

1 NORTH SLOPE FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE REGIONAL  
2  
3 ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING  
4  
5 PUBLIC MEETING  
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9 VOLUME II  
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11  
12 City of Anaktuvuk Pass Community Center  
13 Anaktuvuk Pass, Alaska  
14 November 4, 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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P R O C E E D I N G S

(Anaktuvuk Pass, Alaska - 11/04/2015)

(On record)

CHAIRMAN BROWER: Good morning, everyone. If we could take our seats. I'd like to call the meeting of the North Slope Regional Advisory Council to order. We're starting a new day this morning. Good morning to everyone on the teleconference. I'd like to ask our Secretary to call the roll for this morning to start. Lee.

MR. KAYOTUK: Good morning, Mr. Chair. Everybody, Council. I'd like to do a roll call for this morning at this time. Seat 1, 2011-2017, Gordon R. Brower, Barrow.

MR. G. BROWER: Good morning. I'm here.

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

MR. SHEARS: Good morning. I'm here.

MR. KAYOTUK: Seat 3, vacant. Seat 4, vacant. Seat 5, 1993-2016, Harry K. Brower, Jr., Barrow. Chair.

CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Lee. Here.

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

MR. KUNAKNANA: Good morning. I'm here.

MR. KAYOTUK: Seat 7, 2008-2017, James M. Nageak.

(No response)

MR. KAYOTUK: Seat 8, vacant. Seat 9, 2006-2015, Lee Kayotuk. I'm here. Good morning. Seat 10, 2009-2015 Rosemary Ahtuanguak, vice Chair, Barrow.

1 (No response)  
2  
3 MR. KAYOTUK: Good morning, Mr. Chair.  
4 I have the roll call at this time.  
5  
6 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Lee.  
7  
8 Let's begin our discussion.  
9  
10 MR. G. BROWER: Does that establish a  
11 quorum?  
12  
13 MS. PATTON: It's sounds like Rosemary  
14 is on the phone.  
15  
16 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Rosemary, are you on  
17 the phone teleconference this morning?  
18  
19 (No response)  
20  
21 MS. PATTON: We must have lost them.  
22  
23 CHAIRMAN BROWER: We have five present,  
24 so that establishes a quorum for us, Gordon. Thank  
25 you. So Rosemary and James should be here soon. They  
26 might be thinking that we're starting at 9:00. I don't  
27 know. So we have a quorum this morning and we'll begin  
28 our discussions with our presentation from what we have  
29 written on the agenda. We have the wildlife proposals  
30 or did I miss something. We're starting with Lincoln,  
31 right? We're starting with you this morning?  
32  
33 MS. PATTON: Yes.  
34  
35 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Lincoln Parrett with  
36 the Alaska Department of Fish and Game. Lincoln, I'll  
37 give you the floor if you're ready to proceed with your  
38 presentation.  
39  
40 MR. PARRETT: I am. Thank you, Mr.  
41 Chair. Normally when I come to one of these things,  
42 whether it's the North Slope Borough, Fish and Game  
43 Management Committee or this, obviously the North Slope  
44 is huge and covers four caribou herds, so I kind of  
45 need to be ready to talk about everything. So I  
46 usually bring a pretty big presentation, 80 slides in  
47 this case, but after I start maybe we'll just take a  
48 pause and see what direction you guys want to go. I'll  
49 just give a real quick summary here.  
50

1                   One of the things that Gordon mentioned  
2 yesterday that he set me up to provide a fantastic  
3 summary of caribou range and why they are separate even  
4 though they do overlap a little bit, so I thought I  
5 would maybe start with that, so I'll jump outside of  
6 this thing real quick.

7  
8                   Lots of you have seen this animation  
9 before. It's pretty old, but it still remains in my  
10 mind one of the better summaries of caribou range. It  
11 starts in January and just starts rolling through the  
12 year. Western Arctic is in purple, Teshekpuk is in  
13 black, Central Arctic is in yellow, Porcupine is in  
14 taupe. I don't know what you'd call it.

15  
16                   It starts to slow down a little bit in  
17 May when they really start to separate and head to  
18 their calving grounds and they calve. Now they're  
19 going to head to the coast, insect relief. When we do  
20 the photo census, start to spread out. You can see the  
21 Western Arctic heading toward Anaktuvuk and then  
22 sometime in August they start to mix a little bit  
23 again. You'll see them as it moves toward winter, then  
24 they start to overlap quite a bit more and then end up  
25 in their wintering grounds.

26  
27                   Again, this is only updated through  
28 '06, but in general these patterns remain the same.  
29 Nothing is drastically different now than it was 10  
30 years ago. The point being that, as Gordon mentioned,  
31 the State did combine the ANS's for the Teshekpuk and  
32 Western Arctic. There are good reasons and bad reasons  
33 for doing that, but one point I would mention there is  
34 the distinction between these ranges and the  
35 consistency in those distinctions is part of why when  
36 you look at some of these proposals.

37  
38                   For example, the one right behind  
39 Gordon, for example, has two different hunt areas in  
40 26A, the stuff in blue and the stuff that's kind of in  
41 pinkish and purplish, and that's why we have those  
42 divides is because of that relative distinction between  
43 Teshekpuk and Western Arctic. You know, you can see,  
44 like in Proposal 61, that those distinctions are lost.  
45 Now the differences in the hunting regulations between  
46 those areas in that case are not great, but they are  
47 different and something to think about whether or not  
48 you'd want to preserve those differences because of  
49 that consistency in range use there.

50

1                   That being said, there is range overlap  
2 and mixture and stuff and it is a complicating factor,  
3 but something I think that we can deal with. But it is  
4 a relevant issue and something that Gordon brought up,  
5 so I thought I would lead off with that. As a reminder  
6 again, which herds we're talking about here, for the  
7 most part I'm just going to talk about Western Arctic  
8 and Teshekpuk, the purple and the black on the  
9 animation.

10  
11                   I'll just briefly say for the Central  
12 Arctic and Porcupine that as far as we know right now  
13 populations are still high in both of those herds and  
14 relative to harvest, which is so low compared to the  
15 harvestable surplus on those herds, they're not a big  
16 concern for the State right now in terms of any kind of  
17 regulatory change or anything like that.

18  
19                   So jumping back to this presentation,  
20 I'll just start with a real brief summary of what we  
21 know about Teshekpuk and Western Arctic right now. So  
22 from the regulatory perspective, new regulations  
23 crafted by local advisory groups -- and I think that's  
24 a really important point to make. The State came with  
25 an agenda change request last winter to change  
26 regulations based on the big declines we'd observed.

27  
28                   Advisory groups, this group, the  
29 Western Arctic Working Group all piled on in a level of  
30 cooperation and participation that I had never seen  
31 before. Really came together to produce a pretty  
32 comprehensive set of regulations and that's what you  
33 see on all these maps up here, the State regulations  
34 that those people came up with.

35  
36                   True enough, they are the State  
37 regulations, but I would also say that they're the  
38 regulations that people put together from local  
39 advisory committees because in some respects they don't  
40 even look like what the State proposed initially. They  
41 are truly what people seem to want. I think that's an  
42 important thing to remember.

43  
44                   When I read some of the OSM comments  
45 about simplifying some of those regulations, I think  
46 that's virtuous and I think that's a very admirable  
47 goal, but they also need to remember that what they're  
48 doing is simplifying what people proposed and what  
49 people wanted. I think when we get into discussions  
50 about, you know, whether or not to simplify things

1 spatially or dates and things like that, it's an  
2 important thing to remember that these are the  
3 regulations that people on the ground proposed.

4  
5 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Just for our  
6 information, could we hear what the proposed number  
7 that was generated for this proposal specifically. Was  
8 there a number given to it?

9  
10 MR. PARRETT: In the State system?

11  
12 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yes.

13  
14 MR. PARRETT: It was Proposal 202 in  
15 the State system.

16  
17 CHAIRMAN BROWER: So it reflects on  
18 that?

19  
20 MR. PARRETT: Yeah. Exactly, yeah.

21  
22 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you.

23  
24 MR. PARRETT: Again, the Federal  
25 Subsistence Board in their special action adopted  
26 similar but not identical regulations through their  
27 special actions.

28  
29 For now I'll leave it at that.

30  
31 From the biological perspective,  
32 there's some real positive science for Teshekpuk.  
33 Adult mortality was about average in the last year.  
34 That was interesting. Even though there was a fairly  
35 high proportion of hunting mortality, they wintered so  
36 close to Barrow lately that they were harvested pretty  
37 hard. Nevertheless, the natural mortality was so low it  
38 basically compensated for that in the last year. We  
39 can get into specific numbers and graphs on what that  
40 looked like later on if you wish.

41  
42 Calf production in 2015 was the highest  
43 in almost 10 years. That's partly a function of sort  
44 of setting the reset button. The really long winter of  
45 2013 was abysmal for ungulates, whether you're sheep or  
46 moose or caribou. That was really hard on them. The  
47 end result of that is that they didn't -- almost none  
48 of those animals were pregnant that summer or got  
49 pregnant that fall.

50

1                   So almost all the animals did get  
2 pregnant the next summer because they were in such good  
3 shape from not having gotten pregnant or having to  
4 support a calf and lactate or anything like that. So  
5 that's a really positive sign. The other positive sign  
6 is that they appear to be surviving because it was a  
7 pretty good summer and the entry into winter so far  
8 seems like it's been pretty mild.

9  
10                   Another positive sign, even though  
11 there were very few calves born in 2014, in the  
12 Teshekpuk that was a 28 percent parturition rate.  
13 Basically 28 percent of adult cows gave birth. That's  
14 the lowest we've ever observed in any caribou herd  
15 anywhere in Alaska. I mean it was bad. I mean there  
16 were very few calves on the ground, but they appeared  
17 to survive at a pretty high rate because they had a  
18 good summer and that good summer led to high pregnancy  
19 rates, which we observed in 2015.

20  
21                   Disease incidence appears to be very  
22 low. We see very few indications of any of the things  
23 we look for. Brucellosis, chlamydia, things like that  
24 that can have reproductive consequences.

25  
26                   We were able to conduct a photo census  
27 this summer. We're not quite done. All the photos we  
28 took have all been counted at least once. I haven't  
29 done any counting yet. I need to go through some of  
30 those photos so that I have some perspective, but from  
31 a preliminary perspective it looks really similar to  
32 2013. So basically the huge drop that we saw from 2011  
33 to 2013 has slowed or stabilized because of the things  
34 above there, the high productivity and the relatively  
35 low adult mortality.

36  
37                   Again, it's preliminary, but what it  
38 seems like it's going to look like is something like  
39 stability between 2013 and 2015. So that's a great  
40 sign. Given that, the recommendations that we would  
41 have for the Teshekpuk then are to stick with these new  
42 regulations at least until the Board of Game meeting in  
43 2017. Partly what you're here for today, continue to  
44 align these State and Federal regulations as much as  
45 possible.

46  
47                   I guess what I'd say there is that I  
48 think one question that you guys need to ask yourselves  
49 and OSM, Federal Subsistence Board, all the people  
50 involved here is if there are differences, you know,

1 any time the differences are proposed I think they need  
2 to be for really good reasons. From your perspective  
3 they need to provide an opportunity that doesn't exist  
4 in State regulations.

5  
6 The down side to having them separate  
7 is exactly what you were talking about, Gordon. You're  
8 going to step across the line and things are going to  
9 be totally different, right. If they're different,  
10 they need to be different for a really good reason.  
11 That's my one caution here. I think in 26A, for  
12 example, they look like they're going to end up being  
13 fairly similar, but in some of the other areas, in 23  
14 and 22 in particular, they look like they're diverging  
15 and that's not a great sign. Unless, like I said, you  
16 feel like they're providing a significant opportunity  
17 that doesn't exist.

18  
19 That being said, if you do think that  
20 there's a significant opportunity that's being missed,  
21 I would.....

22  
23 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Lincoln, just a  
24 second, please. Eva.

25  
26 MS. PATTON: Folks that have joined us  
27 on teleconference, if you could please hit \*6 and that  
28 will mute your phones. There's a fair amount of  
29 background noise going on. So those of you on  
30 teleconference just hit \*6 and that will mute your  
31 phones. If you want to speak, then you can just hit \*6  
32 again to unmute. That will help clear up background  
33 noise.

34  
35 Thank you.

36  
37 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Just to indicate and  
38 let the record show that James Nageak is here. I'm not  
39 sure if Rosemary has called in yet.

40  
41 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: I'll only be able to  
42 stay for about a half hour more, but I'm on right now.

