

1 NORTH SLOPE FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE REGIONAL
2
3 ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING
4
5 PUBLIC MEETING
6

7
8
9 VOLUME I
10

11
12 City of Anaktuvuk Pass Community Center
13 Anaktuvuk Pass, Alaska
14 November 3, 2015
15 9:00 a.m.
16

17
18 COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:
19

- 20 Harry Brower, Chair
- 21 Rosemary Ahtuanguaruak
- 22 Gordon Brower
- 23 Lee Kayotuk
- 24 Sam Kunaknana
- 25 James Nageak
- 26 Robert Shears

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31 Regional Council Coordinator, Eva Patton
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42 Recorded and transcribed by:
43
44 Computer Matrix Court Reporters, LLC
45 135 Christensen Drive, Suite 2
46 Anchorage, AK 99501
47 907-243-0668/sahile@gci.net

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

2
3 (Anaktuvuk Pass, Alaska - 11/03/2015)

4
5 (On record - 9:03 a.m.)

6
7 MS. PATTON: Welcome. Good morning,
8 everyone. Thank you for joining us. Everyone coming
9 in there's a sign-in sheet there and we have the
10 meeting books, which has the agenda, and more meeting
11 materials on the side. Help yourself to coffee and
12 pastries and cookies. Welcome everyone that's joined
13 us on teleconference again here.

14
15 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Good morning,
16 everyone. My name is Harry Brower, the Chair of the
17 North Slope Regional Advisory Council. Welcome you all,
18 just as Eva said. I'd like to call our North Slope
19 Regional Advisory Council meeting to order at this time
20 at 9:03 a.m.

21
22 If we could have our roll call, please.

23
24 MR. KAYOTUK: Morning, Mr. Chair.
25 Thank you. Seat 1, your appointed term expires 2011-
26 2017, Gordon R. Brower, Barrow.

27
28 MR. G. BROWER: Are we doing roll call?

29
30 MR. KAYOTUK: Yes.

31
32 MR. G. BROWER: Good morning. I'm here
33 this morning. Gordon.

34
35 MR. KAYOTUK: Seat 2, 2011-2016, Robert
36 B. Shears, Barrow.

37
38 MR. SHEARS: Good morning, Lee. I'm
39 here.

40
41 MR. KAYOTUK: Seat 3, 2016, vacant.
42 Seat 4, 2016, vacant. Seat 5, 1993-2016, Harry K.
43 Brower, Jr., Barrow.

44
45 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Here. Thank you,
46 Lee.

47
48 MR. KAYOTUK: Seat 6, 2014-2017, Sam
49 Kunaknana, Nuiqsut.

50

1 MR. KUNAKNANA: Here. Thank you.
2
3 MR. KAYOTUK: Seat 7, 2008-2017, James
4 M. Nageak, Anaktuvuk Pass.
5
6 MR. NAGEAK: I am here.
7
8 MR. KAYOTUK: Seat 8, 2012-2015,
9 vacant. 2006-2015, Lee Kayotuk, Kaktovik. I'm here.
10 Seat 10, 2009-2015 Rosemary Ahtuanguaruak, vice Chair,
11 Barrow.
12 (No response)
13
14 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council.
15 Rosemary is in the Lower 48 attending another important
16 meeting for her work. She was hoping to call in by
17 teleconference in the morning, both today and tomorrow,
18 since they're a few hours ahead there. We hope to have
19 her join us on teleconference at some time.
20
21 Thank you.
22
23 MR. KAYOTUK: Mr. Chair.
24
25 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Continue, Lee.
26
27 MR. KAYOTUK: I'd like to address the
28 Regional Advisory Council at this time to move forward
29 on the agenda.
30
31 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Lee, for
32 that and we will. We have six present. Maybe the
33 seventh one calling in. Let me find my agenda here.
34 We have established a quorum. Invocation. I've asked
35 James Nageak to give us an invocation this morning.
36
37 James, please.
38
39 MR. NAGEAK: Before I say the
40 invocation I'd like to say that Big Bob passed away
41 last night around 11:30. Those of you that know my
42 nephew, Robert Aiken, Jr., we call him Big Bob, so
43 remember us in your prayers, the family.
44
45 (Invocation in Inupiaq)
46
47 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, James.
48 We're down to welcome and introductions. I think we
49 had roll call, but now I think just go over the
50 welcome. I welcome you all to Anaktuvuk Pass to our

1 North Slope Regional Advisory Council. I'd like to
2 welcome the staff and the Council members and our
3 guests as well in the community of Anaktuvuk Pass.
4 Thank you for hosting the meeting, James. We look
5 forward to conducting our business in regards to our
6 North Slope Regional Advisory Council to review
7 proposals that are looking to change some regulations
8 under the Federal Management Program.

9

10 I welcome you all here and maybe I'll
11 start with Bob and let the Council introduce
12 themselves.

13

14 MR. SHEARS: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Bob
15 Shears, resident in Barrow, representing Barrow, but
16 with a special interest and experience in Wainwright
17 and Western NPR-A.

18

19 MR. KAYOTUK: Good morning. Lee
20 Kayotuk from Kaktovik, Alaska. Thank you for welcoming
21 us to your village of Anaktuvuk Pass.

22

23 Thank you.

24

25 MR. NAGEAK: I want to thank Anaktuvuk
26 Pass for welcoming me here.

27

28 (Laughter)

29

30 MR. NAGEAK: We asked these guys to
31 come here many times and I'm glad that Anaktuvuk could
32 be the host for this meeting 2015. We thank you for
33 being here. I'm glad that the weather is kind of a
34 little bit more better than it was the other day. So
35 welcome to Anaktuvuk.

36

37 Oh, yeah. I know a lot of you probably
38 have never met my wife of Anaktuvuk Pass. We met in
39 1961, Anna Nageak, Anna Hugo. She's a Hugo. We'll be
40 51 in January.

41

42 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, James.

43

44 MR. KUNAKNANA: Okay. Good morning.
45 Sam Kunaknana, Native Village of Nuiqsut, President.
46 (In Inupiaq).

47

48 MR. G. BROWER: Good morning and
49 quyanapqak for having this meeting here. I know, like
50 James said, we've been advocating to have the Federal

1 Regional Subsistence Advisory Council meetings in some
2 of our villages so we could hear better from the
3 communities and I'm very happy to be here this morning.

4

5 Gordon Brower. I work for the North
6 Slope Borough and I've been a member off and on since
7 about 1998 for this Council.

8

9 Thank you.

10

11 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Gordon.

12

13 Eva.

14

15 MS. PATTON: Welcome and good morning.
16 My name is Eva Patton and I have the honor of working
17 with the North Slope Subsistence Regional Advisory
18 Council. We're very pleased to be here in Anaktuvuk
19 this week. Thank you for welcoming us and all the help
20 and gathering the Council here. You have a wonderful
21 Council here to hear from the community.

22

23 So thank you for coming and joining us.

24

25 DR. YOKEL: Good morning, Mr. Chair,
26 Council. Dave Yokel with BLM's Arctic Field Office in
27 Fairbanks.

28

29 MRS. NAGEAK: I'm Anna Nageak and I'm
30 representing Naqsrarmiut Tribal.

31

32 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Anna. So
33 we're going through our introductions. If you could
34 just stand and introduce yourself it would be helpful.
35 We have some staff that's also in the audience. You'll
36 get to see who they are and who they represent.

37

38 Lawrence.

39

40 MR. BURRIS: Lawrence Burris, Nunamiut
41 Corporation, president.

42

43 MR. RULLAND: Thomas Rulland, city
44 council, tribal council. Thank you.

45

46 MS. MORRY: Welcome everybody. Susan
47 Morry. I'm a city manager.

48

49 MR. PANEAK: Raymond Paneak.

50

1 MS. NAY: Vera Nay. ICAS. Welcome.
2
3 MR. EDWARDS: Anthony Edwards. I'm
4 with North Slope Borough.
5
6 MR. HOPSON: Andrew Hopson, vice
7 president of Naqragmiut Tribal Council.
8
9 DR. CHEN: Good morning, Council
10 members. My name is Glenn Chen with the Bureau of
11 Indian Affairs.
12
13 MR. SMITH: Al Smith, National Park
14 Service.
15
16 MS. HARDIN: Good morning. My name is
17 Jennifer Hardin and I'm the Anthropology Division
18 supervisor from the Office of Subsistence Management.
19
20 Thank you so much for having us today.
21
22 MR. SIKVAYUGAK: Good morning. Jerry
23 Sikvayugak. ICAS alternate.
24
25 MR. J. WILLIAMS: I'm Jack Williams,
26 city of AKP resident.
27
28 MS. FLEEK: Adrienne Fleek, Alaska
29 Native Affairs for the National Park Service.
30
31 MS. DRAKE: Good morning. Erin Drake,
32 National Park Service.
33
34 MS. OKADA: Good morning. Marcy Okada,
35 National Park Service, Gates of the Arctic National
36 Park and Preserve.
37
38 MR. EVANS: Good morning, Mr. Chair.
39 My name is Tom Evans. I work for the U.S. Fish and
40 Wildlife Service as a wildlife biologist for Office of
41 Subsistence Management. I work for the North Slope
42 Borough Councils and the Southcentral and the
43 Kodiak/Aleutian Councils.
44
45 MR. WHITFORD: Good morning. My name
46 is Tom Whitford. I'm the Regional Subsistence Program
47 Leader for the Forest Service. Not much Forest Service
48 up here, but I have responsibilities for the whole
49 state.
50

1 MR. AHGOOK: Tim Ahgook of UCAN
2 advisory board.
3
4 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Tim. Good
5 morning.
6
7 MR. JOHNSON: Good morning, members of
8 the Council, people from the community. My name is
9 Carl Johnson. I'm the Council Coordination Division
10 Chief at the Office of Subsistence Management. So part
11 of my job is to make sure that Council coordinators
12 carry off some successful meetings. So good morning
13 and thank you.
14
15 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, everyone.
16 Also we have our elder Rhoda Ahgook here. She's just
17 standing up and sitting down after getting a cup of
18 coffee, so she's here attending the meeting as well.
19
20 Good morning, Rhoda.
21
22 MS. AHGOOK: Good morning.
23
24 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Quyanaq. So we may
25 have to stop and interpret for her once in a while just
26 to make sure she's following along with our agenda.
27 Lynn, they're asking for your introduction.
28
29 REPORTER: Hi, I'm Lynn from Computer
30 Matrix taking Tina's place today.
31
32 CHAIRMAN BROWER: We're going through
33 introductions, Sollie. Mark. Quyanaq. Thank you all
34 for taking part and taking time to spend with us here
35 in regards to our North Slope Regional Advisory Council
36 meetings for the next couple days.
37
38 We'll follow our processes we have
39 before us. We have a fairly large meeting booklet
40 we'll have to be going through for the next couple
41 days. A lot of information and proposed regulations
42 and other information that we need to share amongst
43 ourselves with representatives from our Federal
44 managers from the different agencies this morning and
45 the next couple days.
46
47 At this time we'll go into review and
48 adoption of the agenda. I have a slight modification
49 to make on the agenda. I'll state them once we get
50 into the discussion. The agenda is before you Council

1 members.

2

3 MR. SHEARS: Mr. Chair. Motion to
4 accept the agenda.

5

6 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Motion on the floor.

7

8 MR. NAGEAK: Second.

9

10 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Seconded. Under
11 discussion. Thank you, James. Under discussion, I'd
12 like to introduce the slight changes. On the first
13 page, under 7, honor Teddy Frankson, that's an add-on
14 under length of service. We have two modifications on
15 Page 2 under the North Slope Region proposals. Above
16 number 1 we put Lincoln Parrett on the caribou
17 presentation. So he'll be arriving today.

18

19 MR. G. BROWER: Under which section
20 there?

21

22 CHAIRMAN BROWER: It's under new
23 business (e), North Slope Region proposals. Above
24 number one we'll insert Lincoln Parrett regarding
25 caribou presentation. Moving on down to item (f),
26 below item (f) we add (g) ADF&G Sheep Working Group.
27 We have a presentation that we need to hear and learn
28 about this Sheep Working Group that's being generated.

29

30

31 On Page 3, under U.S. Fish and Wildlife
32 Service, we have Ernest Nageak and Uinniq (Ahgeak),
33 education and outreach Barrow U.S. Fish and Wildlife
34 Service office.

35

36 MR. G. BROWER: Under which one?

37

38 CHAIRMAN BROWER: On Page 3, on the
39 very top, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Add on
40 Ernest Nageak and Uinniq. Uinniq doesn't have a last
41 name?

42

43 (Laughter)

44

45 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Education and
46 outreach from the Barrow office, U.S. Fish and Wildlife
47 Service. Okay. And then you need to help me with this
48 one. Prior to proposal, Western Arctic Teshekpuk
49 Caribou Herd update. Is that just a discussion item,
50 Eva?

1 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council.
2 The Western Arctic Caribou Herd update is what Lincoln
3 will be providing right before the presentation on the
4 proposals.

5
6 CHAIRMAN BROWER: The one that got
7 moved up.

8
9 MS. PATTON: Yeah.

10
11 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Okay.

12
13 MS. PATTON: So that way both the
14 Council and the audience that's attending will be able
15 to hear the background on both the Western Arctic and
16 Teshekpuk Caribou Herd and he'll be presenting some of
17 the latest population data and information. So he'll
18 be arriving this afternoon and we'll actually have a
19 PowerPoint presentation and we have maps up on the wall
20 too to help address where caribou are and that will go
21 along with the presentation this afternoon too.

22
23 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Eva. So
24 those are the four modifications to the agenda.

25
26 Any other modifications from the
27 Council.

28
29 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chair.

30
31 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

32
33 MR. G. BROWER: I'm just wondering if
34 there are community concerns. Is that going to come
35 under agency reports?

36
37 CHAIRMAN BROWER: We'll give them an
38 opportunity as we go through each of the proposals. At
39 any time there's public comments, we'll definitely
40 provide them the opportunity, Gordon.

41
42 MR. G. BROWER: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
43 I just wanted to understand better that part because
44 there may be specific concerns we might have out of
45 Anaktuvuk.

46
47 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Gordon,
48 for that. We definitely have that open to our public
49 presentation or public testimony on any of the
50 proposals and we have our little processes we'll follow

1 through and give any of our constituency that wish to
2 testify or provide testimony.

3

4 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council.

5

6 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yes.

7

8 MS. PATTON: Also for the public that's
9 here, first the Council will review their minutes and
10 the Council will provide their reports from their
11 communities on subsistence. Under number 9 on the
12 agenda we have public and tribal comments on non-agenda
13 items, so if there's an issue of concern or subsistence
14 updates you would like to share with the Council,
15 that's a good opportunity to bring that forward.

16

17 We have some blue cards that are in the
18 back and this helps to alert the Chair if you have
19 something you would like to address the Council on
20 either now when we have that opportunity for public
21 sharing or as we're going through the proposals. You
22 can fill one of these out and it helps make sure that
23 we address you to take that up. We do have one from
24 Raymond Paneak, who would like to address the Council
25 this morning under the public opportunity.

26

27 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Eva, for
28 that. Any other discussion regarding the
29 modifications.

30

31 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chair.

32

33 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

34

35 MS. PATTON: I don't know where in the
36 agenda this would be addressed or if it's throughout.
37 It seems that there's multiple vacancies on the
38 Regional Subsistence Advisory Council and it would be
39 good to also when we're in a community being able to
40 express concerns for membership that would come from
41 outlying villages. There are multiple vacancies and I
42 just wanted to express that and encourage folks that
43 want to participate and represent on the Council
44 because this does make advisory language for the
45 Federal Board of Game and things like that.

46

47 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you for that,
48 Gordon. I agree with you that we need to continue to
49 provide information to our constituents regarding the
50 vacancies. They need to be filled. If there's any

1 interested person looking to be part of the Regional
2 Advisory Council, they have an opportunity to fill out
3 an application either at this time or we can definitely
4 share -- Eva, as our coordinator, can share with you
5 some of the information that's been provided publicly.
6 There's some news media approaches that's been taken as
7 well to seek applicants that are showing interest to
8 serve on the Regional Advisory Council.

9

10 Again, Gordon, I think we can
11 definitely restate some of that communications again at
12 any time of our meeting when the time is opportune.

13

14 Carl.

15

16 MR. JOHNSON: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
17 For the record, Carl Johnson. During the OSM report I
18 will go over stuff related to the nominations and
19 appointment process. So, if you like, I could
20 incorporate that discussion into that part of my
21 report.

22

23 CHAIRMAN BROWER: That will be helpful
24 as well. Several opportunities to provide that would
25 be very helpful. Thank you, Carl. Any further
26 discussion on modifications to the agenda?

27

28 (No comments)

29

30 MR. G. BROWER: Call for the question,
31 Mr. Chair.

32

33 CHAIRMAN BROWER: The question has been
34 called on the motion to approve the agenda with the
35 four modifications. All in favor of the motion signify
36 by saying aye.

37

38 IN UNISON: Aye.

39

40 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Opposed say nay.

41

42 (No opposing votes)

43

44 CHAIRMAN BROWER: None noted. We have
45 an agenda before us. Thank you, Council members.
46 We'll move on to review and approve previous meeting
47 minutes. It's in our supplemental information provided
48 to the Council. The North Slope Regional Advisory
49 Council public meeting minutes of March 17 and 19, 2015
50 in Barrow at the Inupiat Heritage Center.

1 What's the wish of the Council.
2
3 MR. G. BROWER: Move for the adoption
4 of the March 17 through 19, 2015 minutes, Mr. Chair.
5
6 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Motion on the floor.
7
8 MR. KUNAKNANA: Second.
9
10 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Seconded by.....
11
12 MR. KUNAKNANA: Sam
13
14 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Seconded by Sam.
15 Thank you, Sam. I was going to say his name right off
16 the bat and it just skipped away from my tongue.
17 Motion on the floor and seconded. Discussion. Review
18 of the minutes. Corrections.
19
20 (No comments)
21
22 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Maybe just a question
23 to Eva from the second page on the very bottom,
24 election of officers. Do we have anything of that
25 coming on or is that something -- are we still holding
26 election of officers until we have a full Council?
27
28 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council. At
29 the last meeting we had some revolving seats. A lot of
30 people were busy attending other meetings and coming
31 and going and the Council had wished to delay the
32 election of officers until a full Council was present.
33 We do have nearly a full Council here. Again, Rosemary
34 was hoping to join us on teleconference this morning.
35 If the Council wishes, we could make the
36 recommendations when Rosemary joins us to elect the
37 officers for both Chair and vice Chair.
38
39 CHAIRMAN BROWER: We can take that
40 under consideration by the Council members. Any
41 further discussion regarding the minutes of March 17
42 and 19, 2015.
43
44 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chair.
45
46 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.
47
48 MR. G. BROWER: If there's no questions
49 on the minutes, I would call for the question unless
50 there's an objection to the question.

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Do we have any
2 objection to the calling of the question.

3

4 MR. NAGEAK: What question?

5

6 (Laughter)

7

8 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Do we have any
9 objections to the question of the motion.

10

11 (No comments)

12

13 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, James.
14 It's always nice to have a little bit of humor while
15 we're having discussion. It put a smile on my face
16 anyway. The question has been called on the motion to
17 adopt the meeting minutes of March 17 and 19, 2015.
18 All in favor of the motion signify by saying aye.

19

20 IN UNISON: Aye.

21

22 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Opposed say nay.

23

24 (No opposing votes)

25

26 CHAIRMAN BROWER: None noted. We have
27 approved minutes of March 17 and 19, 2015. Thank you,
28 Council members. We are now down to agenda item 7,
29 length of service award. I'll give the floor to Eva at
30 this time.

31

32 Eva.

33

34 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council. We
35 have a couple recognitions. We would like to honor
36 Council member Teddy Frankson from Point Hope. He was
37 a member of the Council for a few years and an
38 important connection with the community of Point Hope.
39 An avid subsistence advocate. Provider for his family
40 and community. Teddy's wife, Kristi Frankson, had
41 wanted to share -- they compiled a wonderful obituary
42 with many photographs of his life and she had wanted to
43 share that with the Council.

44

45 Perhaps there are many here who also
46 knew Teddy Frankson. A long time of being involved on
47 many councils and committees dealing with subsistence.

48

49 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you for that,
50 Eva. I think it's something that we needed to hold.

1 It's something we're just getting into doing, honoring
2 some of our members that have passed on that served on
3 the Regional Advisory Council since the inception of
4 the Federal Subsistence Management Program. I'm very
5 honored to speak on behalf of our Regional Advisory
6 Council. It's been very informative and a learning
7 process over the years for each of us, I think, in
8 terms of the Federal Subsistence Management Program.

9
10 Thank you for providing that award
11 honoring Teddy for his length of service. It's
12 something that goes to each of us, I think, sharing the
13 time we spent with Teddy as he was serving on the
14 Council. He had very serious issues at times and some
15 days we'd be laughing about them while we're trying to
16 resolve some of the problems, you know, adding humor
17 like James was doing this morning. It makes things go
18 a little bit easier and not so confrontational at
19 times. So I think that's very appropriate for that.

20
21 Any other comments from Council
22 members.

23
24 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chair.

25
26 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

27
28 MR. G. BROWER: Yeah, just, you know, I
29 remember Teddy being a very good representative for
30 Point Hope. I just remember little dialogues with him
31 sometimes and always wanted the best for his community.
32 Being a hunter and a gatherer, he had an opportunity to
33 help shape regulations that would better their people
34 and advocate for that. I just wanted to -- he'll be
35 missed. He was a good man.

36
37 Thank you.

38
39 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Gordon.
40 Anyone else.

41
42 MR. SHEARS: Mr. Chair.

43
44 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yes, Robert.

45
46 MR. SHEARS: I knew Teddy well. The
47 father of my son-in-law Jesse and working with him on
48 this board, I had conferred over coffee with him in his
49 home, knew him and Kristi. Amongst all the residents
50 of the people that I do know in Point Hope, Teddy

1 walked the middle ground. Without bias or political
2 affiliation, familial affiliation, dedicated solely
3 devoted to the purpose of protecting subsistence and
4 endowing a culture, the continuing culture and the
5 pursuit of subsistence and implementation of that
6 knowledge and sharing that knowledge. A very wise,
7 humble man. He'll be sorely missed.

8

9 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Bob.

10

11 MR. NAGEAK: Mr. Chair.

12

13 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yes, James.

14

15 MR. NAGEAK: I got to know him when we
16 went to Nuiqsut. We had a good time waiting for the
17 plane I think it was. I'm going to miss that guy.

18

19 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, James. I
20 think it's appropriate just to have a moment of silence
21 in memory of Teddy. I think that's only appropriate
22 for us to hold a moment of silence in remembrance of
23 Teddy Frankson.

24

25 (Moment of silence)

26

27 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you. Eva, I'll
28 give the floor back to you and continue with our length
29 of service award.

30

31 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council and
32 everyone who's joined us here today, we have a very
33 special guest in his own community here, Dr. James
34 Nageak has served on this Council for many years, since
35 2008, and James has been a really important person
36 bringing forth the culture and the language and
37 bringing forth stories to share subsistence and that
38 sense of humor that helps uplift the Council and
39 everyone and helps inform everything.

40

41 We really appreciate having James
42 Nageak on the Council. I call him my professor. I'm
43 surprised he had no edits to my minutes. He corrects
44 my spelling and makes sure everything is just right.
45 So thank you so much, James, and I would like to honor
46 you with a plaque for service.

47

48 MR. NAGEAK: Thank you.

49

50 MS. PATTON: Thank you, James.

1 (Applause)

2

3 MR. NAGEAK: Thank you. I always call
4 Eva my person that bothers me all the time.

5

6 (Laughter)

7

8 MR. NAGEAK: Sheesh, she calls every
9 two minutes. Anyway, thank you for that. I decided to
10 step down from the RAC and the Federal Subsistence
11 Resource Commission because I'm retired. People that
12 we are hoping will replace me will be -- I think Tony
13 has put his name in for the Subsistence Resource
14 Commission. Please stand up, Tony.

15

16 (Applause)

17

18 MR. NAGEAK: For this one, I think
19 Sollie -- you put your name in for this one.

20

21 MR. HUGO: Two years ago. I never got
22 a response.

23

24 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Fill out another
25 application while we're here, Sollie. That will help.
26 James.

27

28 MR. HUGO: I thought I better not
29 pursue it since I didn't get a response.

30

31 CHAIRMAN BROWER: James.

32

33 MR. NAGEAK: So thank you for being a
34 part of my life. It gave me a chance to travel to
35 Kaktovik and Nuiqsut, but never went to Point Hope. I
36 want to thank Lee Kayotuk over here for -- they were
37 asking to go to Kaktovik, but we took Anaktuvuk to go
38 for the place of meeting for this one. So thank you,
39 Lee. That's because you weren't there, remember.

40

41 (Laughter)

42

43 MR. NAGEAK: Thank you.

44

45 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, James, for
46 all your participation to the North Slope Regional
47 Advisory Council and your years of service. It's
48 really appreciated. You'll be sorely missed. When we
49 hold our meetings, we'll definitely be calling on you
50 to see if there's any corrections need to be made to

1 the minutes.

2

3 (Laughter)

4

5 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Anyway, thank you
6 very much, James. And Anna for sharing James with us
7 all those years, letting him come to these meetings.
8 Thank you for sharing James with us. I really
9 appreciate the time he spent with us. It's been very
10 meaningful for us and your community.

11

12 I have to say if James had been
13 retired, we put him to work because he was the first
14 representative to the North Slope Regional Advisory
15 Council and we appointed him to be representing
16 Anaktuvuk Pass to the Subsistence Resource Commission
17 with the National Park Service, so he had a double job.
18 He wasn't really informed about it. So I think we
19 really put him on the spot when we called on James to
20 put him as a representative to the Subsistence Resource
21 Commission and I think they'll definitely miss you as
22 well, James.

