17 more milder winters and the deer population for the
18 most part seems to be, like I said, based on what
19 they're seeing in pellet count surveys and with the
20 harvest that it seems to be definitely stable. Plus on
21 that trend of increasing because of what the surveys
22 and the stuff are showing.

23
24 And I know I can tell you this, I
25 actually went along on one of the pellet count surveys.
26 And it was amazing when we were walking the transect
27 and -- you know, and they were counting -- the
28 biologist was counting the pellets within a certain
29 distance of the transect , but I'm at the front of the
30 cable looking over and just seeing how many pellets
31 were out in this one area. And so it was -- even
32 though we didn't physically see deer, we could tell
33 there had been a good presence of deer in that area.

34
35 So right. The data, yes. It's showing
36 that the population seems to be in a very good
37 condition. So.....

38
39 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Jeff.

40
41 Thank you, Patty.

42
43 Anyone else with questions.

44
45 (No comments)

46
47 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Jeff.

48
49 Okay. Mr. Larson, is there any reports
50 of Tribal consultations or ANCSA Corporation?

1 MR. LARSON: No, Mr. Chair. There are
2 not.

3
4 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you.

5
6 We have a report from ADF&G.

7
8 MR. SCOTT: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
9 For the record, my name is Ryan Scott. I'm the
10 Regional Supervisor for the Division of Wildlife
11 Conservation in Southeast. For this Proposal, ADF&G
12 opposes the Proposal. And based on there are no
13 conservation concerns here. As you've seen, the
14 pellet-groups, while not a direct indices of the number
15 of deer on the ground, give us a long term trend
16 outlook on what's happening with the populations. Those
17 continue to increase. Anytime you get to two groups
18 per plot, we consider that very good. And it's been up
19 there for a bit.

20
21 And then the increasing harvest over
22 time is very suggestive that the number of animals on
23 the ground, there's lots of animals available to the
24 hunters.

25
26 So again for this Proposal, the
27 Department recommends to oppose.

28
29 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Mr. Scott.

30
31 Any questions.

32
33 Ms. Phillips.

34
35 MS. PHILLIPS: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
36 Thank you, Mr. Scott. So this Proposal has two
37 requests. And one is the limit non-Federally qualified
38 users to the harvest of two deers, which we've kind of
39 -- you know, you say that there's more than enough deer
40 so they don't need to be restricted.

41
42 The other part is to extend the season
43 from December 31st to January 31st. How does the
44 Department feel about that and what's the
45 justification?

46
47 MR. SCOTT: Through the Chair, Ms.
48 Phillips. Again we would incorporate -- the Department
49 would recommend to oppose both sides of that Proposal.
50 There's been a long history of wanting to keep the

1 number of does harvested on Unit 2 down to a fairly low
2 level. I think it's appropriate and over time it's
3 proven to be very beneficial to provide some
4 opportunity to harvest female deer. It can be
5 difficult to tell, you know, males and females once we
6 get into that time of year. And without a real hard
7 and fast breakdown of sex ratios in the harvest, I
8 would say that it's working.

9

10 You know, there's lots of deer running
11 around out there on the ground.

12

13 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Mr. Scott.

14

15 Mr. Schroeder.

16

17 MR. SCHROEDER: Through the Chair. Mr.

18 Scott, thanks for coming in. This Council enjoyed a

19 great relationship with Doug Larson, so you've got a

20 lot to live up to there.

21

22 (Laughter)

23

24 MR. SCHROEDER: I did have a question
25 about the harvest goal and just when that was set, how
26 it was set, and is it fairly flexible in that, you
27 know, should harvest decline, does a buzzer go off when
28 2,749 deer are taken instead of the harvest goal.

29

30 MR. SCOTT: Through the Chair. Mr.
31 Schroeder, I did not bring a codified book with me and
32 so I'm -- it's a little bit off the top of my head, but
33 I will confirm this and let you know. I believe that
34 is the harvest objective for Unit 2 deer. And that is
35 in regulation. So there -- in a sense there is a
36 buzzer that goes off if we don't maintain that. We can
37 move them. It's a task that can be kind of difficult,
38 but we can through the Board process. The Board of
39 Game process. It's there actually to keep us on our
40 toes, so to speak. And if we start to approach that
41 harvest objective or get below it, other things that
42 can happen. That can be a trigger point for intensive
43 management and things like that.

44

45 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you.

46

47 Follow-up, Mr. Schroeder?

48

49 MR. SCHROEDER: No.

50

1 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Okay. Anyone else
2 have questions for Mr. Scott.
3
4 (No comments)
5
6 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you very much.
7
8 Okay. Do we have any Federal Agencies
9 comments.
10
11 (No comments)
12
13 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Fish and Game Advisory
14 Committee.
15
16 (No comments)
17
18 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Native Tribal.
19
20 (No comments)
21
22 CHAIRMAN BANGS: InterAgency Staff.
23
24 Mr. Larson.
25
26 MR. LARSON: Mr. Chair, I'll speak for
27 the InterAgency Staff in this regard. And they will
28 not have comments at this stage.
29
30 Thank you.
31
32 CHAIRMAN BANGS: I thought we
33 questioned InterAgency Staff. Comments coming in, as
34 well as other Agencies, including the State. When they
35 come in with comments after the fact, it's confusing.
36 That confuses me a little bit.
37
38 Chuck.
39
40 MR. ARDIZZONE: Mr. Chair, the Staff
41 Committee at this point only has comments on proposals
42 that they feel are controversial or they want to bring
43 something to the attention of the Regional Advisory
44 Councils. And I don't believe we have any for this
45 meeting at this time. And what will happen next is
46 after all the Regional Advisory Councils meet, the
47 Staff Committee will meet again and provide some
48 comments to the Board. But they don't do
49 recommendations anymore. They just provide comments to
50 the Board and generally they just agree with the

1 Regional Advisory Councils unless there's some issue
2 that they think the Board should be aware of.
3
4 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Okay. Thank you for
5 that clarification.
6
7 MS. PHILLIPS: Should we take you off
8 the list.
9
10 (Laughter)
11
12 MR. ARDIZZONE: I would take us off the
13 list at this meeting, yes.
14
15 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Okay. Thank you,
16 Chuck.
17
18 Is there any Subsistence Resource
19 Commission comments.
20
21 (No comments)
22
23 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Any public comments.
24 Written public comments.
25
26 Oh, Chuck.
27
28 MR. ARDIZZONE: Mr. Chair, I have the
29 phone. I can ask if there's anybody on the phone who
30 would like to speak. And if that would be appropriate.
31
32
33 So anyone on the phone, if you'd like
34 to speak at this meeting, please speak up now on
35 Proposal 1.
36
37 (No comments)
38
39 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Unit 2 deer, the
40 number is.....
41
42 MR. BLOOM: WP16-01.
43
44 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Art.
45
46 MR. ARDIZZONE: So I don't hear
47 anybody.
48
49 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Okay. Hearing none,
50 we'll move on to public testimony. Is there any public

1 testimony.