43  
44 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Rosemary.

45  
46 We can continue, Lincoln.

47  
48 MR. PARRETT: Yeah, just to summarize  
49 there, the goal of simplifying things is great and  
50 having them be consistent. I mean one thing I would

1 say, for example, is that -- you know, in the special  
2 action, for example, there was an attempt to simplify  
3 some of the regulations that the State had. I agree,  
4 they are complicated, especially compared to what we've  
5 seen in the past.

6  
7                   However, when you simplify things and  
8 make them different through simplification, what you're  
9 also doing is making things more complicated spatially  
10 and you're creating those differences where you cross a  
11 line and something changes, which is not simple.  
12 That's complicated now.

13  
14                   So I think the idea of simplification  
15 is a broad idea and something that needs to be  
16 considered. It's one of unification as well as making,  
17 you know, given written regulations, depending upon  
18 whether they're Federal or State, simpler, you know.  
19 So I think that's something that you guys need to think  
20 about and consider when you're moving through these  
21 proposals.

22  
23                   And then the last thing I would say is  
24 I think, given that it looks like, you know, we have a  
25 little bit of breathing room in terms of stabilizing  
26 this population for a little while, we need to think  
27 about ways to improve harvest reporting. If they do  
28 continue to decline, we need to manage a little bit  
29 more actively.

30  
31                   People are going to have to get really  
32 creative about how they want to manage hunts. Whether  
33 that's through making ANSs more local or more specific  
34 to a given area or whether people want to adopt one  
35 kind of harvest reporting system or a community harvest  
36 system or whatever. There's lots of options, but I  
37 think people need to really take the time right now  
38 before any crisis to think about that stuff again and  
39 how people would like to see a hunt managed if it did  
40 need to become more managed than it is now.

41  
42                   A very brief Western Arctic summary.  
43 The 2015 photo census was not successful. There's some  
44 reasons. It was very smoky out there. We didn't get  
45 set up as soon as we wanted to because of that  
46 potential State government shutdown. Anyway, we went  
47 out there and actually the day we arrived intended to  
48 photograph them, but we ended up staying out there  
49 until 1:30 in the morning photographing. By that time  
50 of night the shadows in the mountains were so deep that

1 you couldn't even see the caribou on the photographs  
2 anymore, so it was a failure unfortunately. We stayed  
3 out there for another 10 days, but we couldn't even fly  
4 for a lot of those days because it was smoky. So it  
5 didn't work out.

6  
7                   However, what do we know about Western  
8 Arctic. Well, similar to the Teshekpuk, the patterns  
9 that we've observed in mortality for the last three  
10 years, recruitment, the number of calves that are  
11 coming into the population, calf production, all those  
12 things are positive, so given what we observed in  
13 Teshekpuk in terms of stability, we think that  
14 something like that has happened with the Western  
15 Arctic too. Either it's relatively stable or the  
16 decline has slowed down dramatically and some of the  
17 population modeling that we've done would suggest that  
18 it's probably right around 200,000 right now.

19  
20                   Again, estimating harvest is a very  
21 significant issue in the Western Arctic as well,  
22 especially if we approach a time when we may need to  
23 manage harvest a little more closely. Again, just like  
24 the Teshekpuk and probably even more so, like I said.  
25 26A looks like it's headed toward something very  
26 similar in terms of State and Federal regulations, but  
27 in most of the Western Arctic areas there's more  
28 divergence. So I think everything needs to be done  
29 that's possible to outline those things.

30  
31                   I'll pause there, I guess. As you saw  
32 in this slide, we can talk more about Teshekpuk  
33 biology, we could talk about Western Arctic movements  
34 this summer, Teshekpuk movements this summer, Western  
35 Arctic biology. I guess at this point I would just  
36 pause and ask what you guys want to talk about if you  
37 have any questions.

38  
39                   CHAIRMAN BROWER: I'd like to ask the  
40 Council members if there's questions to Lincoln with  
41 the current information.

42  
43                   MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chair.

44  
45                   CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

46  
47                   MR. G. BROWER: Gordon Brower for the  
48 record. Lincoln, I really appreciate the work that you  
49 do and the graphics and radio tagging. It speaks to a  
50 lot of comprehension of the movements because sometimes

1 we're thinking about where the animals we're hunting  
2 are coming from or even which herd. I've heard it from  
3 the community more than once that they think they're on  
4 the Central Arctic Herd and with the information that's  
5 gathered that you brought scientific data suggests that  
6 it's either a Teshekpuk Herd or some other herd.

7  
8                   So it's good information for the  
9 community to see your work maybe periodically. It's  
10 very good information. I learn a lot from the type of  
11 work that you bring to the table, but it also sparks a  
12 lot of dialogue on management issues, like the ANS.  
13 You pointed out one of those regulatory machines  
14 diagrams up there on Unit 26A where the blue is going  
15 to be differentiated from the dark purple.

16  
17                   But that management scheme is still not  
18 reflective on how your allocations are in terms of the  
19 amount necessary for subsistence, which this board here  
20 we don't deal with that kind of stuff, but we  
21 understand that the State deals with it in that manner,  
22 but yet devises a way to actually address it all the  
23 while still using the ANS that is not appropriate for  
24 that map.

25  
26                   MR. PARRETT: Yeah, that's an excellent  
27 point. I mean what we've attempted to do there is  
28 differentiate the management despite the fact that the  
29 ANSs are lumped, you know. And we can do that right  
30 now because we're not really in a tier situation. Now  
31 what you may be implying there is that, for example, we  
32 should be in a tier situation for Teshekpuk, maybe not  
33 for Western Arctic, and that may very well be true. I  
34 think that's your point anyway, that maybe we should be  
35 managing them differently in terms of allocation as  
36 well.

37  
38                   For example, if they did have a  
39 separate ANS, I mean I guess depending upon what that  
40 ANS was, yes, we would be in a tier situation for  
41 Teshekpuk because harvestable surplus is low relative  
42 to what harvest -- what we think harvest is. So we  
43 probably would be in a tier situation. In that case,  
44 there wouldn't be any non-resident hunting in that area  
45 presumably.

46  
47                   That being said, non-resident harvest  
48 on Teshekpuk is extremely low. It's like single digits  
49 low because nobody really hunts that far north. Most  
50 of the guiding, as we heard, happens around here, a

1 little bit west of here, stuff like that. So I think  
2 that's one of the reasons why the board opted to lump  
3 them, is because there isn't very non-resident harvest  
4 to even eliminate on that heard. But, that being said,  
5 there are good reasons to separate them or nest them.

6  
7 One of the ideas that we've been  
8 talking about is if we did get into a tier situation  
9 where we're managing hunting, it might be really  
10 desirable for us to have a nested ANS. What that means  
11 is like, for example, to shift to another species.  
12 Muskoxen on the Seward Peninsula, there's an ANS for  
13 the whole population, but then they also separate that  
14 spatially so that 22E, 22A, all them, they have their  
15 own ANS basically within that bigger ANS. So that is  
16 one option that we could consider.

17  
18 Like you said, that's State stuff, you  
19 know, but something that.....

20  
21 MR. G. BROWER: Just to follow up.

22  
23 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

24  
25 MR. G. BROWER: I think it's great  
26 dialogue and I think we've got a lot of people that  
27 want to better understand the State and the Federal  
28 side of things. When the ANS is coming from the State  
29 -- right now we're being proactive because you were  
30 going to come up with a little bit more conservative  
31 management schemes that was looming for Western and  
32 also the Teshekpuk.

33  
34 So the North Slope got together and  
35 said, hey, are we going to let the State do this to us  
36 or are we going to develop our own bag limits, open and  
37 closure for certain time periods. It was very  
38 important for the local people to develop that because  
39 what it did was just make traditional activity the law.  
40 I think it would show that we were always very  
41 conservative all the time. But your method of  
42 calculating -- you said a key word that was just very  
43 one word in all of the explanation was the non-resident  
44 hunt and that ANS being high.

45  
46 It's not a big problem or no problem in  
47 NPR-A. You don't have any guides going on over there.  
48 But that ANS, even if you were to separate out  
49 Teshekpuk Herd out of the Western Arctic Herd and look  
50 at the true ANS, other biologists have told me that for

1 the Western Arctic Herd the non-resident hunt would be  
2 diminished because of that.

3  
4                   When you combine them, it provides the  
5 opportunity for the guides to be showing and advocating  
6 with their lobbyists that the ANS for the entire state  
7 is sufficiently high for the non-resident hunt to  
8 continue. That's a huge lobby that goes on. I'm  
9 leaning to think that that's a corrupt system. It also  
10 artificially keeps that ANS high for the North Slope  
11 around Barrow where there's 4,000 people hunting 36,000  
12 animals. Do you think we're going to kill that herd  
13 off completely? I think so.

14  
15                   We need to be very careful on how you  
16 calculate because the Western Arctic Herd periphery.  
17 The outer periphery of the movement of the Western  
18 Arctic Herd it shows on your map. I don't barely see  
19 that. I've got to go up Ikpikpuk another 100 miles to  
20 get that outer periphery of the Western Arctic Herd  
21 because it's so large it spans out and moves. I will  
22 get that periodically.

23  
24                   But the majority of the North Slope  
25 where the most population is is -- we might be  
26 depleting Teshekpuk with these types of ANSs that are  
27 combined. I think that should be a record that should  
28 be -- even the Federal Board of Game should make these  
29 types of recommendations to the State Board of Game  
30 without fiddling with the ANS.

31  
32                   Your work is clear and concise to me.  
33 When I look at the movement, they're distinct. They  
34 may collide, which traditional knowledge says these  
35 animals collided in the -- they always collide.  
36 Sometimes they get big, sometimes they get small, but  
37 they go to their own area.

38  
39                   Anyway, I don't want to dominate this  
40 type of talk, but it's a passion of mine to look at  
41 best management practices. If the ANSs were  
42 sufficiently divided to their equal population, the  
43 non-resident hunt -- there would not be enough to  
44 support a non-resident hunt.

45  
46                   Thank you.

47  
48                   CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Gordon.

49  
50                   James.

1 MR. NAGEAK: When you use acronyms like  
2 ANS, what the heck is ANS? What the heck is ANS, you  
3 know? Those of us that are not into those types of  
4 things -- so you know what they are but I don't.

5  
6 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chair.

7  
8 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Go ahead, Gordon.

9  
10 MR. G. BROWER: Council member Nageak,  
11 I'm going to have to refer to the State because I read  
12 about it and I get limited information about what is  
13 the amount necessary for subsistence. It's an  
14 abundance level.

15  
16 MR. PARRETT: Yeah, basically it's the  
17 amount that the Board decides that if harvestable  
18 surplus -- if the number of animals that can be killed  
19 by people is less than that number, then the allocation  
20 system changes, right. So there's two tiers. There's  
21 general hunting where non-residents are allowed. Tier  
22 I where non-residents are usually not allowed and then  
23 Tier II and that level basically is perceived to be one  
24 where there's not even enough to go around for  
25 subsistence users, so we have to start differentiating  
26 among subsistence users where there's really not enough  
27 harvest available.

28  
29 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Did that help, James.

30  
31 MR. NAGEAK: Yeah.

32  
33 MS. BRAEM: Excuse me. Do you want me  
34 to comment since I'm on teleconference?

35  
36 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Who is this?

37  
38 MS. PATTON: Good morning. Is that  
39 you, Nikki?

40  
41 MS. BRAEM: Yes, it is. Good morning.

42  
43 MS. PATTON: Hi. Good morning.

44  
45 MS. BRAEM: Nikki Braem with

46  
47 Division.....

48  
49 CHAIRMAN BROWER: There's multiple  
50 people speaking on the teleconference, so I think we

1 need to identify one person at a time, please. Is she  
2 still on?

3

4 MS. BRAEM: Hello. I'm still on. I  
5 was waiting to.....

6

7 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Go ahead.

8

9 MS. BRAEM: Okay. Thank you. My name  
10 is Nikki Braem and I'm with Division of Subsistence of  
11 Fish and Game, the State people, down in Fairbanks.  
12 Let me apologize. I intended to be at your meeting but  
13 I had some challenges yesterday morning because I  
14 thought the topic of ANS might come up. I don't want  
15 to go on a long time because we could spend literally  
16 the entire rest of your day chewing on the issues about  
17 ANS and how it relates to regulation.

18

19 Now back in the day, this is back in  
20 the '90s, the State system, not the Federal system, but  
21 the State end of things has evolved. Using the best  
22 available data, they come up with a number. Usually  
23 it's a range based on known harvests. When they say  
24 ANS, it means amount necessary for subsistence. That  
25 interacts with regulation.