23

24 MR. NAGEAK: Well, in my life, one of
25 the loves of my life is language history, so when the
26 mayor of the North Slope approved my appointment to the
27 Inupiat History, Language and Culture Commission, I
28 decided that maybe I better slow down a little bit on
29 all the meetings because IHLC -- I remember when I was
30 heading that program in 1983-84. So I'm where I want
31 to be at this stage of my life.

32

33 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Again, thank you,
34 James, for the years of service you've provided to the
35 Regional Advisory Council. Any other Council. Eva.

36

37 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council.
38 With a little humor but all serious, perhaps we would
39 encourage your better half to apply to the Council and
40 encourage the community here too. Subsistence
41 representation from all providers, so that would be
42 wonderful to have women serve on the Council as well.
43 We have Rosemary Ahtuanguaruak, a very important voice.
44 We'll miss you, James, but maybe we could encourage
45 Anna.

46

47 Thank you.

48

49 MR. NAGEAK: I'm going to change my
50 phone number.

1 (Laughter)

2

3 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chair.

4

5 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yes, Gordon.

6

7 MR. G. BROWER: (In Inupiaq), James.

8 All of the time when the discussion was always in depth

9 with the concerns of communities and the resources, I

10 thoroughly enjoyed you as a Federal Regional

11 Subsistence Advisory Council member. In the same light

12 I'd like to, like Eva, encourage to participate in

13 these Councils. I started being concerned about

14 trapping, caribou issues, fish because I was fishing, I

15 was trapping and I was hunting and these regulations

16 can affect you and it's very important to know what's

17 going on on the land from a hunter's perspective.

18

19 (In Inupiaq). So it's good to have

20 folks that know what's going on with the animals and be

21 concerned. I always want to try to encourage younger

22 hunters to be participating because they've got

23 contemporary use. Us, we've got lots of traditional

24 knowledge and we need to connect those two together to

25 move forward.

26

27 Quyanaqpak, James.

28

29 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Gordon.

30 If we're done with this length of service, Eva, we'll

31 move on.

32

33 MS. PATTON: Yes, Mr. Chair and

34 Council. While we're talking about the Council as

35 well, and the younger generation, the Council was

36 really interested in encouraging youth participation in

37 the Council and we've been working on ways to have a

38 youth seat or youth mentorship. We did spend some time

39 at the school yesterday afternoon. We're hoping to

40 have some of the class attend the meeting for an hour

41 or two. So when they arrive, a big welcome. We had

42 several students who were really interested and eager

43 to participate in the Council, so we'll welcome them

44 when they arrive this afternoon.

45

46 Thank you.

47

48 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Eva.

49 We'll move on with our next agenda item under reports.

50 Council member reports.

1 Let's start with Bob.

2

3 MR. SHEARS: Mr. Chair. No comments
4 specifically because I have not been involved in
5 subsistence in the same role that I'm used to. In the
6 last couple decades, I've been a subsistence provider
7 for my family. Now I find myself on the other foot. A
8 couple years ago moved to Barrow, took a steady job and
9 began not pursuing hunting and fishing, but actually
10 existing off of the benefit of others who do subsist.

11

12 This year my table has been blessed
13 with berries from Point Hope, caribou from Wainwright,
14 whale and seal from Barrow, cisco from Nuiqsut, sheep
15 from Anaktuvuk Pass. I've fed off of the entire North
16 Slope. I find myself in a different position and a
17 different sense of appreciation for what subsistence is
18 about than I've ever experienced before.

19

20 I'm thankful to be here. I'm hoping as
21 I build my home and get my feet back underneath me and
22 re-develop my equipment, that I'll be back with my
23 finger on the trigger here in a few years. Until then
24 I'm living this way and I'm thankful for it.

25

26 Thank you.

27

28 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Bob.

29

30 Lee.

31

32 MR. KAYOTUK: Mr. Chair. Thank you
33 again for Council reports. Things went very well there
34 this fall for bowhead whales. We got four bowhead
35 whales and one was given to us and everything went well
36 for hunting, but the caribou is pretty scarce these
37 days in Kaktovik. You know, there's a few around, but
38 they just have to go out and go look for them. It's
39 pretty hard these days to just get out on the land.
40 You have to go travel long distances in order to
41 provide for our family. It doesn't really work well
42 because the caribou is not around. Our moose
43 population is down, so we don't get to get a moose
44 until it's open season.

45

46 The fishing and stuff like that went
47 very well for the village and freeze up is a little bit
48 late again, about October. We probably had maybe about
49 50 polar bears in our area and we get a lot of tourism.
50 Other than that, the village is getting up to the

1 mountains since the past week and try to get sheep to
2 provide for Thanksgiving. Hopefully there's a few
3 people that will provide sheep towards the Thanksgiving
4 feast that we have.

5
6 Other than that, I don't have anything
7 at this time.

8
9 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

10
11 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Lee.
12 Gordon.

13
14 James is asking that you go ahead.

15
16 MR. G. BROWER: (In Inupiaq). It's
17 important to be able to, you know, for those that don't
18 speak very well in English to also translate. It's
19 important when you have elders to be able to let them
20 understand clearly.

21
22 I think my hunting and fishing in our
23 region, we make reports as a Federal Subsistence
24 Advisory Council members because it's important for the
25 area biologists, the land managers, to hear from the
26 folks of what's going on on the land in terms of the
27 resources because we're almost like the first line of
28 report. We're actually reporting for the fish or
29 reporting for the caribou how they're doing. I think
30 it's an important connection for the biologists, the
31 land managers, to hear from the users of these
32 resources.

33
34 In our area, I go to the places where
35 my folks always were in Ikpikpuk River. It froze up
36 very good this year. I was very surprised because I
37 noticed some boaters saying it's global warming. We
38 can go as long as we want. I always hear my folks'
39 language sometimes (in Inupiaq). You've got to go
40 downriver. That Avalik area is a bad place when it's
41 full of snow and slush. It will milik on you, these
42 rivers. This year it happened. Some people not minding
43 that and getting caught way upriver, having to be
44 rescued to get out. Having to leave their boats. I
45 thought in my mind, well, I think it's normal. That's
46 what I always expect. In 1970s, 1980s, we would have
47 nets under the ice by September 18, September 20. So
48 it's not out of the ordinary for it to freeze up early.

49
50 With that, I did a very good fishing

1 for our community and I've yet to haul them back to
2 Barrow. I'll be doing that through November and
3 December and maybe through January, hauling that catch
4 back to Barrow.

5
6 Caribou. I think I've had caribou
7 issues for maybe since they put the USGS shed in
8 between Alaktak and Chipp, Ikpikpuk. They put it in
9 the heart of a migration movement area where thousands
10 would go through. I've been in this area all my life,
11 40 years. Even before that my folks were in these
12 areas all the time. It was always caribou coming that
13 way. Forty years. There's an expectation that they
14 will use these routes that have been established. It's
15 like a highway. Once they put that USGS shed and then
16 they got the researchers with maybe 15 or 20 bright
17 orange little tents all the way around it. I thought
18 that was an impediment. It was a concern.

19
20 Ever since they did that folks, like
21 Nageak camp, PK13, they always complaining that there's
22 no caribou coming through there
23 like they used to. I've been looking for which way
24 they made a new trail and I found maybe seven miles.
25 They moved just from that. They move and make a new
26 trail by Aichilik and going up that way to the west,
27 maybe seven miles, but that's a difficult terrain to
28 try to get to those.

29
30 So those are some of the concerns. The
31 caribou is sporadic. It's not like before, but there's
32 caribou, but they're sporadic. I did catch not at the
33 levels I'm used to harvesting, but I did catch enough
34 for my use. I think it was important to say these
35 things and I think I said this last year too about that
36 USGS conexas that they put in for researchers. They
37 need to be talking to the people before they put these
38 so we can help them and say, no, don't put it there,
39 that's a wrong place. Talk to the local folks that are
40 using these areas where would be better and optimize
41 your research.

42
43 With that, I don't want to talk too
44 much, but I think the fishing is good. I did take time
45 this year to look at all of my fish. (In Inupiaq).
46 Just to make sure because I had been at some of these
47 meetings in Nuiqsut about fish mold especially on
48 aqaluk and I was afraid we were going to start seeing
49 that problem in the Ikpikpuk River because we're
50 adjacent to Kuukpik.

1 I look at every fish I got, I think,
2 and that's lots of fish. Every one of them is healthy.
3 They're all healthy fish. I didn't see any sick ones
4 like I've seen in the photographs in Nuiqsut.
5 Sometimes I think they need to think about what the
6 problem is over there and make sure it doesn't happen
7 on Ikpikpuk because it's a big fishing resource for the
8 North Slope, I think.

9
10 Thank you. That was my report.

11
12 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Gordon,
13 for your report.

14
15 Sam.

16
17 MR. KUNAKNANA: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
18 I'd like to thank you for letting you have me speak on
19 behalf of Nuiqsut in front of Nuiqsut. Like what
20 Gordon was saying earlier, you know, we've been getting
21 a lot of sick fish. I come from a place where --
22 Nuiqsut is surrounded by industry and we have a lot of
23 activity that goes around our village. We have nothing
24 but chopper activities all summer long.

25
26 One thing I've noticed over the years
27 as a hunter and a gatherer is that when they do their
28 studies around our area and when they do studies I talk
29 about planes and choppers. They do theirs during the
30 summer. As a hunter, I noticed that once they're done
31 with their studies the caribous come around. You know,
32 back in the day we'd see nothing but big herds come
33 through before they started establishing these
34 structures in place; pipelines, pads, roads.

35
36 You know, it completely changed the way
37 we do our hunting in Nuiqsut. I've noticed that the
38 migration route has changed too for the caribou. We
39 see caribous here and there and they're sporadic. Just
40 like Gordon said, we don't see no more big herds.

41
42 As for the fish for the past three
43 years we've been getting sick fish anaaqlik and, you
44 know, the fish are healthy coming in during the summer,
45 but when they're coming back out, that's when they're
46 sick, molded fish. For the past three years that's
47 been happening.

48
49 My concern to all the agencies that are
50 involved is that ever since they established Alpine

1 they've been only studying lakuktuk (ph) only. They
2 never did no other studies other than lakuktuk only.
3 I've stressed out to all these agencies that why aren't
4 they studying the fish that live around our area year
5 round to get a better understanding of what's going on.
6
7

8 We've talked with BLM. We've talked
9 with a lot of people. I'd like to encourage
10 Naqragmiut, I'd like to get with you guys and your
11 council to see what we can do and work with NVN and the
12 problems that you guys are having with the tuttu,
13 especially when it comes to development north of you
14 guys at Umiat. I'd like to try and get with the
15 councils while I'm here to see what we can do and talk
16 about with our council in Nuiqsut because we've been
17 dealing with a lot of this stuff for many years.
18

19 Ever since I notice a lot of changes I
20 decided that I would -- I wanted to get into the tribe
21 because when you have a strong tribe, you have a strong
22 council that agrees on a lot of stuff. It makes you
23 really strong. When you combine tribes together, unify
24 them, it even makes it stronger and makes your voice
25 lots stronger.
26

27 The fish, you know, my concern is that
28 they need to do more studies especially on the grayling
29 and they just finally started doing studies on the
30 broad whitefish. Every since they started production
31 at CD5 just west of Nuiqsut, I talked with -- I used to
32 go fishing and hunting with my aaka at Fish Creek.
33 We'd fish, we'd set our nets, get our aanaakliq,
34 niksiksuq for sulukpaugaqs and we'd do that and we'd
35 wait for the caribou to come to us. Every year it
36 would be like that. We would never ever have to look
37 for the caribou. They would come to us while we were
38 fishing.
39

40 Ever since industry walked into our
41 back yard it has changed everything on what we do over
42 there. Everything. That is the reason why I decided
43 to get on this board and on Native Village of Nuiqsut
44 to speak my voice. We have to work together. We
45 really do.
46

47 I thank everybody for coming here to
48 listen to my comment, my voice.
49

50 Thank you.

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Sam.
2
3 James, you want to go next?
4
5 MR. NAGEAK: Yeah, you're the Chair, so
6 I better go first.
7
8 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I'll let you go,
9 James.
10
11 MR. NAGEAK: Thank you. It's pretty
12 hard to talk for the people when they're here.
13
14 (Laughter)
15
16 MR. NAGEAK: We have a lot of people
17 here that are hunters and gatherers. I don't know if
18 you all are aware that the community of Anaktuvuk Pass
19 has trilateral meetings with -- I mean tri-meetings,
20 city of Anaktuvuk Tribal Council, Naqragmiut Tribe and
21 the corporation. The elected officials of those three
22 get together plus the community members in what we call
23 the trilateral meetings. That really gets things
24 going.
25
26 One of the things that happened was
27 that the community -- Anaktuvuk is a place where
28 caribou should be and has been, but there's been a lot
29 of changes. Because of the changes the trilateral
30 councils -- I guess we could call you councils, I
31 guess, trilateral councils of tribe, city and
32 corporation -- decided to form an association and
33 that's the (United)Caribou Association of the Nunamiut,
34 CAN. We can do it. Can, you know.
35
36 So we have some officers from that
37 association. Maybe if you stand up, if you know who
38 you are, those of you that are the newly-elected
39 officers for the Caribou Association of the Nunamiut.
40
41 (Individuals stand up)
42
43 (Applause)
44
45 MR. NAGEAK: We thank you. We want to
46 thank you for -- like Sam said, that maybe we can --
47 the North Slope coastal villages have what they call
48 the Alaska Eskimo Whaling Commission, those kinds of
49 associations. So if those of us that are really into
50 caribou because we don't get whales here, we don't get

1 beluga, we don't get walrus, but if we could get
2 unified in that way being concerned about the caribou
3 of the Interior.

4
5 It's hard when you hear people -- man,
6 I used to eat caribou three or four times a week,
7 right, but now it's hard right now because the caribou
8 that usually come here in the summertime south of here,
9 they came for a little bit, but then they left, so
10 we've been really hurting for caribou. The cry from
11 the Nunamiut went to all of the -- well, it went to
12 Facebook, I think, and from there cases of fish started
13 arriving from the south, a bunch of walrus started
14 coming from the north and some caribou came, so we want
15 to thank all those communities that responded to the
16 cry of the Nunamiut.

17
18 One of the -- I want Esther to stand up
19 for a minute.

20
21 MS. HUGO: Good morning, guys.

22
23 MR. NAGEAK: She just came in, so I --
24 see how small she is, but she's got a big voice, man.
25 She's been the one that's been hollering to all about
26 the caribou that we've been having problems with. So I
27 wanted the community and the Council to recognize
28 Esther Hugo, the vice chair for the City of Anaktuvuk
29 Council.

30
31 We have problems with what we call the
32 head hunters, people that pay thousands of dollars to
33 come up here and get a trophy of caribou antlers.
34 That's a concern. We don't know how to deal with big
35 money, you know. They have the money to tell the State
36 and the Federal government to keep doing what we've
37 been saying. It's hurting our life here at Anaktuvuk
38 Pass. It's really hurting our lives.

39
40 A lot of the people that get the
41 walrus, I just got a note last night, James, you want
42 some walrus. She's got a bunch of walrus, but that
43 doesn't satisfy the insides. The Afro-Americans call
44 it soul food. It's good for the soul. It's things
45 that make us who we are. Even though I've been adopted
46 by the Nunamiut, I was born in Barrow and raised at
47 Kaktovik. I know Kaktovik and I used to get sheep.
48 Every October they'd go up to the mountains. The
49 mountains are just 60 miles away from the village of
50 Kaktovik.

1 We used to have -- and I remember when
2 I was a little boy they used to go to the mountains and
3 the migration of the caribou is when they really got a
4 lot of caribou and they used to just leave (in
5 Inupiaq). They used to dig into the ground and bury
6 some of the caribou that they caught in the fall time
7 when the caribou are really -- just like here, you
8 know.

9
10 They used to come a whole bunch of them
11 here. I remember Anna and I and Bob and Aunt Rhoda was
12 sitting there and all of us would hear the clacking of
13 the bulls hitting their antlers together when they're
14 running. We don't hear that anymore. It's a sound
15 that you yearn for. When that sound doesn't come,
16 their soul isn't in the right position.

17
18 Somebody else maybe in the village with
19 concerns. I think -- where'd she go? Esther, where
20 are you? Oh, she went out. Somebody else could talk
21 about our problems. I don't know if I touched up on a
22 lot of them. Oh, yeah, one of the things that -- our
23 ancestors, our grandparents, our parents always told us
24 when you try to do something on your own because you're
25 strong and I can go out and get caribou any time I want
26 to, you know, that strong, without asking the Creator
27 that created the animals for help.

28
29 We started praying for the caribou up
30 here at the church when we went to church in the
31 morning and remember that a few of them came through.
32 It's not because we could hunt on our own strength.
33 There's a saying for the whalers. The whale gives
34 themselves. The caribou gives themselves to us too
35 because the Creator of these animals, the Creator of
36 all of us know what we need. So we gave a lot of
37 problems to our Creator. We tried praying and it
38 helped a little bit.

39
40 Thank you.

41
42 Anybody else from Anaktuvuk you could
43 talk.

44
45 CHAIRMAN BROWER: We can allow that,
46 James. I think if there's somebody that wants to
47 provide under the Council's report, we can allow that.
48 I think that's something that was being voiced earlier
49 by Gordon as well, so we can give that opportunity to
50 community members. Before we do that can I just

1 provide a brief report on mine.

2

3 MR. NAGEAK: Yeah.

4

5 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, James, for
6 your report. You know it's something that there's been
7 a lot of effort by many people from the community here
8 in Anaktuvuk. We have our different representation for
9 different Councils. We have our North Slope Borough.
10 We have our Fish and Game Management Committee
11 representative. We have the Western Arctic Caribou
12 Working Group. I know Esther has been at several
13 meetings with the Western Arctic Caribou Working Group
14 efforts in trying to address the issue.

15

16 It seems it doesn't get resolved. A
17 lot of meetings happening, but the need is still there.
18 We're not meeting the needs of the community in terms
19 of its sustenance. It needs its food resources. We
20 try to hold meetings, make regulations, and that's
21 something we continue today. I don't think it's going
22 to go away just after this meeting. We have a lot more
23 work that needs to be followed up on to make it
24 functional for the community. That's one thing.

25

26 I've been involved with being a part of
27 the North Slope Borough Department of Wildlife
28 Management, being part of our North Slope Borough Fish
29 and Game Management Committee, hearing your
30 representatives communicating on this for several
31 years, working with the North Slope Borough, Mayor's
32 Office, giving directives to the staff to help with the
33 issues we're dealing with and how do we minimize that
34 impact.

35

36 So there's different approaches being
37 taken, but I think in the end we're still not meeting
38 the need regardless of all these meetings and
39 regulation changes and proposed reductions in harvest,
40 trying to change areas to hunt. We're still not
41 meeting that need at the end. I mean that's been
42 something I've been trying to voice with our community
43 leadership in Barrow. We have different staff in our
44 Department of Wildlife Management; our director, our
45 biologist, our subsistence research coordinators that
46 we deal with in trying to help identify different
47 approaches. So we continue to work on that.

48

49 In regards to some of my hunting
50 activities, I have to go back to this summer we were

1 doing bearded seal hunting. That was pretty successful
2 because we had an unusual summer. We had ice coming
3 back and forth like it used to happen in the past for a
4 short period of time.

5
6 (In Inupiaq). Quyanaq. I think Eva
7 will translate in English for me.

8
9 (Laughter)

10
11 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Anyway, I was just
12 saying that we've had a fairly good season in the
13 Barrow area in regards to our marine mammal hunting.
14 We've had ice presence over the course of summer, which
15 was very helpful for taking marine mammals, seals, the
16 different species of seals, walrus, beluga whales that
17 were harvested over the course of summer into fall.
18 Coming into fall there was good fall whaling migration.
19 The bowhead whales came close to the shore. Kaktovik,
20 Nuiqsut, Barrow did pretty good in their fall whaling.
21 Even though we had struck notches there was one that
22 was retrieved and another that wasn't sighted again.

23
24 In regard to migratory bird hunting,
25 lots of birds were taken. Ducks were taken during the
26 time they were flying. Some were flying offshore, but
27 they're not as much as they used to be in terms of our
28 duck hunting location. Their patterns are changing in
29 terms of where they're flying. Some are available to
30 the hunters and some aren't because of the pattern
31 changes as to when they're flying back south.

32
33 Fishing has been fairly good all
34 around. We've had the early freeze up like Gordon was
35 saying earlier. Fishing for different species;
36 grayling, broad whitefish, round whitefish. We've had
37 some fish that are different species of salmon that
38 were taken early in the summer and into the fall.
39 There was burbot that were harvested as well, so there
40 were different species of fish taken over the time
41 people fishing. Grayling, jigging for grayling over
42 the ice. That's happening right now as we speak.

43
44 So it's been a positive, although we go
45 through our changes. Climate changes impacting our
46 access to the resources. Resources are there, but
47 access is a problem. It creates hardship for some
48 hunter and some hunters have the opportunistic takes
49 that they're able to continue and take harvest and
50 share their harvest with community members that are

1 less fortunate to take the resources. So that
2 continues today and it's a good sign, a positive sign
3 that the sharing continues.

4
5 We heard the call from Anaktuvuk
6 through Ester's communication, through others that were
7 at different meetings, the need for food items to be
8 brought here to Anaktuvuk. There were different steps
9 taken to provide for the community by a lot of people
10 that harvested different resources and shared from the
11 different communities of Atqasuk, Wainwright, Barrow,
12 Nuiqsut, maybe even Kaktovik that resources were coming
13 into Anaktuvuk at their call.

14
15 So this is in regards to a situation
16 that arises regarding caribou that are unavailable to
17 the hunters, were the caribou that were diverted or
18 taking different migratory paths. Whether they were
19 diverted or not, they were taking different paths and
20 the access was a problem.

21
22 A lot of caribou had already migrated
23 by the time there was an attempt to harvest by some
24 hunters from Anaktuvuk going up north. The caribou had
25 already passed that location as to the location they
26 went to. There was an attempt for that and I'm not
27 sure if they were successful or not, but that's
28 something that was tried to provide for the community
29 in need.

30
31 So we still continue to try and address
32 that, how do we prepare for the next season if that's
33 something that we're going to be faced with into the
34 future. I think we have to start looking at trying to
35 plan ahead and get to the location before the migration
36 really begins and meeting them in the midst of the
37 migration to be able to be successful in taking the
38 resources.

39
40 There needs to be some communications
41 at different attempts, different areas to take caribou.
42 Maybe we'll learn more about that today when we hear
43 from the resource managers as to what their
44 observations were in terms of what the regulations,
45 proposed changes have been, whether they've been
46 meaningful or not. I think we'll learn a little bit
47 more on that today.

48
49 Maybe I'll stop here and give maybe
50 some Council members or community members an

1 opportunity to raise questions or comments, share their
2 concerns regarding their observations. We come to your
3 community to hold a meeting to hear from you and try to
4 meet some of our proposed agenda items that we're
5 dealing with, but we'll definitely follow along.

6

7 I'll open the floor to any of the
8 community members to provide comments at this time.
9 Unless you want to take a five-minute break to prepare
10 yourselves. Is that okay? Okay. Ten-minute recess.

11

12 Thank you.

13

14 (Off record)

15

16 (On record)

17

18 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I'll bring the
19 meeting back to order. Thank you, Council members and
20 attendees and participants here at North Slope Regional
21 Advisory Council. I'd like to call the meeting back to
22 order after a brief recess. We have some members from
23 the public. We have public and tribal comments on
24 non-agenda items each morning. I think we can give you
25 the opportunity to do that at this time regarding some
26 of our agenda items and concerns that you'd like to
27 voice regarding Federal Subsistence Management Program.

28

29 Have any of you filled out anything
30 like this? It's a blue card in the back. This one
31 reads Raymond Paneak. Raymond, if you'd like to give
32 testimony or comments at this time, we'll give the
33 floor to you. You need to come and turn the mic on,
34 state your name and provide your testimony.

35

36 Thank you, Raymond.

37

38 MR. PANEAK: Thank you very much for me
39 to have time to, you know, ask questions. First of all
40 I'd like to welcome you all and welcome other people
41 that come here with you folks and welcome all our
42 people here.

43

44 Thank you.

45

46 First of all I wanted to say that
47 several of us went to Bethel. To name a few, Esther
48 Hugo was one of them and Kenny, other people that were
49 into Bethel for a subsistence meeting last time. The
50 people from Bethel area were very helpful, especially

1 people from Chevak. Anyway, to open the eyes. A lot
2 of people from Bethel were saying are you from Chevak.
3 No, I'm not from Chevak, I'm from Anaktuvuk Pass.
4 Anyway, from that meeting I've got a few questions, but
5 I don't want to take much time.

6
7 When we were there, the first question
8 is that we talk about controlled use area, but I don't
9 say -- I would like to say no discrimination to our
10 other people, that we're not only hunters. We're not
11 only hunters up here. But welcome. And when we went
12 to Bethel, a lot of us, I think Esther and Kenny and
13 Vera, some of the people when they went to Bethel for
14 subsistence meeting. Anyway, we draw up a map for our
15 controlled use area when those caribou start coming up
16 from north I heard already don't bother no first
17 caribou that go through up here towards Inupuk (ph) and
18 we let them pass. We learn that from our old people.

19
20 Our old people suggest that we follow
21 that traditional history. That time our old people we
22 don't have no ATVs. We only have dog team. By golly,
23 those old people have a lot of dogs. They don't even
24 let their dog holler or make a noise like a wolf. They
25 keep it quiet. They watch their dog real careful and
26 make sure those caribou pass up here and up here. That
27 way if we let them pass, the first one, the other ones
28 will follow no matter how many hunters. But once we
29 let the first one pass, the other ones will follow no
30 matter what's going on.