2

3

(No comments)

4

5 CHAIRMAN BANGS: I don't see any blue
6 cards up here on this particular proposal, so we will
7 entertain a motion to adopt from the Council.

8

9

MR. LARSON: Mr. Chair.

10

11

CHAIRMAN BANGS: Yes, Mr. Larson.

12

13

MR. LARSON: Mr. Chair, there are no

14

15

16

CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you.

17

18

Mr. Hernandez.

19

20

MR. HERNANDEZ: I move to adopt

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But I can support the other portion of
it which extends the season. And the doe problem,
you're looking at the table. It says 120 does out of
3,600 deer is a very small portion. And not only that,
further down the road in the book here we hopefully

1 will fix it so the sequential tag thing, you can only
2 use one tag for a doe. I was hoping that would pass.
3 That further makes accountability -- it would make you
4 more accountable, I guess.

5
6 So I don't know how to separate the
7 two, but I do support the January hunt. Because of the
8 compression of hunters during the peak season, this
9 would just give somebody that really needs one
10 additional time in January should they. I mean they're
11 not in the best condition, but that's a personal
12 preference. So if they want to take one then -- you
13 know, when I was growing up, the customary and
14 traditional -- if we saw a deer and we wanted -- we
15 were hungry for one, we didn't care what time of the
16 year it was. So, you know, if we could get away with
17 it, which we did, you know, we would do that. Only
18 since regulation came to us from somewhere else that we
19 have this. But if we were hungry, we went and got
20 something to eat.

21
22 I do support the January portion, but
23 not the reduction to -- I guess my question would be
24 how best to address it.

25
26 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Mr.
27 Douville. I would think we would have to amend it --
28 the Proposal obviously. But that would be up to the
29 Council.

30
31 Mr. Schroeder.

32
33 MR. SCHROEDER: Mr. Chair, according to
34 Robert's Rules of Order, the way to deal with a
35 situation like this is to -- with the Proposal on the
36 floor, you move to split the Proposal. And then we
37 vote on that. And then you can vote on each section.
38 So the motion would be something -- if someone were to
39 make it -- if Mr. Douville made it, it would be to
40 split the Proposal into the part dealing with the bag
41 limit and the second part dealing with the season.

42
43 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Mr.
44 Schroeder.

45
46 I would like to hear other comments.

47
48 Mr. Bloom.

49
50 MR. BLOOM: Yeah. As a point of order,

1 I would like to ask the Chair to rule on whether it
2 would be appropriate for us to split the question since
3 it's not our Proposal.

4
5 CHAIRMAN BANGS: I think we can address
6 the Proposal any way we want to. It's just a matter of
7 how we go about it. And then it would have to go to
8 the Board. But I would have to check with our
9 Coordinator to make sure that's correct, but we've done
10 it before. We've amended Proposals by cutting our
11 parts, adding parts, and whatnot. But Mr. Larson has
12 some comments that came up.

13
14 MR. LARSON: Mr. Chair, I need to
15 apologize to you and to the rest of the Council, is
16 that my filing system has had two late submissions for
17 written public comments. And I've got them in the
18 wrong category. And I'd like to make the record right
19 now. There are two written public comments that are
20 not in your book. They have been submitted after the
21 close of the public comment period. But I think that
22 they are relevant to this discussion. I think that it
23 would be appropriate to share them with the Council.

24
25 The first -- and these are both
26 addressing WP16-01. The first is from the Klawock
27 Cooperative Association. And they are in support of
28 the Proposal. And supporting the Proposal, both
29 sections of the Proposal. Their rationale is that
30 Title VIII of ANILCA and the ability of the rural
31 Federal subsistence users of Prince of Wales Island
32 ability to get their needs fulfilled under these
33 regulations. This would also assist in the
34 conservation concerns that the rural Federal
35 subsistence users of Prince of Wales Island have and
36 sustain this resource. That's from the Klawock
37 Cooperative Association in support.

38
39 The other is from the organized Village
40 of Kasaan. It is in the form of a resolution from the
41 Tribe itself. And they are in support of both portions
42 of this Proposal. Their recommendations are that we
43 support the rationale, is that there's an economic
44 independence factor involved in providing for
45 subsistence uses.

46
47 So, Mr. Chair. And if you would, I
48 might interject that you were absolute correct that we
49 have a Proposal in front of us that are essentially two
50 components. If the Council wishes to split them, it

1 can. Or it could address them as written.

2

3 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Mr. Larson.

4

5 Any other discussion.

6

7 Ms. Phillips.

8

9 MS. PHILLIPS: Mr. Chair, move to
10 separate WP16-01 into two segments. First segment
11 being requesting limiting non-Federally qualified
12 subsistence users to the harvest of two deers from
13 Federal public lands in Unit 2. And the second segment
14 being extending the Unit 2 deer season ending date from
15 December 31st to January 31st.

16

17 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Patty.

18

19 Is there a second.

20

21 MR. DOUVILLE: Second.

22

23 CHAIRMAN BANGS: It's been moved and
24 seconded to separate the Proposal into two parts.

25

26 Any discussion on that at all.

27

28 Mr. Howard.

29

30 MR. HOWARD: Mr. Chairman, you might
31 correct me if I'm wrong, but I think under Robert's
32 Rules of Order you're still under the first motion. So
33 maybe -- yeah. Maybe you have to do an amendment to
34 the original motion. So -- all right.

35

36 Thank you.

37

38 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you. Thank you,
39 Mr. Howard.

40

41 Ms. Phillips.

42

43 MS. PHILLIPS: Mr. Chair, that is a
44 motion to amend the main motion to separate WP16-01
45 into two segments.

46

47 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Is that the correct
48 way to do it, Mr. Larson?

49

50 MR. LARSON: It would -- of course if

1 we were to start this way, it would be cleaner. But I
2 think the intent is clear that we could amend the
3 original motion at this point.