26

27 You know, Lincoln is a caribou  
28 biologist, so he talks about how many animals are out  
29 there and out of how many animals they think are out  
30 there how many could be harvested and keep the herd  
31 healthy. He talks about harvestable surplus, right.  
32 So the amount of animals that could in theory be killed  
33 each year, be taken each year, relates to that range  
34 we've set -- well, I didn't personally, but the Board  
35 of Game did -- the ANS.

36

37 I wish I was there because I have  
38 charts and a presentation on this very topic. So  
39 Lincoln was correct in that, for example, for the  
40 Western Arctic and Teshekpuk Herds the current ANS is  
41 8,000 to 12,000 animals throughout the range of the  
42 herd. So we're talking down in Unit 22, down in Bering  
43 Strait, we're talking in the NANA region and we're  
44 talking in the North Slope region. Some people would  
45 argue and have argued that the ANS range is not high  
46 enough, but that's not really the topic at hand at the  
47 moment.

48

49 So the way the State manages its hunts,  
50 not the Federal system, will change as the animals out

1 there changes. As the harvestable surplus decreases,  
2 if it hits the upper bound, the 12,000 number, there's  
3 going to be a slight change in the way the State  
4 manages hunts. So while it's in that range of 8,000 to  
5 12,000 animals there will be no non-resident harvest.

6  
7                   However, we have to be very clear when  
8 we talk about non-residents. When the State says non-  
9 residents, it does not mean non-local people. It means  
10 people who are not residents of Alaska, which is often  
11 very different than the way that regular folks think  
12 about non-residents. When you're in the range of 8,000  
13 to 12,000 animals available, it would not eliminate  
14 other Alaskans, meaning Alaskans from Fairbanks,  
15 Alaskans from Anchorage, Kenai.

16  
17                   That's a very important point I want to  
18 make actually. Things get even more restrictive as to  
19 who would be able to hunt once we get below 8,000  
20 animals out there that could possibly be harvested. So  
21 there's the harvestable surplus, which the biologists  
22 figure out, and then there's the ANS which has already  
23 been set. As those two interact, regulations -- you  
24 know, the way it's managed will change on State lands.

25  
26                   I think that's all I have to say about  
27 it. It's a gnarly topic and I get why people are like  
28 what are we talking about because it's gotten very  
29 complicated over the years. I'm happy to answer any  
30 questions if you'd like, but I think I should stop  
31 talking now maybe.

32  
33                   CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you for that,  
34 Nikki. I think the lack of information and  
35 dissemination on the definitions of what's being  
36 considered is always missing and makes it more  
37 complicated than it needs to be at times. In fairness  
38 of all, I think that we need to see something in black  
39 and white to be able to read through and understand the  
40 definitions that are being presented in the sense that  
41 when we're communicating on these issues.

42  
43                   You know, we don't see them in the  
44 regulation booklets in terms of how it's going to be  
45 use. Like you stated, it's a management tool. But  
46 we're also trying to address the issues of the dilemmas  
47 that we've been dealt with is the regulations that  
48 derive from these type of actions and we're left  
49 without that information.

50

1                   So I think the sharing of information  
2 needs to occur from both sides to better understand  
3 this amounts necessary for subsistence. Lincoln, thank  
4 you for the presentation and, Nikki, for your  
5 interjecting to better disseminate some of the  
6 information that we're discussing.

7

8                   Sam.

9

10                  MR. KUNAKNANA: Mr. Chair. I have a  
11 question. Just listening to Lincoln Parrett and the  
12 lady that just talked on teleconference. You know,  
13 ANS, to me, seems to me like a tool that the State uses  
14 and it seems to me like the State uses that tool to  
15 combine these two herds. To me, I think it's  
16 justification for the State to keep these guides going  
17 by combining these two herds, is that correct?

18

19                  MR. PARRETT: I guess I won't speak to  
20 why. Well, Nikki, do you want to?

21

22                  MS. BRAEM: Well, I have to be careful  
23 here. I obviously work for the State.

24

25                  MR. KUNAKNANA: Yes, I understand.....

26

27                  MS. BRAEM: I have (indiscernible)  
28 sport. This combining of the two herds into  
29 essentially the ANS combined for the Teshekpuk and  
30 Western Arctic Herd just happened I believe in Kotzebue  
31 in 2014. At that time, my division presented a number  
32 of options that would have separate ANS -- a separate  
33 ANS for the Teshekpuk Herd. That would have been in  
34 addition to what was there for the Western Arctic.

35

36                  At that time, the Board of Game chose  
37 to -- the Board decided that the ANS of 8,000 to 12,000  
38 animals applied to both herds. You know, I can't get  
39 into the mind of individual Board members, you know. I  
40 guess I should just say that the different people who  
41 were present there had different reactions to that  
42 decision about what it meant. I mean ideally, you know  
43 -- yeah, that's all I'll say.

44

45                  CHAIRMAN BROWER: Lincoln.

46

47                  MR. PARRETT: And algebraically, the  
48 other part of that question that you're asking, when  
49 you take the harvestable surplus of one herd plus the  
50 harvestable surplus of another herd and put them

1 together, algebraically what that means is that it  
2 keeps you higher, right. That's part of the question.  
3 Now why they did that and things like that, I think  
4 some of it is a simplification issue. These herds  
5 collide and merge and stuff, so they thought it was  
6 simpler. But, mathematically, I think what you're  
7 talking about is true.

8

9                   However, one thing to think about, just  
10 like the very low number of non-residents that tend to  
11 hunt Teshekpuk, the harvestable surplus that Teshekpuk  
12 adds to the pie is small. So like harvestable surplus  
13 for the Western Arctic is like 12,000 right now and  
14 then we add another 1,500 on top of that. So it's not  
15 even 10 percent of the total or about 10 percent of the  
16 total. So it contributes in a small way and maybe  
17 keeps it at that level that you're suggesting for  
18 slightly longer.

19

20                   MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chair. Just one  
21 follow up if I may. I'll try to be brief.

22

23                   CHAIRMAN BROWER: Go ahead, Gordon.

24

25                   MR. G. BROWER: Thanks, Mr. Chair. You  
26 said two key things, mathematically it was true. I  
27 mean I heard that from you. The other one, the  
28 decisions behind combining the ANS for both herds is  
29 recent. All the while knowing that the herds have been  
30 declining for the past 10 years, meaning a threshold to  
31 review. Hey, it's time to revisit that ANS.

32

33                   All these seem coincidental as these  
34 herds are declining drastically. You know, you have to  
35 be very careful with what you say. The lady on the  
36 phone has already expressed that. But mathematically  
37 you said that's true. The other part is this is a  
38 recent development in the last couple of years, to  
39 start fiddling with the amount necessary for  
40 subsistence. All the while knowing you separate the  
41 two herds with their population, then the harvestable  
42 surplus combined with ANS wouldn't support a  
43 non-resident hunt.

44

45                   And we understand a non-resident for  
46 the state is somebody from Montana paying guides to  
47 come up here and bring them up here. I'm not against  
48 those, but at the same time you should be managing the  
49 way that the State was intended to see these things,  
50 not the lobby controlling. I could see the lobbyists

1 lined up behind these Board members, State Board of  
2 Game, to make these kinds of, I think, ill-gotten  
3 decisions to do some of this kind of stuff. We don't  
4 get to see it, but we know they're there. Lobbyists  
5 that do that.

6

7 I'm going to leave it at that. I think  
8 that's enough dialogue about it. I think there should  
9 be some level that this board, this Federal Subsistence  
10 Advisory Council, make proposals to the State Board of  
11 Game to disconnect this ANS and do this stuff properly.

12

13 I mean I hear the concerns out of  
14 Northwest Arctic, the NANA region about the Squirrel  
15 River area. Those people are practically shooting at  
16 each other over there and it's the guides versus the  
17 hunting. Who is going to get the food first. These  
18 issues are out there. All people want to do is put  
19 food on the table.

20

21 I think there should be a public  
22 information campaign. Put it in The Sounder. This  
23 stuff, the State management scheme, corrupt as it is,  
24 puts these kinds of things and takes away the foods of  
25 young people and families in place of guides and their  
26 operations. Even though the guides is a little bit.  
27 It's a little piece of the pie.

28

29 But there's a large perception that  
30 these operations, the noise that they bring, the  
31 disruption. I know the guides that work north of here  
32 put spike camps, several of them. Deltana Outfitters  
33 out of Happy Valley putting spike camps north of here,  
34 70 North. And those other guys that have guide permits  
35 putting spike camps and setting up.

36

37 All they do is drop these people off in  
38 the major migratory movement without any traditional  
39 feedback with what limited permitting stipulations that  
40 you must let the first herds run through. There needs  
41 to be somebody that says the first herds have come  
42 through now, the first migration, and I think that's --  
43 communities like Anaktuvuk that know this as  
44 traditional knowledge.

45

46 Okay. We're going to stay here until  
47 forever and I could talk on these types of issues.

48

49 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you for sharing  
50 that.

1 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: I have to sign off  
2 now. I'm learning about house determinants, so I  
3 really appreciate the discussion and this is something  
4 we'll have to revisit.

5  
6 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Something about  
7 revisiting the subject for another agenda.

8  
9 MS. PATTON: That was Rosemary. She  
10 was needing to sign off. She's attending her other  
11 meeting on environmental contaminants. So she had  
12 requested if there's an opportunity to continue this  
13 discussion, which there is -- as we had discussed, we  
14 can establish a teleconference meeting later if the  
15 Council needs more time to work on developing Board of  
16 Game proposals and also hearing more information both  
17 from the State and the ACs and also community input on  
18 that local knowledge. So she was asking to revisit it  
19 again later.

20  
21 MR. SHEARS: Mr. Chair.

22  
23 CHAIRMAN BROWER: In regards to the  
24 cycle -- just a second, Bob. In regards to the cycle  
25 of the Board of Game and proposals to be submitted,  
26 it's going to be in like two years, right, because we  
27 just went through one of the Board of Game meetings  
28 where they were addressing the Arctic Region.

29  
30 Yes, Lincoln, please.

31  
32 MR. PARRETT: Okay. So we had our  
33 official meeting, like Nikki mentioned, in Kotzebue in  
34 January of 2014 and then last spring we went out of  
35 cycle with an agenda change request. This spring is  
36 just the statewide meeting. So the next time that this  
37 region comes up for the State is in 2017. I don't know  
38 exactly when, but probably mid winter for 2017.

39  
40 However, something to be aware of is  
41 that proposals from the public are due May 1st of this  
42 spring. So a little less than a year before when that  
43 meeting would happen is when proposals would need to go  
44 in for that meeting.

45  
46 MS. BRAEM: If I may, Lincoln, Mr.  
47 Chair.

48  
49 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Go ahead, Nikki.  
50

1 MS. BRAEM: I understand that you would  
2 like to revisit this issue. I could possibly try to  
3 get on -- if Wright Air flies up there this afternoon  
4 and try to catch the tail end of the meeting maybe if  
5 you guys want to dive into some of these topics in more  
6 depth today before everyone goes home. I'd have to  
7 check on flight stuff. It's sometimes easier to do  
8 this in person with some displays and handouts and  
9 things like that. That's an option.

10  
11 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I was just saying  
12 maybe we could set it for a different meeting. Not at  
13 this time. We're on this subject now and there's  
14 recommendations for holding further discussion with  
15 this agenda topic being one of the discussion points, I  
16 think that we could arrange that through the Council to  
17 have another meeting at some other point.

18  
19 MS. BRAEM: Okay, thank you. I just  
20 wanted to give you that option.

21  
22 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you.

23  
24 Bob.

25  
26 MR. SHEARS: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

27  
28 MS. DAGGETT: Mr. Chair.

29  
30 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Just a second. I  
31 recognized one person already.

32  
33 Bob.

34  
35 MR. SHEARS: Nikki, I was going to come  
36 to you with this question. Perhaps Lincoln can fill me  
37 in. Just a little information for me to understand  
38 what unfolded on the January 2014 Board of Game meeting  
39 in establishing the ANS quota 8,000 to 12,000.

40  
41 Nikki, I heard you mention that in the  
42 deliberations and the considerations for setting that  
43 figure you looked at the individual ANSs for each herd.  
44 Just for my education, would you know what the ANS is  
45 for the Teshekpuk Herd that was considered?