31
32 Anyway, I witness a lot of that. After
33 the first bunch go through, everybody go out. Boy, I
34 witnessed slaughter. I went out. You could hear
35 rifles shooting from a long ways, both sides, but
36 caribou don't stop. It's just like something that when
37 they start hunting.

38
39 Before I go too far, our old people
40 they know what's going on. They say take what you
41 want, the one you could handle skin and butcher. There
42 will be other times, so they say don't waste any meat.
43 That's what they tell us. That time I was a younger
44 person. Old people say don't waste any meat. Take
45 what you want. That's what they tell us. That time,
46 like I said, no ATVs, no snowmachines very much. Maybe
47 one crew to one other vehicle, but that was it. That's
48 the good old days.

49
50 Anyway, I don't want to take much time.

1 Again this year caribou herd are late. This is
2 November. They start coming in now. They late again.
3 So this fall every one of us and other hunters they
4 start depending on sheep and moose because caribou herd
5 were late. Sheep, we used to get quite a few of them,
6 but this year moose, there were quite a few moose
7 kills, three, four moose, because caribou herd were
8 late. We usually never take that many moose. One
9 sometime or two, but this time three or four, in order
10 to get some food on our table.

11
12 The other resources if caribou are late
13 we have to get moose or sheep. Of course, some other
14 smaller animals. Also fish. We don't have very much
15 large rivers here, but we do catch some fish.

16
17 Like I said, I don't want to take much
18 time, but when those caribou herd miss us up here north
19 of us, there's some activities up there, but when the
20 activities up there hunt them earlier, the caribou,
21 they're pretty smart. They know what's going on. They
22 have to go other valleys, like Chandler or over
23 Itkillik Valley, North Fork. When they miss us, that's
24 very far. Too far for our people. Especially the
25 people that don't have no vehicle nowadays. Not
26 everybody have vehicles, but some of the people have
27 vehicles.

28
29 Nowadays I witness that we use ATVs
30 now. I don't want to mention too much, but to land one
31 of those ATVs nowadays, very expensive. Very, very
32 expensive. People that don't work try to get a
33 vehicle, they have a hard time. I'm retired all right,
34 but then I try to get one vehicle here. With the help
35 of my family I happen to get one vehicle up here from
36 Anchorage, the first one I had. The first one I had
37 was the help of my family.

38
39 To land one vehicle, the ATV we use now
40 is eight-wheelers and there's four-wheelers. Before I
41 get this other one, new one, last year I had to get my
42 family to help me to land one here, \$27,000 from
43 Anchorage those vehicles. That's how much. I don't
44 want to mention that too much, but they had to truck it
45 to Fairbanks and get it up here, but it cost that much.
46 For the people that don't have no job try to get a
47 vehicle like that, I want to help them, but, you know,
48 that's how much.

49
50 To land one of the four-wheelers here,

1 I also get a four-wheeler, for that freight a
2 four-wheeler \$4,000 to land one here. Again, the
3 people that can't afford an eight-wheeler, they have to
4 try to get smaller ones like four-wheelers. Four-
5 wheelers is okay, but it's not -- you know, it can't
6 carry too much unless you have a trailer or something.

7
8 To tell the story a little bit about
9 back in -- a while back, before the Park, before became
10 Gates of the Arctic National Park, everybody was -- you
11 know, it's doing very good, but then we start getting
12 a lot of other people. We were surrounded by the
13 hunters. We're not the only hunters. A lot of them
14 come from Anchorage, Fairbanks or other areas.

15
16 The village got together and voted.
17 Said it would reduce other activity, other hunters.
18 Now, when we voted, it became a Park, Gates of the
19 Arctic National Park. That way we thought it would
20 reduce activities, but only thing is, when we do that,
21 everybody voted, we got hit by whoever control the Park
22 activities that we can't use ATVs. We didn't know that
23 then. Then we had to fight many years so we could use
24 ATVs in the Park. We fought and fought and fought for
25 the using of ATVs.

26
27 Finally we got some help and now we'll
28 be able to use ATVs. With the help of other companies
29 or our corporation, Nunamiut Corporation, Arctic Slope,
30 North Slope Borough, BIA. I want to thank them for
31 that. We're able to hunt. They find a way to do that,
32 to hunt in the Gates of the Arctic National Park. We
33 have to land exchange in Anaktuvuk with the
34 corporation. Land exchange, but we were limited with
35 the land exchange. Just because by the Park is
36 wilderness area. We didn't know that. You cannot use
37 ATVs in those wilderness areas. So right now we're
38 limited with that Park boundaries. We've got boundary
39 line.

40
41 The other one I wanted to mention is
42 that I witness many years back Anaktuvuk they were --
43 the caribou herd were late. A couple of our people --
44 well, no caribou, but there were a lot of sheep around.
45 So a couple of our hunters couldn't find no caribou,
46 but somehow they get off the boundary line and catch
47 some sheep and they got caught. So they took all the
48 rifle hunting gear, take the meat. They get nothing.
49 They were arrested. Take all the hunting gear,
50 equipment, vehicle. That's a big loss right there.

1 Everybody was at that time starving. I
2 mean our Native food. Everybody tried to get by on
3 fruit and we don't have very much stores. Maybe one
4 Native store and maybe one other one too.
5 But I always want to thank that one person that came up
6 to Anaktuvuk many years back, a guy from -- Harris, he
7 put up a little store to help the village. Yeah, that
8 time everybody needed something to survive like coffee,
9 tea, sugar, flour. He was very helpful to come up.

10
11 I'm glad that time BIA was real helpful
12 to the village. Yeah, welfare checks for our people
13 that time. That's a lifesaver right there, welfare
14 checks for our old people. Limited, but good enough to
15 get by for the food. Because when the animals are not
16 close by, if they miss the valley, yeah, we could live
17 off small animals and some flour and some other food
18 they provide, oatmeal and some other stuff.

19
20 But when the caribou herd miss our
21 valley here, man, we used to have a hard time. I
22 witness in my lifetime food were not available. I
23 don't know if people will feed me or not, but I eat
24 caribou skin, old caribou skin one time. We boil it.
25 Survival. Thanks to the small animal that ground
26 squirrel, ptarmigan, other food. Those animals we had
27 to depend on. It wasn't easy for our people.

28
29 But I will mention one thing that many
30 years ago we don't stay in one place, we don't stay
31 here. We travel. We travel where we could survive
32 somehow. We don't stay in one place. We look for
33 animals. Walk, walk, walk, dog team. We don't stay in
34 one place before Anaktuvuk Pass was established.

35
36 I really can't thank BIA very much like
37 that. I want to thank them. Our old people want us to
38 stay at this place. They even tell our people to move
39 to Umiat so they depend on fish and other animals, but
40 our old people say, no, we're going to be up here. So
41 now we live in Anaktuvuk Pass, according to our old
42 people who want to be here.

43
44 In a way, in wintertime, you see all
45 those willows over here. They were nothing. All those
46 willows over here all over, they all cut up for heat,
47 all of them. Now they grow back up. That was our
48 heating. That's what was our heating. It's tough
49 running out of willows and trying to survive and go
50 many miles to go hunt caribou and sheep. It was not

1 easy life I witness, but our people know how to
2 survive.

3

4 Yeah, they know how to survive from the
5 land. The land that they say we cannot go without, you
6 know. That's our resources. We depend on land. We've
7 got to hold onto it for our future generation, younger
8 people. That land is really important right now. We
9 need to hold onto it. Our subsistence way of living is
10 very important too. That's what we survive on.

11

12 Sure, there's enough stores, but money,
13 it takes money and all the people don't work. Now I
14 don't see no BIA here. Maybe tribal all right, but
15 then have a hard time. Right now our younger people
16 have a hard time. No jobs. It's really hard for them.
17 They have kids to take care of, to feed. If you have a
18 family of five or eight, it's very hard for all of us.

19

20 Right now, to tell you the truth --
21 well, everybody knows anyway here -- no more dogs,
22 ATVs, but gasoline, oil, it's very expensive and it is
23 -- gasoline and oil are going up, price is going up.
24 Something more than 10 something, 10.84 or more a
25 gallon. If I paid \$21 a quart of oil, that's very
26 expensive. One quart of oil \$21. I go down here,
27 yeah, but I don't pay them. They got to continue to
28 serve our village. We need to support them. But
29 either way I tried, tried to get some oil and stuff
30 from Fairbanks, but also I get hit by freight. It come
31 back to the same amount what I try. Very expensive.

32

33 And not a lot of people have a cooking
34 stove or stuff like that and can't afford propane.
35 That's real expensive now. White gas. White gas are
36 better than \$11 or \$15 a gallon. Who could afford
37 that, but they have to have it. Yeah, we could get
38 electric stove all right, but who could afford that.
39 Some of those people that try to afford it, but we're
40 limited. Yeah, if you don't pay your electricity bill
41 and other stuff like that, they cut you off. No
42 choice. What they gonna do. It's hard. It's really
43 hard nowadays. I think this is year 2000. It's not
44 old days no more.

45

46 But I don't want to take too much time.
47 I want to thank you folks up here that's sitting.
48 Thank other people that came up here. A little bit
49 helps. Any little bit helps that we need up here,
50 especially those younger people. One thing I want to

1 mention -- I tried either way, but everything coming by
2 air now, airlines. Yeah, freight. You seen that big
3 plane that come up a few times here already. I seen it
4 three times yesterday. Yeah, that's some supplies, but
5 that's all we got. I hope people will be able to
6 afford something, you know. Even myself it's very
7 hard.

8

9 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Quyanaq, Raymond.

10

11 MR. PANEAK: Yeah, thank you. Thank
12 you very much. I don't want to take time.

13

14 Quyanaqpak.

15

16 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you for your
17 testimony. We have three more presenters and I'd like
18 to try and get them to provide their testimonies as
19 well.

20

21 We have Sollie Hugo.

22

23 MR. HUGO: (Indiscernible - away from
24 microphone).

25

26 CHAIRMAN BROWER: You want to wait.
27 Okay. Andrew Hopson. Andrew, we'll give you an
28 opportunity to provide some testimony at this time.
29 Good morning.

30

31 MR. HOPSON: Hi. Good morning. Andrew
32 Hopson from Naqsraqmiut Tribal Council. I'm also a
33 concerned member of the community. What I wanted to
34 bring up was -- oh, there's a couple of different
35 things that follow this subject. I wanted to bring up
36 the North Slope Borough permits for the sport hunter at
37 Gunsight Mountain. That's about 50 miles north of
38 here.

39

40 What I wanted to bring up first was our
41 lifestyle and our subsistence. Those are a big part of
42 our life here. I've been hunting about 20 years or
43 more now. I've still got lots to learn, but just being
44 here and the little time here in my community it
45 affects us so much because our diet is mainly
46 subsistence. Caribou is the big one. Like Raymond
47 shared, people have been getting moose that normally
48 don't get moose and everybody is getting more sheep and
49 more sheep.

50

1 Like Raymond was saying, we don't have
2 much here for jobs, for money, income, but we depend so
3 much on our lifestyle. The North Slope Borough will
4 take any amounts of money because there's a lot of
5 State lands in the North Slope Borough and they're open
6 for hunting guide businesses, but is the Borough really
7 willing to take any amount of money to affect a
8 community's lifestyle and livelihood.

9
10 We don't have barely much here and we
11 depend on each other here. That's just one of my big
12 concerns is why does -- I know there's a lot of State
13 lines, but, really, you've got to open it up for sport
14 hunting in our community? Fifty miles is really close.
15 That's in our backyard. Fifty miles in your area would
16 be your backyard as well.

17
18 We depend so much on our migration.
19 Caribou has been the biggest problem for our community
20 for years and years and year. Now it's all across the
21 whole North Slope. All the other villages are going
22 through what we've been going through. Other
23 communities are starting to notice that they're hurting
24 for caribou too and it's all because of -- all
25 communities have their own reasons and it's either
26 industry or all the air traffic, whatever.

27
28 We all depend on subsistence like you
29 guys from Barrow and Nuiqsut, Kaktovik, Anaktuvuk, all
30 the other villages, it's all subsistence. There's so
31 many things we can fall back on in subsistence, but
32 it's not -- you can't really maintain a real healthy
33 lifestyle off of little animals all the time. We need
34 our caribou and that's our biggest problem.

35
36 That's just my biggest concern is the
37 permitting for the sports hunter 50 miles north of
38 here. Now that other communities are going through the
39 caribou problem, maybe it will open up eyes within the
40 other communities about our caribou.

41
42 That's all I wanted to bring up.
43 Thanks for your time.

44
45 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Andrew.
46 You've been very helpful when you do provide comments
47 to the Regional Advisory Council. We also have
48 Lawrence Burris who wants to provide comments to the
49 Council.

50

1 Good morning, Lawrence.

2

3 MR. BURRIS: Thank you. Good morning
4 and welcome to Anaktuvuk. We presented a resolution at
5 AFN 15-7. It was targeting State management of fish
6 and game primarily. I recognize the importance of
7 aligning our thoughts on proposals with subsistence-
8 friendly entities such as the Regional Advisory Council
9 and Federal Subsistence Board. So I wanted to make
10 available copies to anybody of this final version of
11 the AFN resolution. If anybody has any questions, we
12 can go over it.

13

14 Also what Raymond was saying earlier
15 about we don't just stay in one spot, but when the
16 village was settled, that became a weakness for our
17 area or our hunters because our ability to range as far
18 as we were before we were settled became diminished.
19 One thing that is also detrimental to that is in the
20 Park Service we're not allowed to build permanent
21 structures in certain areas of the Park and perhaps it
22 might be all areas. If we had some type of ability to
23 build emergency shelters in selected areas maybe that
24 would help improve the range of the hunters from
25 Anaktuvuk to maybe where there are caribou in one area
26 but not in the Anaktuvuk area.

27

28 I can pass these copies out to the
29 Council members or just give some to the Chair or
30 whatever is appropriate. I don't know if it's
31 appropriate to ask this body for an endorsement, but I
32 definitely wanted to provide you copies.

33

34 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you.

35

36 MR. BURRIS: Thank you.

37

38 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Lawrence.
39 I think it's only appropriate that we could receive
40 some of this and we'll see what we -- follow through
41 with what kind of information is presented in here. We
42 need to read through it to understand the contents.
43 Maybe we could read through it and put it on record.
44 Did you want to read it, Lawrence, or do you want to
45 have one of us read it. I think it's only appropriate
46 that we read the contents of the resolution.

47

48 MR. BURRIS: Yes, I can read it.

49

50 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you.

1 Continue.

2

3 MR. BURRIS: Alaska Federation of
4 Natives 2015 annual convention. Resolution 15-7.
5 Title is requesting for state action to address
6 conflicts between village residents and sport hunters
7 and to ensure meaningful subsistence opportunities for
8 village residents.

9

10 WHEREAS the Alaska Federation of
11 Natives is the largest statewide Native organization in
12 Alaska, and its membership includes 165
13 Federally-recognized tribes, 146 village corporations,
14 12 regional corporations, and 12 regional nonprofit and
15 tribal consortiums that contract and compact to run
16 federal and state programs; and

17

18 WHEREAS the mission of AFN is to
19 enhance and promote the cultural, economic, and
20 political voice of the entire Alaska Native community;
21 and

22

23 WHEREAS subsistence is the foundation
24 of Alaska Native cultures and the mainstay of food
25 security in Native villages; and

26

27 WHEREAS subsistence harvests have been
28 marginalized, both by competing users of fish and game,
29 and by ineffective and irreconcilable Federal and State
30 management regimes; and

31

32 WHEREAS Alaska Natives have relied on
33 fish and game for thousands of years; and

34

35 WHEREAS many peoples were traditionally
36 nomadic, moving widely across the landscape to gather
37 the fish and game resources necessary for survival, and
38 those resources continue to be critical source of
39 nutrition and cultural strength; and

40

41 WHEREAS we honor the teaching of our
42 ancestors, and still observe the traditional practices
43 that have defined Alaska Natives as a people, including
44 a primary dependence on fish and game, restraint in not
45 overharvesting, and recognition that any human
46 disturbance can cause reduction in number and health of
47 our fish and game resources; and

48

49 WHEREAS given the overwhelming reliance
50 on subsistence resources, reduction in opportunity and

1 success causes direct and extreme cultural and
2 nutritional hardship for entire communities; and

3

4 WHEREAS access to hunting and fishing
5 grounds by village residents has become increasingly
6 difficult with geographic and economic limitations,
7 such as the extremely high, and still rising cost of
8 local fuel as well as other necessary equipment and
9 supplies; and

10

11 WHEREAS sport hunters traveling to our
12 villages frequently do not share many of these
13 limitations and often displace local opportunity and
14 negatively affect the health of our subsistence
15 resources; and

16

17 WHEREAS inadequately regulated
18 transporter access, aircraft over-flights, and
19 ground-based activities associated with sport hunting
20 divert game away from our traditional hunting
21 grounds, and out of the safe and economical reach of
22 local subsistence
23 users, thereby causing significant community hardship;
24 and

25

26 WHEREAS the Alaska Department of Fish
27 and Game, the Alaska Board of Game, the Alaska State
28 Legislature, and Federal agencies have taken
29 insufficient steps to halt the ongoing and increasing
30 disruption of subsistence hunting opportunities by
31 transporters, sport hunters, and their associated
32 activities, and the State of Alaska and the Federal
33 Subsistence Board must provide for meaningful and
34 consistent subsistence harvest opportunities necessary
35 for Alaska Native communities' continued culture and
36 physical survival.

37

38 NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the
39 delegates of the 2015 Annual Alaska Federation of
40 Natives convention that AFN urges the Alaska Department
41 of Fish and Game, the Alaska Board of Game, the
42 National Park Service, the Bureau of Land Management,
43 the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Federal
44 Subsistence Board to immediately develop a
45 comprehensive sport hunting management plan in full
46 consultation with affected federally recognized tribes,
47 tribal non-profits, and ANCSA corporations and open and
48 maintain a consistent and structured dialogue with
49 representatives of those rural villages and regional
50 authorities most impacted by these issues to develop a

1 strategy for responsible management, including strict
2 enforcement of State/Federal trespassing and hunting
3 laws for the management of the access and activities of
4 non-local hunters that will ensure the opportunity
5 necessary to provide fully for these villages'
6 subsistence way of life.

7
8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this
9 resolution shall be the policy of AFN until it is
10 withdrawn or modified by subsequent resolution.

11
12 Submitted by AFN board of directors,
13 originally submitted by Nunamiut Corporation and
14 Naqsraqmiut Tribal Council. It was passed by AFN and
15 signed by Julie Kitka.

16
17 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you for that,
18 Lawrence. It helps give us direction in regards to the
19 endorsement you're requesting for. We'll definitely
20 take that up when we get into our action items and
21 following through with your request.

22
23 Thank you.

24
25 MR. BURRIS: Thank you.

26
27 CHAIRMAN BROWER: It's 11:45. Did we
28 have any other testimony at this time.

29
30 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council. Do
31 we have anyone else who's joined us today from
32 Anaktuvuk Pass who would like to address the Council.

33
34 MR. AHGOOK: Tim Ahgook.

35
36 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Tim.

37
38 Good morning.

39
40 MR. AHGOOK: UCAN. I just wanted to
41 bring up something that we've been talking about so
42 long. Now that we got the resolution passed regarding
43 access toward Native allotments toward southbound, I
44 was just wondering if it's open to us, you know,
45 because we're blocked in by the Park Service and we
46 can't go off easements.

47
48 But since there's Federal lands and
49 State lands and there's Native allotments that are
50 really hard to get to and I know the Native Alaska

1 Settlement Claims Act had -- people get their own
2 allotments out of 50 miles out of here, but the only
3 thing that's holding us back is the Park and the
4 Federal that we can't use ATVs to go hunt toward our
5 own Native allotments. How long we have to fight for
6 this? Do I have to keep saying it over and over until
7 I'm what, 75? I'll be here yet.

8
9 But the only thing when we ran out of
10 caribou nowhere to hunt. You've got to watch the
11 easements. I was just wondering if we can just -- if
12 there's a way we can use the ATVs right towards our
13 Native allotments down south. I know it's been pretty
14 hard. We've got to go somewhere to hunt further than
15 these easements, Park Service easements. I know we'll
16 get in trouble going off the easements, getting
17 arrested, get whatever you own to hunt. Maybe we'll
18 all just go through there until they figure something
19 out why we can't go down to our Native allotments with
20 our own ATVs.

21
22 Is says in the Native Claims Settlement
23 Act you can have your own Native allotments to go out
24 and hunt, right? I might be out of order but I'm just
25 curious about that swap, like land swap. It kind of
26 affected our traditional way of hunting. These
27 easements are just blocking us off. We need to go hunt
28 a little further down south to our own Native
29 allotments and hunt and survive. Make use of our land
30 down there instead of we being hauled off like we're
31 handcuffed. We can't go nowhere. We're blocked right
32 in between the Park Service and the State and the
33 Federal.

34
35 I'm just wondering since it's so hard
36 to hunt our caribous are going the other way, but
37 there's always a way that we can try and reach down
38 there with our own ATVs. I think every sport hunter
39 got a right to hunt. Why can't us? How come we can't
40 go down there and hunt on our own traditional land
41 Native allotments. I'm sure everybody up north got
42 allotments they can just go right to, no problem, but
43 look at us. Hey, we're put off to the side too long.

44
45 It just comes -- you hear it once and
46 then it will come back out. Talk for this forever.
47 Maybe we'll mention it sometimes that we got a
48 resolution that we got under our Native allotments
49 tribal laws that we can go into and hunt on our own
50 with our own ATV. I know people up north got a lot of

1 access. They got boats, everything, ATVs. They get to
2 their allotments. Why can't us?

3

4 We need to have some kind of resolution
5 or amendment to AFN saying that we need to address
6 what's going on with our traditional way of life of
7 hunting, that we can hunt toward our allotments down
8 south. That kind of bothers me anyway. It's pretty
9 hard. Since we've got nowhere else to go, why not hit
10 the road down south.

11

12 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Timothy, quyanaq.

13

14 MR. AHGOOK: Thank you. Welcome to
15 Anaktuvuk.

16

17 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you for sharing
18 your concerns, Timothy. We'll definitely try and get
19 some answers for you one way or another.

20

21 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chair.

22

23 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yes, Gordon.

24

25 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chair. Gordon
26 Brower for the record. Tim, thank you for that. I
27 remember listening to that issue a couple years ago
28 already and then we didn't hear anything for a long
29 time, not even a path forward how to try to take that
30 issue. There was no feedback. I think Marcy was here
31 and heard these issues as well.

32

33 I think there should have been a
34 responsibility to try to find a path to listen to the
35 community when it's a guaranteed right to access these
36 lands. If the right is diminished by a certain type of
37 vehicle, there's still a path to try to get an
38 exemption for that.

39

40 I was called by somebody that you know,
41 probably in anticipation of this meeting in Anaktuvuk,
42 just a couple weeks ago. And say here's the forms, you
43 get those people that are interested in going south to
44 their Native allotments, they fill out logically and
45 effectively, making a case to submit that application.
46 This is two years after that meeting. Knowing that
47 this topic would most likely surface in this meeting
48 today. Two years late. Two years of more suffering to
49 try to have access to these lands.

50

1 I think it's appalling to act in an
2 irresponsible manner when we know there's been the need
3 for a path. To describe it well to the community, this
4 is the form you fill out, it will be on the Federal
5 Register, there will be public notice to make these
6 types of issues. You may not get it, but at least
7 there's a path for these as long as you make a case
8 for it.

9
10 That was described to me two weeks ago
11 just before this meeting that I knew that they were
12 coming and I forgot what his name is, but I forwarded
13 it to the Wildlife Department with the forms and I
14 forwarded it on to Mr. Burris and say, hey, find those
15 people that have the issues of going south to these
16 Native allotments, look at these documentation and fill
17 them out in a logical way that could be interpreted so
18 that it will get on the Federal Register and that
19 process started.

20
21 It should have been done a long time
22 ago in my books.

23
24 Thank you.

25
26 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you for that,
27 Gordon. Even though, Marcy, you were identified, we'll
28 wait until we get to our agency reports. Maybe at that
29 time you could provide a response so it gives you an
30 opportunity to do a little bit of research as well to
31 what you're hearing. I'm not sure if you may have
32 something that you might be presenting.

33
34 Again, Gordon, these are things that we
35 just learned about recently and we need ample time to
36 provide agency reports. They're on our agenda and
37 we'll definitely follow up on that to that specific
38 concern. So we'll provide them the opportunity to
39 provide a response for that.

40
41 Thank you.

42
43 Esther Hugo.

44
45 MS. HUGO: How much time limit do we
46 have because you keep excusing our people that are
47 trying to express their thoughts and their concerns? I
48 mean you should listen them out, especially the elders.

49
50 Thank you.

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Esther.
2 We're trying our best and moving forward.

3
4 MS. HUGO: I know it's time consuming
5 too, so I understand that. Well, here we go again.
6 What do we do with the sport hunters? Come on. How
7 can we beat them? (Crying) Sorry, this is always
8 emotional for me. It's caribou. I mean it's our diet,
9 way of life since time. How can we beat them so we can
10 wait for the migration of the caribou, knowing the
11 changes.

12
13 We have been with this issue for years,
14 but as years go by it's been the same. How can we stop
15 them. Probably can't. But we're tired of being
16 stomped on and we need solutions now regarding our
17 subsistence way of life, our diet.

18
19 Like our grandfathers, for years we
20 have patience every fall. Waiting, knowing the caribou
21 migration that they were always on the way. But as of
22 today it's no thousands upon thousands that migrate and
23 they keep saying it's the sport hunters and we can beat
24 them.

25
26 We're talking about lives here. Food
27 for our stomach, food for our health, food that our
28 parents and our grandparents had passed on. Just tears
29 because we didn't catch what we needed to again and
30 again. It just make me want to go back when I was a
31 little girl when there was thousands and thousands
32 daily migrate through the Pass and how much our
33 grandfathers and their fathers, hang and store their
34 meat, especially fall time. That's what I miss the
35 most.