4

5 MS. NEEDHAM: Mr. Chair, I think that
6 would make it difficult for discussion as two separate
7 Proposals. So we could take a vote and oppose the
8 original motion. And then enter into two new Proposal
9 discussions after we break it up.

10

11 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Mr. Howard.

12

13 MR. HOWARD: Mr. Chair, would that also
14 change the Proposal numbers? Give them different
15 numbers? If we're going to adopt them, it seems to me
16 you would adopt them under different numbers. Because
17 they're one Proposal under 16-01. If you separate
18 them, that makes them two different Proposals under
19 different designation.

20

21 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

22

23 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Mr. Howard.
24 It's an interesting point. I'm not really sure exactly
25 how to go about it, but I think Robert made it clear
26 that -- and my way of thinking, it would make it more
27 clean if we would have started out with the adoption of
28 the Proposal. Or do we vote it down?

29

30 MS. NEEDHAM: I don't know.

31

32 MR. LARSON: Mr. Chair.

33

34 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Mr. Larson.

35

36 MR. LARSON: Mr. Chair, we have an
37 original motion on the table. And that is to adopt
38 this Proposal 60-01. If it is clear that the maker of
39 the motion would like to rescind that motion, we have a
40 -- we could do that. However, we have another motion
41 on the table. So it seems that the cleanest way to do
42 this would be to start over. And have a -- I don't
43 know that we need to vote the Proposal down. I think
44 that what we could do is rescind the motion with the
45 concurrence of the second. And the order that we would
46 do it is with Patty's motion to rescind the amendment.
47 And then we would rescind the main motion. We would
48 re-make the motion.

49

50 MS. PHILLIPS: Mr. Chair.

1 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Robert.
2
3 Patty.
4
5 MS. PHILLIPS: I would like to rescind
6 my motion.
7
8 CHAIRMAN BANGS: And the second. I
9 think there was two.
10
11 MS. PHILLIPS: That was Harvey.
12
13 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Harvey, you rescind
14 the second?
15
16 (Nods affirmatively)
17
18 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Okay. So the motion
19 is now off the floor. Main motion is -- who has --
20 main motion, right.
21
22 MR. LARSON: So who made the main
23 motion.
24
25 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Patty made the main --
26 or no, the amendment. No. The main motion was made by
27 Mike or Don.
28
29 Okay. Don, you're up.
30
31 MR. HERNANDEZ: It's fine with me if we
32 rescind the motion. Is that what you needed?
33
34 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Yes.
35
36 MR. HERNANDEZ: Yes.
37
38 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Does the second
39 concur?
40
41 MR. HOWARD: Yes, Mr. Chairman. I
42 concur with rescinding the main motion.
43
44 MR. LARSON: Mr. Chairman.
45
46 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Okay. What's the
47 Council's wish on Proposal WP16-01.
48
49 Donald.
50

1 MR. HERNANDEZ: Mr. Chairman, I move
2 that we divide Wildlife Proposal 16-01 into two
3 separate proposals, one dealing with the reduction in
4 bag limit for non-qualified Federally qualified users
5 and the second Proposal dealing with lengthening the
6 season for qualified Federal hunters.

7
8 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Mr. Larson.

9
10 MR. LARSON: Is there a second.

11
12 MR. HOWARD: I'll second that, Mr.
13 Chair.

14
15 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Mr. Howard.

16
17
18 MR. LARSON: Mr. Chair, and from this
19 point on I suggest we reference these two items as 16-
20 01A and 16-01B.

21
22 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you.

23
24 Mr. Wright.

25
26 MR. WRIGHT: Mr. Chair, I'm wondering
27 if we are starting on different proposals, are we
28 supposed to go from 16-01 and start the process over
29 having discussion on it or -- and start over on 16-02
30 and have another discussion? Since they are two
31 different Proposals, do we start from ground one on one
32 and two?

33
34 CHAIRMAN BANGS: I think it would be
35 like A and B. Or how would that work. It wouldn't be
36 another number.

37
38 MR. LARSON: Mr. Chair, we have a
39 motion to separate the Proposals. We are not
40 deliberating the Proposals. So it would be appropriate
41 to have a discussion on whether or not the Council
42 wishes to separate the 16-01 into A and B or not. If
43 the Council decides to separate those into two separate
44 Proposals to take up independently, then you would have
45 another motion to adopt 16-01A. And subsequent to
46 action on that, it would be a motion whether or not the
47 Council wishes to adopt 16-01B.

48
49 So we have a motion on the table of
50 whether or not the Council wishes to separate.

1 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Okay. Is there any
2 discussion on the separation of the Proposal.
3
4 (No comments)
5
6 MR. HERNANDEZ: Call for the question.
7
8 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Question's been called
9 to separate Proposal 16-01 into two parts, A and B.
10 All those in favor, say aye.
11
12 IN UNISON: Aye.
13
14 CHAIRMAN BANGS: All those opposed,
15 nay.
16
17 MR. YEAGER: Nay.
18
19 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Okay. We have one
20 nay. And.....
21
22 MR. SCHROEDER: I voted nay as well.
23
24 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Okay. Two nays. And
25 one, two, three, four, five, six -- nine yays. Is that
26 right? Does that add up right? Okay. The motion
27 passes to separate the Proposal into two parts.
28
29 Any other motions.
30
31 MR. SCHROEDER: Mr. Chair, could we
32 have Mr. Larson read the Proposal WP16-01A. And then
33 we can move to adopt it.
34
35 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you.
36
37 Bob.
38
39 MR. LARSON: Mr. Chair, if you look
40 into the Executive Summary of the proposed actions on
41 page 34, it does not have the appropriate bold and
42 strike-out that would delineate the regulatory
43 language.
44
45 If you looked at page 36, that has the
46 appropriate language in the right formatting. So the
47 proposed language and I'll assume that the first
48 portion of this regulation would become the A and the
49 second portion would become the B. 16-01A would now
50 read five deer -- Unit 2 Deer. Harvest them at five

1 deer. However no more than one may be female deer.
2 Female deer may be taken only during the period October
3 15th. And strike-out December and add January 31. The
4 harvest limit may be reduced to four deer based on
5 conservation concerns. And the rest of that is the
6 same.

7
8 There's also the regular season. Under
9 the normal season dates, it is July 24th. A strike-out
10 would be December and the new language would be January
11 31st. So those are the two changes requested for 16-
12 01A. A season change to January 31st from December
13 31st and a change in the time period when a person can
14 hunt does. And that is from December 31st to January
15 31st.