46  
47 MS. BRAEM: Through Mr. Chair. I hate  
48 to say this, my first sentence to be it's a little more  
49 complicated than that, but it kind of is. I'm going to  
50 try to be brief. Prior to the 2014 meeting, the Board

1 had set an ANS for the Western Arctic Herd. No ANS had  
2 ever been set for the Teshekpuk Herd that we could find  
3 in the records. I mean it had been discussed in the  
4 past, but no decision about an ANS for the Teshekpuk  
5 Herd had ever really happened.

6  
7 So we were asked to develop an ANS for  
8 the Teshekpuk Herd for this 2014 meeting. I worked  
9 very closely with Lincoln trying to go, okay, well, we  
10 know something about that we think is harvest from the  
11 Western Arctic and we think we know something about how  
12 this Teshekpuk -- given what data we have, let's try to  
13 come up with one for the Teshekpuk and present it to  
14 the Board.

15  
16 So we presented a number of options,  
17 which is what we usually do. We give them several  
18 options based on data explaining why we rated them that  
19 way for the Board to consider. So among the various  
20 options we presented was this separate ANS, which had  
21 never been set before, for Teshekpuk Herd. Ultimately  
22 the Board decided that previously when they set the  
23 Western Arctic Herd it kind of included the Teshekpuk  
24 anyway. I'd have to go back and look at the records  
25 for the exact wording that it didn't warrant a separate  
26 ANS for the Teshekpuk Herd. They just said, okay, well  
27 this actually applies to both of them.

28  
29 So there wasn't one existing before  
30 2014 anyway. It was a question they had to address. I  
31 can't really state why one hadn't been developed.  
32 There was a flurry of ANS development in the early '90s  
33 after that very pivotal decision, the McDowell  
34 decision, that sort of upended subsistence law as the  
35 State had previously understood it. They set ANSs for  
36 everything. I suspect they didn't do one for the  
37 Teshekpuk because not much was understood about maybe  
38 the Western Arctic. Again, I don't know why it never  
39 happened until 2014.

40  
41 CHAIRMAN BROWER: So, Bob, did you get  
42 the answer you were trying to get from.....

43  
44 MR. SHEARS: I feel like I understand  
45 the issue a little more now.

46  
47 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I think we need some  
48 literature in terms of how this action by the Board  
49 were taken. I think some records exist of how these  
50 determinations were made and to better understand and

1 learn about. I think we need to find some of that  
2 literature to be able to educate ourselves on the State  
3 process if that's something that we're interested in  
4 learning more about.

5  
6 In fairness, I think that's something  
7 that we should consider at some point in time. Maybe  
8 at the next meeting. More of this information could be  
9 disseminated before the meeting so we could steer and  
10 lead to asking questions that are within that  
11 discussion of the amounts necessary for subsistence.

12  
13 Any other questions or comments for  
14 Lincoln.

15  
16 MR. G. BROWER: I've got one, Mr.  
17 Chair.

18  
19 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

20  
21 MS. DAGGETT: Mr. Chair. If I may at  
22 some point.....

23  
24 MR. G. BROWER: I'll yield to the guy  
25 on the phone.

26  
27 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Who is this?

28  
29 MS. DAGGETT: This is Carmen Daggett  
30 with Fish and Game Board Support section. I wanted to  
31 make a slight correction to the deadline that Lincoln  
32 mentioned. The hard deadline for proposals for the  
33 Board of Game meeting for 2017, which is the Arctic  
34 Western Region Board of Game cycle, that deadline is  
35 April 29th at 5:00 p.m. You can submit proposals  
36 either written or online.

37  
38 If people want to have access to those  
39 proposal forms, they can contact me and I can  
40 distribute them. If they cannot find them on the  
41 website, I can email people links for them. So I just  
42 wanted to be clear about that.

43  
44 I also wanted to let you know that all  
45 Board of Game meetings and Board of Fisheries meetings  
46 for that matter that are in kind of the current  
47 history, the recordings of those meetings are available  
48 online and I understand to some degree that many people  
49 have limited access to internet and the speed of  
50 internet in villages can be very slow and I understand

1 that. However, I want to make you aware that the  
2 documents from those meetings and also the recordings  
3 of those meetings are available online as well. If  
4 people want me to email them the links for those, I can  
5 do that as well.

6

7 So if people would like to get a hold  
8 of me to get that contact information, my office number  
9 is 442-1717 and I'm happy to help anybody with getting  
10 those forms if they need more information.

11

12 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Carmen.

13

14 MR. SHEARS: What was that deadline  
15 date again?

16

17 MS. DAGGETT: April 29th at 5:00 p.m.

18

19 CHAIRMAN BROWER: 2016, 2017?

20

21 MS. DAGGETT: 2016.

22

23 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chair.

24

25 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

26

27 MR. G. BROWER: Before I lose my train  
28 of thought. This is probably for Carmen and probably  
29 for Lincoln as well. Lincoln I think you were here  
30 last night listening to many of the testimony given by  
31 the community. The North Slope Borough has land use  
32 policies for activities. We don't have many regulation  
33 on subsistence, harvest of caribou. That's a State  
34 thing. It's a Federal thing.

35

36 But the Borough had developed policy on  
37 when you could drill for oil, when you can conduct  
38 seismic operations because the dependent nature of our  
39 communities on bowhead whale in particular, there was  
40 policies developed prohibiting certain activities that  
41 were known to interfere with migration so that they  
42 would be reasonable availability to harvest these  
43 resources for the vast majority of the communities that  
44 depended on this resource.

45

46 That's the power of the Borough to  
47 develop that kind of management of different  
48 activities. It was based on, I believe, maybe the  
49 moratorium on bowhead whaling back in 1980 and the  
50 studies following that.

1                   What is the willingness to listen to  
2 the community because there's this State land up north,  
3 there's Park lands. The same studies that developed  
4 the dependent nature of the coastal folks on the  
5 bowhead whale I think exists. Dependency on these  
6 resources. The rest of the communities bunching  
7 together, even the whole state bunching together to  
8 assist the community here when the caribou is not here.

9  
10

11                   There's so much preponderance of the  
12 evidence to look at a tier hunt, a higher level tier  
13 hunt, maybe for a window, like the bowhead. We say no  
14 seismic operations, no drilling ships from August 4 to  
15 September 15 or you consult with the Alaska Eskimo  
16 Whaling Commission if you want to work within that  
17 window. It seems like these types of things need to be  
18 visited even by the North Slope Borough.

19

20                   I think it might be prudent for you to  
21 develop a window. I've seen one for Noatak Preserve.  
22 The State should be willing to come to the table. We  
23 work with you when the State says, hey, we should align  
24 our regulations. It's complicated. Let's simplify  
25 things. Align the State and Fed regs. Said, okay,  
26 let's shake hands. I think it should go both ways.  
27 When we see a big need, I think the State should see  
28 that as well. It's a vast area to be doing a lot of  
29 different things, land use issues.

30

31                   I'll just leave it at that.

32

33                   Thank you.

34

35                   CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you for that,  
36 Gordon.

37

38                   Lincoln, did you have a response.

39

40                   MR. PARRETT: Yeah. Something you said  
41 yesterday, Gordon. You were talking about the  
42 dependency and all those things yesterday and you  
43 brought it up again today. I mean that's exactly,  
44 almost verbatim, what the Chair of the Board of Game  
45 said in 2007 when they established that controlled use  
46 area, is we're going to do this because the people of  
47 Anaktuvuk depend so heavily on caribou.

48

49                   I can't really quote exactly what he  
50 said, but I mean it was similar language basically.

1 The recognition of that. Whether this current  
2 controlled use area is perfect or works the way people  
3 want it to or not when they initially put that in, it  
4 was really for similar reasons, you know.

5  
6 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chair. I read the  
7 whole controlled use area language last night, then  
8 read the Noatak controlled use area. The one for  
9 Anaktuvuk Pass is kind of irresponsible if you look at  
10 it. It's not -- there's so many loopholes around that  
11 controlled use area to effectively say, well, I think  
12 this will work so that you just mention caribou for the  
13 controlled use area, that controlled use area is not  
14 even for caribou. The language in there is for  
15 something else. Take a look at that.

16  
17 I think we need to look at what Noatak  
18 has in the controlled use area along that Noatak River  
19 area. At least from what I read in these regs here,  
20 what the controlled use area is meant to do, this  
21 wouldn't be sufficient to try to protect major  
22 movements, large-scale movement of caribou to where  
23 they would be reasonably available and harvestable for  
24 the communities.

25  
26 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Gordon.

27  
28 So we have some homework before us.

29  
30 MS. DAGGETT: Mr. Chair. This is  
31 Carmen from Board Support again.

32  
33 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Go ahead, Carmen.

34  
35 MS. DAGGETT: If it is the bodies' wish  
36 to modify that language, you can do so through a  
37 written proposal, like I mentioned before, and again  
38 make sure they're submitted by the deadline on April  
39 29th at 5:00 p.m. You may -- I hear a lot of people  
40 expressing a little frustration about what's happened  
41 at Board meetings and things and having your comments  
42 heard.

43  
44 I would like to say that there are kind  
45 of two options for people from the public -- well,  
46 three options really for people from the public to  
47 participate and give comments to the Board. One of  
48 them is through public testimony at the Board meeting.  
49 I understand that not everybody is available to attend  
50 those meetings.

1                   So another way that you can get your  
2 comments heard to the Board is through written public  
3 comments, which can be either submitted directly to  
4 Board support in Juneau. You can submit them to me and  
5 I can get them to Juneau or you can submit them online.  
6 So those comments are taken prior to the board meeting  
7 and during the Board meeting.

8  
9                   It's a little bit better if you get  
10 them in by the on-time public comment deadline so that  
11 they can be printed and Board members can review them  
12 prior to the Board meeting, but they can also be taken  
13 during the meeting if people have comments they want to  
14 submit while the Board meeting is going on.

15  
16                   That is really the best ways that you  
17 can get your comments heard before the Board other than  
18 participating in the North Slope Advisory Committee  
19 meeting, which happens several times a year. The North  
20 Slope Borough hosts those meetings and those comments  
21 are recorded in minutes, then those minutes are  
22 submitted to the Board of Fish and Board of Game  
23 according to whichever proposals are being discussed.

24  
25                   So there are options for public  
26 comments to come into the Board and they do read them  
27 and they do consider them during their deliberations  
28 where they decide what things are going to change. So  
29 I thought you guys should know that.

30  
31                   That's all.

32  
33                   CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you for sharing  
34 that, Carmen. Before you made your comments I was  
35 being hopeful that we may be able to use our minutes  
36 with our time. We only meet annually and our minutes  
37 won't be presented to us until next year. I don't know  
38 if that gives us sufficient time to be reflective of  
39 utilizing the testimonies and comments that were  
40 presented during this meeting and shared to the Board  
41 of Game members for their consideration as well.

42  
43                   Eva has a comment she'd like to make.

44  
45                   Eva.

46  
47                   MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council. So  
48 the meeting minutes are available in draft form soon  
49 after the meeting and we work back and forth with the  
50 Council to make sure those reflect the detail that you

1 wish to have in there. They're only finalized by the  
2 public process. So you sign off on them at this  
3 meeting publicly, but they're available and I'll work  
4 with you to get that level of detail in the minutes  
5 that you want to see soon after the meeting so that's  
6 available.

7

8 But this Council, all the Regional  
9 Advisory Councils have the opportunity to draft formal  
10 comment letters to the Board of Game to make  
11 recommendations on other proposals that are before the  
12 Board of Game or to draft proposals yourself. What we  
13 use to develop that justification is this public  
14 testimony.

15

16 So we have all the notes and minutes  
17 that are taken here, but a week or two after the  
18 meeting we have the full meeting transcripts and that's  
19 what I work from. So if the Council made a motion to  
20 draft a proposal or to draft a letter, a comment letter  
21 with that motion, providing the core language, then we  
22 can work further with all the testimony that's been  
23 provided to really develop that justification for the  
24 need and the reason for it.

25

26 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Doi. Thank you for  
27 that, Eva. I was just making my comment to making sure  
28 that we're able to follow through because we heard a  
29 lot of comments yesterday and testimony about this has  
30 been going on for 15 years and maybe trying to lessen  
31 that amount of time and getting some responsiveness to  
32 the concern. I think it's where I was trying to lead  
33 the discussion to that fact.

34

35 MR. G. BROWER: Yeah, Harry.

36

37 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yes, Gordon.

38

39 MR. G. BROWER: I know we've got -- is  
40 that Carl?

41

42 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Uh-huh (affirmative).