36
37 It's still the sport hunters. We have
38 to beat them. I mean it works somewhere down in the
39 Lower 48 for the people, the Indians and the people
40 that live on the reservations. I'm sure it worked for
41 you all whalers because you guys fought and we're just
42 starting to fight. We got our sport hunters that are
43 just doing -- they're just hurting us.

44
45 It's getting kind of scary to go meet
46 planes fall time because you just see all these
47 antlers. Where's the meat. Where have they been
48 putting all these meat that we eat, that we don't
49 waste.

50

1 There's a lot of comments that was
2 brought up from one particular niece. I guess she rode
3 in with or saw some guide hunters and this guide hunter
4 said maybe one of them is you, one of them is you, you
5 got your name on it. That's the way he talked to my
6 niece on the caribou.

7
8 But it's to where today, now, the past
9 since August, they've been trying to survive on food
10 from the store and that's expensive. Like you need to
11 be on food stamps or have good job just to feed your
12 family. It's just a hard part right now. But no
13 matter what we'll have to keep fighting for what's
14 right is ours, rightfully ours from the beginning. We
15 need to work on this because we're going to be facing
16 fall time again within how many months. Less than a
17 year again. We'll see how that goes.

18
19 I guess not having your daily diet
20 hurts you. I mean it hurts me because I got my stomach
21 operation in March and the only thing that satisfies my
22 stomach today is eating caribou or caribou soup,
23 anything caribou. Like I say, this is emotional.
24 Those tears just keep coming. I don't know. It's the
25 sport hunters.

26
27 If all the people that come in and meet
28 behind me in the back besides you guys, if you guys can
29 hear me, that we are hurting. We just got to beat the
30 system. We have to beat it because that's our only way
31 of life, our diet. If it wasn't so much so, I wouldn't
32 be up here voicing myself.

33
34 It's just going to be the same thing
35 I've been talking about for a while here. Every time I
36 speak it's just like I'm a big crybaby, but I'm not.
37 It's just the pain and the hurt and I don't have no
38 caribou to eat like it used to be. But what do we do
39 with the sport hunters. I know there's a wide area
40 country down there, but we still can maintain it.

41
42 Thank you.

43
44 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Esther, thank you for
45 your testimony. You know, this is one of the reasons
46 we come to this community, to hear your concerns and
47 try to identify a way forward as to what we've learned
48 and generate something that would be meaningful for the
49 community.

50

1 Thank you, Esther.

2

3 Anna Nageak.

4

5 MS. NAGEAK: (In Inupiaq). You say the
6 very thing you want to say, but on the other side not
7 too many of our people understand. My concern has
8 always been like Esther. I'm a hunter's wife and I've
9 always been a person who make dry meat. A lot of dry
10 meat. But we have cache over there which has been
11 empty may three or four years. We have drying racks,
12 which have been empty for three or four years. Some
13 people go south and make a little bit more than we do,
14 but those of us that are over 60 you just sort of have
15 to slow down a little bit, you know. It goes with age,
16 I guess.

17

18 Anyway, I just wanted to say that
19 Esther's right. We've been saying a lot of things
20 about subsistence and sports hunters, sports hunters
21 being what they are. They come and hunt not because
22 they're hungry, not because they really want to hunt
23 caribou. Maybe they do. Some might, but we know for
24 some it's just to hunt just because. Just because.
25 For those of us when we hunt, we don't have an option.
26 We don't get it for sports. We don't get it for
27 anything else. We eat whatever.

28

29 And I just want to say when we're
30 saving, James and I, we save every little piece of
31 caribou that could be saved. We even dry, you know,
32 the back of the caribou leg. We dry those. We don't
33 throw them. Sometimes we even save the very little
34 piece of those marrows. We don't throw them away
35 because we know that if the caribou is short, we're
36 going to eat those, which has been happening for three
37 or four years.

38

39 We come down to the very last marrow on
40 those caribou that we get or we saved. Sometimes I
41 keep those food for three or four years because
42 sometimes I date them. John, our John, my John, he
43 said how old is this meat. Oh, about three or four
44 years. You know, we keep them that long just because
45 we want some caribou in the later date if we don't have
46 any.

47

48 Or if we don't eat it, there's always
49 the dogs. So we save everything under the sun we can
50 save. We don't ever throw any meat away, at least for

1 my family. We don't. Little buttocks, we dry those up
2 when we have to. Make jerky out of it. So I say
3 we are the most conservative people on the planet as
4 far as saving the caribou, but yet right now we don't
5 have a whole lot.

6
7 Because there's some people that hunt,
8 young people that hunt, they gave us little fresh meat
9 and every little single one of those things we save.
10 And I date those things. If I want a little fresher
11 meat, that's what I get if they're dated. And if I
12 just want kuak, it could be three or four years old,
13 which I've been saving for that long, we'll have it for
14 kuak.

15
16 We are one of the people that conserve
17 whatever we have. I guess I'm not the only one who
18 does that. We do that for the purpose of maybe
19 conserving the next caribou. I don't know, but we've
20 been doing that for years. So when we say we are
21 hurting, we are hurting because it's not what we do,
22 it's not what we waste, it's because -- maybe somebody
23 else is doing it, I don't know, but that's not for me
24 to say, but we know who is down there sometimes.

25
26 Once you divert the caribou they will
27 always follow. We know that. We've been hearing that
28 since I was a little girl. You divert the caribou,
29 next year they will take that and the next year. For a
30 couple of years we had caribou coming in from
31 Kongumavik and go right straight across instead of
32 going through here or a few of them will go there and
33 then they go over the mountains.

34
35 That's why we always say maybe, maybe
36 we need to get those guys down there that are hunting,
37 the hunters, to wait until they pass. That's what
38 we've been saying for a long time. Maybe we need to
39 put that in the resolutions where the people are, you
40 know, making the bylaws or whatever or the people that
41 are here, Fish and Game. Maybe that's another thing we
42 need to look at and maybe you can do something if we
43 have backup somewhere.

44
45 So I just thought maybe with your help
46 too we can start saying wait. They don't have to
47 please those guys all the time. They certainly don't
48 please us. Maybe we could say, no, you can't have this
49 time, not right now. Wait. Wait until we say they've
50 passed enough so they can come.

1 That was one of the things that I
2 really wanted to say and maybe for you to hear and
3 maybe think about with the Park Service and everybody
4 else listening. Maybe we can do something. As our
5 title say UCAN, maybe we can with help.

6
7 Thank you.

8
9 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Anna, for
10 your testimony. I know we're getting into the lunch
11 hour. I think we could take a recess and we could
12 follow as to where we are after the lunch hour and
13 maybe get in line with our agenda items again.

14
15 Thank you everyone for all of you that
16 provided testimony this morning. Very heartfelt.
17 We'll definitely take them into consideration. At this
18 time I'd like to break for lunch recess until 1:30.

19
20 Is that okay?

21
22 MR. G. BROWER: Sounds good.

23
24 CHAIRMAN BROWER: We'll break until
25 1:30. Thank you.

26
27 (Off record)

28
29 (On record)

30
31 CHAIRMAN BROWER: If you could take
32 your seats, we could call the meeting back to order
33 after our lunch recess. We still have a lengthy agenda
34 to follow through and I'd like to try and continue
35 moving forward with our agenda items. We covered the
36 public and tribal comments, non-agenda items.

37
38 Maybe I'd just like to ask if we should
39 continue that for public testimony. If we have other
40 public testimony that needs to be presented, we could
41 give you an opportunity at this time.

42
43 (No comments)

44
45 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yes, James.

46
47 MR. NAGEAK: I want to welcome Mr.
48 Parrett down there. He just came in. I remember when
49 my auntie used to change his diapers.

50

1 (Laughter)
2
3 MR. PARRETT: You're so old.
4
5 MR. NAGEAK: (Laughs) Now he's a
6 caribou expert. Thank you.
7
8 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you for that,
9 James. Maybe I should go back and do a little bit of
10 introduction. We've had some new folks come in. If
11 you missed out on the introductions this morning, maybe
12 we'll give you an opportunity to introduce yourself at
13 this time. I'll start with President Lincoln. Could
14 you please stand and just introduce yourself with a
15 little background for the record, please.
16
17 MR. PARRETT: My name is Lincoln
18 Parrett. I work for Fish and Game. I grew up in
19 Barrow. I live in Fairbanks now and James used to
20 change my diapers.
21
22 (Laughter)
23
24 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Lincoln.
25 I see Ernest and Uinniq. Are they still here? Come
26 and introduce yourselves, please.
27
28 MR. E. NAGEAK: Ernest Nageak, for the
29 record. Barrow Field Office, Fish and Wildlife
30 Service, born and raised in Barrow.
31
32 MR. NAGEAK: I used to change his
33 diapers too.
34
35 MS. AHGEAK: My name is Uinniq Ahgeak.
36 I also work at the Fish and Wildlife Service, Barrow
37 Field Office, and I do youth education and outreach
38 programs.
39
40 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Uinniq and
41 Ernest. Did we miss anybody or have anybody else in
42 the audience. Just come on up to the mic, please.
43
44 MR. GLASPELL: Hi. My name is Brian
45 Glaspell. I'm the Refuge Manager at Arctic National
46 Wildlife Refuge. I live in Fairbanks.
47
48 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Brian.
49 Any others. Another Brian.
50

1 DR. PERSON: Good afternoon. Brian
2 Person with the North Slope Borough, Department of
3 Wildlife Management. James, you can change my diapers
4 after the meeting.

5
6 (Laughter)

7
8 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Brian.

9
10 MR. NAGEAK: I told him I had a
11 toothache.

12
13 (Laughter)

14
15 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you for the
16 humor. It's always good to have a little humor in the
17 midst of all the serious discussions that we have.
18 Thank you for that.

19
20 Somebody's got a phone real close to
21 the mics or.....

22
23 (Laughter)

24
25 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I caught myself
26 having a phone near the mic. Thank you. Anybody else
27 for introductions.

28
29 (No comments)

30
31 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Maybe I should ask
32 anybody on the teleconference. Do we have any new
33 participants in the teleconference that we're not aware
34 of.

35
36 MS. TONNESON: Good afternoon. This is
37 Heather Tonneson at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
38 in Anchorage.

39
40 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Heather.
41 Come on up to the mic, Kenny.

42
43 MR. MEKIANA: Welcome to Anaktuvuk.

44
45 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Kenny.

46
47 MR. MEKIANA: Thank you very much for
48 coming. We waited a long time for you people to come
49 up. I think the people will have a chance to say so
50 and wee what's going on.

1 Quyanaqpak. Welcome everybody.
2
3 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Kenny.
4 Louisa, do you want to introduce yourself?
5
6 Louisa.
7
8 MS. RILEY: (Indiscernible).
9
10 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Quyanaq. Welcome.
11 Thank you for the introductions. Maybe I'll just ask
12 one more time to see if we have any other public
13 testimony or tribal comments on non-agenda items.
14
15 Yes, Riley.
16
17 MR. SIKVAYUGAK: Riley Richard
18 Sikvayugak, Jr. for the record. Nunamiut Corporation
19 and newly elected Caribou Association president of
20 Anaktuvuk Pass.
21
22 Welcome to Anaktuvuk Pass. How is your
23 oxygen level?
24
25 (Laughter)
26
27 MR. SIKVAYUGAK: Remember you're half a
28 mile high now, 2,150 above sea level. But I'd like to
29 welcome you guys to our beautiful land of Anaktuvuk
30 Pass. As the president of the UCAN program, the
31 Caribou Association, for the past few years we've been
32 having caribou problems as you all know it. For the
33 last six years I've been coming to round table
34 meetings. It seems like things have never been
35 accomplished among our people and the people that's
36 trying to help with fish and wildlife and the sport
37 hunters. As you know, we're always going to speak
38 about sport hunters.
39
40 We've survived in these lands. I'm a
41 descendant of the last of the nomads. My mother was a
42 nomad. She walked 100 miles before she landed here.
43 She was 100 miles out. I'm glad I'm a descendant of
44 the Nunamiut people. I will represent our Nunamiut
45 people with a passion.
46
47 I grew up -- this is going on my 51st
48 winter. Started hunting caribou at six years old right
49 up here at Mac Road. That was a binocular eyes for the
50 hunters. When they were hunting, when there's no

1 caribou, they were playing poker. Lighter -- I mean
2 matches, shells, cigarettes. There was no money
3 involved, but they had fun. The like of Jack Hugo,
4 Sr., Justus Mekiana, Sr., Ben Ahgook, Bob Ahgook, Clyde
5 Hugo, Willie Hugo.

6
7 The first time I ever got my caribou
8 was when I was 13 years old. When I graduated from
9 seventh grade, Charles Hugo gave me a 30.30 rifle and I
10 walked to Amiloyak, which is around Mac Mountain, at
11 the age of 13, shot my first caribou and I had to
12 backpack it home with Richard Ahgook and Steven Morry.
13 Sollie Hugo gave me that 30.30 rifle. I shot that
14 caribou right in the ear. I was 13 and I had to
15 backpack it home with Richard Ahgook and Steven Morry.

16
17
18 As a representative of the Nunamiut
19 people, I will represent them with a passion. I've
20 always attended meetings for the last six years. We
21 need to have some of our concerns fixed. It seems like
22 it goes in one ear and out the other ear. For the last
23 10 years I've been listening to hunters and I
24 represented our corporation for six years. Round table
25 after round table. Words of our people, the words that
26 come out, it's sport hunters.

27
28 Those are the people that have the
29 right to hunt our caribou before they even reach our
30 region. They hunt for trophies. We hunt for survival.
31 The survival is very harsh up here, up in these
32 mountains. You're above sea level. You're 2,150 above
33 sea level. Probably hard for some of you guys to
34 breathe because it's easy to breathe at sea level. But
35 you're always going to hear the words from our people
36 sport hunters. They have the right to hunt before us
37 all the time. We should have that right before them
38 because that's our diet, our main diet.

39
40 We lived without dividends, we lived
41 without Permanent Funds way before they came here. We
42 had no electricity. First six years of my life was in
43 a sod house just right next door, right out here. My
44 dad had bought it for 100 bucks. 1970 was my first
45 lumber house. It's still standing with the help of the
46 hunters from my dad's age group. They helped build
47 this house right in the middle of Anaktuvuk Pass.

48
49 Those people that were out there that
50 was always hunting, they were passionate people. There

1 was no problems, no anger amongst each other. It's
2 always how many caribou you see, how many of them you
3 catch. Today we argue about sport hunters now. It's
4 not how many caribous you get. It's going on nine
5 years now.

6
7 Me and my mom, that was the last time I
8 got 17. It took us a long time to skin, a long time to
9 haul back. I got 10, but, you know, Mom keep going one
10 more, son. Shot it. One more, son. Shot it. I said
11 how many more one more times, Mom. It totaled 17
12 bulls. Took a long time to skin. My hands were tired
13 and after skinning I had to bring it all home, me and
14 Mom. That was the last time me and Mom ever got that
15 many caribou bulls. Took all day, all night.

16
17 But you guys are always going to hear
18 what our people are going to say. Sport hunters were
19 always the first ones to hunt our animals. When I say
20 our, it's not just Anaktuvuk, it's the whole North
21 Slope. We're all one. We shouldn't be divided. We
22 should be as one Inupiat people fighting for us. Not
23 who's got the most money, who's got the most jobs.
24 Fight as one Inupiat people.

25
26 We should be together as a group of
27 people that try to help because our community is being
28 helped from the coastal communities in the last five
29 years. Thank you Tagiugmiut for all the whales,
30 muktuk, even caribou. Nick Airey (ph). I want to say
31 thank you to Nick Airey. Fifteen bulls, 300 miles
32 away, send them to our village. He had to travel a
33 long ways to go get them bulls for the village of
34 Anaktuvuk Pass. I'm thankful that the other
35 communities have always sent us meat, whales and any
36 subsistence food items for our community. I'm
37 thankful, but we shouldn't have to be doing that every
38 year.

39
40 We are hunters too. We hunt. My mom
41 and them, we had like a 500 mile radius on traveling on
42 foot. Today we have ATVs. That monument, there's a
43 rock plain. Thirty hunters would be there before we
44 had ATVs, rifles shooting. The next 50 years what am I
45 going to say to my grandkids. That blind was caribou
46 blind. Will it be used again? We have to go distances
47 to go get our food. We shouldn't be traveling far
48 places.

49
50 The survival we had in these harsh

1 conditions, we complain, but maybe not hard enough.
2 The State needs to see that. How much more round table
3 meetings do I have to go to until they finally hear our
4 complaints and our hardship of our own subsistence
5 lifestyle as Anaktuvuk people, the Nunamiut people. I
6 will represent them with a passion because that's what
7 my mom wanted me to do. I had to become a young man at
8 the age of 14 and I had to provide for my mother and
9 for the family.

10
11 Every round table meeting, every
12 meetings I go to, wildlife meetings, sport hunters will
13 always be at the top of the agenda for our people.
14 It's getting harder. You see sport hunters come here.
15 They use our post office, they use our runway. They go
16 and get one bull. Bring the antlers home and they say
17 they help us with their meat, but one caribou won't
18 feed 300-plus people. They can get one bull, one
19 antler.

20
21 We fight to survive. We know where to
22 hunt ptarmigans, go get fish if needed if we don't have
23 it. The likes of Kenny Mekiana and Willie Hugo show me
24 where to go, Don Mekiana, to hunt ptarmigans year
25 round. But the only thing that the State will ever
26 hear is on sport hunters. Those are the only people
27 that can give money to North Slope Borough and say here
28 you go, I want to go get one bull.

29
30 I survive. I live in this land for
31 more than just one bull. The land we use, we use
32 subsistencely everything. The fish come from the
33 Beaufort Sea, not just the caribou. Right now if you
34 look at Anaktuvuk River, it's super dry because the
35 elevation, the water dries out when it goes down to the
36 headwaters of Anaktuvuk River to the Colville. It's
37 dry. But every spring we get fish too from the
38 Beaufort Sea. It's not just the caribou that's not
39 migrating up in this area. It's the fish.

40
41 Right now they're going to try and
42 drill right by Nuiqsut. Build a well. That river is
43 impacting us. It's not just impacting Nuiqsut. If you
44 can see the river path coming to the Colville River and
45 to Anaktuvuk and the Itkillik and the Chandler, the
46 fish migrate through there. If you guys go right up
47 here, the headwaters of Anaktuvuk, it's dry, but we get
48 33-inch Dolly Vardens from the Beaufort Sea. The
49 arctic chars and lake trouts for Chandler River. Every
50 springtime.

1 If you guys go springtime, not just the
2 caribou, but millions of arctic chars just coming up
3 the river springtime. Fifty-one years hunter and
4 gatherer. I learned from my elders, my uncles, my
5 grandpas where the caribou congregate, where the fish
6 come from. It just don't stay here. Fish come from
7 the Beaufort Sea and right where they're going to drill
8 that by Nuiqsut it's going to impact us. If we don't
9 get the fish, we're not just impacted just by caribou,
10 we're also impacted by fish because our fish come from
11 the Colville River, from the Beaufort Sea.

12
13 But we have to stop these round table
14 meetings about caribous. You guys all know it. It's
15 the sport hunters. They go after one. We have to
16 survive for 365 days. One year my mom counted 56
17 caribou. I hunted every month. Fifty-six caribou I
18 got in one year. I never kept count, but my mom did.
19 Every month we'd go hunt caribou.

20
21 We need to stop regulating us. We're
22 always regulated. We're always told what to do, what
23 not to do. We follow your rules, but sometimes you
24 guys got to help us. Give us a leeway for our own
25 tribal traditional lands that our cousins can't get to
26 and the sport hunters have first chance at the
27 migration. And the fish might not even come when the
28 drilling starts up in Nuiqsut if they build that well.
29 It's not just the caribou that's being impacted. It's
30 the fish too.

31
32 We're at 2,150 right now. When the
33 river dry in the fall time, there is no water. Gravel
34 in our rivers. As a hunter and a gatherer, I've
35 observed them. I experience them. It's not hearsay.
36 Like I said, it's 51 years. I'm starting my 51st
37 winter in Anaktuvuk Pass. Never move. Never go
38 anywhere. I learned what my mom, my uncles, my
39 aunties.

40
41 The women, they work hard. They
42 prepare us to go hunting. When we go hunting, they
43 prepare us something to eat. Sometimes you don't eat
44 though. When I was a small child, one time two days I
45 never eat. I'm eating willows, frozen berries up in
46 these hills.

47
48 Sometimes these round tables, you know,
49 I'm thinking why do we have round table after round
50 table, meeting after meeting, trilateral meetings with

1 the tribe, the city, the corp. Can those things be
2 accomplished. We have the same meeting with the same
3 problems, same complaints, same complaints. When will
4 they ever hear sport hunters with our traditional
5 lifestyle and the lifestyle we live in in Anaktuvuk
6 Pass as Nunamiut people, the inland people. We hunt
7 caribou. That's our main diet. They did studies for
8 20-plus years on caribou.

9
10 As a hunter and a gatherer, you see
11 your land, you experience it. Forty-four years I've
12 been with the hunters, different groups, different
13 leaders. The ones we had in the past were tough. You
14 can't question those people. They were tough leaders.
15 When we go hunting, we never overcatch. We get what we
16 need. Whatever Mom wants.

17
18 Sometimes, you know, I would go
19 overboard when she goes four would be good enough, son.
20 She said four. I came home with eight. It's just like
21 my mom, one more. I keep saying one more, one more.
22 They keep dropping. When I keep asking my mom how come
23 one more, one more, one more, how many more one more,
24 she goes we might not see them next year.

25
26 She was right. Didn't see them.
27 Seventeen, that was the last time I ever got that many
28 with my mom. It wasn't just for us. We provided to
29 the people that had no hunters. Wives with no hunters.
30 Not just for the family. You share all of it. People
31 with no hunters got to have meat too and that's how Mom
32 has taught me to become a hunter and a provider and a
33 gatherer for the Nunamiut people.

34
35 You guys, some day we have to stop it.
36 We have to say no more sport hunters. They hunt one
37 antler. We hunt for a living. We don't pay North Slope
38 Borough thousands of dollars just so we can go get one
39 trophy antler. We hunt to survive in these harsh
40 conditions and without the jobs. No jobs, no money.
41 Some day you guys have to stop it. Change the hunting
42 trophy months when the caribou rut in October, not in
43 July.

44
45 July all the sport hunters are up there
46 already diverting. They use our post office. They use
47 the runways. Have you guys seen the post on Facebook?
48 That was my other half doing that. She took pictures
49 of the hunters. One antler. Sixteen hunters coming
50 out of the airplane from Fairbanks. Nine on one plane,

1 nine on the other. Sometimes our own people get kicked
2 out, bumped out because the hunters have more money
3 than we do. Transportation. They put our people
4 behind the money. We're not a priority. We need to be
5 a priority sometimes.

6

7 This man, we fought, my mom, my uncles,
8 my grandpas, my cousins. You guys got to hear us
9 sometimes. It's got to come out. We just can't have
10 all these meetings same complaints every -- for the
11 last six years. Same complaints. When can this stop.

12

13 I'm going to try as the newly-elected
14 president of the Caribou Association. I'm going to be
15 loud and I'm going to voice for my people. Not just
16 for me, for my people and the community and the
17 communities around the North Slope because we are all
18 hunters and gatherers. Not just us. We need to be as
19 one. One strong group of people. Make it strong.
20 Make it hard.

21

22 We try AFN. This is our first time
23 putting a resolution in AFN. The strongest tribe in
24 Alaska where the voices can be heard. Not just from
25 the North Slope Borough, but through the different
26 corporations, different tribes. Instead of different
27 and divided tribes, we need to become as one tribe,
28 whether it's Indian, Eskimo, Aleuts, Athabaskans.

29

30 Let's try to become one and fight for
31 each other as a state of Alaska. Not North Slope
32 Borough, not the east, the west, let's try to become
33 one. Work with the other groups because we're all
34 hunters and gatherers. Whether you're a fisherman, a
35 whaler, a caribou hunter, let's try to become one.
36 There's too many divisions. Too many divides. We're
37 all Native people. Let's not divide Native people and
38 hunters and gatherers because we have to be divided.

39

40 I would like to thank Marie Paneak for
41 teaching me and guiding me when we go on hunts. I
42 would be the only Sikvayugak man in that hunting group.
43 Marie Paneak would always keep me warm, make sure I'm
44 not hungry, where to get wood, how much wood and where
45 to get water to make tea for the hunters because I was
46 a little Sikvayugak boy in that whole group of hunters
47 and I would always listen. You never talked back to
48 elders. You never talked back to your aunties. You
49 never be lazy or nothing. You always, it's okay.

50

1 Marie, I want to thank Marie Paneak,
2 Raymond Paneak, because I would be out there with these
3 people and they were teaching me the Nunamiut way of
4 lifestyle. Sometimes North Slope Borough and all
5 hunters and gatherers please try to be as one. Not
6 selfish people. Let's try to be one. Try to help each
7 other. It's all over the state.

8
9 This one problem everybody know it in
10 Alaska. Everybody's seen it. We get fish from Kenai
11 for crying out loud. Nobody ever sent us fish before.
12 Facebook, internet went out. My other half did that
13 with her camera showing these hunters getting off the
14 plane, getting on with one antler. Survival of the
15 fittest is where it's at up here in Anaktuvuk. You
16 survive. You live on subsistence way of lifestyle.
17 It's hard though.

18
19 We pay highest in the nation for fuel.
20 \$10.65 a gallon. You pay over \$100 to fill your
21 snowmachine up. Might not get a caribou that day, but
22 you spend 100 bucks on the snowmachine gas. And the
23 resources come right from our own land, yet we pay
24 highest in the nation. We're limited on how to travel
25 because the boats up here are too -- it's too rocky.
26 Only machines we have is Argos, four-wheelers,
27 snowmachines and we pay highest in the nation for fuel
28 when the resources come right off of our own land.