16
17 IN UNISON: October.

18
19 MR. LARSON: Well, the change is from
20 ending on December 31st to ending on January 31st. The
21 starting date of October 15th would stay the same.

22
23 That means that 16-01B now is new
24 language. 16-01B in its entirety is new language that
25 says Federal public lands on Prince of Wales Island
26 will be limited to two deer except by Federally
27 qualified subsistence users hunting under these
28 regulations.

29
30 At this point both of these new
31 Proposals are before the Council for their discussion
32 and decision.

33
34 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Any discussion.

35
36 IN UNISON: Motion.

37
38 MR. LARSON: So we all put a motion.

39
40 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Don.

41
42 MR. HERNANDEZ: I move to adopt
43 Wildlife Proposal 16-01A, which would lengthen the
44 season for Federally qualified from December 31st to
45 January 31st.

46
47 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Do we have a second.

48
49 MR. HOWARD: Second.

50

1 CHAIRMAN BANGS: It's been moved and
2 seconded to adopt A of Proposal 16-01.

3
4 Discussion.

5
6 Art.

7
8 MR. BLOOM: Yeah. I just don't feel
9 like it's right for us to change the Proposal when
10 we're not the proponents. And based on OSM's
11 recommendations to oppose it, I will vote to oppose.

12
13 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Art.

14
15 Don.

16
17 MR. HERNANDEZ: All right, Mr.
18 Chairman. A little bit conflicted on this one. I
19 think I will vote to support. I in the past have been,
20 you know, very concerned about the over-harvest of
21 does. And I guess my question in my own mind is, you
22 know, would this Proposal significantly increase that.
23 I don't think it's clear that it would. So I'm going
24 to favor on the side that it probably wouldn't be a
25 significant increase in the take of does.

26
27 And on the other hand, reason for
28 supporting it. In the past I've kind of gone on record
29 as saying that I am in favor of, you know, lengthening
30 the deer seasons where possible. I know I live in a
31 community where a lot of people don't have freezers.
32 And it's very, very hard to run a freezer when you've
33 got no electricity. And lengthening the season just,
34 you know, allows people to, you know, have fresh meat
35 for a little longer of the year without having to can
36 it up. Big difference between, you know, canned meat
37 and frozen meat and just the whole quality of it.
38 Fresh meat's the best, so I think that would be a
39 benefit to subsistence users.

40
41 With a limit of five deer already for
42 subsistence users, I don't think this would increase --
43 necessarily increase -- I don't think the success rate
44 in January would be so much greater that it's going to
45 increase the total harvest. And right now we do have a
46 pretty healthy deer population. I don't think an
47 increase in harvest would necessarily be a conservation
48 concern. So I guess for those reasons I will vote to
49 support this portion of the Proposal.

50

1 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Don.

2

3 Any other comments, discussion.

4

5 Mike.

6

7 MR. DOUVILLE: Mr. Chair, I already
8 made comment on this. Does it still count? I'll
9 support it. There is no conservation concern. The doe
10 take now is like four percent. And like I said, we
11 have a system here that hopefully will pass -- would
12 give a better counting. It doesn't matter, you know,
13 and like there is a lot of competition during the rut
14 when the best time to hunt. So if some of the rural
15 users are finding they're not being able to be as
16 efficient, they still have ample opportunity down the
17 road. So -- and it would be closed to the non-rural
18 hunters, so there would be less competition. I
19 wouldn't expect that the harvest would go up much
20 really. The doe take is really small. And it's there
21 because it's been a customary and traditional use.
22 There's been considerable effort to get rid of it, but
23 it's customary and traditional to take does.

24

25 I think it would be a benefit to
26 subsistence users and I don't think it would -- it's
27 not going to restrict anybody else's use. So I support
28 the motion.

29

30 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Mike.

31

32 Anyone else.

33

34 Mr. Schroeder and then Cathy.

35

36 MR. SCHROEDER: Mr. Chair, we'll note
37 that in Unit 4 the season continues into January, to
38 January 31st. My recollection is that that regulation
39 was passed under State Management in the '80s, based on
40 a Proposal brought by Angoon, probably by Matt Kookesh
41 and Gabe George, who made the argument that this
42 provided needed subsistence opportunity particularly
43 for Angoon. And then at some later date, I believe the
44 season was extended to include all communities of Unit
45 4, plus neighboring communities who hunt in Unit 4. So
46 on the basis of subsistence patterns, unless you
47 believe that somehow things really change when you go a
48 few miles south, the subsistence patterns of Prince of
49 Wales communities are probably pretty much like those
50 further to the north.

1 So on the basis of traditional use, I'd
2 say that that would support this proposal.

3
4 Thank you.

5
6 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Mr.
7 Schroeder.

8
9 Any other comments.

10
11 Ms. Needham.

12
13 MS. NEEDHAM: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I
14 have actually a little bit of a question about
15 something that was written on page 44 of our books,
16 under the effects of the Proposal. In the second
17 paragraph, second sentence. The January hunt would
18 only apply to Federal public lands. And then although
19 prior year harvest tickets can be used, Federally
20 qualified users will need a new State hunting license
21 to participate in a January season.

22
23 And so I guess my real question is --
24 is going through to the January season, would that take
25 be under the original -- because it's all within a
26 season, they have to do it on the harvest tickets --
27 the five harvest tickets that they originally have?
28 And the new harvest ticket that they have to get, that
29 goes for the next hunting season, correct?

30
31 MR. LARSON: Mr. Chair, yes. That is
32 true. The harvest tickets are for a season which would
33 extend into January. A harvest license is an annual
34 document that needs to be renewed on January 1st of
35 every year.

36
37 MS. NEEDHAM: Okay. So thank you for
38 clarifying that for me. So I think I'll -- originally
39 when I read through the materials, I was going to
40 oppose the overall Proposal. But now that we've broken
41 it up, I thought I would oppose both components. But
42 after listening to testimony from fellow Council
43 Members and kind of looking at this piece individually,
44 I don't see that there's a conservation concern at this
45 time. And I think there's -- I don't think this is
46 going to cause an undue burden on subsistence users. I
47 thought maybe that that might -- that portion of it
48 might cause conflict in terms of the harvest tickets
49 and when you're harvesting. But it doesn't sound like
50 it will create that undue burden in terms of just the

1 administration of changing or exchanging the season.
2 So I think I would support this Proposal.