43

44

45 MR. G. BROWER: Before you go on there,  
46 Carl. And that's exactly the point I was going to  
47 bring out. There's been -- this issue revolving in a  
48 circle for well over a decade now and no way to solve  
49 or make headway. It seems like the ears open a little  
50 bit more when the caribou starts to make a drastic

1 change in its size.

2

3 Ten years ago we had 400-something-  
4 thousand. We're at about 200,000, maybe less than  
5 that. Who knows. Unless you're counting with big  
6 magnifying glass as you're trying to do the best you  
7 can because you're approximating at the most, I would  
8 think, extrapolating, unless you're counting 200,000  
9 individual ones.

10

11 But that's the point. When is this --  
12 when can we break the wheel and quit letting it turn  
13 around and around and around. Because that's the heart  
14 of this. It seems like it's a good opportune time to  
15 break the wheel. Bust it all up. Destroy the wheel  
16 Because the caribou herds are 50 percent of what they  
17 were. We're talking about ANS as a recent, new  
18 development. Oh, the ANS is real high again. Be happy  
19 about that and let the non-residents enjoy the  
20 abundance of what is 50 percent less.

21

22 You know, actually my point was going  
23 to be -- we saw the special actions come through for  
24 sheep and I was concerned of the minimal dialogue that  
25 came to this board to look at a special action and  
26 closure of sheep and some other animal. Dialogue needs  
27 to be open and we need to be able to hear what the  
28 biologists are saying. If that can be done on a flick  
29 of a pen, there should be special action proposals  
30 equally on the State side out of cycle to accommodate  
31 some of these things.

32

33 Thank you.

34

35 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Gordon.

36

37 Carl.

38

39 MR. JOHNSON: Thank you, Mr. Chair.  
40 For the record, Carl Johnson. I just wanted to put a  
41 punctuation mark on what Eva was commenting on. So not  
42 only will you have those materials available where she  
43 can draft either written comments on behalf of the  
44 Council on a proposal or draft a proposal the Council  
45 can submit, the Council does not have to meet again to  
46 approve those.

47

48 Those can be finalized and submitted  
49 after this meeting under the correspondence policy so  
50 long as you have a full discussion on the record as to

1 the content that would go in those and then also the  
2 Council authorizes through a motion for those to be  
3 submitted. So that's business you can accomplish at  
4 this meeting and your support staff can work on  
5 drafting it and getting it submitted before you have  
6 your next meeting.

7

8 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

9

10 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you for that,  
11 Carl.

12

13 Any other comments, questions.

14

15 (No comments)

16

17 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Do we have any more  
18 information, Lincoln?

19 Before we start, let me just recognize James. James.

20

21 MR. NAGEAK: Yeah, I -- we're talking  
22 about the Board of Game and I have no idea who's on the  
23 Board of Game. So if there is a chance for the State  
24 and maybe even the North Slope Borough gave us that  
25 biographical data on these people so that we can better  
26 understand where they are coming from in dealing with  
27 some of the issues that we face as a resident as  
28 opposed to rural urban resident, you know.

29

30 In defining the non-resident and  
31 resident designations, all Alaskans are not residents  
32 of the North Slope Borough. So if those things can be  
33 identified and explained to me as a retired person that  
34 wants to know more about what's going on with the  
35 information. So give us a biographical information  
36 about the people that are on the Board of Game for the  
37 State and maybe even for the Federal Subsistence Board,  
38 things like that.

39

40 Thank you.

41

42 MR. PARRETT: Their biographies are all  
43 on the internet, all the people on the Board of Game  
44 right now. I mean if you want, you can -- internet  
45 permitting, you can look at that stuff and try to  
46 understand the milieu, I think is the word you might  
47 use, of the Board right now. It's available. Whether  
48 that biography satisfies that or not, I don't know, but  
49 you can see who's on the Board at any rate.

50

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: A quick question,  
2 Lincoln. They're not in the Board regulations -- State  
3 regulation booklets, the membership of the Board?

4  
5 DR. PERSON: Maybe by name.

6  
7 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Excuse me?

8  
9 DR. PERSON: Maybe by name.

10  
11 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Brian, if you could  
12 just come in front of the mic, please. State your  
13 name.

14  
15 DR. PERSON: For the record, Brian  
16 Person, North Slope Borough, Department of Wildlife  
17 Management. I'm looking through the State regs and,  
18 yes, by name the Alaska Board of Game members are  
19 listed on Page 4 of the State regulations.

20  
21 Thank you.

22  
23 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you for your  
24 help, Brian.

25  
26 MS. DAGGETT: Mr. Chair. This is  
27 Carmen from Fish and Game again.

28  
29 CHAIRMAN BROWER: It helps give us an  
30 idea of where to look for the makeup of the Board.  
31 Thank you for that. I think Carmen did earlier  
32 indicate that she could help with some information  
33 regarding the Board as well.

34  
35 Go ahead, Carmen.

36  
37 MS. DAGGETT: If anybody wants any  
38 additional information and they do not have internet  
39 access, I'd be happy to print those biographies off and  
40 mail them to them. They just need to contact me  
41 personally so that I can get their addresses and their  
42 name.

43  
44 CHAIRMAN BROWER: So we'll work with  
45 Eva in getting the list for you.

46  
47 MS. DAGGETT: Thank you.

48  
49 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you. Lincoln,  
50 continue. Do you have any other topics to cover?

1 MR. PARRETT: Well, like the outline  
2 says there, we could talk more about biology, some of  
3 the movement issues. I guess one thing I was going to  
4 throw up here. You know, this is the locations of the  
5 Western Arctic Herd on July 26th. You can't see it on  
6 this slide very well, but the controlled use area is  
7 sort of the angular thing there and then the rest of  
8 that below is the Park boundaries. Not the Preserve,  
9 but the Park boundaries and stuff.

10  
11 Just so you can kind of put it in  
12 reference to where those caribou were moving through  
13 this year in relation to that controlled use area. I  
14 mean that puts it in a little bit of perspective  
15 anyway.

16  
17 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Where is Anaktuvuk  
18 located on here?

19  
20 MR. PARRETT: It's the star.

21  
22 MR. G. BROWER: Do you have a pointer?  
23 And then where are the caribou right now on the map?

24  
25 MR. PARRETT: Right now or at that  
26 date?

27  
28 MR. G. BROWER: No, on the map. On the  
29 page.

30  
31 MR. PARRETT: They're the green dots.  
32 The caribou are the green dots. Anaktuvuk is the star.  
33 So there's green dots here, up here, me, the cook, all  
34 that stuff.

35  
36 CHAIRMAN BROWER: So you mean west of  
37 Anaktuvuk Pass.

38  
39 MR. PARRETT: Yes. We might as well  
40 just get into it, I guess. So if you look back at the  
41 course of the summer there. So that's the 5th of July  
42 and those caribou are over by Cape Lisburne, Point  
43 Hope. These maps go one week at a time. The red lines  
44 are where they went for the last month and then the  
45 green dot is where they are on that date, so the 5th of  
46 July. So 19th of July you can see there's a bad  
47 location in there that hasn't been cleaned up. Then  
48 they march toward Anaktuvuk.

49  
50 So if you just kind of watch them,

1 they're just -- you know, a lot of them are headed  
2 straight for Anaktuvuk there and then early August they  
3 start to spread out all over the coastal plain. They  
4 ended up -- before they started heading north they were  
5 kind of between the Killik and the Chandler and that's  
6 where they started to kind of -- you can see even  
7 farther back, farther west in the migration those  
8 animals started to head north, you know, farther back.  
9 The trend to moving north started in July for lots of  
10 those caribou way back then and started to move out  
11 onto the coastal plain.

12  
13 I looked at temperature records in  
14 Anaktuvuk. I couldn't really see anything like it had  
15 gotten cooler or something and let them get out of the  
16 mountains. I couldn't see anything in particular that  
17 helped me understand why and when they started to do  
18 that. Just to finish the year out, August, they start  
19 to move into Unit 23, head out into the Seward  
20 Peninsula and that's basically where they are now is  
21 the Seward Peninsula for the most part with a few still  
22 remaining on the North Slope.

23  
24 But just for reference, you know, I  
25 wanted to kind of show -- you know, one thing when you  
26 think about controlled use area, I mean essentially  
27 that is the controlled use area because of the Park  
28 boundaries. From what I heard it's a little bit of a  
29 controlled use area for you guys too. At any rate,  
30 from the perspective of what that controlled use area  
31 north of the Park is attempting to do in terms of  
32 aviation and hunting and things like that. The Park  
33 boundary is essentially doing the same thing. So  
34 that's your controlled use area when you combine those  
35 two things.

36  
37 CHAIRMAN BROWER: You're talking about  
38 the State controlled use area north of AKP, is that  
39 what you're saying, that portion up north?

40  
41 MR. PARRETT: Yeah, that's the portion  
42 up north, you know. The little inset of the Park there  
43 inside there and then the rest of the Park boundaries.

44  
45 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you for that,  
46 Lincoln.

47  
48 Any other questions.

49  
50 Lee.

1 MR. KAYOTUK: Mr. Chair, Lincoln. Each  
2 dot on that area of the map, how much caribou is that?  
3  
4 MR. PARRETT: No, that shows a caribou,  
5 like a collared caribou.  
6  
7 MR. KAYOTUK: Oh, a collared caribou.  
8 Okay, thank you.  
9  
10 CHAIRMAN BROWER: One tuttu per collar.  
11 There's no doubling, huh.  
12  
13 MR. PARRETT: One tuttu per collar and  
14 then at that time of the year there was something less  
15 than 100 collars total in that herd, so if you assume  
16 that there was 100 collars and 200,000 caribou, every  
17 collar represents a couple thousand caribou more or  
18 less.  
19  
20 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you for that.  
21  
22 Did that help, Lee?  
23  
24 MR. KAYOTUK: Yeah. Thank you.  
25  
26 MR. SHEARS: Question, Mr. Chair.  
27  
28 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yes, Bob.  
29  
30 MR. SHEARS: On that previous slide,  
31 Lincoln, you see in August the Western Arctic Caribou  
32 Herd moving slowly towards the east and then like a  
33 trigger movement where they immediately reverse  
34 direction 180 degrees and start heading south in a  
35 seasonal migrational pattern, was there a trigger event  
36 that you saw with the weather pattern?  
37  
38 MR. PARRETT: No, nothing that I could  
39 see certainly. I mean when you look at the weather at  
40 that time, that's what it did and that's when they kind  
41 of moved out. I can't see anything in that certainly  
42 that draws my attention.  
43  
44 MR. SHEARS: It looks like they were  
45 right about in the Anaktuvuk Pass controlled use area  
46 or approaching it when that event happened, huh?  
47  
48 MR. PARRETT: Yeah. I mean that's --  
49 so what I did is -- this map is the 26th of July. When  
50 you look at the 26th of July and then the next one a

1 week later, the ones that were in the Park had not  
2 really done much anyway. There's the 26th and there's  
3 the 2nd of August. So those ones that were still in  
4 the Park, in the controlled use area, they actually  
5 hadn't done much yet, but it's the ones further back in  
6 the migration that were really kind of leading the  
7 charge out on the coastal plain.

8

9 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Questions to Lincoln.

10

11 (No comments)

12

13 CHAIRMAN BROWER: If not, continue,  
14 Lincoln. You had other information that you want to  
15 provide.

16

17 MR. PARRETT: I could just go for  
18 hours, Harry.

19

20 (Laughter)

21

22 MR. PARRETT: You know, as long as we  
23 did that one, we could just look at Teshekpuk and  
24 Central Arctic real quick just for reference to see  
25 what people did there. This kind of gets into the  
26 whole use of the whole North Slope by different herds.  
27 One thing I'll point out is that over here to the west  
28 those are a couple collars that were initially --  
29 animals that were initially collared in a different  
30 herd but are running with the Western Arctic now. If  
31 you remember the Western Arctic pattern, they're going  
32 to do the same thing, you know. That's what they do.  
33 They're running with the Western Arctic Herd.

34

35 We actually have a little bit of a  
36 study going on right now to look at the persistence of  
37 that behavior when they go with another herd, how long  
38 do they stay with it, do they stay forever, do they  
39 come back, questions like that.

40

41 But up north you see the Teshekpuk and  
42 Central Arctic Herd and you can kind of see what  
43 pattern they were doing. So starting again the same  
44 time, early July, they're all on the coastal plain  
45 because of the bugs. That's their strategy. They go  
46 to the coast, the Western Arctic goes to the mountains.  
47 And then they start to spread out and kind of crash  
48 into each other, whatever you want to call it there.