29
30 It's going to be tough. It shouldn't
31 be stressful. It's challenging. Challenge should be
32 the word instead of stressful because you have
33 solutions when you can try to fix the challenge.
34 Challenge is really hard. It's not a stressful thing.
35 It's a challenge. It's like fishing. It might not be
36 there, it might be there. You buy 11 gallons to go 30
37 miles, you come back, you've got no gas, no animal.
38 Those are the challenges we have.

39
40 And the food prices. A rack of ribs
41 \$28. Two brown hamburger meat four dollars, some cents
42 a pound. You get two pounds of meat, a rack of ribs
43 and a package of stew meat \$100. Over \$100. You get
44 one caribou, it's less than that even though you spend
45 \$100 on a full tank of gas, but you've got meat for at
46 least two or three days, one caribou. You're going to
47 eat it all.

48
49 It's not a week we're going to finish
50 that caribou. It's a couple days because you give

1 people meat too. You're not the only one eating that
2 meat. You share amongst the people. You might have a
3 small portion, but everybody's eating. You want that.
4 I want that. Even though you have a small portion
5 everybody else get whatever they want. You want them
6 to be happy.

7
8 Whalers, when they go whaling, they
9 don't have whalers from Pennsylvania so they can go get
10 a big jaw bone to hang up at their house. They have an
11 antler from our area. They don't go get jaw bones from
12 whales. And people from Pennsylvania aren't allowed to
13 whale in those areas. I don't think so. It should be
14 the same way with the Nunamiut people.

15
16 Eliminate July flying up north because
17 it's not infrastructure that changes or divert our
18 caribou. Infrastructure never diverted our caribou.
19 1974 the pipeline was built. We still got caribou.
20 It's not infrastructures. Human factors. The
21 infrastructures were never the problem. The gravel
22 roads were never the problem. We can have gravel roads
23 connected to each village and caribou still going to
24 walk over them. It was never infrastructures that
25 diverted our caribou. It was human factors.

26
27 Thank you.

28
29 Riley Sikvayugak, Jr. for the record.

30
31 (Applause)

32
33 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Riley.
34 Any other testimony. Eva, have we received anything
35 else in the form of cards. Sollie. I know you had one
36 earlier this morning.

37
38 MR. HUGO: (In Inupiaq). My English
39 name is Charlie Sollie Hugo. My parents were Clyde and
40 Ellen Hugo. My parents were the last ones to use the
41 traditional hunting methods with the stone implements,
42 bows and arrows. They did this at Little Chandler
43 Lake. My mom was 21 years old when they did that.
44 When they did that, they had it already set up by my
45 mom's father. He was the one that set up the
46 traditional hunting method to divert the caribou into
47 the lake. (In Inupiaq).

48
49 Welcome all you Federal board members.
50 We're finally appreciating that you can listen to us.

1 Though we've been through this over and over. It's
2 redundant. We say this over and over. It's like an
3 unconscionable act what's happening to our people or
4 our way of life, our subsistence ways, our culture, our
5 song, our dance, our spiritual beliefs. We try to hold
6 those dear, but apparently sometimes we have to let
7 that go just so we can become educated and fight you
8 with your own words because you don't know any of ours,
9 our language.

10

11 For the most part, a lot of us aren't
12 what you would call highly educated. You stress the
13 issue that we're -- yes, we're being treaded upon.
14 They tread on us like a snake. They step on us and
15 they refuse to listen to our voice. This is what makes
16 you cry because it's our soul, it's our spirit. We are
17 spiritual mortals where we're taught. Those were not
18 material things, these were spiritual things, these
19 were important to our soul. But still you come and
20 take them away and you make us what you would call
21 civilized.

22

23 What is civilized. To take away the
24 cultures across the land since 1602, since Squanto.
25 You thought Squanto had it bad. Well, take a second
26 look. He didn't have no industries, no oil companies,
27 no technologies. He didn't have none of that stressing
28 him out and he didn't have millions and millions of
29 people coming this way because it's a state now and
30 it's no longer my home. I live in a Park. My father
31 and mother did not live in a Park.

32

33 We follow your rules. You regulate
34 this and you regulate that. You put a law on this law.
35 Make sure that law is followed. Let's put a new law on
36 that law. We go round and round. We go in circles.
37 It's funny. It makes me want to laugh. I tell myself
38 my life is a merry-go-round. It's just going round and
39 round in a circle. I'm trying to fight for my caribou,
40 for my diet, and it's a funny thing that it goes round
41 and round. We go over this year after year, 30 years
42 plus.

43

44 And then you take action suddenly
45 because the caribou declined. The Western Arctic,
46 Teshekpuk Herd both declining at the same time. Is
47 that some kind of coincidence with all the Super Cubs
48 and all the sport hunters attracted to our region
49 because of all the wildlife that is so apparently at
50 hand, just before them without rules and regulations

1 for them except for the Native people that are
2 indigenous to those lands.

3
4 You make sure we follow your rules. My
5 nephew got arrested for baiting a sheep because we were
6 hungry. There was a Park Ranger snooping around in the
7 mountains making sure that we don't break our rules
8 that you set before us. Oh, well, he did that, so he
9 got arrested, got the sheep took away, all the meat,
10 everything, his rifles, because he was trying to feed
11 us.

12
13 But it's okay for the Jim Shockey guy
14 to come up here and pay you \$10,000 per hunter and it's
15 okay for them to go 30 miles from my home and take 20
16 antlers and fly through them and land them here before
17 they go to Fairbanks with them, disheartening us.
18 Making us weep for those poor caribou. Everything has
19 a spirit in our region. We respect all living things,
20 even the plants.

21
22 But the living things, the beasts, they
23 have committed places to go to. They're not just out
24 there wandering around like most of America thinks.
25 They're not just wandering around aimlessly. They set
26 their path 10,000, 15,000, 25-30,000 years ago. It's
27 all over these mountains. You could see it when you're
28 flying there. Their ways were set. They didn't just
29 wander. We despise it when you call them wanderers.
30 The caribous, they're not wanderers. They have
31 committed places to go to. They have seasons just like
32 you and I. They're a living thing. Respect that.

33
34 The land don't belong to us. We belong
35 to the land. It's disheartening very much with all
36 this exploration going on. One minute we're fighting
37 against a road, the next minute we're fighting an oil
38 rig and the next minute we're fighting the offshore
39 thing. How many fights do you guys want us to be in.
40 The one that concerns us the most, is that what it is?
41 You give us a table of fights and pick one, choose one.

42
43
44 You can't overlook our spiritual ways.
45 They were set already. And I despise when you say our
46 lands were simple, simple living. There's nothing
47 simple about living in the north. It's complicated.
48 We have to know the seasons, the weather, the timing,
49 when to go, when not to go, how every living thing has
50 a season. We are part of the ecosystem. We are part

1 of the seasons. We enjoyed those seasons. Now we
2 don't have them.

3

4 We're nullified by the Western ways.
5 Do you know how difficult it is to be caught in the
6 middle? You know how hard that is? No, because you're
7 not the one caught in the middle. I am. I grew up
8 with the shamans. I know their ways. My mom carried
9 me while she was still a nomad through the mountains.
10 All of a sudden I have to go to school so I can become
11 educated, to find myself sitting here one day fighting
12 what I thought was good and secular and traditional and
13 to bring Jesus with it too.

14

15 There's so many unconscionable acts
16 they've done to the Native Americans in North America.
17 It's not news to us. You're doing the same thing.
18 Order with a pen. What they went through was physical
19 stuff. What we're going through is with a pen. You
20 know what the white man said, the pen is mightier than
21 the sword. So far he's proven himself right. His pen
22 is very powerful. We obey it. You regulate this and
23 regulate that. It's signed by legislature and by the
24 State of Alaska. Okay, cool, it's now law. We'll
25 respect that.

26

27 Like Riley Jr. said, you have to give
28 us some leeway here. We cannot be fighting for
29 something we know is right. It's right for us. It may
30 not seem right to you. Respect all living things
31 whether it slithers, crawls, walks on four legs, walks
32 on two legs, flies, swims. We respect all that. We
33 know all the seasons.

34

35 Why do you have to do all these surveys
36 on our lands when we could tell you all about that.
37 Ask us. The caribou or the fish are not going to tell
38 you, okay, this is how it goes. Certainly not, but you
39 deny us the favor of being intelligent to tell you
40 about all of what our beasts do and what their seasons
41 are like. We could tell you all that. You don't have
42 to go flying around all over our country, disrupting
43 their migration routes.

44

45 You should ask us. We have much
46 knowledge. Ours is expert knowledge, traditional
47 knowledge. It's old. It's passed down. We just
48 didn't wake up one day and all of a sudden I knew that.
49 We watched, listened and learned. We watched, listened
50 and learned. That's how I learned from my father.

1 That's what he said, watch, listen and learn, then ask
2 me questions.

3

4 If you would, I'm pretty sure you would
5 put us in a reservation just to get us out of the way.
6 We're just fortunate we're not in the 18-1900s still,
7 otherwise you would have done that already. But you
8 did the alternative thing. You made us a National Park
9 and limited us to a greater degree than what was
10 expected.

11

12 Our natural order is in chaos. Ours,
13 not yours. You're not feeling anything. We are, us
14 Inupiat peoples. We feel our natural order is all in
15 chaos. It's all chaos now. Natural chaos because
16 everything is out of order. The seasons, the beasts,
17 the animals. Now you see change and you have the
18 threat because we sit and talk permafrost, which is a
19 more feasible source of power than all the natural gas
20 in the world and there's 10 times as much of it than
21 there is natural gas. We're sitting on a danger zone.
22 We will disappear once they process that into a fossil
23 fuel or however they are going to turn that.

24

25 We weren't even aware they had tests
26 doing that up here in the permafrost. We weren't aware
27 of that. Why weren't we notified. This is our
28 ecosystem. It's not somebody's in Washington, D.C. to
29 decide what happens up here. Don't play with our fate.
30 You did that already when you allowed the government to
31 spray nuclear mist on our lands on the north in the
32 '50s, '40s and '50s. Those were unconscionable acts,
33 but you went ahead and let that happen. Spray nuclear
34 mist through the lichens and see what happens to the
35 animals and disregard the people that are there. Those
36 were unconscionable acts.

37

38 We're not fighting a physical battle
39 here. We're fighting a spiritual battle. Not you, we
40 are. We're the little guys sinking, shouting out help,
41 help, when we know you're the one that's pushing us
42 down further, drowning us, so we can become civilized
43 and secular and have a degree. I got a degree. I wish
44 that I had not a degree. I wouldn't be so educated and
45 so concerned over all these things.

46

47 Our community, the North Slope, our
48 Inupiat peoples, we're in SNAFU right now. SNAFU.
49 SNAFU. Yeah, that's what it is. That's what all the
50 Inupiat people feeling right now. We feel like we're

1 the military. Situation normal all F'd up. That's
2 what it is in the North Slope right now.

3
4 And then you, with 4 million miles of
5 road, you would think you would have enough places to
6 go, but you have to go tread on our what you call the
7 road less traveled. I'm sorry to say, but that is not
8 the road less traveled. We've traveled those paths and
9 roads for 15-20,000 years. Those are our trails.
10 Those are our paths. They're not the road less
11 traveled. They've been traveled. They have been
12 traveled. They will be traveled.

13
14 You cannot overlook us anymore. You
15 cannot set us aside for the next meeting. This is
16 probably my 1,000th meeting over caribou. Cool. We'll
17 shoot for 1,001 and maybe we'll get something done.

18
19 (In Inupiaq). You'll fight for your
20 right to hunt. You'll be limited. You won't go where
21 I traveled. (In Inupiaq). Because he traveled, my
22 father. (In Inupiaq). We were traveling people. All
23 the North Slope is our lands and we share our resources
24 on good days and bad days. Some day you'll see us with
25 no more fight left in us, but we're there while we
26 still have something to fight with, our breath.

27
28 You need to give us leeway. You need
29 to give us some contacts so the people don't live in
30 terror. Give us some contacts. Quit being the middle
31 man or the BLM, the BIA, North Slope Borough and their
32 permittee committee. I'm just happy you won't be here
33 in January to show us how you do these permits and who
34 determines to okay these permits 300 miles from my home
35 for hunting seasons.

36
37 All Native people scared because theirs
38 is being taken away. The North American Indians cried
39 because they couldn't hunt no more because there's
40 nothing left to hunt. And you think it's just hunting.
41 To you it is, but to us it's our way of life.

42
43 I'm tired. My soul is tired. My
44 spirit is tired. It's almost broken. I feel like
45 Chief Joseph getting kicked out of his homelands. I
46 feel like Geronimo, taken away from his homelands to
47 die somewhere else. It's a very important thing for
48 Native people to die where he is from. It's a
49 spiritual sense. It's a spiritual matter. Something
50 you have very slight information on because you're more

1 interested in secular things and material things.
2 Something that gives you money, then money gives you
3 power.

4

5 But you cannot put us aside anymore.
6 You have to give us contacts with the Federal
7 government, the Department of Interior. We need
8 somebody to talk to. Somebody in D.C., not somebody
9 from the State of Alaska. We know how the State
10 operates. It's a merry-go-round. And, yes, we cry.
11 Those of us that are willing to cry, will cry because
12 they're real tears and they hurt.

13

14 Thank you.

15

16 (Applause)

17

18 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Sollie.
19 Those are very strong words you've provided to our
20 Council. It's something that we look forward to
21 addressing. We cannot do it on our own. We need your
22 input and these are heartfelt comments that you have
23 provided to our Council.

24

25 Thank you.

26

27 We also have another request for public
28 comment, testimony. Louisa. Louisa will be our last
29 participant for today. We'll have another opportunity
30 tomorrow for additional testimony. So, Louisa, you can
31 go ahead.

32

33 MS. RILEY: (In Inupiaq). My birth
34 parents are Abraham and Doris Stein. I was culturally
35 adopted to Arctic John and Esther Etalook. To this day
36 I'm really grateful that I was adopted out so I do know
37 both my coastal and Nunamiut. James know we've worked
38 hard to preserve our language, our culture, our
39 traditions.

40

41 So I'm really grateful that I've -- you
42 know, as I grow older I appreciate it more. The people
43 that live here are the ones that have the knowledge and
44 it's our soul. Tuttu, caribou, imniaq, sheep, siksrik,
45 ground squirrel, aqargiq, ptarmigan. Those are our
46 soul food. It makes us -- you know, when we went BIA,
47 several of us weren't on BIA (in Inupiaq). Fortunately
48 I didn't leave Alaska. So we would (in Inupiaq)
49 salmon, whatever fish that was at the store and pretend
50 (in Inupiaq). Barbecue ribs, pretend we were eating

1 (in Inupiaq), but it fixed our soul, you know, just to
2 pretend because we were forced. You know, we'd been
3 hearing for years about how we were taken away from our
4 parents for nine months out of the year.

5
6 The main thing I want to approach is
7 for solution. I do know that I had an opportunity to
8 learn about my birth culture, traditions and became a
9 part of the crew. I would like to -- I know that
10 there's solutions and one of the solutions I would like
11 to see is just like the whaling season (in Inupiaq)
12 with our crew, how to do this. I know what (in
13 Inupiaq) means. I told my uncles (in Inupiaq). I know
14 what it is all right.

15
16 The solution I would like to see is the
17 same thing that all the coastal areas when it's whaling
18 during the spring or in the fall there is to be no
19 seismic activities or any activities during those
20 times, okay. I'd like to see that, especially fall
21 season. No sport fishermen, no planes, at least until
22 the first leaders come through. I think that would be
23 just awesome if that could happen.

24
25 And whatever -- I don't know if they
26 use the Alaska Whaling Commission, but whatever power
27 how to do that, I think that would be the greatest
28 solution for our people.

29
30 Quyanaq.

31
32 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Louisa.
33 Quyanaq, Louisa, for providing your testimony and your
34 comments. Any other -- Eva, I look to you. I don't
35 see anymore cards. The ones I had are all compiled
36 here.

37
38 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council.
39 That was the last card for testimony today, this
40 morning. Again, as we're working through the caribou
41 proposals we have a process for opportunity for public
42 and tribal comment. So as we work through the
43 proposals this afternoon there will be an opportunity
44 to speak to that.

45
46 Again, tomorrow morning, we have an
47 open opportunity first thing in the morning for sharing
48 again. There are some items on the agenda before we
49 were scheduled to get into the proposals that are a
50 little bit of work of the Council reviewing their

1 report to the Federal Subsistence Board and developing
2 some of those ideas and that comes from the meeting
3 process and feedback too from the Council. And then we
4 were scheduled to get into the proposals this afternoon
5 and some updates on some of the actions that have taken
6 place this summer.

7
8 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you for that,
9 Eva. Before we get started I'd like to just thank all
10 the folks that provided testimony today so we can
11 understand what the hardships are. We're a Regional
12 Advisory Council, so we will do our best to try and
13 work with the comments and testimonies that we've
14 heard.

15
16 James.

17
18 MR. NAGEAK: At the beginning of my
19 comments I told that there were more people that knew
20 how to speak about our problems here as a Nunamiut, so
21 you heard them.

22
23 Thank you.

24
25 Quyanaqpak.

26
27 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, James.
28 Should we take a five minute break before we go to our
29 next agenda item. I need a biological break.

30
31 Thank you.

32
33 (Off record)

34
35 (On record)

36
37 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Good afternoon,
38 everyone. I'd like to call the North Slope Regional
39 Advisory Council meeting back to order after a brief
40 recess. If we can take our seats, we'll begin with our
41 following agenda items. I again thank everyone that
42 provided testimony this morning and this afternoon.
43 These are very heartfelt comments and testimonies that
44 were provided to the Regional Advisory Council in
45 regards to caribou and other resources.

46
47 (In Inupiaq). So, Carl, I'll give you
48 the floor. We're under new business and we're looking
49 for an update on the rural determination.

50

1 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council.
2 Briefly before Carl jumps in here we do have our
3 Council member Rosemary Ahtuanguaruak from Barrow. She
4 was just able to join us on teleconference right before
5 break. If we'd just have an opportunity to welcome
6 Rosemary and if she has anything to address to the
7 Council and the public.

8
9 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Welcome, Rosemary.
10 I'm not sure who else the other invisible people are
11 that are amongst us on the teleconference, but thank
12 you for participating with us this afternoon.

13
14 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: Thank you, everyone.
15 I appreciate that. I'm sorry I couldn't be in Anaktuvuk
16 Pass in person. I'm missing out big time. Thank you
17 everyone for participating with this process.

18
19 I know we've got some big issues before
20 us, so thank you.

21
22 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you. So I'll
23 give the floor to Carl now. Carl.

24
25 MR. JOHNSON: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
26 For everybody in the room, my name is Carl Johnson.
27 I'm with the Office of Subsistence Management. I'm
28 going to go over the next two items on your agenda for
29 you under old business. These are just update items.
30 They are not action items. The first one is the rural
31 determination update. Just for the benefit of the
32 people in the room and the Council, just a very short
33 background.

34
35 The Federal Subsistence Management
36 Program regulations fall under four parts. Two parts
37 are issued by the Secretaries of the Interior and
38 Agriculture and the other two parts are by the Federal
39 Subsistence Board. The parts that are issued by the
40 Secretaries kind of deal with the core functions of the
41 program. One of those is the rural determination
42 process. That is in order for a community or an area
43 to enjoy the Federal rural subsistence priority, they
44 have to be rural.

45
46 Under the current regulations, the
47 Secretarial regulations provide specific criteria to
48 guide the Federal Subsistence Board on determining
49 whether or not a community is rural. Two years ago we
50 engaged the public, the councils, tribes and ANCSA

1 corporations and asked all of you to let us know what,
2 if anything, we should change about those Secretarial
3 regulations.

4
5 The message was loud and clear that the
6 criteria in those Secretarial regulations just weren't
7 working very well. The thresholds for population of
8 the communities, aggregating communities together to
9 count population, having to do this process every 10
10 years and so on.

11
12 So the Secretaries promulgated a
13 proposed rule based on the Federal Subsistence Board's
14 recommendation and all of your input to eliminate all
15 of those criteria from the Secretarial regulations.
16 Not only eliminate those, but change the language to
17 say the Federal Subsistence Board shall determine which
18 areas or communities are nonrural and then all other
19 areas therefore would be rural. It was a vast
20 simplification of the process.

21
22 Then a year ago we put that proposal
23 out to you again, to the public, tribes and ANCSA
24 corporations and we asked everybody's input on what
25 they thought of that proposed rule and the message
26 again was fairly loud and clear that people very much
27 liked that proposed rule.

28
29 So that kind of brings you up to speed
30 on what starts on Page 5 of your meeting book
31 materials, which was the Federal Subsistence Board met
32 earlier this year to hear all the public input on that
33 proposed rule on changing the process and took three
34 actions. One action was to recommend to the
35 Secretaries to make final that proposed rule, which
36 again was the Board will determine which areas are
37 nonrural and all other areas are rural.

38
39 The second action the Board took -- and
40 these three different actions are summarized on Pages 8
41 and 9 were the main options presented. The second
42 issue the Board needed to address was, okay, if that's
43 going to be the new rural determination process, what's
44 going to be our starting point on what lists the
45 communities are rural and nonrural.

46
47 So the Board has put forward what's
48 called a final direct rule, which is just to reinstate
49 the pre-2007 list of rural communities and that list
50 would determine which areas are nonrural and that would

1 be just kind of the starting point.

2

3 But one of the things the Board did
4 hear a lot from both the public feedback and from the
5 Councils was there needed to be some kind of guidance.
6 Even if we adopt the formal rule of listing nonrural
7 communities, there still needs to be some kind of
8 guidance looking to the future as to how staff at OSM
9 would analyze proposals, how people would submit
10 proposals, how would we determine what communities are
11 nonrural.

12

13 So the third action the Board took at
14 its meeting in July was to task staff with the job of
15 coming up with some recommendations. Should the Board
16 adopt Board regulations to identify how we'll figure
17 out which communities are nonrural or should the Board
18 adopt a policy. So the staff will be working on
19 recommendations on what the Board should do and those
20 recommendations are planned to be presented at the
21 Board's January meeting when the Board talks about the
22 Fisheries Resource Monitoring Program projects.

23

24 So that's just kind of a quick summary
25 of what's in your materials. Just for your
26 information, that final rule from the Secretaries and
27 the Board's direct final rule on what the list of
28 nonrural communities is is scheduled to be published
29 tomorrow. So there will be a public comment period
30 available on the direct final rule, but if we don't
31 have any significant negative comments from the public
32 on that direct final rule, then that will just become
33 final and then that will be our new starting point
34 moving forward.

35

36 After January the Board will take its
37 recommendation on what staff provide to either come up
38 with a regulation or a proposal and then we'll start
39 another process where eventually I'm sure the Councils,
40 if it's either a regulation or a proposal, the Council
41 and the public will have another opportunity to weigh
42 in on those criteria. That's just a quick update on
43 where we are with the rural determination process.

44

45 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

46

47 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Carl.
48 Questions from the Council. James.

49

50 MR. NAGEAK: You're talking about staff

1 providing the information. What kind of Native
2 perspective do you get when you come together as a
3 staff?

4

5 MR. JOHNSON: Well, certainly I imagine
6 -- I'm one of the staff who is going to be on this
7 committee that's going to come up with a recommendation
8 for the Board for January. We already have the body of
9 public comments we've heard so far in the last two
10 years that we've been going through this and that
11 includes a lot of tribal comments. Then within OSM our
12 Native liaison, Orville Lind, will also be providing
13 that Native perspective. But the idea will just be to
14 come up with some sort of suggested framework for the
15 Board and then whatever the Board decides we'll put
16 that out again to the public, to the Councils and to
17 tribes for feedback on whatever that next step is.

18

19 MR. NAGEAK: Before that.

20

21 MR. JOHNSON: Well, the draft has to be
22 the starting point. It's not the end point. So the
23 draft is just to have something to talk about and then
24 we'll go through a public process and most likely
25 refine based on whatever feedback we receive from the
26 public and tribes and the Councils.

27

28 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Did that help, James.

29

30 MR. NAGEAK: Thank you.

31

32 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Any other questions,
33 comments to Carl from the Council.

34

35 (No comments)

36

37 CHAIRMAN BROWER: So in regards to the
38 current status, we're starting on the same plate that
39 we left off with as to where we -- for the North Slope
40 anyway. That still remains the same pretty much.

41

42 MR. JOHNSON: Well, Mr. Chair. So
43 we've been kind of in a holding pattern because
44 originally the Board came out with a new set of rural
45 communities in 2007, but the way the process worked
46 before, as a result of that new rural list, if some
47 communities were made nonrural as a result of that,
48 there was a five-year waiting period where they could
49 get used to being on the nonrural list. That brought
50 us to 2012. Based on feedback from the public and

1 particularly from the community of Saxman, the Board
2 opted to put another five-year delay into implementing
3 that so we could go through this process of reviewing
4 and revising the rural determination process.

5
6 So what we're going to be bringing us
7 back to then for the North Slope Region particularly is
8 under the pre-2007 list the one change for this region
9 will be -- in pre-2007, Prudhoe Bay industrial area was
10 identified as a rural area under that list. Now, as a
11 result of this, going back to that pre-2007 lists,
12 Prudhoe Bay will be designated as a rural area as kind
13 of a starting point and then subject to whatever change
14 might be the result of a proposal in the future.

15
16 CHAIRMAN BROWER: A follow-up question
17 in regard to Prudhoe Bay industrial complex. I'm not
18 sure how that determination was made making a rural.