3

4 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Cathy.

5

6 Any other comments.

7

8 Patty.

9

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

11 The book -- the analysis under recent population
12 indices say that the pellet-group data suggest a
13 generally increasing population since a low during the
14 1990s and early 2000s. And further the 2010 Unit 2
15 deer population was healthy, stable to increasing and
16 at a 12 to 15-year high. And this is -- be beneficial
17 to meet the subsistence needs of Unit 2 harvesters. On
18 page 41, it says the majority of the hunters harvesting
19 deer in Unit 2 between 2010 and 2012 were residents of
20 Unit 2. It wouldn't be detrimental to non-Federally
21 qualified. The Proposal does not change the harvest
22 limits under the State Sporthunting Regulation or
23 affect harvest on State and private lands. And it will
24 not unnecessarily restrict other users.

25

26 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

27

28 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Patty.

29

30 Any other discussion.

31

32 MR. KITKA: Question.

33

34 CHAIRMAN BANGS: The question's been
35 called for. And we seem to have covered the criteria.
36 All those in favor of adopting Proposal 16-01A, signify
37 by saying aye.

38

39 IN UNISON: Aye.

40

41 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Nay.

42

43 MR. BLOOM: Nay.

44

45 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Okay. We have one
46 nay. Is that all? And the rest yay. So the Proposal
47 passes.

48

49 So now we move to -- I need the next
50 Proposal or the next portion. Do I have.....

1 Don.
2
3 MR. HERNANDEZ: Mr. Chairman, I move to
4 adopt Proposal 16-01B, which would lengthen the season
5 for Federally qualified subsistence hunters from
6 December 31st to January 31st.
7
8 IN UNISON: No.
9
10 (Laughter)
11
12 MR. DOUVILLE: This one right here.
13
14 (Laughter)
15
16 MR. LARSON: Mr. Chair.
17
18 MR. HERNANDEZ: Oh, excuse me. We just
19 did that one.
20
21 MR. DOUVILLE: This one is B. You got
22 it backwards.
23
24 MR. HERNANDEZ: B. Yeah. I got it
25 backwards. I wrote it backwards here. Sorry. I'll
26 rescind that one.
27
28 (Laughter)
29
30 MR. HERNANDEZ: That Proposal would
31 decrease the bag limit for Federally qualified
32 subsistence users from four deer to two deer.
33
34 CHAIRMAN BANGS: That was in the form
35 of a motion. I need a second.
36
37 MR. DOUVILLE: Second.
38
39 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Okay. It's been moved
40 and seconded to adopt the WP16-01B, which is to reduce
41 the limit to two.
42
43 Any discussion.
44
45 Don.
46
47 MR. HERNANDEZ: Mr. Chairman, I'm going
48 to oppose this one. I think all the evidence shows
49 that we do have a fairly healthy deer population on the
50 island right now. I don't see a justification for this

1 Proposal. At this time, we don't have a conservation
2 concern. I have advocated for this Proposal in the
3 past when the deer numbers were at a fairly low level,
4 but I don't see that it's necessary at this time.

5

6 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Don.

7

8 Any other comments.

9

10 Mr. Douville.

11

12 MR. DOUVILLE: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I
13 will not support it. It will be detrimental to other
14 users for no good biological reason and it would impose
15 an unnecessary restriction. And there's no
16 conservation concern.

17

18 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Mr.

19 Douville.

20

21 Anyone else.

22

23 Mr. Howard.

24

25 MR. HOWARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
26 I keep hearing that there's no conservation concerns
27 and yet the conversation between the Department of Fish
28 and Game and Mr. Schroeder was that this chart, Figure
29 3, says otherwise. Now, you know, so what are we
30 basing our information on. On the one hand, he's
31 telling us there's plenty of pellets around. That
32 there is no concern for the population. But yet the
33 harvest limit goes over their harvest goal. Since 2007
34 they've been going over their harvest goal, according
35 to this chart.

36

37 So, you know, this has been -- it seems
38 like time and time again I come across this type of
39 thing where data doesn't support either side. So I
40 think if we're going to err, we should err on the side
41 of conservation. I believe that's part of what we're
42 charged with. And what I've read in the State Statute
43 is we're supposed to manage for abundance. So I think
44 the Tribe that has put this forward may have read the
45 same thing I have read. So, you know, managing for
46 abundance, it's okay to err and have more deer down the
47 road than it is to find out we were wrong and then
48 there's no -- you know, there's no abundance, I guess.

49

50 So I guess I'll support this, Mr.

1 Chairman.

2

3 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Mr. Howard.

4

5 Chuck.

6

7 MR. ARDIZZONE: Mr. Chair, I was just
8 going to ask if you could have the State biologist come
9 up and explain the table since it's their numbers. I
10 think there's confusion about the data. If it's okay
11 with the Chair and the Council.

12

13 CHAIRMAN BANGS: If that would help
14 clarify things for the Council, I think that would be a
15 good thing.

16

17 MR. SCOTT: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
18 Referencing Figure 3 specifically, the harvest goal --
19 and it is, in fact, the harvest objective. The alarms
20 go off when we fall below it. So as long as we're
21 staying above it, we're in good shape.

22

23 Does that help? It actually suggests
24 that there's adequate numbers of animals on the ground
25 to -- you know, to provide a lot of opportunity.

26

27 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Mr. Scott.

28

29 Does that help any of your doubts.

30

31 Mr. Howard.

32

33 MR. HOWARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
34 Yes. I guess I was reading it wrong where he's -- you
35 know, that they harvest above his goal. I thought the
36 goal was to make sure they don't go above that, but
37 apparently it's a goal they set to determine the
38 population of the deer.

39

40 So thank you, Mr. Chair.

41

42 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you.

43

44 Any other discussion.

45

46 (No comments)

47

48 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Mr. Scott.

49

50 Mr. Schroeder.

1 MR. SCHROEDER: I'll be voting against
2 this and not restricting non-subsistence users. I will
3 bring up that, you know, there's some likelihood that
4 in the future our Prince of Wales deer population may
5 not be doing so well and that we may need to revisit
6 all sorts of management questions concerning deer here.
7 So we're not going to be done with Unit 2 deer.

8

9 (Laughter)

10

11 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Mr.
12 Schroeder.

13

14 Any other discussion.

15

16 MS. NEEDHAM: Question.

17

18 CHAIRMAN BANGS: The question's been
19 called for on Proposal 16-01B. All those in favor, say
20 aye.

21

22 IN UNISON: Aye.

23

24 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Raise your hands.