49

50 Teshekpuk is coming down and starting

1 to spread out. You can see that by October a lot of  
2 the caribou had moved kind of between Wainwright and  
3 Atqasuk. That's been happening for as long as I'm  
4 aware. That pattern's happened almost every year with  
5 a big cluster southwest of Nuiqsut and then a few that  
6 have headed toward the mountains. One difference this  
7 year compared to other years is very few Teshekpuk  
8 headed to the mountains this year compared to past  
9 years.

10

11 I think that's as far as that goes,  
12 yeah.

13

14 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you for that,  
15 Lincoln.

16

17 Questions.

18

19 MR. G. BROWER: I've got a question,  
20 Mr. Chair.

21

22 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

23

24 MR. G. BROWER: I always like to look  
25 at your graphs all the time. I always want to get them  
26 and harvest them for our North Slope Borough's atlas  
27 that we try to update from time to time about land use  
28 issues.

29

30 Over the course of the meeting and  
31 listening to some folks, hunters that come here to  
32 Anaktuvuk, is there any monitoring what that is? Is  
33 that private aircraft users or is that guided  
34 operations? I think there's -- you know, looking at  
35 some of these controlled use language, to me they're  
36 not comprehensive. There's a few loopholes there.

37

38 But you're able to land at a public  
39 runway to unload your gear and I presume from there  
40 you're supposed to take off on foot or take off by Argo  
41 or some other means to hunt when you land at a public  
42 runway because of the prohibitions of landing the  
43 aircraft in these controlled use areas. So do you have  
44 an idea of what's coming in and is there anybody other  
45 than the community that watches that?

46

47 MR. PARRETT: Well, I guess there's two  
48 parts to that. Those people have a reporting system if  
49 they're coming in -- you know, if they're non-locals,  
50 they have a reporting system that they're using. So we

1 know how many caribou, how many people hunted in the  
2 unit. To some extent we know where they hunted.  
3 They're not always accurate in that.

4  
5 I mean I guess the way I would put that  
6 is if you're from Cleveland and you flew to a public  
7 airport, whether it be Kotzebue or Anaktuvuk, you're  
8 generally aware that you did that, but when you get in  
9 a little airplane and go somewhere else, I don't think  
10 they necessarily know where they're going. The guides  
11 and outfitters do, of course, but they don't  
12 necessarily know. So there's a little bit of an issue  
13 there with their ability to report where they were  
14 hunting and things like that. Generally we know that  
15 kind of information.

16  
17 Now in terms of all the take-offs and  
18 landings and stuff like that, maybe the commercial  
19 services, part of DNR knows that kind of thing. I'm  
20 not entirely sure. And the quality of those records,  
21 I'm not sure of that either. To answer your question,  
22 there's sort of two answers to that, the hunting part  
23 of it and the actual activity part of it. I don't know  
24 what all the outfitters have to report and record and  
25 things like that. I'm sure it varies from landowner  
26 too, the Federal landowners versus the State landowners  
27 and things like that in terms of when they get their  
28 permits.

29  
30 So I would say that there are some  
31 records, but how complete they are I don't really know.

32  
33 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Did that help,  
34 Gordon?

35  
36 MR. G. BROWER: I don't know if it  
37 helps the community. I just wanted to hear some  
38 dialogue because of the concerns I heard from the  
39 community, either transporters or -- and it seems like  
40 there's some laws that might be compromised if you're  
41 not actively having a state trooper or an enforcement  
42 agent or the like looking at these folks, but giving it  
43 to the community, sounds like, trying to police this  
44 thing, which seems to be a burdensome thing for the  
45 community.

46  
47 MR. PARRETT: One thing I would say  
48 that Anaktuvuk is in a -- I mean just from an aviation  
49 -- I mean I'm a pilot and from an aviation perspective  
50 I mean this pass is like no other. It's a really

1 important pass for people to use for aviation. So what  
2 this village sees on that runway is a collection of  
3 what's happening over a huge area because lots of  
4 people are using this runway. Whether they're hunting  
5 just north of here or way north of here, they're likely  
6 to use this pass. So that's one thing that this  
7 village sees everything in a way in terms of people  
8 using the general area, not just the specific area.

9

10 MR. SHEARS: Question, Mr. Chair, to  
11 that comment.

12

13 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Sam and then James  
14 and Robert.

15

16 MR. KUNAKNANA: Okay. Just to answer  
17 Gordon's question on checking to see where these guides  
18 are going. I'm on the Subsistence Advisory Panel and  
19 as a panel member at our last meeting I recommended  
20 that these guides started using GPS coordinates on  
21 where they did their hunting guides on Federal lands.  
22 That's just one of the tools BLM can use to regulate  
23 these guide hunts on Federal land. I did recommend  
24 that they start getting these guides to use GPS  
25 coordinates on where they landed and everything like  
26 that.

27

28 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Sam.

29

30 James.

31

32 MR. NAGEAK: Yeah, I -- since the Board  
33 gives the permits to these guides, what type of  
34 recording -- not recording, but how do they communicate  
35 to the Borough since the Borough gave them the permits,  
36 how do they communicate back after the guiding season  
37 is over? That's one of the questions I wanted to be  
38 answered. Are there any feedback mechanism from the  
39 guides and how many people got, you know, that type of  
40 information?

41

42 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

43

44 MR. G. BROWER: I know I'm on this RAC,  
45 but I could take my cap off for a second because I do  
46 work in planning and have many staff that work on  
47 permitting issues and one of them being commercial  
48 recreational permits of all sorts. From river rafting  
49 to recreational guide hunting. And there's different  
50 ways that the permits are reviewed and issued.

1                   It's not expensive. It's things like  
2 \$100 to get a permit application to get it reviewed. I  
3 think it's similar with the State DNR in their permits.  
4 It might be similar with BLM. It doesn't cost much to  
5 get an application for review for permitting.

6  
7                   But we do stipulate on there that we  
8 need to know the type of guiding you're going to do, if  
9 it's dog sledding, tourism. If it's guided hunts, we  
10 stipulate on there that we need to know what type of a  
11 guided hunt it is, is it a set up of spike camps where  
12 they have several locations, they call them spike  
13 camps, and to report back.

14  
15                   The Borough's primary concern is  
16 looking at making sure we're balancing subsistence  
17 activities. The competing use of the land is  
18 subsistence when it comes to guides and to make a  
19 report back. Sometimes the permits are controversial.  
20 Sometimes we'll get a comment from a community where  
21 the permit is elevated to the Planning Commission and  
22 it has a public hearing. Sometimes those public  
23 hearings take quite a while to do that.

24  
25                   I think there really needs to be more  
26 dialogue between the State, the Borough, maybe  
27 Northwest Arctic Borough on guides and how all three of  
28 the boroughs are regulating that.

29  
30                   I hope that's helpful there, James.  
31 And the permits, they're not issued indefinitely. Some  
32 have a one-year life and others, when they ask for it,  
33 when the DNR issues them a permit for three years, they  
34 get a permit for three years. So they don't have a  
35 permit for life. They have a permit for maybe a single  
36 season or for three seasons. That's how the Borough's  
37 permitting works.

38  
39                   CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Gordon. I  
40 know we're getting away from our agenda items in terms  
41 of where we are going in regards to proposals. I think  
42 these answers or the questions are important, but we  
43 have some agenda items that we need to keep in line  
44 with in terms of our timing. It continues to shorten  
45 the day with the lengthy discussions. But I'd like to  
46 recognize maybe James if I could. Are you satisfied  
47 with the answer from Gordon?

48  
49                   MR. NAGEAK: No.  
50

1 (Laughter)

2

3 MR. NAGEAK: I think what I was looking  
4 for is an opportunity for the guide to describe to me  
5 what types of activity they have in each of the camps  
6 during the time that they are open, during the time  
7 they are being employed by these non-residents to hunt  
8 for one bull. So that's the type of thing I would like  
9 to have in my hand. But I guess they're private  
10 citizens too, so I would get into personal stuff if I  
11 get too ambitious for information.

12

13 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I think you're right.  
14 I think we'd have to ask the guides themselves and  
15 trying to get secondhand information may be misleading  
16 sometimes.

17

18 So, Bob.

19

20 MR. SHEARS: Thank you, Mr. Chair.  
21 Thank you, Lincoln. That is kind of interesting what  
22 you were starting to discuss there about how aircraft  
23 -- you know, the strategic location and the geography  
24 of Anaktuvuk how it's important to aircraft operations.  
25 You're a pilot yourself and you're familiar with this  
26 country.

27

28 Could you kind of expand on how small  
29 aircraft operations and logistics works in this region  
30 in relation to refueling, strategic airstrips and  
31 strategic passes. How important is Atigun Pass, Howard  
32 Pass, Bettles, Umiat, Deadhorse, Kotzebue for  
33 refueling? That's probably more of a question that I'd  
34 like to see a presentation on at some time by  
35 experienced pilots or Bush pilots. Understanding how  
36 the small aircraft operations work in this region is  
37 kind of a specialty that I feel pretty clueless about.

38

39 MR. PARRETT: Yeah, I think you're  
40 right. I think honestly you'd have to talk to -- I  
41 think what Harry said is exactly right. Not  
42 secondhand, but like speak to people that are actually  
43 guiding and stuff about how they do their logistics,  
44 you know. For example, whether it's for work or  
45 personal stuff, I depend on Umiat and Bettles a lot.  
46 And use Anaktuvuk a lot and then the north fork of the  
47 Koyukuk. That's what I use a lot and then the State  
48 has gas in Coldfoot.

49

50 MR. SHEARS: I didn't know that.

1 MR. PARRETT: I think the answer to  
2 your question I think depends on where a given person  
3 is working and whether they have access to the Haul  
4 Road because there's places to get fuel on the Haul  
5 Road. A lot of those outfitters and guides and stuff  
6 have their own fuel, so they're not really depending on  
7 places like Bettles or Uniat or anything like that. I  
8 think again to get back to exactly what Harry said you  
9 have to ask them firsthand probably to figure out the  
10 breadth of what's happening out there.

11  
12 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Okay. Any other  
13 questions to Lincoln.

14  
15 (No comments)

16  
17 CHAIRMAN BROWER: If not, I think we'll  
18 take a 10-minute recess at this time and then we'll  
19 come back and do some public testimony.

20  
21 (Off record)

22  
23 (On record)

24  
25 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Good morning,  
26 everyone. If we could take our seats, I'd like to call  
27 the meeting back to order at this time. Thank you.  
28 We've been covering agenda item presentation by Lincoln  
29 Parrett this morning. I think we've had a fairly  
30 lengthy discussion on the subject, on caribou.

31  
32 Before we get started onto our next  
33 agenda item I'd like to ask Susan Morry to provide her  
34 public testimony. She didn't have an opportunity  
35 yesterday. I'd like to give her an opportunity this  
36 morning before we get into the discussions of  
37 proposals.

38  
39 So, Susan.

40  
41 MS. MORRY: Good morning. Thank you,  
42 Mr. Chair and Council for providing the opportunity for  
43 our residents. There's been a lot of our people who  
44 came before you and you are the Subsistence Advisory  
45 Council.

46  
47 This year our community has been really  
48 hurting. Obviously you've heard it from many of our  
49 people. I guess one of the bigger factors is the  
50 sports hunting activities up north. Because when our

1 people decided to settle here in Anaktuvuk Pass they  
2 chose this area because it was the part of the  
3 migrating caribou and just to ensure survival for our  
4 people.

5

6 I'm sorry I'm shaking.

7

8 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Don't be shaking.  
9 We're all people just like you.

10

11 MS. MORRY: I know. I was trying to  
12 build my guts to come up here.

13

14 CHAIRMAN BROWER: We're not going to  
15 bite. We don't bite.

16

17 (Laughter)

18

19 MS. MORRY: Thank you. Yeah, when our  
20 people decided to settle here, they chose this area  
21 because it was in the heart of the migrating caribou to  
22 ensure survival for our people. Our family before us  
23 they shared with us like a traditional teaching of  
24 refraining from north, like conducting hunting. Just  
25 try to let the first herds pass.

26

27 And then because the North Slope  
28 Borough and the State allows sports hunting activities  
29 just north of our valley it's going against our  
30 tradition. Our people were wise people at that time  
31 and we share that. I mean my grandparents shared that  
32 with me. I tell my kids too and then I have grandkids.  
33 I have two of them. We're teaching them that as well.