19
20 MR. JOHNSON: I don't know the full
21 history pre-2007, how Prudhoe Bay was designated as a
22 rural area, but I can remind you and the Council that
23 in order to be qualified as a Federally qualified
24 subsistence user you have to be a resident under the
25 definition of the regulations, which means a full-time
26 permanent resident. So if you're a seasonal worker or
27 a part-time worker or only goes into the area and isn't
28 registered to vote there, doesn't have their PFD
29 address there, doesn't own property or rent property
30 there, that you wouldn't be deemed a resident for
31 purposes of the Federal Subsistence Program.

32
33 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you. Any other
34 questions or comments from the Council.

35
36 James.

37
38 MR. NAGEAK: On that rural
39 determination, numbers were one of the big factors.
40 Like Barrow area, you know, they have 4,000. That was
41 pretty close to determining that they were nonrural.
42 So has that changed?

43
44 MR. JOHNSON: Yes. Through the Chair.
45 James, that has changed. What you were talking about
46 was the population thresholds, which were kind of a
47 starting point. If it was a community under 2,500, it
48 was automatically considered nonrural. Between 2,500
49 and 7,000 it was neutral and if it was over 7,000 it
50 was initially determined to be -- or, correction, rural

1 for under 2,500, nonrural for over 7,000. That was in
2 the Secretarial regulations. Now, based on the new
3 rule that's being published tomorrow, that is no longer
4 in regulation. That criteria no longer exists. So
5 it's gone.

6
7 Now there probably will be some
8 discussion of population in regard to whatever the next
9 criteria will be, whether they're going to be in
10 regulation or in a policy. One of the things that the
11 Board certainly heard a lot in public feedback was a
12 sort of a belief that those numbers were arbitrary and
13 that regional -- there were a lot of regional
14 differences that suggested that those numbers didn't
15 work on a region-to-region basis.

16
17 Because you have other communities like
18 Bethel, which were very close to the threshold, Kodiak
19 was also very concerned. A lot of what the Board heard
20 was that the numbers, just kind of a static, fixed
21 number just didn't make any sense. So I'm sure that
22 will be somebody that we'll be considering and looking
23 at as we move forward. But they are -- based on the
24 publication of what goes in tomorrow, those regulations
25 will no longer exist.

26
27 CHAIRMAN BROWER: James, did that help?
28 Just a second, Gordon.

29
30 MR. NAGEAK: Just for a second. I
31 heard Senator Murkowski talking about that at AFN one
32 time and that was one of the things that she was
33 disappointed about, the numbers, the population thing.
34 So I wanted to ask you on that one.

35
36 Thank you.

37
38 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

39
40 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chair. Gordon
41 Brower for the record. I remember some time ago we had
42 rural determination issues come up. It was a reversal
43 for Prudhoe Bay. It was an oil industrial complex.
44 All the land is leased by the major oil companies in
45 this area. Nobody owns land there except the State,
46 maybe the borough. It seems to me that that area -- I
47 don't know why you're going all the way back when there
48 was already a determination made that Prudhoe Bay was
49 considered to be nonrural in an oil and gas complex in
50 that area.

1 It seems to me, I don't know, in going
2 forward that would be difficult to raise those issues
3 again or is it just the starting place for us to
4 re-argue the fact that it is an oil and gas complex
5 with 10,000 migrant workers that go in and out of that
6 place?

7
8 MR. JOHNSON: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
9 Through the Chair. Definitely one of the concerns with
10 this new proposed rule, this new way of looking at
11 things and getting rid of all those criteria out of the
12 Secretary regulations, the Board was concerned about
13 having a starting point that made sense and a starting
14 point that at least was supported by some type of
15 administrative record.

16
17 So that was part of the rationale going
18 back to the pre-2007 list. Moving forward, whatever
19 the new process will be, if you recall last year when
20 all of the Councils had an opportunity to be briefed on
21 and provide feedback on the proposed rule that will go
22 into effect tomorrow, one of the things that was said
23 consistently is that the Regional Advisory Councils
24 will -- their recommendations would be given
25 significant weight in making changes to that nonrural
26 list in the future.

27
28 While one of the actual impacts of
29 going to the pre-2007 list is reverting Prudhoe Bay
30 back to a rural area, practically speaking, because of
31 the likelihood of anybody being qualified as a
32 resident, there won't be any actual impact, but there
33 will be an opportunity for this Council to weigh in on
34 and possibly even submit its own proposal to change the
35 status of the Prudhoe Bay industrial area back again to
36 a nonrural area.

37
38 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

39
40 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Did that help,
41 Gordon?

42
43 MR. G. BROWER: I don't think it helps,
44 but it makes us clear that we would have to resubmit to
45 argue those facts.

46
47 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Robert, did you have
48 a comment you wanted to share.

49
50 MR. SHEARS: (Shakes head negatively)

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Any other Council
2 members regarding the rural determination process.

3
4 (No comments)

5
6 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Carl.

7
8 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: This is Rosemary.
9 All of the issues that we had submitted in our previous
10 effort is really important to bring into this process.
11 There was a lot of good comments that were brought in
12 when we were addressing this issue. I do have a
13 question about the Native allotments that are in the
14 Prudhoe Bay area and how they would be affected.

15
16 MR. JOHNSON: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
17 Rosemary, under ANILCA Native allotments are managed
18 under State regulations even if they fall within the
19 exterior boundaries of a Federal public land. So there
20 wouldn't be any impact on Native allotments that are
21 within the Prudhoe Bay industrial area.

22
23 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: Thank you.

24
25 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Any other comments,
26 questions to Carl.

27
28 (No comments)

29
30 CHAIRMAN BROWER: If not, thank you,
31 Carl. I'm looking at our next agenda item under 10, old
32 business, Red Sheep Creek RFR, request for
33 reconsideration update. Is that you again, Carl?

34
35 MR. JOHNSON: That would be me again,
36 Mr. Chair.

37
38 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Go ahead, continue.

39
40 MR. JOHNSON: Certainly. Materials for
41 this start on Page 10 of your book. Again, just a very
42 quick background. Three years ago the Federal
43 Subsistence Board closed the Red Sheep and Cane Creek
44 drainages of the Arctic Village Sheep Management Area
45 in Unit 25A to non-Federally qualified users. That was
46 primarily to preserve subsistence opportunity for the
47 residents of Arctic Village in that area.

48
49 Two years later the State of Alaska
50 submitted a proposal to reopen that area to non-

1 Federally qualified users. The Board rejected that
2 proposal and on June 17th of last year the State filed
3 a request for reconsideration. Under our regulations,
4 anybody who dislikes a decision of the Board can submit
5 a request for reconsideration.

6
7 Just by submitting the request does not
8 mean the Board will reconsider its decision. As noted
9 on Page 12 under the draft threshold analysis for the
10 State's request for reconsideration, somebody
11 requesting that has to meet at least one of three
12 criteria. They have to show that -- they have to
13 provide information the Board was not previously
14 relying on, they have to show that the person -- they
15 have to demonstrate that existing information used by
16 the Board was incorrect or they have to demonstrate
17 that the Board's interpretation of information,
18 applicable law or a regulation was wrong.

19
20 Primarily the State's request for
21 reconsideration focused mostly on that second bullet
22 point. Essentially arguing in many different ways that
23 the Board incorrectly relied on evidence,
24 misinterpreted evidence or relied on evidence that
25 wasn't in the record. The Board determined that the
26 State had not met any of these three criteria and
27 therefore denied the request for reconsideration.

28
29 So this is the last administrative
30 action by the Board on this particular issue. So the
31 State's request to reconsider that decision is
32 complete, it's closed, and, therefore, the area right
33 now remains closed to non-Federally qualified
34 subsistence users.

35
36 That's all we have as an update on this
37 matter at this point.

38
39 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

40
41 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Any questions to Carl
42 regarding the Red Sheep Creek request for
43 reconsideration.

44
45 MR. NAGEAK: Mr. Chair.

46
47 CHAIRMAN BROWER: James.

48
49 MR. NAGEAK: Yeah, I was just thinking,
50 you know, we have this controlled use area north of

1 Anaktuvuk Pass that gets into some of the State land
2 and things like that. How can we as people of
3 Anaktuvuk Pass use this type of determination to
4 include that area for non-Federally -- whatever you
5 call them -- hunters.

6

7 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Non-Federally
8 qualified users.

9

10 MR. NAGEAK: Yeah. Is there a way that
11 we can use this process to close more of that land
12 north of Anaktuvuk Pass because of migration problems
13 that we've been having with the sport hunters?

14

15 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Carl.

16

17 MR. JOHNSON: Through the Chair, James.
18 Since that's in State-controlled areas, you would have
19 to use the State's process in order to make changes.
20 We wouldn't be able to implement a closure to non-
21 Federal users because there's no Federal subsistence
22 management in those areas. But there have been several
23 suggestions from the public here today on possible
24 regulation changes that could be submitted through the
25 State process to perhaps control the timing of hunts by
26 sport users, by non-Federal users, but in the State
27 system it would be sport users, to control the timing
28 of the hunts, the manner of the hunts and other things
29 that could be done through the State regulations, but
30 it wouldn't be through the Federal process.

31

32 MR. NAGEAK: Mr. Chair.

33

34 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Continue, James.

35

36 MR. NAGEAK: That just reminded me how
37 we have that -- how the people of Anaktuvuk Pass
38 changed the Fish and Game regulations to make that CUA,
39 controlled use area, so we know the process. So maybe
40 we wanted to make some more changes, but somebody in
41 here said this is not the right time to come to the
42 Fish and Game people to make more changes. I'm
43 wondering how the manner of the Fish and Game is now
44 that we can go to them and request some more changes on
45 the controlled use area north of Anaktuvuk Pass.

46

47 MR. JOHNSON: Through the Chair. My
48 suggestion and my recommendation to the Council is -- I
49 always encourage Councils to remember, you know, the
50 most important part of ANILCA for you is Section 805,

1 which authorizes this Council to be a forum for people
2 to discuss and express concerns over subsistence use,
3 to be a voice for subsistence users, whether it's on
4 State or Federal lands, to identify concerns about
5 Federal resources, subsistence fish and wildlife
6 resources.

7
8 My suggestion would be, you know, there
9 might be some things we have to figure out later after
10 this meeting regarding the mechanics of how to make
11 changes, but my suggestion would be to have a
12 discussion on the record, get information from this
13 community, get testimony, things from observations that
14 they have about when the caribou come through,
15 observations about user conflicts with sport hunters,
16 things that we've heard already. Then, as a Council,
17 make a motion to submit some kind of proposal. Then we
18 at OSM, particularly Eva, your staff and wildlife
19 biologist can work on figuring out what the right
20 mechanism is to use in the State process and the right
21 timing to use that.

22
23 But to take this opportunity while
24 we're here in Anaktuvuk Pass to have a robust
25 discussion with this community about some possible
26 approaches and then we can figure out what we need to
27 do for this Council to be a voice for this community
28 and this region in the State process.

29
30 MR. NAGEAK: Mr. Chair.

31
32 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yes, James, go ahead.

33
34 MR. NAGEAK: I'm getting hyped up here,
35 so forgive me. Raymond mentioned something earlier on
36 in his testimony this morning that the location of
37 where the Fish and Game was meeting was very important
38 to us. You know, when we were invited to go to Bethel
39 right in the middle of our neighbors down there and
40 they were really helpful in trying to make the Fish and
41 Game understand how we felt about the problems we were
42 having with the controlled use area.

43
44 So if we are going to confront those
45 guys again, I think the place of meeting -- I don't
46 think Fairbanks would be a very good place to bring
47 some people up there to try and make some changes. Next
48 time the Fish and Game come together where the Natives
49 are welcome, okay.

50

1 Thank you.

2

3 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, James.

4

5 Gordon.

6

7 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chair. Gordon
8 Brower for the record. I know we're talking about the
9 sheep and it's kind of morphed into this, but I think
10 it's a good segue to using these types of things, these
11 mechanisms, tools. They're tools. I would hope --
12 listening to the community, they're coming from the
13 heart of the community. We have lots of testimony
14 that's tape recorded and it should prompt the Federal
15 side, OSM, to look at that in a very constructive,
16 methodical way that's supported by OSM, by the Federal
17 agencies, and bring it in front of the State in a
18 proposal.

19

20 In the same light, we look at the State
21 when they come to this Federal body for proposals and
22 say, hey, our regs are different than your regs, let's
23 hold hands together and align our regulations to mirror
24 each other in an effort to work together. All in all,
25 what we're doing when you're looking at these proposals
26 to change the bag limit from 10 to 5, to not shooting a
27 cow with a calf, we're limiting using traditional
28 knowledge that we've acquired over centuries.

29

30 We don't need the bulls during the rut.
31 We can say no hunting the bulls from here to here
32 because we're not going to hunt them anyway, but I
33 think the guides will hunt them. If you get
34 regulations down using traditional information and it
35 went good with the State, they should be recognizing
36 that we're willing to align regulations so that the
37 State side and the Federal side -- you just don't jump
38 over the line and then you can get 20 caribou and you
39 jump on the other line and you'll get your hunting gear
40 confiscated and all that kind of stuff.

41

42 So I think there's a willingness that
43 we're already wanting to work better together. And
44 looking at the population trends over the course of 10
45 years and they're declining should also prompt the
46 State to revisit some of these things. One problem I
47 already see in the State side is they create this ANS,
48 the amount necessary for subsistence, but yet they
49 clump herds together and make the amount necessary for
50 subsistence I think artificially too high.

1 When the amount necessary for
2 subsistence is too high, the State is not in a
3 conservation measure. They're in a liberal management
4 scheme where non-Federally or non-resident in the case
5 of the State -- for us on the Federal side is a non-
6 Federally qualified user. On the State side it is a
7 non-resident. It's almost the same, but it's not the
8 same. I don't think that we recognize what the ANS is
9 on the Federal side, but the State does, but it's a
10 management scheme.

11
12 I think that part is a little corrupt
13 on the ANS compared to when you look at Teshekpuk Herd
14 and the Western Arctic Herd, combining those two herds
15 to have an artificially high ANS when they're distinct
16 and I think Lincoln would provide a fantastic
17 PowerPoint showing, oh, this is Teshekpuk Herd, look at
18 it going by itself that way. There's the Western
19 Arctic Herd, it's going that way. There's Central Herd
20 going that way. When they're distinct.

21
22 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

23
24 MR. G. BROWER: So, anyway, I
25 would.....

26
27 CHAIRMAN BROWER: If we could finish
28 with our Sheep Creek RFR, then we'll have some caribou
29 discussions under our new business agenda items. We
30 can definitely follow up with your comments. Is that
31 good?

32
33 MR. G. BROWER: Yeah, thank you, Harry.
34 I tend to go on a tangent when it's a very important
35 issue and I understand that. I was just wanting to add
36 to that that there are ways to do this and I would hope
37 there's a proposal that would be born prompting OSM to
38 look at this very carefully to provide some direction,
39 even wording, for such a proposal.

40
41 Thank you.

42
43 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Gordon,
44 for that. Do we have any other questions, comments.
45 I'm sorry, I can't see behind you, Carl. Come on up to
46 the mic and introduce yourself, please. We have an
47 audience requesting to be heard.

48
49 MR. E. WILLIAMS: I just want to say
50 thank you very much for speaking up. My name is Earl

1 Williams. I'm a resident of Anaktuvuk. I just wanted
2 to address the way you guys were -- up here it said the
3 Board considering qualified subsistence, okay, then it
4 goes down to here, the Board was incorrect. Down here
5 they got Board recommendations here.

6
7 I want to address what Gordon said. My
8 people, just like our people, we are no different than
9 Yup'ik people. We're Natives. We've got to stand up
10 for someone like this and I want to tell you I fully
11 support this because it doesn't matter where this land
12 goes. I just want to tell you that this is very
13 important to our Native people. It doesn't matter if
14 you're standing over there. Like he said, five caribou
15 come this side. Remember we're all Natives. We've got
16 to stand up for one another. So I put this full
17 recommendation.

18
19 Thank you very much.

20
21 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you for your
22 comments, Earl. Questions, comments regarding request
23 for reconsideration.

24
25 (No comments)

26
27 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Did you have anything
28 else to add, Carl?

29
30 MR. JOHNSON: Yes, Mr. Chair. I want
31 to respond to what he just said. When you look at the
32 Board's analysis of the request for reconsideration
33 from the State, I think one of the consistent messages
34 you see throughout that is the importance of the Native
35 voice in determining the outcome and making sure that
36 that area remain closed to non-Federal hunters.
37 Because consistently on each one of the points the
38 State raised in its request for reconsideration the
39 Board again referred to the testimony of the people
40 from Arctic Village.

41
42 So I know that this is an issue that's
43 frustrating and it's painful, but I think that this
44 point illustrates how important the Native voice is and
45 how well it can be heard at least with regard to issues
46 like this. I think this is a really good example of
47 that.

48
49 I want to use this as an opportunity to
50 close and thank the people of Anaktuvuk Pass for not

1 only hosting this but for being here and speaking to
2 you and giving us an opportunity to listen to them. I
3 think it's very important and it's so encouraging to
4 come to a smaller community like this and see the
5 community really participate. So I wanted to thank
6 them before I left the table and cede it to the next
7 item on the agenda.

8

9 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

10

11 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Carl.

12

13 Rosemary.

14

15 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: Yeah, I just wanted
16 to make sure the Board knows that we really appreciate
17 them for standing up on this issue. They provided a
18 lot of testimony and got Kaktovik involved in providing
19 testimony. All of it was very important in the
20 decision that we reached and following through with
21 this approach. And I appreciate Anaktuvuk discussing
22 and sharing their concerns and issues that their facing
23 because it is a very important issue that we have also
24 had discussions before and we'll continue trying to
25 address it.

26

27 Thank you.

28

29 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you for your
30 comments, Rosemary.

31

32 Eva.

33

34 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council.
35 Just to follow up on this discussion, as Gordon was
36 saying, Red Sheep Creek is a good example of a similar
37 circumstance and on Federal lands. This Council can at
38 this meeting -- we'll be working through proposals that
39 were proposed by the Council the previous meeting for
40 caribou, but the Council can make a proposal out of
41 cycle to request closure.

42

43 This would be effective just for
44 Federal lands because that's the jurisdiction of the
45 Federal Subsistence Board, but to close hunt of caribou
46 to Federally qualified subsistence users only based on
47 the conservation concerns and the feedback, the
48 concerns of the communities both here and Anaktuvuk
49 Pass and other communities that hunt on Federal land.

50

1 So that is an action that this Council
2 can take at this meeting and based on the public
3 testimony as supporting justification for those
4 requests and we can continue to hear that testimony
5 through this meeting and if the Council wishes to
6 develop that proposal or that request. That would be
7 on the Federal subsistence side. The Council has the
8 authority to make recommendations to the Board of Game
9 also.

10
11 As Carl had noted, we can continue to
12 take that testimony from the public here to draft a
13 proposal to Board of Game and then we can refine it and
14 we can come back to the community to make sure that
15 that proposal is what they would want. So there's an
16 opportunity to begin to craft a Board of Game proposal
17 through the meeting and tomorrow and then refine it and
18 come back to the community, but the Council has that
19 authority to make a motion to do that as well at this
20 meeting.

21
22 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Eva, for
23 that. Any other comments regarding the Red Sheep Creek
24 request for reconsideration.

25
26 (No comments)

27
28 CHAIRMAN BROWER: If none, we'll move
29 on to our next agenda item. Who's calling?

30
31 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: Harry, I had a
32 question before we leave that discussion. When we
33 attempted to deal with this issue on the caribou with
34 Anaktuvuk Pass in the past, we did put a proposal in,
35 but we were not able to prevent all of the conflicts
36 that were arising. So this proposal needs to occur
37 with the caribou, the moose and the bear because all
38 three had impacts to the ability of the migration of
39 the herd towards the village.

40
41 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Eva.

42
43 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council.
44 Rosemary, are you referring to the Board of Game
45 proposal that the Council had worked on two years ago
46 that was to develop that specific language for the
47 controlled use area on the State lands and then decided
48 to not submit based on some of the concerns from
49 community and others that the Board of Game might
50 change or lift those issues? Were you referring to

1 that.....

2

3 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: In that previous
4 excerpt, we had put forward the proposal to use in the
5 controlled use area, but some of the conflicts that
6 arose was that they were still bear hunting flights
7 that were coming in and moose hunting flights that were
8 coming in. So that's my question, is how we're going
9 to address the periods and issues of hunting that have
10 increased conflict with the migration of the caribou.

11

12 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Rosemary.
13 Sure, the Council can -- I can tonight pull up that
14 proposal that the Council had developed I believe it
15 was two years ago and print that out for your review.
16 The Council can revisit that particular proposal or
17 develop a new proposal that would -- perhaps it's not
18 the controlled use area, but simply as the community
19 has asked to define times when the hunt would be
20 limited in order to allow the caribou to pass. So I
21 can pull up that proposal for the Council this evening
22 if you want to review it and then when we have time
23 tomorrow to walk through that and see how you'd like to
24 approach. Following up either on that proposal or
25 developing a new one.

26

27 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: Yeah, this I think
28 is really important for us to look at and revisit and
29 make sure that we try to address the concerns and that
30 way we cover the variables that we weren't able to
31 cover with the first attempt. So thank you.

32

33 CHAIRMAN BROWER: So we'll follow it
34 once we get into our -- on your concerns, Rosemary. We
35 have under 11(e) wildlife proposals and then it states
36 North Slope Region proposals and we could definitely
37 follow up on that concern to see where the Council
38 stands regarding to develop a proposal at that time.

39

40 So we're under the current agenda item
41 10 and moving on to agenda item 11 under new business.
42 Rosemary, we'll be following up in regard to your
43 concern. It's going to be in the mid page of Page 2 of
44 our agenda.

45

46 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: Yes. Thank you.

47

48 CHAIRMAN BROWER: So we'll be moving on
49 to new business at this time. Review of Federal
50 Subsistence Board FY2014 annual report reply, which is

1 found on Page 45 of your booklets.

2

3 Eva.

4

5 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council.
6 Just a reminder, we had discussed earlier we have an
7 update on Refuges proposed rule on hunting. We're
8 going to move that to (h)(I) at the bottom of the
9 agenda so that we can continue on with the discussion
10 on caribou. So we'll revisit the Refuges proposed rule
11 most likely tomorrow after the FRMP. So we'll come
12 back to that tomorrow.

13

14 As Harry noted on Page 45 is the annual
15 report reply. Last year this Council had submitted an
16 annual report to the Federal subsistence Board and that
17 report is a mechanism for the Council to bring issues
18 of concern, to make requests for information, to
19 address the Board on issues that they would like to
20 have means or mechanism to change or respond to. It's
21 an avenue for this Council to have a direct connection
22 through the Board and for the Board to respond to those
23 concerns.

24

25 So on Page 45 is the issues that were
26 brought before the Board by this Council and then in
27 the italics is the language from the Council and then
28 the response is highlighted. So they're combined
29 together. If the Council had an opportunity to review
30 those responses, see if they have addressed your issues
31 and concerns, if there's any further questions for the
32 Board or more information that you would like.

33

34 Then we'll also move on. In this
35 meeting we're taking feedback both from the Council and
36 we hear the discussion and the concerns of the
37 community of issues that this Council would like to
38 draft in another letter for this year to the board. We
39 can identify -- some of those already have been
40 identified and then as we work through the meeting I'll
41 keep note of the issues of concern and we can revisit
42 that at the end of the meeting so the Council has a
43 draft letter to go to the Board again this year.

44

45 If you see anything in the response,
46 the main issues of concern that were raised by this
47 Council to the Federal Subsistence Board was the
48 interest in public workshop on ANILCA and ANILCA
49 Section 804 determinations and how customary and
50 traditional use is applied in the Federal Management

1 Program.

2

3

4 You were also concerned under item
5 number two addressed to the Board, wildlife special
6 action closures. They'd requested for ongoing research
7 in earlier communications to both the Council and the
8 communities any time there was an action taken by the
9 Board to close or limit Federal subsistence hunt based
10 on conservation concerns.

11

12 And item number three was food
13 security. The Council was very concerned about
14 declines to subsistence food resources and what other
15 opportunities or flexibility that the Federal
16 Subsistence Management Program could respond to in that
17 way.

18

19 The fourth item of concern was the
20 importance of holding Council meetings in villages.
21 The Council had not met in rural communities for a long
22 time. Had an opportunity to meet in Nuiqsut and are
23 very pleased to be here in Anaktuvuk today. But that's
24 an ongoing issue of concern to be able to meet in the
25 communities and hear back from the communities.

26

27 The other issue is importance of
28 education and outreach for the Subsistence Program.
29 The Council is very interested in youth involvement on
30 the Council and engaging with youth in the communities.

31

32 Number six was establishment of safety
33 cabins for subsistence activities in remote access
34 areas on Federal lands. That was brought up again here
35 today by Anaktuvuk Pass residents asking for safety
36 cabins on Park Service lands if people are needing to
37 travel further to access subsistence resources or
38 conditions are changing that make it dangerous for
39 travel, more extreme weather events.

40

41 The other item of concern that was
42 brought to the Board was the importance of a holistic
43 approach to the research, the funding of comprehensive
44 ethnographic research and effective means for
45 addressing subsistence information, management and
46 community concerns.

47

48 So the Board has responded to each of
49 these questions. If Council sees something is lacking
50 or has questions that some of the staff that are
present today might hear or concerns that need to be

1 addressed yet, this would be a good time to speak to
2 that.

3

4 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you for that,
5 Eva.

6

7 Concerns from the Council.

8

9 (No comments)

10

11 CHAIRMAN BROWER: So I think the one on
12 number three is something that I would like to see
13 somehow addressed through this Council regarding the
14 testimony we've heard today. Food security. The
15 Council is concerned about food security in communities
16 it serves. In the North Slope Region there has been
17 several wildlife special actions closing subsistence
18 hunts for moose, sheep and other closed areas for
19 muskox.