25 Sorry.

26

27 MR. SCHROEDER: Oh. Do that again,
28 please.

29

30 (Laughter)

31

32 CHAIRMAN BANGS: All those in
33 favor.....

34

35 MS. PHILLIPS: Mr. Chair.

36

37 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Ms. -- yes, Ms.

38 Phillips.

39

40 MS. PHILLIPS: Could you clarify what a
41 yes vote a no vote is.

42

43 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Patty.

44

45 Proposals WP16-01B would be reducing
46 the limit to two deer except by Federally qualified
47 subsistence users. Does that sound right.

48

49 MR. LARSON: (Nods affirmatively)

50

1 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Okay. So by saying
2 yes, you would be reducing the non-Federally qualified
3 subsistence users.

4
5 Okay. So let's take a vote. All those
6 in favor of reducing non-Federally qualified users to
7 two deer -- all those in favor, say aye.

8
9 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Aye.

10
11 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Okay. We have one
12 aye.

13
14 All those opposed.

15
16 IN UNISON: Nay.

17
18 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Okay. Motion doesn't
19 pass.

20
21 (Laughter)

22
23 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Okay. Thank you.

24
25 Okay. Mr. Hernandez.

26
27 MR. HERNANDEZ: Can I make a quick
28 suggestion here before we move on. Maybe if Staff
29 receives a Proposal that has two different portions to
30 it, they might encourage the proposers to separate
31 their Proposals. And it might help our procedures in
32 the future.

33
34 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Yeah. Well, you know,
35 I think in the past -- correct me if I'm wrong, but
36 we've modified Proposals like this and not had to split
37 them up. We just only modified it by only accepting
38 part of it. And I think with that procedure we didn't
39 have this kind of a problem.

40
41 Donald.

42
43 MR. HERNANDEZ: Yeah. I know. But it
44 would have been a lot easier if they had just submitted
45 two Proposals. Then we could have dealt with it a lot
46 easier. So if they were encouraged to do that, because
47 there was two entirely different concepts. So it would
48 have easy to do as two Proposals. So thank you.

49
50 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Don.

1 Mr. Larson.

2

3 MR. LARSON: Mr. Chair, before we move
4 on to whatever you view is appropriate for the next
5 Agenda item, I would like to bring to the Council's
6 attention that we've distributed the Unit 2 wolf
7 briefing paper that had been written by the Staff. And
8 this is in anticipation of the new Agenda item. I
9 wanted to let you know that you have this tonight to
10 review at your leisure.

11

12 Thank you.

13

14 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Mr. Larson.

15

16 So I think we'll try to get through
17 another Proposal. And then we'll -- we'll see how this
18 one goes. This one should be a little bit more
19 straightforward, but I'd like to get through one more
20 before we recess, if that's okay with the Council. Is
21 there any objections to that.

22

23 (No comments)

24

25 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Okay. WP16-02, Unit
26 1C, Deer Season Change.

27

28 Ms. Oehlers.

29

30 MS. OEHLERS: Good afternoon. Not
31 quite evening yet. For the record, my name is Susan
32 Oehlers. I'm a Wildlife Biologist with the Forest
33 Service here in Yakutat. And I'll be presenting a
34 summary for the Proposal WP16-02, which starts on page
35 47 of your book.

36

37 And this Proposal, submitted by Monte
38 Mitchell of Gustavus, requests that the Federal season
39 for deer in Unit 1C be extended from August 1st to
40 December 31st to August 1st to January 31st, adding an
41 additional 31 days to the season.

42

43 The proponent believes many people in
44 the northern portion of the Southeast Region could make
45 us of the deer in their vicinity, but because of
46 weather cannot get the full season benefit of
47 harvesting their deer from bordering open units. He
48 also believes adoption of this Proposal will increase
49 available Federal lands for use, meeting the intent and
50 spirit of subsistence and will not impede or change use

1 by non-subsistence users.

2

3 Some background on deer in the mainland
4 of the Southeast Region, which includes Unit 1C, tend
5 to be at lower densities than on adjacent islands,
6 likely due to deep snow, lower quality habitat, and
7 presence of additional predators, such as wolves and
8 coyotes not found on the islands. Most deer in Unit 1C
9 occur in Douglas, Shelter, and Lincoln Islands.

10

11 There are no population estimates for
12 deer in this Unit; however, general population trends
13 are monitored using deer pellet and harvest report
14 data. Deer pellet survey counts in this Unit are
15 primarily conducted on the islands and recent surveys
16 at three different sites ranged from declining to
17 stable and increasing patterns. Values ranging from
18 approximately 0.8 to 2.14 mean pellet-groups per plot.
19 And only the most recent count within these from
20 Shelter Island meets the State Management objective of
21 a mean pellet density of two pellet-groups per plot.

22

23 There haven't been any recent mainland
24 surveys, although population trends are expected to be
25 similar to those on the islands.

26

27 Regarding harvest history, in Unit 1C
28 Federally qualified subsistence users accounted for
29 approximately eight percent of the total deer harvest
30 between 2009 and 2013. A low harvest rate compared to
31 a high number of hunter days suggests a low population
32 density. For comparative purposes, Unit 4 is the only
33 area of Southeast Alaska with a January deer season.
34 And in contrast to Unit 1C, subsistence users account
35 for the majority of the harvest, 93 percent, in this
36 Unit. Among subsistence users, approximately five
37 percent of the hunter effort in Unit 4 occurs in
38 January, accounting for six percent of the total season
39 harvest. Again, that's just for comparison.

40

41 Effects of the Proposal. Adoption of
42 this Proposal would increase opportunities for
43 subsistence users to harvest deer by adding a month to
44 the Federal subsistence season. Some subsistence users
45 in Unit 1C do have closer access to Unit 4 with higher
46 deer densities; however, the intent of the proponent is
47 to be able to harvest deer closer to home later in the
48 season when access to Unit 4 is hindered by weather.

49

50 Adopting this Proposal would likely

1 increase harvest in the effected area. If patterns are
2 similar to Unit 4, hunter effort and harvest in January
3 may be minimal; however, a season extending through
4 January could result in more of an increase in harvest
5 because deer would be mostly concentrated along beaches
6 and thus more susceptible to harvest, as well as a
7 higher proportion of does being harvested.