34

35

36 But that always interferes. Since you  
37 all are the Subsistence Advisory Council and Eva, she  
38 had mentioned that since you all are gathering our  
39 testimony maybe you guys could write a letter to the  
40 Board of game and I urge you guys to make that motion  
41 and get something written to them.

42

43 We're a small community of 350 people  
44 and I swear at least three, four times out of the week  
45 we rely on caribou as a main meal, main course meal.  
46 You guys know how aluuttagaag and caribou fry and soup.  
47 We depend on all of that. We're not ones who really  
48 get excited for chicken or beef or stuff like that.

49

50 But I just want to urge you as the

1 Subsistence Advisory Council to bring forth all our  
2 concerns to the Board of Game. We can't wait till  
3 2017. Not at all. We've been waiting too long. I  
4 know a lot of our members, community members, whether  
5 they are in organizations or not, they've approached  
6 North Slope Borough, State, and like you guys said, you  
7 guys heard testimony for 10, 15 years. I just want to  
8 ask for your guys's support.

9

10                                 And the thing with sheep, that's been  
11 kind of what we've been going after since there hasn't  
12 been any caribou. I know that we were limited to not  
13 even catching the females. We only have to catch the  
14 rams. Because my husband, he's a hunter, and he  
15 catches and he shares the food. The first ones he goes  
16 to is the elders. Just how rich the meat and how fat  
17 it is, it's too strong for our elders. Like they kind  
18 of naggi it. They prefer the females that's within the  
19 Park here.

20

21                                 I'll bet you as I go sit down I'm going  
22 to say, darn it, I forgot to say this and I forgot to  
23 say that. I just want to let you guys know.

24

25                                 Thank you, guys.

26

27                                 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Susan, for  
28 your testimony.

29

30                                 (Applause)

31

32                                 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I was just going to  
33 follow up. If you do remember at a later time what you  
34 wanted to say, you could write it down and definitely  
35 submit it to Eva to be included in the comments.  
36 Again, thank you, Susan.

37

38                                 We'll move on to our next agenda item.  
39 We are going to get into the North Slope Region  
40 proposals. If there is public testimony in regards to  
41 the comments of the proposals, we'll allow that to  
42 occur for each of these proposals that have been  
43 generated to be considered by the Regional Advisory  
44 Council.

45

46                                 Maybe at this time I'd like to ask to  
47 see who is online to see who has joined us in our  
48 meeting this morning.

49

50                                 MR. JOLEY: Good morning, Mr. Chair.

1 This is Kyle Joley with the National Park Service.  
2  
3 MR. CRAWFORD: Good morning. This is  
4 Drew Crawford with Fish and Game in Anchorage.  
5  
6 MS. DAGGETT: Carmen Daggett, Board  
7 Support Section, Kotzebue.  
8  
9 MR. ADKISSON: Good morning. This is  
10 Ken Adkisson, National Park Service.  
11  
12 MR. REXFORD, SR.: Good morning. This  
13 is Edward Rexford, Sr. from Kaktovik, citizen.  
14  
15 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Good morning, Edward.  
16  
17 MR. REXFORD, SR.: Good morning.  
18  
19 MS. LENART: Good morning. This is  
20 Beth and I'm from Fish and Game listening in.  
21  
22 MR. RICE: Good morning. Bud Rice,  
23 National Park Service in Anchorage, listening in.  
24  
25 MS. LAVINE: Good morning, Mr. Chair.  
26 Robbin LaVine with Alaska Subsistence Management  
27 listening in.  
28  
29 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Any others.  
30  
31 (No comments)  
32  
33 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Maybe you could  
34 remind us what the numbers were to put the phones on  
35 mute once they're done speaking.  
36  
37 Thank you.  
38  
39 MS. PATTON: Good afternoon. Just want  
40 to check in one last time if we have anyone else that  
41 has joined us online. I know we had other communities  
42 that were interested in hearing this proposal. If we  
43 have anyone from Nuiqsut or Atqasuk or Point Hope  
44 online this afternoon.  
45  
46 (No comments)  
47  
48 MS. PATTON: Good morning. So for  
49 those of you that are online if you could please push  
50 \*6 to mute your phones. We've got a lot of typing

1 noise in the background. If you wish to address the  
2 Council, just push \*6 again to speak. If you could  
3 please keep your phones on mute, that would be helpful.  
4 Thank you. Whoever is typing in the background we can  
5 still hear you working away there this morning. So if  
6 you could please be sure to mute your phone, that would  
7 be really helpful. I'm sure it's one of the agency  
8 staff folks out there typing away.

9

10 Thank you.

11

12 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Eva. So  
13 now we're down to North Slope Region proposals.

14

15 Tom, you have the floor.

16

17 MR. EVANS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman and  
18 members of the Council. For the record, my name is Tom  
19 Evans. I'm a wildlife biologist for the Office of  
20 Subsistence Management. I'll be presenting a summary  
21 of the Wildlife Proposals WP16-61, 62, 63 and 64, which  
22 can be found on Page 68 of your Council book. We  
23 combined all these proposals into one analysis.

24

25 So this morning, following Lincoln's  
26 presentation, I think the most important thing we want  
27 to get to is get to the regulation changes and the  
28 decisions that this Council will make on this proposal  
29 for the different areas. The different areas that  
30 we're talking about this morning will be 26A, 26B, 23  
31 and 24 and only portions of 23 and 24.

32

33 We'll start off, I'll give a brief  
34 summary of a few little things, but we'll try to get  
35 direct to the action items that we need to deal with  
36 and I'll try to guide you along. If at any time this  
37 becomes complicated, because it is complicated, these  
38 changes in the regulations, feel free to stop me, ask  
39 me to slow down and then we'll go from there. I've  
40 been dealing with this for two and a half months.

41

42 I know it's complicated. I might  
43 assume things that aren't obvious to others. So just  
44 work with me and I think we'll get through this  
45 process. We have a limited amount of time and I'm  
46 hoping we can process this as quickly as possible when  
47 we get through today.

48

49 Okay. Starting off. The four wildlife  
50 proposals were submitted by the North Slope Regional

1 Advisory Council to change the caribou hunting  
2 regulations on the Federal public lands in Game  
3 Management Units 23, 24, 26A and 26B. Two other  
4 proposals were also submitted during this wildlife  
5 cycle, which overlap with the North Slope RAC  
6 proposals.

7

8                   WP16-37 was submitted by Jack Reakoff  
9 as an individual, but he's the head of the Western  
10 Interior RAC. Essentially that regulation mimics the  
11 State regulations and it overlaps all four units that  
12 we'll be discussing today. WP16-49/52 submitted by the  
13 Northwest Arctic RAC overlaps with Unit 23.

14

15                   You guys have probably had a chance by  
16 now to see the maps on the wall. The maps basically  
17 show the regulations of the proposed changes for each  
18 of the proposals. So you'll see a set will be for  
19 WP16-61, a set will be for WP16-37 and a set will be  
20 for WP16-49/52. So each of these maps, when you look  
21 at them, it gives the proposed regulations, which is  
22 what is proposed, the State regulations, what the State  
23 has which are now in regulation, and then it gives OSM  
24 regulations underneath it. With a quick glance, you  
25 can look at that and compare all three sets of  
26 regulations.

27

28                   In addition, there's six handouts which  
29 you have in your RAC books and supplemental materials.  
30 This includes the range map of the caribou herds, the  
31 table with the WCH management recommendations from the  
32 Western Arctic Caribou Herd working group, the North  
33 Slope proposals themselves and the maps of the proposed  
34 hunt areas that the North Slope proposed, and  
35 unit-specific fact sheets and then the larger tables,  
36 which you have here, which is kind of a tabular summary  
37 of the regulation changes for each of the units too.

38

39                   So I've tried to provide as many  
40 different avenues of looking at these things, so you  
41 can look at whatever is going to work for you the  
42 easiest. The fact sheets that we have will probably be  
43 the kind of my guide which I'll be kind of working off  
44 of. So the fact sheets which kind of summarize -- give  
45 the proposal and then they give how it differs from the  
46 previous regulations. It also gives a summary how it  
47 differs from the State regulations and then there's a  
48 discussion topic after that.

49 Anyhow, we'll go on

50

1                   The proposals included recommendations  
2 to reduce harvest limit, a prohibition on the take of  
3 calves, a reduction in the harvest seasons for bulls  
4 and cows and protection of cows with calves primarily  
5 from the spring to the fall, and a modification of some  
6 of the hunt areas.

7  
8                   I'm not going to go over each of the  
9 proposals, what they recommended because you guys, I  
10 think, are familiar with that. Lincoln addressed the  
11 State regulations and all the efforts that it took by  
12 many different groups of people to come to some  
13 conclusion as to what the State regulations are.

14  
15                   I know the North Slope Borough in  
16 particular, and this is kind of getting at what James  
17 talked about yesterday, recognizes the hardship to the  
18 communities that these proposed changes have because  
19 the North Slope RAC felt important to balance the need  
20 for conservation actions for the WCH and the Teshekpuk  
21 Caribou Herds at the same time providing a subsistence  
22 opportunity for Federally qualified users.

23  
24                   OSM worked really hard to try to  
25 provide consistency in the recommendations between all  
26 the proposal requests for all the units. So we, in the  
27 office, since we had all the requests from all the  
28 different RACs, we tried hard to make sure that the --  
29 kind of to make them as consistent as possible so it  
30 would make it easier when we get all these  
31 recommendations following this meeting, we'll have to  
32 go back and kind of look at all the recommendations and  
33 see how they all line up.

34  
35                   I'm not going to probably go through  
36 much of the biology unless you want me to because I  
37 think Lincoln summarized that fairly well. He provided  
38 you with an update of the things. We all know the  
39 caribou herds have been declining for about 50 percent.  
40 I do have information on that. If you'd like me to  
41 present stuff on the biology, I'll do that.

42  
43                   The proposal recommendations are  
44 similar to the State recommendations, but they're not  
45 exactly the same with respect to designated hunt areas,  
46 seasons and restrictions, so there are some differences  
47 now from the State regulations and we'll go over those.  
48 What I'd like to do in doing that, when we do it, we'll  
49 go over it by each unit. We'll just work on one unit  
50 at a time and then we'll do it that way and try to get

1 motions and recommendations agreed upon or whatever,  
2 then we'll go to the next unit. If I try to do all  
3 four units together, it will be too complicated and you  
4 won't be able to follow along.

5  
6 As Lincoln said, these are some of the  
7 changes. Some of these changes haven't happened for  
8 over 30 years, so this is a big change for a lot of  
9 people. The special action that we did for this year  
10 provided some of the changes for the folks for this  
11 harvest season. It reduced the harvest limit in some  
12 areas.

13  
14 One of the things that the special  
15 actions didn't do, they didn't really deal with the  
16 designated hunt areas that the State had done and that  
17 was partly on purpose to give time for the RACs to be  
18 able to look at these areas during the fall meetings to  
19 allow them to decide what they want to do with respect  
20 to hunt areas

21  
22 MR. NAGEAK: Mr. Chair.

23  
24 CHAIRMAN BROWER: James.

25  
26 MR. NAGEAK: On Page 70 of the book  
27 that I have here, on Unit 26A caribou, that last -- you  
28 may not transport more than five caribou per regulatory  
29 year. Who are the you?

30  
31 MR. EVANS: That would be under the  
32 Federal subsistence regulations, it's saying -- so this  
33 is in the regulations now. It says you may not  
34 transport more than five caribou per regulatory year  
35 from Unit 26. So that's outside of Unit 26 and moving  
36 it to 24 or some other area except to the community of  
37 Anaktuvuk Pass.

38  
39 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Turn on your mic.

40  
41 MR. EVANS: I'm sorry. Did everyone  
42 hear me or do you want me to say that again?

43  
44 MR. NAGEAK: So you is?

45  
46 MR. EVANS: So you would be the  
47 hunters, the subsistence hunters, whoever is hunting.

48  
49 MR. NAGEAK: Every hunter in the state?

50

1 MR. EVANS: That are hunting in 26A or  
2 taking caribou out of 26A. These are Federal  
3 subsistence regulations, so it would go for anyone  
4 hunting under the Federal subsistence regulations.

5  
6 Okay. The average harvest for the  
7 Teshekpuk Caribou Herd is at 4-5,000 per year. It's  
8 primarily by the residents of Atqasuk, Barrow, Nuiqsut  
9 and Wainwright from the North Slope communities. The  
10 average harvest for the Western Arctic Caribou Herd is  
11 about 14,000 from 1999 to 2014 with 13,600. Local  
12 residents take approximately 94 percent of the harvest  
13 from the Western Arctic Caribou Herd. The vast  
14 majority of this harvest occurs from residents of Unit  
15 23.