20

21 So something of that I think we need to
22 reflect in terms of how caribou is being addressed.
23 Again, we heard the public testimony provided today and
24 somehow we need to work this into the Management
25 Program on Federal lands and how it could be effective
26 into State lands as well. Food security issue is a
27 real issue and this needs to be identified maybe
28 through a proposal to the State Board of Game.

29

30 We've had several issues about going in
31 circles repeatedly going to different meetings and not
32 getting anywhere with this concern of caribou
33 availability for the community and that's something
34 that we need to work with and probably envelope this
35 food security on number three to help elevate the
36 concern for the community of Anaktuvuk Pass.

37

38 James.

39

40 MR. NAGEAK: Yeah, one of the things
41 that this food security thing, it must have been
42 Raymond or somebody that mentioned that this young man
43 -- no, it was somebody else I think. About getting a
44 sheep and the trooper came and took away the meat.
45 There was a question at that point where a person can
46 hunt. You know, there's a difference of the Gates of
47 the Arctic and the Preserve that we are surrounded by.

48

49

50 They told us we can hunt in the

1 Preserve, but within that Preserve are some Native
2 allotments or the land is owned by the corporation or
3 the land is ASRC. And we find out that these lands,
4 the corporation lands, are State regulated and we can't
5 just go out and hunt in those because we are within the
6 Gates of the Arctic and the Preserves.

7
8 If that young man had known that you
9 can't hunt in this one, in this area, the problem would
10 probably have never happened. So I guess I would
11 propose that those areas where the people living in
12 Anaktuvuk Pass are open to hunt, you know, without
13 having a State trooper coming and saying, hey, you're
14 hunting in the wrong area and you have disobeyed a
15 regulation because this is corporation land. You could
16 hunt right over here in the Preserve land, but we don't
17 worry about boundaries in these days, you know.

18
19 Thank you.

20
21 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you for your
22 comments, James.

23
24 Any other comments from the Council.

25
26 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: I want to thank
27 everybody that helped prepare this report and the
28 importance of the testimony that helped to develop
29 this. I think we have a good summary of these issues
30 and I'm glad that we're staying consistent with the
31 concerns that we're hearing and we're trying to address
32 them. So thank you.

33
34 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Rosemary.

35
36 MR. PANEAK: Mr. Chair.

37
38 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Raymond, come on
39 down.

40
41 MR. PANEAK: Yeah, I.....

42
43 CHAIRMAN BROWER: You need to come to
44 the mic and state your name for the record, please.

45
46 MR. PANEAK: Yeah, I got a concern.
47 Last year I was at Shainin Lake over here, Willow Lake
48 we call it, fall time. We were fishing there and while
49 we were fishing there, by golly, two or three small
50 planes go south of Willow Lake and landed on the south

1 side of Willow Lake. I think there was a Native
2 allotment owned by Dora Eagle. From there, after it
3 landed, another plane came along this time with balloon
4 tires they got. So they go south of Willow Lake to
5 those mountains hunting sheep. Yeah, sure enough, they
6 got a sheep.

7
8 And when we were at the north end of
9 Shainin Lake, Willow Lake, another plane going to
10 Anaktuvaruk between Shainin Lake and Itkillik Lake.
11 That's next river. We call it Anaktuvaruk. Yeah, they
12 hunting sheep. I'm pretty sure they got sheep, but
13 some of the guys have to tell. I guess they phoned
14 Bettles for the troopers or I don't know. Sure, they
15 got sheep. I don't know what's there.

16
17 Anyway, lots of activities between
18 Itkillik Lake and Shainin Lake and Anaktuvaruk. It's a
19 special place for sheep. So I guess they could hunt on
20 Preserves. I'm pretty sure. A lot of activities. A
21 lot of small planes go there. I just want to mention
22 that. And I guess they got a permit all right, but I
23 just want to say if you kill or even us only kill rams,
24 that population is going to go down. Either sex or
25 something, you know. We got a season, cow or ewe or
26 ram. We got a season up here. But if they kill too
27 many rams at one year, next year, that population is
28 going to go down.

29
30 But what I'm trying to say is that as
31 many years I've been here it's got to balance. We
32 can't kill only rams. We have a season for even ewes
33 or small cows. We got a season for that. I just want
34 to mention that. It balance all right, but then if you
35 kill too many rams only, the population is going to go
36 down. Our old folks -- I always go back to my old
37 folks. They say the animals got to balance, either
38 way, sheep or caribou, it has to balance. Either one
39 you kill, but we got a season for all those animals. I
40 just want to mention that.

41
42 Thank you.

43
44 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you for your
45 comments there, Raymond. I look to the Council to
46 identify if there's additional comments to be provided
47 regarding the responses to our concerns that we had
48 provided in regards to the annual report.

49
50 MR. HOPSON: Yes, I'd like to comment.

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: This is to the
2 Council at this time, Andrew. I need to have the
3 Council members -- this is something that we reported
4 last year and there's a response to the comments that
5 we were addressing to the Federal Subsistence Board.
6 So at this time the Council needs to provide additional
7 comments or leave it as is, to see if there's any
8 concerns regarding the responses that have been
9 generated to the concerns that were voiced from the
10 Council.

11
12 MR. SHEARS: Mr. Chair.

13
14 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yes, Robert.

15
16 MR. SHEARS: You can see that they
17 really did listen to our comments in this annual report
18 because we were in Nuiqsut at our last meeting and
19 today we're here. We're getting out into the
20 communities the first time in a long time and it's a
21 really positive result. I think this annual report
22 went a long ways with the Federal Board.

23
24 One comment that I think they might
25 have missed our intent was on item three, going back to
26 food security. In their response, they recognize --
27 you'll see in the very last paragraph of their response
28 they recognize that food security is an important
29 criteria or characteristic for making rural
30 determinations and we recommend that this Council
31 continue to bring these important issues to the
32 attention of the Board, especially as it considers how
33 to improve the rural determination process in the
34 future.

35
36 I don't think that was our intent, was
37 that food security is an issue related to rural
38 determination. In fact, more so, we saw food security
39 as an issue to nonrural determination processes. When
40 they were considering opening the Red Shirt Lake area
41 to nonrural area, that was a food security issue to the
42 Gwich'in community south of there and as well as to the
43 community of Kaktovik and that's where we saw that food
44 security is an issue that not only relates to rural
45 determination, it should be an issue that's considered
46 in nonrural determinations.

47
48 I just wanted to express that fine
49 point there.

50

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Robert.

2

3 Any other comments from the Council.

4

5 (No comments)

6

7 CHAIRMAN BROWER: If not, we'll have
8 another opportunity to provide additional comments
9 regarding our annual report later on the agenda at the
10 end.

11

12 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council. If
13 there's items that the Council knows right now that you
14 would like to address in the annual report. We heard
15 some feedback here. You're welcome to bring up those.
16 Again, in terms of the primary content that the Board
17 is looking for and is a big part of the discussion in
18 this meeting is an identification of current and
19 anticipated subsistence uses of fish and wildlife
20 populations within the region, an evaluation of current
21 and anticipated subsistence needs for fish and wildlife
22 populations from Federal public lands in the region,
23 recommended strategies for the management of fish and
24 wildlife populations within the region to accommodate
25 such subsistence uses and needs related to the public
26 lands, and recommendations concerning policies,
27 standards, guidelines, and regulations to implement the
28 strategy.

29

30 So we're discussing a lot of this here
31 at the meeting and we can coalesce that into this
32 annual report. So if there's other specific issues or
33 topics that you can think of now or as we go through
34 the meeting we'll revisit it one last time before
35 adjourning to make sure we have that list down. As
36 always, I'll work with the Council to develop the
37 details and refine that.

38

39 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you for that,
40 Eva. I think what needs to get addressed is this
41 access to Native allotments within the Gates of the
42 Arctic is one. I think that we heard several times
43 from the testimonies provided today. If there's a
44 means for making improvements to access those Native
45 allotments, maybe one effort that we could attempt to
46 address through the Federal Subsistence Board.

47

48 I think Gordon did mention something
49 about paperwork that needs to get filled out or made
50 available to the community to access inholdings, I

1 think that's what they're called, within the Gates of
2 the Arctic on Native allotments. That might be another
3 step that we need to learn a little bit more about and
4 share with our constituency here within the Gates of
5 the Arctic.

6

7 So I think that's one I could just
8 speak openly at at this point. I was just wanting to
9 ask Eva where were you reading your.....

10

11 MS. PATTON: Council members and Chair.
12 On Page 59 we have the basic overview of the annual
13 report process under ANILCA, the authority of the
14 Council to make recommendations to the Board, and then
15 guidelines for the report clarity for making those
16 issues and points and addressing the Board. Issues
17 that the Board has the authority and can respond to.

18

19 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you for that,
20 Eva. I just want to make sure we're aware of what page
21 you're following from in regard to the annual report to
22 the Federal Subsistence Board. Any other questions
23 regarding the annual report.

24

25 Sam.

26

27 MR. KUNAKNANA: Yes, Mr. Chair. I have
28 a a concern on the wording on the responses from the
29 State. They pretty much are talking about the impacts
30 by rapid changes. I've read this over and there's no
31 wording in there that says, you know, there's a lot of
32 activity going on over here and yet they're blaming,
33 sounds to me, like Mother Nature. So, you know, I
34 think there's a lot of vagueness on their responses
35 over here when it comes to our concerns. I'd like to,
36 you know, include -- have them say that there's a lot
37 of chopper and plane activity going on around Nuiqsut.

38

39 Thank you.

40

41 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Maybe you could
42 identify where you were referencing your comments.

43

44 MR. KUNAKNANA: Okay. It's on
45 responses on Page 48. It's down towards the bottom
46 when they talk about food security and Alaska is
47 impacted by rapid changes in the environment. So
48 they're pretty much just blaming Mother Nature when
49 they should be talking about all activity going on in
50 this area when it comes to the impacts of this

1 community.

2

3 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you for that,
4 Sam. Any other comments from the Council.

5

6 Carl.

7

8 MR. JOHNSON: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I
9 also wanted to encourage the Council, when you think of
10 those particular issues of concern, for each one if you
11 have any recommendation, some particular action you
12 would like the Board to consider or the Board to
13 interact with another agency, that's also very helpful.

14

15 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

16

17 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you for sharing
18 that, Carl. Getting back into the testimonies, we're
19 needing to identify a process in getting access to
20 Native allotments and lessening the restrictiveness of
21 that access to help alleviate the need -- to meet the
22 community's need of caribou. Some of those comments I
23 think I'll follow up on it when we get to the
24 discussion points after hearing.....

25

26 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: Harry, also ICAS had
27 submitted their flight restriction resolution and I
28 think that's very relevant to this discussion.

29

30 Thank you.

31

32 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Which was that again,
33 Rosemary?

34

35 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: ICAS has put in
36 recommendations for a flight restriction resolution and
37 that's really relevant to this discussion.

38

39 CHAIRMAN BROWER: The flight
40 restrictions, is that what you're saying?

41

42 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: Yeah. They had put
43 in a recommendation to have flight restrictions on the
44 level of the flight that the planes and things could
45 fly and other recommendations that are included in that
46 resolution.

47

48 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you.

49

50 Eva.

1 MS. PATTON: Thank you, Rosemary. I
2 got a recommendation from our court reporter here,
3 probably because you're speaking close into a cell
4 phone, that it would be easier for people here in the
5 audience to hear -- you're coming through loud and
6 clear, but it gets a little warbled when it's too loud.
7 If there's a way to turn the volume down or hold the
8 phone a little further away and then we would actually
9 be able to hear you a little more clearly.

10

Thank you, Rosemary.

11

12

MS. AHTUANGARUAK: Thank you.

13

14

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CHAIRMAN BROWER: Robert, did you have
a comment.

Any Council members.

MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chair.

CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

MR. G. BROWER: Just for maybe clarity.
I know we're talking about the response on the annual
report. Eva, you kind of mentioned on the annual
reports background, report content, report clarity,
report format. I'm wondering, the contents of our next
report, are we talking about that now or are we talking
about just responses that we got from the Federal Board
of Game Chair Tim Towarak?

CHAIRMAN BROWER: I think it's working
both ways, Gordon. We learn about what the responses
are and we have some reactions to those responses. If
there something that we need to add or clarify in the
sense that we're able to do that at this time. We're
being recorded and this could be reflected in our
minutes as well.

MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chair.

CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

MR. G. BROWER: With that kind of a
clarity, I would -- you know, I listened to some very
heartfelt testimonies of this community in terms of its
dependency, in the same way that the coastal people are
dependant on whale and those mechanisms being created
by the Federal government to manage that effectively.

1 We need to capture these things in a way that it's
2 conveyed clearly and effectively to the Federal Board
3 of Game in our reports.

4
5 If I'm off base here, you need to put
6 me in my place, but we need to capture this
7 effectively. I've heard even for myself, I've been on
8 this board -- I think I had one relaxation time. I
9 didn't apply for one year and I was off for like three
10 years, but I've been on since 1998 and the level of
11 concerns we've heard over the years we go in a big, big
12 circle. The concerns that were from Kaktovik, we've
13 heard from Anaktuvuk, we've heard them over and over.

14
15 I mean to the point where there needs
16 to be cutting off the middle man I heard. Are we all
17 middle men in between here subject to a wheel that's
18 going to keep turning? We need to do something
19 effective and convey that in a way that it's heard
20 clearly. I think we've heard a lot of different
21 things. Put a subsistence corridor. We talked about
22 the controlled use area. We've tried to make language
23 several years ago and then we got scared. I said,
24 well, are we going to open up the controlled use area
25 for dialog. Once we open it up they're going to take
26 it away from us. Scare tactic.

27
28 Now that the caribou trends and
29 declines are very -- you know, we're starting to look
30 at more conservative management schemes now to the
31 point we're starting to give in quite a bit when we had
32 a liberal management scheme enough to feed our
33 communities. We need to convey that to the State as
34 well. Yeah, let's say that we want Federally qualified
35 users in these areas and in the same way effectively
36 convey that to the State.

37
38 I think in the State it's open to
39 subsistence user. In the State, the subsistence user
40 is Fairbanks, it's Barrow, it's Anchorage, it's Juneau.
41 The whole state can come over here and subsist.
42 There's a level in the State when there is a decline in
43 the conservative measure. They're called Tier I, Tier
44 II, equal that you have there should be justification
45 for this body to make those proposals in the same way
46 that we say that there should be a Federally qualified
47 user because it's a conservative management scheme now.

48
49 I just want to try to be as clear as
50 possible, give clear direction to OSM and make sure the

1 community is heard much better.

2

3 Thank you.

4

5 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Gordon.

6

7 Comments, Council members.

8

9 (No comments)

10

11 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Eva, do you want to
12 follow up on next steps.

13

14 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council. As
15 Gordon was saying, we've heard some really heartfelt
16 testimony that shared a lot. That is important to try
17 to convey to the Federal Subsistence Board of the
18 communities they're working with and trying to do to
19 protect subsistence and culture and their way of life.
20 We have transcripts from the meeting that has the
21 detailed discussion and I'll work with the Council to
22 draft up that and get your feedback and work back and
23 forth until we have that conveyed in a way to the Board
24 that will work. Also the other issues and concerns
25 that were addressed here.

26

27 As we go through the meeting, I keep
28 track of other issues that come up and we'll revisit
29 that to confirm that the Council would like that in the
30 annual report.

31

32 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I'm trying to look at
33 our agenda as we're moving ahead. The next subject,
34 identify issues for the 2015 annual report and we're
35 basically going through that discussion and identifying
36 our minutes as to be referenced and reflected to the
37 community's concerns while we hold this Regional
38 Advisory Council meeting in Anaktuvuk Pass.

39

40 Yes, James.

41

42 MR. NAGEAK: On this food security
43 thing, I like the comment that earlier was made that
44 there was an International Whaling Commission that
45 closed -- remember when they closed the whaling. To
46 compare whales to the caribou because the caribou is in
47 the same milieu, the same mind for those that live
48 inland.

49

50 Is there any international organization

1 that recognizes things like caribou so that we can come
2 to them through our accomplishment as they did back
3 then? I'm wondering because I like the idea of -- you
4 know, because the whaling communities are able to say
5 don't have any activities during this time. You keep
6 away your big ships. No seismic, no big ships during
7 this time of whaling.

8

9 If we could find a way or find an
10 organization that has control internationally or even
11 nationally, it would be a way that we can -- we could
12 give a job to the UCAN here and tell them go for it.
13 Go for how we can control any outside activity during
14 these times in the lives of the Nunamiut people. So
15 that would be your assignment, okay.

16

17 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, James.

18

19 Gordon.

20

21 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chair. Gordon
22 Brower. I've been working with the North Slope Borough
23 for a long time and you're absolutely right. When
24 there was a moratorium back in, what, 1980, said we
25 couldn't catch a whale anymore and the North Slope
26 Borough did all this study. It might be the most
27 extensive study of any marine mammal to convince the
28 scientific community and the rest of the world about
29 the abundance of whale and the coastal people's
30 dependence. Even put a dollar figure if you're going
31 to replace the whale. This is how much it's going to
32 cost, billions of dollars, to feed Savoonga, Gambell,
33 Point Hope, Wainwright, Barrow and put a big dollar
34 figure so that we can fight for our right to use and
35 hunt as indigenous people.

36

37 That's a model to think about because
38 all that study eventually made it into the North Slope
39 Borough's own policy, enforceable policy. You're
40 absolutely right. When Nuiqsut is whaling and a drill
41 ship is over here, we say you need to go into quiet
42 shutdown mode and stack it up until such time that
43 these whales are harvested. When they're harvested,
44 yeah, you can start that drill rig and turn it back on
45 and commence drilling. Even for seismic operations (in
46 Inupiaq) because there was a need to address this type
47 of thing.

48

49 It seems to me there's a preponderance
50 of the evidence the dependency on caribou for the

1 village of Anaktuvuk Pass exists in the same way that
2 the whales or the dependence of the coastal people.
3 There needs to be an effort. We have wildlife
4 biologists here that can write these reports to make it
5 into laws. What it would do if it was an enforceable
6 law that no guiding in this controlled use area will
7 take place from July 1 to October 15. Before that and
8 after that, yeah, you can do that. Then we would be
9 obligated to enforce these things.

10

11 That's what I see can happen with the
12 Borough, but we need to effectively get that transcript
13 that Sollie made, his testimony and others, which are
14 very compelling, heartfelt community issues and the
15 dependency of this community as a major food security
16 issue for this community. You can use food security to
17 craft these kinds of languages.

18

19 ADF&G, the Feds, they control how much
20 you can take and try to do conservative or liberal
21 management when the abundance is there, but they don't
22 take into account in my view and as my own opinion the
23 dependency of that resource for an entire community on
24 their way just like how we did to the bowhead whale.
25 There's a lot of bowhead whales now. 17,000 is a lot.
26 But we protect the migration route until those
27 communities can get their harvest because it's such an
28 important resource.

29

30 I'll leave it at that. There's
31 examples of these types of things. We wouldn't
32 prohibit guiding activities, we would make a window. We
33 would make a specific window and say this is a good
34 time to do it, otherwise you should do your guiding way
35 over here outside of this migratory area. Use another
36 area where there's lots of room for other areas.

37

38 (Applause)

39

40 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Gordon.
41 To further the discussion, James, in regard to when
42 you're asking is there international caribou board, we
43 do have the International Porcupine Caribou Board
44 between Canada and U.S. that dealt with the Porcupine
45 Caribou. Maybe Lee might have some insight on some of
46 that because there's meetings between the two countries
47 specific to caribou. That's one thing I know about for
48 international caribou board that exists.

49

50 Lee.

1 MR. KAYOTUK: Mr. Chair. I believe
2 there is a board, but, you know, again it's -- we get
3 the Porcupine Herd, it's a strong caribou, but it's
4 been hunted before it reaches us and that's what's
5 pretty strong about it, being hunted before it reaches
6 Alaska and they're getting to the calving grounds.
7 They're hunting them in June and, you know, we don't
8 hunt the caribou until July, so they're already getting
9 scared and all that kind of stuff before entering into
10 their Porcupine calving grounds.

11
12 They do make it through, but we're
13 seeing the caribou just for only a few days and they're
14 gone. I mean we could only get like two or three.
15 There's barely a handful of hunters that got that
16 Porcupine Caribou this summer. You could probably see
17 one or two, but other than that they're gone. They go
18 way back south already.

19
20 So that's what's affected our area too
21 is being hunted before it reaches us. Again, trying to
22 make it to their calving grounds is pretty strong,
23 especially crossing the Yukon River where they go
24 through in the springtime. The ice is moving and a lot
25 of them drown. The Yukon River is all sulphur and
26 things like that, so that's how we see the caribou in
27 the area of Kaktovik. They just don't hang around like
28 they used to.

29
30 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

31
32 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you for sharing
33 that, Lee. I just wanted to make sure we had some
34 communications to what other international boards there
35 are besides International Whaling Commission for
36 bowhead whales and other cetaceans. That's what they
37 call whales in scientific terms. Then we do have that
38 International Porcupine Caribou Board. We have the
39 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service that has representation
40 from our Federal government and with Federal agency
41 staff from the Canadian government to manage that
42 Porcupine Caribou Herd between the two countries,
43 Canada and United States.

44
45 Any other discussions on that subject
46 regarding the annual report.

47
48 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: Mr. Chair.

49
50 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Rosemary.

1 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: It is important to
2 note that the management of the calving grounds on the
3 Canadian side versus the U.S. side are very different.
4 The Canadian side does put in restrictions to
5 activities around the calving grounds where the U.S.
6 side has not been met. The agreement is to include
7 both countries to work on the importance of protecting
8 the caribou.

9
10 So it is a good starting place, but
11 there is a lot of work that we need to do. It hasn't
12 been pushed through the United States and the state of
13 Alaska on these issues and how important this caribou
14 is in some of this discussion. So I appreciate the
15 discussion. We need to have more information because
16 our Borough has some different views onto how it should
17 be done and the way it hasn't been open to some of the
18 discussions. But we can communicate the concerns and
19 get into discussions and hope that we can improve some
20 of these issues.

21
22 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you for that,
23 Rosemary.

24
25 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council.

26
27 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yes, Eva.

28
29 MS. PATTON: We have here with us Brian
30 Glaspell, the Refuge Manager for Arctic National
31 Wildlife Refuge and he's on the agenda tomorrow to give
32 an update on the Refuge, which includes management of
33 the Porcupine Caribou Herd and involvement on the
34 International Porcupine Caribou Herd Board. So I don't
35 know if that would be a good time tomorrow to speak
36 more to the issues on the Porcupine Herd.

37
38 MR. GLASPELL: I can speak to the board
39 really quick.

40
41 MS. PATTON: Sure. Yeah, you bet.

42
43 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Is that something the
44 Council wishes to hear at this time.

45
46 (Council nods affirmatively)

47
48 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yes, Brian, go ahead.

49
50 MR. GLASPELL: I'm Brian Glaspell,

1 Refuge Manager at Arctic National Wildlife Refuge and I
2 advise Geoff Haskett, who is our Regional Director of
3 the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and he co-Chairs the
4 International Porcupine Caribou Board. In just two
5 weeks, the 16th and 17th I believe of November, the one
6 annual meeting between Canada and the United States is
7 going to occur in Yellow Knife and I'll be there with
8 Mr. Haskett.

9

10 The Canadian half of the Board has
11 specifically requested sort of enhanced communication
12 with the Regional Advisory Councils and the Federal
13 Subsistence Board. Specifically they want to convey
14 some information about their harvest management
15 planning for the Canadian half of the habitat and the
16 herd.

17

18 So if the Council has specific
19 information they'd like to share back or might suggest
20 some opportunities for future information sharing, I
21 can bring that to the meeting in a couple weeks and we
22 can follow up with something more meaningful. There's
23 also a Canadian Porcupine Management Board. They're
24 very active and well funded. They've got a website and
25 lots of informational materials.

26

27 A gentleman on that board has expressed
28 some interest in actually attending a future meeting of
29 this Council to present some information about how they
30 manage the Porcupine Herd in Canada. So I'm hearing a
31 lot of really good opportunities to match up your
32 interests and theirs. I'd be open to any feedback on
33 that.

34

35 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Questions or comments
36 from the Council.

37

38 (No comments)

39

40 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Brian, I think maybe
41 my first reaction is in regards to what we've been
42 discussing in regards to food security. Is there
43 similar discussions by this International Porcupine
44 Caribou Board regarding food security on caribou? It's
45 very specific to that and this is something that the
46 community is interested to learn more about and what
47 approaches has been considered by the two countries
48 regarding Porcupine Caribou and food security for the
49 community and their needs.

50

1 MR. GLASPELL: Okay. I can certainly
2 bring that issue up at our pending meeting and I'll
3 share with you what I hear.

4
5 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you.

6
7 Questions, comments from the Council.

8
9 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: Mr. Chair.

10
11 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yes, Rosemary.

12
13 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: Food security is
14 also a priority with (indiscernible), so that may be a
15 resource to help with opportunities to increase some of
16 the funding for doing some research on this important
17 issue.

18
19 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Rosemary,
20 for that.

21
22 Any other comments.

23
24 (No comments)

25
26 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Brian.
27 We're still under the discussion of identifying issues
28 for the 2015 annual report.

29
30 Any other items to be discussed by the
31 Council.

32
33 (No comments)

34
35 CHAIRMAN BROWER: If not, Eva, I look
36 to you. I keep looking back at the clock. It's a
37 quarter to 5:00. I'm looking to see if we have
38 sufficient time to address this next issue, appointment
39 of.....

40
41 MR. E. WILLIAMS: Harry, before you
42 start, can I say something on the international?

43
44 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Go ahead.

45
46 MR. E. WILLIAMS: My name is Earl
47 Williams, Anaktuvuk. Anyway, in '98 we went to a
48 meeting that was an international meeting in Arctic
49 Village. Well, they discussed how can we keep an eye
50 on the caribou. What they did is they put collars on

1 them and they followed the caribou migrate all the way
2 almost to Hudson Bay. That's telling me that the
3 people eat (indiscernible). While I was eating over
4 here (indiscernible). They were watching me, but it
5 didn't bother me because it was our people's food, so
6 that's what we're surviving on.