8
9 The OSM preliminary conclusion is to
10 opposed Proposal WP16-02. Extending the season is not
11 consistent with other units of Southeast Alaska
12 encompassing the mainland and may result in a
13 conservation concern particularly for the low-density
14 mainland deer populations within this Unit. Sufficient
15 opportunities are provided during the five-month season
16 and a Federal subsistence priority is maintained by
17 allowing the harvest of four deer of either sex
18 throughout the Unit, including the mainland areas,
19 whereas harvest in Unit 1C remainder is limited to two
20 bucks under State regulations.

21
22 The concludes my summary of the
23 analysis.

24
25 Thank you.

26
27 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Susan.

28
29 Any questions from the Council.

30
31 (No comments)

32
33 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Seeing none, thank you
34 very much.

35
36 Mr. Larson, are there any Board
37 consultations with Tribes or ANCSA Corporations?

38
39 MR. LARSON: No, Mr. Chair.

40
41 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Could we hear from the
42 State ADF&G, please.

43
44 MR. SCOTT: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
45 In regards to Proposal 16-02, the State recommends
46 opposing the Proposal. Largely, Unit 1C, the majority
47 of the deer harvest comes from Douglas Island, adjacent
48 to Juneau. Folks who live in Juneau are non-Federally
49 qualified. And a portion of the island falls into the
50 non-rural area as well. And we take a lot of deer from

1 there.

2

3

4 Other places that people hunt are too
5 smaller islands, Lincoln Island, Shelter Island. Both
6 have Federal land and both are outside the non-rural
7 area and available. And then specifically the author
8 of the Proposal hunts oftentimes on the mainland
9 portion of Unit 1C at the end of the Chilkat Range,
10 found on -- well, you do find deer on the mainland in
11 Unit 1C. The densities are very, very low. We don't
12 do regular pellet surveys, so we don't have realtime
13 data to provide. But traditionally it's an order of
14 magnitude lower than what you'll find on the islands.
15 The reasons for that is we've got a lot more predators
16 on the mainland systems and winter persists longer. It
17 tends to be a little bit colder in those places. Get
18 more snow. And it hangs out -- persists well into
19 spring, whereas on the island system, it's a little bit
20 moderate and melts off a little bit.

20

21

22 Overall, in Unit 1C I would categorize
23 the -- or characterize the deer densities as moderate
24 to low in places. As Ms. Oehlers pointed out, one of
25 the islands, Shelter Island, does show a pretty good
26 pellet-group density, but it's -- that's one place in
27 Unit 1C. Again, that's probably largely due to harvest
28 on Douglas Island, where we take 400 plus deer a year.
29 Shelter Island usually accounts for anywhere from 20 to
30 40 deer a year. Lincoln Island will account for, you
31 know, generally in the teens. And then over on the
32 mainland it can be single digits up to, you know, ten
33 or fifteen. We just don't get that many deer because
34 there's not that many there.

34

35

36 So I guess that concludes my
37 presentation for Proposal 16-02.

37

38

CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Mr. Scott.

39

40

Any questions.

41

42

MS. PHILLIPS: Mr. Chair.

43

44

CHAIRMAN BANGS: Ms. Phillips.

45

46

47 MS. PHILLIPS: Thank you. The Table 1
48 shows a total of 33 harvest. So did you just say that
49 ten or fifteen of those 33 harvested are from the Point
50 Couverden area?

50

1 MR. SCOTT: Through the Chair. Ms.
2 Phillips, I believe that table demonstrates the number
3 of deer taken by Federally qualified users. So yeah,
4 I'm not sure that it speaks to your question
5 specifically.

6
7 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Ms. Phillips.

8
9 MS. PHILLIPS: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
10 So where does it say what total harvest of everyone is
11 for 1C.

12
13 MR. SCOTT: Through the Chair. Ms.
14 Phillips, I don't believe that's represented here. But
15 as the area biologist there for a long time, total
16 harvest for the whole game management unit would be,
17 you know, 400 to 500 deer annually. With the majority
18 of that -- 400 or pushing 400 or 400 plus coming from
19 Douglas Island.

20
21 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you.

22
23 Any other questions for Mr. Scott.

24
25 (No comments)

26
27 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Seeing none, thank
28 you.

29
30 Okay. Are there any comments from
31 Federal Agencies.

32
33 (No comments)

34
35 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Any Native Tribal
36 Village.

37
38 (No comments)

39
40 CHAIRMAN BANGS: No InterAgency Staff.
41 Any comments from Fish and Game Advisory.

42
43 Oh, Chuck. Do you have something?

44
45 MR. ARDIZZONE: No.

46
47 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Okay. Okay. Then we
48 have other Regional Councils, Subsistence Resource
49 Commission.

50

1 (No comments)
2
3 CHAIRMAN BANGS: A summary of written
4 public comments.
5
6 Mr. Larson.
7
8 MR. LARSON: Mr. Chair, in this case
9 I'm certain that there are no written public comments.
10 Yes.
11
12 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Okay. Could I have
13 Mister -- okay. Yeah. Do you want to ask them if
14 there's any -- is there anyone on the phone.
15
16 (No comments)
17
18 MR. LARSON: Is there anyone on the
19 phone who would like to comment on Proposal number two.
20
21
22 (No comments)
23
24 MR. LARSON: No.
25
26 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you for that.
27
28 Okay. I don't have any blue slips for
29 public testimony, but is there any possible public
30 testimony.
31
32 (No comments)
33
34 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Okay. Now I would
35 entertain a motion to adopt.
36
37 Mr. Bloom.
38
39 MR. BLOOM: I so move.
40
41 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Do we have a second.
42
43 MR. DOUVILLE: Second.
44
45 CHAIRMAN BANGS: It's been moved and
46 seconded to adopt WP16-02. Discussion.
47
48 Patty.
49
50 MS. PHILLIPS: I might need an answer

1 from Staff, but might it be possible to separate or to
2 keep open -- I don't know how to say that -- the areas
3 west and south of Point Howard. And all the rest of 1C
4 would close. Or would -- all the rest of 1C would not
5 be extended season. The extended season would be west
6 and south of Point Howard. Would that -- what does the
7 biologist say about that. And that's just above Point
8 Couverden, on the west side of Lynn Canal.

9

10 MR. SCOTT: Through the Chair. Ms.
11 Phillips. So if I envision west and south of Point
12 Howard, I think that puts us right down into Juneau
13 proper. West and north of Point Howard? Perfect. Can
14 I approach the table? I don't want to get in trouble.