7

8 I just went to hear the international.
9 That's what they said was that they were having kind of
10 a problem where that calving ground is over here and
11 they said that they need -- there's some people moving
12 in. That's what's going on there and they were worried
13 about that at the time. Now, what, there's about seven
14 to eight cabins, people living there. You could even
15 see on the Discovery Channel. You know, that's kind of
16 concerning. It's just right there. We see it, but
17 nobody -- it's just like we're scared to speak up.
18 Look, we've got (indiscernible).

19

20 Stick up for our Native people.

21

22 Thank you.

23

24 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you for sharing
25 that, Earl.

26

27 Questions or comments in regards to our
28 agenda item.

29

30 (No comments)

31

32 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Eva, did you have
33 something to share?

34

35 MS. PATTON: I'm fine.

36

37 CHAIRMAN BROWER: If we don't have any
38 further discussion on agenda item 11)(b), identify
39 issues for the 2015 annual report, we'll move on to our
40 next agenda item. Appointment of Gates of the Arctic
41 Subsistence Resource Commission member.

42

43 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council. As
44 we discussed this morning, James Nageak has been our
45 long time Regional Advisory Council member, our
46 representative from Anaktuvuk Pass. As he noted, he
47 was doing double duty and also serving on the Gates of
48 the Arctic Subsistence Resource Commission.

49

50 ANILCA actually provides for this

1 interaction of both the Regional Advisory Councils
2 through the Federal Subsistence Program as a whole and
3 then the National Park Service has the Subsistence
4 Resource Commissions, which are representatives from
5 communities within the Park and within the resident
6 zone community surrounding the Park that use the Park
7 for subsistence.
8 James has been this representative appointed by the
9 Regional Advisory Council to the Subsistence Resource
10 Commission.

11
12 There are several seats and different
13 appointments. Marcy Okada can speak to more details
14 about the Subsistence Resource Commission tomorrow when
15 she's providing updates for Gates of the Arctic. But
16 we do want to note these are important representations
17 both on our Council and that Council's appointment to
18 the SRC and those will both be vacant soon. So we just
19 want to take a moment to encourage people from
20 Anaktuvuk Pass.

21
22 As we had noted this morning, we have
23 an open application process now to serve on the
24 Regional Advisory Council. And then in turn this
25 Council appoints a RAC-appointed member to the SRC.
26 Again, tomorrow Marcy will be providing an update on
27 Gates of the Arctic and can speak in more detail to
28 that role on the SRC as well. So our important first
29 step would be to have some excellent Regional Advisory
30 Council applications to this Council and then
31 consideration of serving through the SRC appointment
32 too.

33
34 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Go ahead, James.
35 I'll wait until you're done. Go ahead.

36
37 MR. NAGEAK: Yeah, there's another
38 opening. Rachel Riley should be on the board. I don't
39 know which organization appointed.....

40
41 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gates of the Arctic
42 Subsistence Resource Commission.

43
44 MS. PATTON: Right. So Marcy could
45 provide more details of who's serving.....

46
47 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Marcy, your name is
48 called. Come on down, the Price is Right.

49
50 MS. PATTON: There are actually several

1 appointments to the SRC. One is a secretarial
2 appointment, one is from the Regional Advisory Council,
3 one is a State-appointed seat. So there's multiple
4 seats, but this RAC-appointed one is an important one
5 that James has served on that will now be vacant as
6 well.

7

8 MS. OKADA: So we have nine seats on
9 our Gates of the Arctic SRC and two were filled from
10 Anaktuvuk Pass. One was Rachel Riley and James had
11 filled the other seat. Rachel Riley was appointed by
12 the Secretary of Interior and James was appointed by
13 the RAC.

14

15 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Go ahead, James.

16

17 MR. NAGEAK: So Rachel Riley's is open.
18 So the same process for being considered for the
19 nomination?

20

21 MS. OKADA: Currently Susan Morry has
22 shown interest in filling Rachel Riley's seat, so we
23 would go through the Secretary of Interior process of
24 appointing her. So your seat on this RAC.....

25

26 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Is through this
27 Council.

28

29 MS. OKADA: Yeah.

30

31 MR. G. BROWER: Yeah, Mr. Chair.

32

33 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yes, Gordon.

34

35 MR. G. BROWER: Just for a little bit
36 more clarity. Once a nomination to fill James' seat,
37 the Secretary will appoint that person, but once it's
38 filled, then the Council usually appoints the Regional
39 Advisory Council member that's affiliated more from
40 within that Gates of the Arctic village. Like
41 Anaktuvuk Pass would be in that Gates of the Arctic and
42 then we would appoint whoever fills James' seat to be
43 the second member. Is that what I'm understanding?

44

45 MS. OKADA: That's correct. So all of
46 your seats are appointed by the Secretary of Interior.
47 Once James' seat is appointed by the Secretary of
48 Interior, then the RAC would appoint that person to the
49 Gates of the Arctic SRC.

50

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: So another one would
2 be a user from the Gates of the Arctic, subsistence
3 user from the Gates of the Arctic. It could be a
4 person that resides in either Nuiqsut or in Atqasuk
5 that traverses into the Gates of the Arctic to subsist
6 for other resources at different times and have
7 knowledge of and access to those resources as well.

8
9 MS. OKADA: In a way, that's correct.
10 So the two resident zone communities from the North
11 Slope Region for Gates of the Arctic National Park is
12 Nuiqsut and Anaktuvuk Pass. Currently the two people
13 on either side of you. You know, you have a Nuiqsut
14 representative. He could technically be appointed by
15 your RAC to the Gates of the Arctic SRC or James' seat.
16 Whoever is appointed to James' seat could be appointed
17 by your RAC to the Gates of the Arctic SRC.

18
19 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you for that
20 there. I think it's something that we just keep in
21 mind. It could be any of our -- not just anybody. It
22 could be the two communities that have been identified
23 as users of the Gates of the Arctic National Park.

24
25 Any other questions or comments to
26 Marcy.

27
28 (No comments)

29
30 CHAIRMAN BROWER: If not, thank you,
31 Marcy, for your help on this. Any further discussion
32 regarding the appointment.

33
34 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: Mr. Chair. I just
35 want to thank Rachel's family and James and his family
36 for continuing to do the work that was necessary for
37 him to do in this process and the important discussions
38 that you have brought forward in helping us bring that
39 issue to light on protecting our Refuge to continue
40 using these areas for subsistence.

41
42 Thank you all very much.

43
44 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Rosemary,
45 for your comments.

46
47 Gordon.

48
49 MR. G. BROWER: I'm just wondering if
50 there's an action item needing to be acted on. I'm not

1 exactly sure. I know that we're discussing that or we
2 can be in a temporary status until an Anaktuvuk Pass
3 seat is filled by the Secretary.

4
5 CHAIRMAN BROWER: There's appointments
6 to be filled, but we -- at this time, if James is
7 stepping down, we need some representation to the
8 Subsistence Resource Commission and the only other
9 community that we have is Nuiqsut. So that selection
10 has been very narrowed down to my constituent on my
11 left here, Sam. You're being surprised to be having
12 double duty.

13
14 MR. NAGEAK: Until such time that my
15 position is filled.

16
17 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Once we have the
18 appointees, the nominations that have been identified,
19 positions get filled, it could be that there's a change
20 to the representation if it's something that's required
21 by our regulations that are before us.

22
23 Rise, James. I'm looking at James and
24 then trying to look at Sam on both sides of me. I was
25 going to say thank you for all the many years of
26 service that you've provided for our Council to the
27 Subsistence Resource Commission, James. Before we
28 change the subject I wanted to make sure I thanked you
29 personally.

30
31 Thank you so much.

32
33 (Applause)

34
35 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Okay, Eva.

36
37 MS. PATTON: Thank you, Mr. Chair and
38 Council. Yes, that is an opportunity for this Council.
39 Sam, being from a resident zone community, to nominate
40 Sam to fill that seat on the SRC, perhaps temporarily,
41 until such time an Anaktuvuk resident was elected. Sam
42 is also a new member to our Regional Advisory Council,
43 so we might want to give Sam an opportunity to think
44 about that or learn more about it. I'll be happy to
45 share more. They are big responsibilities and James
46 has shared that very important role for that voice. So
47 we don't want to put you on the spot, Sam, but we could
48 revisit it tomorrow if you'd like some time to
49 consider.

50

1 MR. KUNAKNANA: Mr. Chair, can I say
2 something?
3
4 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yes, Sam.
5
6 MR. KUNAKNANA: I'd like to wait to see
7 if we can get someone from Anaktuvuk and act as an
8 interim.....
9
10 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Representation.
11
12 MR. KUNAKNANA: Yes. But, you know,
13 for now I'm a new member and I'd like to see if we can
14 get someone from Anaktuvuk, which, to me, I think would
15 be more appropriate.
16
17 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you for that,
18 Sam.
19
20 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chair.
21
22 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.
23
24 MR. G. BROWER: The key word I heard
25 was interim. Is that something that you would like to
26 consider as an interim until the seat is filled?
27
28 MR. KUNAKNANA: Well, I'd like to see
29 you get someone from AKP because they have more
30 knowledge of the area than we do in Nuiqsut.
31
32 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: Sam, the problem we
33 have is that it may take a period of time to get that
34 appointment from the Secretary of Interior and there
35 are important discussions that are going to be held
36 between now and that appointment. So if you would
37 consider it. I understand the importance of having
38 Anaktuvuk's representation, but we also need to have
39 representation at these meetings that will be held
40 between now and then.
41
42 Thank you.
43
44 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you for sharing
45 that, Rosemary.
46
47 Before I ask Sam to respond, Carl.
48
49 MR. JOHNSON: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
50 Rosemary beat me to the punch so to speak. I came up

1 to provide you a timeline. Anyone who applies now from
2 -- if there were somebody from Anaktuvuk Pass who were
3 selected, would not be appointed until December 2016.
4 So the first Council meeting where this Council could
5 appoint that person to the SRC would be your winter
6 2017 meeting. So that would leave SRC with a vacant
7 seat for roughly a year and a half.

8

9 CHAIRMAN BROWER: So to fill that
10 vacant seat we would like to take action and appoint
11 Sam to be the interim representative to the Subsistence
12 Resource Commission.

13

14 MR. JOHNSON: At the very least. Yes,
15 Mr. Chair.

16

17 MR. SHEARS: Mr. Chair.

18

19 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Robert.

20

21 MR. SHEARS: I'll just get my two bits
22 in. It just reiterates the same argument. Sorry, Sam,
23 but what I'm saying here is these positions that Rachel
24 and James held are very critical positions to get
25 inside information. For instance, when we had that
26 special emergency sheep closure here a couple years
27 ago, it nearly blind sided us. If it hadn't have been
28 having our representation on this Council, it would
29 have blind sided us. It did have significant impact to
30 this community as well as to others, myself personally.

31

32 I would really like to see somebody on
33 this Council representing it at least for the interim
34 period until we can get a new representative appointed
35 from Anaktuvuk Pass, RAC and to get Rachel Riley's
36 position filled for the next year and a half interim
37 position.

38

39 Sam, if you could do it, I'd plead with
40 you to provide us some representation on this important
41 board.

42

43 I really do.

44

45 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you for sharing
46 that, Robert. I was going to say it's a surprise, Sam.
47 You are being appointed to our North Slope Regional
48 Advisory Council, but then we have these situations
49 that are before us that we follow through with in our
50 agendas of representation to these other committees and

1 commissions. Subsistence Resource Commission being
2 one.

3

4 So we have to identify a person within
5 the two communities, Anaktuvuk or Nuiqsut. James is
6 stepping down from his position and your seat is open
7 to fill that vacant seat. So I think that's something
8 that we would ask you to consider and learn a little
9 bit more about. Maybe we could give you overnight to
10 think about it.

11

12 (Laughter)

13

14 MR. KUNAKNANA: Well, you know, Mr.
15 Chair, I think I have no -- I've got no choice but to
16 take it so that we can move on.

17

18 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you. We need
19 to take it in the form of a motion. It's an action
20 item.

21

22 (Applause)

23

24 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you.

25

26 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chair.

27

28 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

29

30 MR. G. BROWER: I would move that we
31 appoint Sam Kunaknana from Nuiqsut to the Gates of the
32 Arctic Subsistence Resource Commission as an interim
33 member until Anaktuvuk Pass's seat has been filled.

34

35 CHAIRMAN BROWER: We have a motion on
36 the floor.

37

38 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: Second it.

39

40 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Seconded by Rosemary.
41 Further discussion on the motion.

42

43 (No comments)

44

45 MR. NAGEAK: Question.

46

47 CHAIRMAN BROWER: if there's no further
48 discussion, I recognize the question. All in favor of
49 the motion to have Sam Kunak represent the North Slope
50 Regional.....

1 MS. NAGEAK: It's Sam Kunaknana.
2
3 (Laughter)
4
5 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Anna. I'm
6 trying to speak too fast. Sam, I apologize for my
7 mistake. Sam Kunaknana to represent the North Slope
8 Regional Advisory Council to the Subsistence Resource
9 Commission. All in favor of the motion signify by
10 saying aye.
11
12 IN UNISON: Aye.
13
14 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Opposed say nay.
15
16 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Nay.
17
18 CHAIRMAN BROWER: This is the vote of
19 the Council here. So there is none noted. Thank you,
20 Commission -- Council members. I'm getting confused
21 here with all my verbiage coming out. It must be close
22 to the end of the day. So we have Sam Kunaknana to be
23 our representative to the Gates of the Arctic
24 Subsistence Resource Commission.
25
26 Congratulations, Sam.
27
28 MR. KUNAKNANA: Thank you.
29
30 (Applause)
31
32 CHAIRMAN BROWER: So we'll move on to
33 maybe a recess until tomorrow. Eva, I think it's
34 getting close to 5:00. I'm not sure how much further
35 we wanted to follow along regarding our agenda.
36
37 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council. As
38 the Council would like and as the community is
39 interested, there is quite a bit of information and
40 discussion on the Federal subsistence proposals that
41 will be coming before the Council and also the
42 Council's proposal on caribou. There is a few special
43 actions that we would provide an update on that are
44 brief from this summer.
45
46 Again, we have Lincoln Parrett is here
47 to provide about an hour long overview of the caribou
48 and opportunity for discussion on the current caribou
49 status and the background of the conservation measures
50 to where we've come through today for both Western

1 Arctic and Teshekpuk and then discussion on the
2 proposals.

3

4 So just as the Council wishes, to let
5 you know there's a pretty full agenda of information.
6 If you wanted to try to tackle any special actions
7 tonight or if you wanted to recess at the call of the
8 Council. It will be a full day tomorrow.

9

10 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I think we've covered
11 half of the agenda for the first day and leave the
12 other half for tomorrow. I look to the Council to make
13 a determination as to the way forward.

14

15 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chair.

16

17 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

18

19 MR. G. BROWER: I think it's important
20 to try to work a little bit more. I hate to say this,
21 but I have a meeting with DNR on the 5th and I was
22 hoping that we would push along and try to get as much
23 done, but I can always tell them I'm going to be really
24 late.

25

26 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Gordon.

27

28 Carl.

29

30 MR. JOHNSON: Thank you, Mr. Chair. If
31 the Council could bear it, I think it would be useful
32 to have Tom Evans come up and just provide you the
33 overview of the special actions that were taken. Quite
34 frankly, it's just informative and it's not anything
35 the Council would have to deliberate or make decisions
36 on or pronounce complicated last names. Then tomorrow
37 you could start fresh with Lincoln's presentation on
38 the biology and then you could jump right into the
39 caribou proposals that you will need to deliberate that
40 are going to be considered by the Board next year.

41

42 So that could be a natural stopping
43 point after the special action summaries and then you
44 start fresh tomorrow with the more complicated
45 business.

46

47 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

48

49 It's just a suggestion.

50

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Carl, for
2 that. I'd still look to the Council to move forward if
3 need be.

4
5 What's the wish of the Council.

6
7 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chair.

8
9
10 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yes, Gordon.

11
12 MR. G. BROWER: I'm going to yield to
13 all the other Council members, but I think it would be
14 good to listen to the special action stuff. There's no
15 action items. It's more of an update and we'll be able
16 to listen to the caribou stuff that Lincoln has in the
17 morning.

18
19 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Any further
20 discussion.

21
22 MR. NAGEAK: Take a 10-minute break.

23
24 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Ten-minute break
25 before we get into the special action. Ten-minute
26 recess.

27
28 (Off record)

29
30 (On record)

31
32 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Take your seat,
33 please. I'd like to call the meeting of the North
34 Slope Regional Advisory Council back to order. We have
35 one more agenda item we'd like to address. There's
36 some special action. It's under 11(d) under our
37 agenda. Thank you, everyone. I know we have a lot of
38 items to discuss and we need to further along on our
39 agenda if we can. Under 11(d) is wildlife temporary
40 special actions update.

41
42 I'll give the floor to Tom Evans.

43
44 Tom.

45
46 MR. EVANS: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I'll
47 try to be brief. I'm going to provide updates on three
48 special actions. These have already been passed and
49 they're basically for the 2015-2016 regulatory year.
50 The first one responds to a special action submitted by

1 the North Slope RAC. You requested that changes to the
2 caribou harvest regulations in Unit 23, 24 and 26 for
3 the 2015-2016 regulatory year. So this is the proposal
4 you guys submitted last year.

5
6 The Federal Subsistence Board has
7 approved the request with modification to simplify and
8 clarify the regulatory language, maintain the current
9 hunt areas in Units 23 and 24, decrease the harvest
10 limit from 15 to 5 caribou per day and shorten the cow
11 and bull seasons throughout Unit 23. It prohibits the
12 harvest of cows with calves throughout most of the
13 affected units and reduces the harvest limit in Unit
14 26B remainder from 10 to 5 caribou per day, as well as
15 shortening the seasons. These restrictions were deemed
16 necessary to support the recovery of the caribou
17 population.

18
19 As you know, the Teshekpuk and the
20 Western Arctic Caribou Herds have declined by over 50
21 percent since 2008 and low calf survival and
22 recruitment and increasing adult mortality are
23 contributing factors to the overall population decline.
24 So basically this special action was passed and it
25 provides sort of general alignment with the State and
26 Federal regulations for the conservation efforts,
27 though it's not exact.

28
29 So that's the first special action.

30
31 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you. Any
32 questions to Tom regarding the first special action.

33
34 MR. NAGEAK: Yeah.

35
36 CHAIRMAN BROWER: James.

37
38 MR. NAGEAK: There was a comment before
39 these meetings happened that the caribou people are
40 capitulating or they're giving up quite a bit here to
41 be in the process of keeping the population of the
42 caribou on a high level. What is it, 10 to 5 caribou a
43 day. That's quite a bit of giveaway. So I want that
44 somewhere to be written that we are going along with
45 the idea that we need to keep the caribou population
46 high.

47
48 MR. EVANS: Yeah. I think the Federal
49 Subsistence Board said that in their recommendation,
50 that this was a conservation effort put forward by the

1 North Slope RAC and they realize it's a hardship to
2 people to reduce the harvest limit from 10 or 15 per
3 day depending on the unit you're talking about, but
4 they recognize the need for the conservation efforts.
5 The North Slope RAC was the only RAC that had really an
6 opportunity to put forth a proposal for this regulatory
7 year, so that definitely has been noted and it's
8 important.

9

10 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Any other questions,
11 comments.

12

13 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chair.

14

15 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

16

17 MR. G. BROWER: I got this one here
18 that was for Unit 24 and then there's other ones for
19 23, so I want to try to get clarity and the area should
20 be described.

21

22 MR. EVANS: Okay. I'll explain. Those
23 two handouts that I gave to each one of the members of
24 the Council, those were sheets under the fact sheets
25 that I talked to you about last night. Those are just
26 updated sheets that go in your book. In the
27 supplemental materials, there was an error in the
28 Xeroxing and the Xeroxing put the recommendations of
29 one of them on the back of the wrong page. So those
30 are just updates and we'll discuss those tomorrow when
31 we discuss the regulatory proposals. What I'm
32 discussing now is the special action for this
33 regulatory year, so that was what I was doing for that.

34

35 CHAIRMAN BROWER: So these special
36 actions, the decisions have already been made and these
37 are just updates to provide to the Council.

38

39 Thank you.

40

41 Any further questions to Tom on the
42 first caribou.

43

44 MR. G. BROWER: My question was what's
45 the area if you're looking at a map that it's affected
46 on this special action.

47

48 MR. EVANS: Okay. So the area was Unit
49 23 up in the northwest corner, Unit 26A, 26B and 24.

50

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Unit 23, 24.....
2
3 MR. EVANS: 26A, 26B.
4
5 MR. NAGEAK: I always get mixed up with
6 A, B and C. So which is A?
7
8 MR. EVANS: 26A is kind of the area --
9 the NPR-A area that goes all the way out to Point Hope.
10
11 MR. G. BROWER: You said 23.....
12
13 MR. EVANS: 23 in the corner, the
14 northwest corner of 23.
15
16 MR. G. BROWER: Which village is that
17 closest to?
18
19 MR. EVANS: Point Hope.
20
21 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Did that help,
22 Gordon?
23
24 MR. G. BROWER: Yeah. I just wanted to
25 make sure when we're talking about what unit. It's
26 always good to identify which village is most closest
27 to it so that we get a better picture.
28
29 Thank you.
30
31 MR. EVANS: One thing a little bit
32 different about the special action that we had this
33 year for this regulatory year is that the hunt unit
34 areas recommended by the State were not adopted as far
35 as the special action. That's something that we'll
36 discuss for the wildlife proposals coming up tomorrow
37 when we talk about the new wildlife proposals.
38
39 CHAIRMAN BROWER: If no further
40 questions, continue, Tom.
41
42 (No comments)
43
44 MR. EVANS: Okay. So I'll go on to the
45 next special action. This was submitted by Ken Atkinson
46 of the National Park Service. This Special Action
47 WSA15-07 requested to close the seasons for sheep
48 hunting on Federal public lands in Unit 23 except for
49 those lands within the Gates of the Arctic National
50 Park and Preserve and Unit 26A west of Howard Pass and

1 Etivluk River, which is basically the Delong Mountains
2 for the 2015-2016 regulatory year.

3

4 Based on the overall population, the
5 low numbers of
6 rams and the low lamb recruitment any continued harvest
7 could worsen the decline or hurt recovery. The Federal
8 Subsistence Board approved this request to ensure the
9 continue viability of the sheep population as required
10 under ANILCA.

11

12 Thank you.

13

14 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Any questions of Tom
15 regarding the special action on sheep in 23 and 26A.

16

17 (No comments)

18

19 CHAIRMAN BROWER: If no questions,
20 continue, Tom.

21

22 MR. EVANS: Okay. The next special
23 action was submitted by the Arctic National Wildlife
24 Refuge. It's WSA15-08 and it requested to close the
25 moose seasons in Units 26B remainder and Unit 26C for
26 the 2015-2016 regulatory year.

27

28 Based on the information showing that
29 approximately 50 percent decline in the moose
30 populations in the area since 2011, along with low
31 recruitments, it's likely that the harvest could be
32 detrimental to population recovery. The Federal
33 Subsistence Board approved this request in order to
34 ensure the continued viability of the moose population
35 as required under ANILCA.

36

37 Thank you.

38

39 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Questions for Tom
40 regarding WSA15-08 regarding moose in 26B and C.

41

42 (No comments)

43

44 CHAIRMAN BROWER: If not, thank you,
45 Tom. That covers the wildlife temporary special action
46 updates on the three proposals for information. So
47 we've covered those agenda items.

48

49 Thank you, Tom, for the updates.

50

1 If there's no further discussion on the
2 items, we can recess until tomorrow morning.

3
4 Eva.

5
6 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council.
7 Just to let the public know, tomorrow morning the
8 Council will be starting out with an overview of the
9 Teshekpuk and Western Arctic Caribou Herds. So Lincoln
10 is here, a caribou biologist for the region to provide
11 an overview. We'll have a PowerPoint presentation. So
12 an opportunity first thing in the morning to learn
13 about the current status of the herd and sort of walk
14 through the conservation concerns that have brought the
15 Council to where they are today to address the
16 proposal.

17
18 So that will happen first thing in the
19 morning and then we'll get into the caribou proposals
20 after that. So just for everyone that's here, welcome
21 again tomorrow morning. We start at 9:00 a.m.

22
23 Also to let folks know, tomorrow we
24 were planning after the meeting to have a Council and
25 community dinner here. We'd had some requests for a
26 traditional drum and dance if there was interest from
27 the community too. So after the meeting tomorrow night
28 we'll have a community dinner here with the Council.

29
30 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you for that,
31 Eva. Any other comments, questions from the Council.

32
33 (No comments)

34
35 CHAIRMAN BROWER: If not, we're at
36 recess until 9:00 in the morning, is that right? 9:00
37 in the morning. Thank you everyone that provided
38 testimony today in attendance of the Regional Advisory
39 Council meeting.

40
41 Thank you.

42
43 MS. PATTON: Actually, Mr. Chair, if I
44 may, we have a recommendation. Carl had suggested, and
45 this is probably a good idea, it's a pretty full day
46 tomorrow, if the Council would be willing to start at
47 8:30. A little bit of a head start on the day.

48
49 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Okay, 8:30.

50

1 MS. PATTON: 8:30. Okay. Thank you
2 very much. That will help us get a little jump on the
3 day and move into the proposals.

4
5 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: I'm not sure when
6 I'll be able to call in.

7
8 (Off record)

9
10 (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 2 through 121 contain a full, true and correct Transcript of the NORTH SLOPE FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING, VOLUME I taken electronically on the 3rd day of November 2015 in Anaktuvuk Pass, 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 23rd day of November 2015.

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