15

16 (Laughter)

17

18 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Ms. Phillips.

19

20 MS. PHILLIPS: Mr. Chair, so I saw the
21 Proposal proponent was from Gustavus. And so I was
22 thinking that he wanted to run -- he wanted to hunt the
23 1C shoreline to Point Couverden. And so I'm kind of
24 thinking that's okay. But not all of 1C. So I don't
25 know. What do you think, Frank?

26

27 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Wait just a minute. I
28 apologize, Mr. Bloom. I missed your hand right after
29 you made the motion. Did you have something to say?
30 Oh, okay.

31

32 Cathy.

33

34 MS. NEEDHAM: Mr. Chair. Ms. Phillips,
35 are you asking to potentially extend the season in Unit
36 1C with the exception to Douglas Island, which is where
37 the potential concern would come from? Or you're just
38 trying to provide opportunity specifically for the area
39 near Gustavus.

40

41 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Ms. Phillips, did you
42 have anything to respond?

43

44 MS. PHILLIPS: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I
45 was thinking that to provide the opportunity in the
46 January month for Federally qualified hunters for the
47 Icy Strait area of 1C. I was just -- we might -- I
48 don't know. I don't know how to explain it.

49

50 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Any other comments.

1 Mr. Scott.
2
3 MR. SCOTT: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I
4 guess one of the things that I failed to mention
5 earlier is that, you know, we've talked about the deer
6 densities on the mainland as being extremely low. A
7 run from Gustavus to Couverden, Home Shore, is fairly
8 exposed anyway. You know, you get some weather. And
9 Pleasant Island is a quarter of a mile away from
10 Gustavus and it falls in Unit 4 specifically, so there
11 is opportunity for a January hunt with a three-minute
12 skiff ride. And Gustavus is also recently -- and just
13 in the last few years gotten ferry service. And the
14 route is either Gustavus to Hoonah or Hoonah to
15 Gustavus, so they also -- residents there have pretty
16 quick access to Unit 4, where a January season is
17 available.
18
19 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you.
20
21 Any other comments or discussion.
22
23 MS. PHILLIPS: Mr. Chair.
24
25 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Patty.
26
27 MS. PHILLIPS: The proponent believes
28 many people in the northern portion of Southeast could
29 make use of the deer in their vicinity, but because of
30 weather cannot get the full season benefit of
31 harvesting their deer from bordering open units. So
32 I'm thinking he's meaning like the people at Couverden.
33 I mean the people at Couverden are Federally qualified.
34 But I guess they could run over to Porpoise, they could
35 run over to Pleasant, or whatever.....
36
37 MR. SCHROEDER: (Indiscernible)
38
39 MS. PHILLIPS: There is people there.
40
41 MR. SCHROEDER: (Indiscernible) houses.
42
43 MS. PHILLIPS: That's okay, I'll
44 whatever -- I'll -- I was just asking.
45
46 Thank you.
47
48 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Patty.
49
50 Any other discussion.

1 (No comments)
2
3 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Anyone want to call
4 for the question or make a motion. Or recess.
5
6 (Laughter)
7
8 MR. BLOOM: Call the question.
9
10 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Okay. The question's
11 been called. We'll run through the justifica.....
12
13 MS. NEEDHAM: Mr. Chair, we never made
14 any justification on supporting or opposing the
15 Proposal.
16
17 CHAIRMAN BANGS: The four criteria need
18 to be addressed before we can justify our decision.
19 Thank you, Cathy.
20
21 Does anybody want to go over the four
22 criteria.
23
24 Mr. Hernandez.
25
26 MR. HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Mr.
27 Chairman. Well, I was going to vote against this
28 Proposal. It does sound to me like the -- you know,
29 the population in that Unit is fairly stressed by hard
30 winters. In that country it does seem to me that, you
31 know, deer do migrate to the beaches where they're
32 readily available in the winter. And, you know,
33 extending the season could result in a higher harvest
34 than would be healthy for conservation concerns. So
35 for those reasons I think I'm going to vote against it.
36
37 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Don.
38
39 I would agree with that. There was one
40 house in Couverden, but it burned down. So there's
41 nobody there.
42
43 Robert.
44
45 MR. SCHROEDER: Mr. Chairman, I'll be
46 voting against this Proposal. I think the clincher for
47 me is that Pleasant Island is right across from
48 Gustavus. And I'm scratching my head, thinking why
49 someone from Gustavus would want to burn a whole lot of
50 gas and risk life and limb to go to a place that

1 doesn't have deer to hunt deer in January.

2

3 And I'll note that support for this
4 Proposal is very minimal. We haven't received any
5 public testimony in favor and that the proponent hasn't
6 spoken to us directly to explain his motivation for
7 this Proposal. So I'll be voting against it. I
8 believe that a sufficient -- that subsistence needs can
9 be met under existing regulations, particularly with
10 the January season in Unit 4, which include Pleasant
11 Island, Lemesurier Island, and all the lands to the
12 south of that.

13

14 Thank you.

15

16 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Mr.
17 Schroeder.

18

19 Any other discussion.

20

21 (No comments)

22

23 MR. KITKA: Question.

24

25 CHAIRMAN BANGS: The question's been
26 called for. Thank you, Harvey.

27

28 All those in favor of adopting Proposal
29 16-02, say aye.

30

31 (No supporting votes)

32

33 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Opposed, nay.

34

35 IN UNISON: Nay.

36

37 CHAIRMAN BANGS: Motion fails. Thank
38 you.

39

40 Well, I appreciate being able to get
41 through another one, although I'm kind of losing as far
42 as keeping it together here.

43

44 (Laughter)

45

46 CHAIRMAN BANGS: But thank you for --
47 and we'll recess until 8:30 tomorrow. Breakfast here.
48 But we'll try to get going by 8:30. Breakfast will --
49 I think he said 7:00 o'clock. So we'll have an hour
50 and a half before we reconvene.

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Thank you.

(Off record)

(PROCEEDINGS TO BE CONTINUED)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA)
)ss.
STATE OF ALASKA)

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

THAT the foregoing pages numbered 1 through 144 contain a full, true and correct Transcript of the SOUTHEAST FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING, VOLUME I taken electronically on the 27th day of October in Yakutat, Alaska;

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

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

DATED at Anchorage, Alaska, this 13th day of November 2015.

Salena A. Hile
Notary Public, State of Alaska
My Commission Expires: 09/16/18