16  
17 So even though folks from the North  
18 Slope harvest from this thing, the vast majority of the  
19 harvest comes from residents of Unit 23. Within the  
20 North Slope Borough, the villages that harvest  
21 primarily from the Western Arctic Caribou Herd would be  
22 Anaktuvuk Pass, Point Lay and Point Hope.

23  
24 Some general effects of the proposal.  
25 When I say proposal, I'm just going to refer to it 61  
26 to cover all four proposals. Federally qualified  
27 subsistence users would have less opportunity to  
28 harvest caribou on Federal public lands in Units 23,  
29 24, 26A, and 26B. The caribou harvest quotas in Unit 23  
30 would go from 15 to 5 per day and in Units 26A and 26B  
31 the harvest quota would go from 10 to 5 per day.  
32 Reducing the harvest limits combined with the  
33 shortening of the bull and cow season should help  
34 reduce the overall harvest. As the populations  
35 dwindle, the effects of the harvest have more impact.

36  
37 A prohibition of the harvest of cows  
38 with calves should help increase calf survival and  
39 recruitment and reduce adult cow mortality. Lincoln  
40 mentioned that maybe the herds are stabilizing a little  
41 bit, so maybe already we're seeing some -- maybe a  
42 combination of good weather and stuff and not severe  
43 winters and a lower harvest maybe has helped already to  
44 kind of help the populations. Maybe at least  
45 stabilizing.

46  
47 Calves that remain with cows till  
48 weaning have a better chance of overwintering survival.  
49 Calves orphaned in September have a 50 percent survival  
50 whereas calves orphaned in November have a 75 percent

1 chance of survival.

2

3

4 The October cut-off dates for the  
5 harvest of cows is in between -- if we were using the  
6 WACH, it would be the end of November if we were using  
7 six months when they start to wean and using June 1st  
8 as the average birthing date. So just keep that in  
9 mind.

9

10 The prohibition on the take of calves  
11 is not likely to have much conservation effect since  
12 subsistence hunters rarely target calves. The  
13 protection of cows with calves is a much more important  
14 conservation action.

15

16 MR. NAGEAK: Mr. Chair.

17

18 CHAIRMAN BROWER: You have a question,  
19 Tom. James.

20

21 MR. NAGEAK: Yeah, on the calf issue.  
22 You know, traditionally, I have documentation that I  
23 did for the National Park Service about using the  
24 calves for traditional use, like getting a new skin for  
25 the drum. We had a story about a person, young man,  
26 who wanted to change his drum skin and so, therefore,  
27 lassoed a calf. Was there any consideration about the  
28 traditional use of calves that the Nunamiut people used  
29 prior to it becoming Gates of the Arctic?

30

31 MR. EVANS: I don't know the answer  
32 truly to that, but I think calves -- you know, I think  
33 if a calf was taken -- I mean there is a prohibition on  
34 takes of calves, but realizing that, you know, if a  
35 calf was taken for a reason like that, I don't think  
36 anyone would really have any heartache over it.

37

38 But in looking at it as far as  
39 conservation efforts, as far as a population effect,  
40 the prohibition on the takes of calves probably don't  
41 have a big effect. I see where you're going with this.  
42 That if we have a prohibition to take of calves and you  
43 want to take a calf for a specific purpose or even for  
44 the meat, you know, that this restricts the subsistence  
45 users from being able to do this and this was just a  
46 recommendation that was put forward. If that becomes  
47 an issue, we could perhaps address it and put in a  
48 provision that would allow for the take of a small  
49 number of calves.

50

1 I'm guessing that with -- you know,  
2 when some of the cows that are going to be taken may  
3 end up having calves and the person doesn't really know  
4 that because calves mingle around, so I'm guessing that  
5 some calves may end up being taken just because -- you  
6 know, inadvertently for that.

7  
8 MR. NAGEAK: So if I say to the  
9 protector, the State trooper or somebody who takes care  
10 of the limitations of taking calves, I could say Tom  
11 Evans says I could do that.

12  
13 DR. YOKEL: Mr. Chair.

14  
15 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Dave.

16  
17 DR. YOKEL: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Dave  
18 Yokel with the Bureau of Land Management. James, if  
19 you go back far enough in history of this Advisory  
20 Council, the one you sit on now, you'll get to a period  
21 where it was not legal to shoot calves, but there was  
22 a request by the local people of the North Slope  
23 through the Regional Advisory Council to make it legal  
24 because there were traditional uses of calves, so it  
25 became legal and has been legal for several years now  
26 until we got into this trouble with the decline in the  
27 Teshekpuk and Western Arctic Herds and started moving  
28 to change the regulations a year ago to try to conserve  
29 the caribou more.

30  
31 From the biology of the herds, the  
32 demographics showed that one of the most important  
33 things that needed to be done to help caribou numbers  
34 was reduce the calf mortality and one form of calf  
35 mortality is harvest by humans, so that was one of the  
36 first things to come out of legal hunting, was to  
37 remove the legality of hunting calves and that's why in  
38 these proposals that were recommended by your group  
39 last March and by all the local advisory councils was  
40 let's stop shooting calves as much as we possibly can.

41  
42  
43 You know, sometimes mistakes are made,  
44 but let's not intentionally shoot calves anymore and  
45 that became the rule through State law and for Federal  
46 regulations through the special action that was passed  
47 last spring.

48  
49 So this is not new to this Council to  
50 take away the harvest of calves.

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you for that,  
2 Dr. Yokel. I was just going to re-read what was  
3 written on the agenda. These are proposals that were  
4 submitted by the North Slope Regional Advisory Council.  
5 That's what it is.

6  
7 Again, thank you, Dr. Yokel for that  
8 and we'll continue, Tom.

9  
10 MR. EVANS: So, to answer your  
11 question, James, no, you should not go there and assume  
12 that you won't get a ticket because you took a calf.  
13 There could be cultural permits that could be used to  
14 take calves for reasons like that. So that was another  
15 option that could be considered if you want to take  
16 calves.

17  
18 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Just a minute, Tom,  
19 before you continue. I seen your hand, Sollie, but I'm  
20 going through the process of introducing the proposals  
21 and then we'll get to public comments afterward further  
22 down the line and I'll give you an opportunity to make  
23 comments at that time.

24  
25 MR. HUGO: Okay. I'm just trying to --  
26 maybe some of the people might have a question for the  
27 moment and then not be done speaking, the question they  
28 were going to ask might go away.

29  
30 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yeah, we have to go  
31 through our practice and following the outline that we  
32 have. So please bear with us and give Tom an  
33 opportunity to introduce the proposal. Continue, Tom.

34  
35 MR. EVANS: Okay. Thank you. So I  
36 think now is the time that we want to go to the fact  
37 sheets. What I'll try to do is I'll discuss the units  
38 within the North Slope Borough, 26A and 26B, first  
39 because they're the ones that are directly under the  
40 North Slope Borough.

41  
42 So for 26A OSM's preliminary  
43 recommendations are -- for 26A we only have one -- it's  
44 still considered one unit, so it's not split up like  
45 the State. We'll discuss that in a little bit here.  
46 Anyhow, the regulation now is up to five caribou per  
47 day, however calves may not be taken. Bulls may be  
48 harvested July 1st to October 14th and from December  
49 6th to June 30th -- and you'll see that December 6th we  
50 had discussed at the last Council meeting which

1 provides an additional three weeks of opportunity  
2 versus the State regulations and up to three cows per  
3 day may be harvested from July 16th to March 15th.  
4 However, calves accompanied by cows may not be taken  
5 from July 16th to October 15th. So that's the  
6 preliminary regulations that we have now.

7  
8 Now these changes from the previous  
9 regulations include the following -- you can follow  
10 that on these fact sheets -- a reduction in the harvest  
11 limit from 10 to 5 caribou per day, a shortening of the  
12 bull and cow seasons, a season on the prohibition on  
13 the harvest of cows with calves and allows an  
14 additional three weeks for the bull season compared to  
15 the new State regulations.

16  
17 The differences from the State  
18 regulations that are currently on the books now.  
19 There's no new hunt area proposed as under the State  
20 regulations which basically divides Unit 26A into a  
21 north and south half. The reason for that, as Lincoln  
22 mentioned earlier, was that the Teshekpuk Caribou Herd  
23 harvest occurs primarily in the northern portion of 26A  
24 and the southern half is where the Western Arctic  
25 Caribou Herd is harvested. So that's why the State  
26 split it up to two areas and has two slightly similar  
27 but slightly different regulations for the north and  
28 south half.

29  
30 Again, the hunting season for bulls  
31 begins December 6th versus February 1st for the south  
32 area. The hunting season for bulls begins December 6th  
33 versus January 1st for the north area. Again, I'm  
34 comparing this with the State regulations.

35  
36 The cow season is essentially the same  
37 as the State season for the Teshekpuk Caribou Herd,  
38 which would be the State's 26A remainder, which is the  
39 north area. The cow season is shorter than a State  
40 season of July 15th to April 30th for the Western  
41 Arctic Caribou Herd by a month and a half, more  
42 protection for cows at the beginning of the season.  
43 Unit 26A was the only area within the State regulations  
44 that protects cows with calves. This provision was not  
45 carried over to the other areas because of the  
46 potential difficulties of enforcement and actually  
47 determining which cows were with calves.

48  
49 So I think as a discussion topic one of  
50 the first things that we should probably discuss is

1 whether the Council would want to split Unit 26A up  
2 into a north half and a south half.

3

4 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Did you have any  
5 other information regarding this proposal?

6

7 MR. EVANS: No, I'm just going to stop  
8 on this for 26A and I think we, as a Council, should  
9 discuss it now and then move on. When we get done with  
10 this, we'll go to 26B.

11

12 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you. I'll  
13 follow the processes that's been outlined within the  
14 card. There's the introduction of the proposal, an  
15 analysis, then report on the Board consultation with  
16 tribes, ANCSA corporations.

17

18 Do we have any report on that, Eva?

19

20 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council. We  
21 had one comment that was received from the Inupiat  
22 Community of the Arctic Slope and it was a general  
23 comment in response to all four of the proposals. So I  
24 can read their statement at this time.

25

26 MR. EVANS: Okay. So I'm a little  
27 confused about the process here. My vision was to  
28 discuss the units individually so that we would make it  
29 simpler so we could focus on one unit at a time, but I  
30 guess for the motion -- this is all really one  
31 proposal, so it's going to have some subparts to it, I  
32 guess is the way to look at it.

33

34 So maybe the Council -- I was talking  
35 to Carl. I didn't hear what Eva had to say, but maybe  
36 talking with the Council can kind of deliberate and  
37 kind of make decisions sort of now on each individual  
38 units as we go through them and then at the end we do  
39 the full making a motion and the deliberation and the  
40 Robert's Rules kind of a process that we go through for  
41 accepting a proposal.

42

43 Does that sound reasonable?

44

45 CHAIRMAN BROWER: That's a little bit  
46 different from the practices that we've been -- in  
47 terms of presentation and procedures of proposal that  
48 we have outlined on the card. If we're going to do  
49 something different, that should have been explained  
50 ahead of time to us. So I think we're going to follow

1 the -- since that has not occurred, I think we're going  
2 to continue with the practice we've been developed with  
3 in terms of addressing the procedures for the  
4 proposals.

5

6 Carl.

7

8 MR. JOHNSON: I agree, Mr. Chair. As I  
9 was trying to explain to Tom here, this is the part  
10 where he provides his overall presentation, you ask him  
11 questions so you understand everything, and then we go  
12 through that process you've outlined that's on the back  
13 of your cards. And then if he wants to go unit by unit  
14 discussion regarding how the Council may want to either  
15 adopt or modify, then that would be the time to do it,  
16 later, after the Council has made a motion. You can do  
17 it on a unit-by-unit basis, but for now it's just the  
18 informational part. You'll get the information for the  
19 Council to make sure they understand and then go  
20 through the process that the Chair has outlined.

21

22 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

23

24 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you for that,  
25 Carl. So continue with our -- if that's finishing the  
26 introduction and the presentation on analysis, we'll  
27 move on to the second item, the report on the Board  
28 consultations.

29

30 MR. EVANS: Harry.

31

32 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I was looking to Eva  
33 to see where we are on that.

34

35 Tom.

36

37 MR. EVANS: We're not done.

38

39 CHAIRMAN BROWER: You're not done  
40 providing your presentation then?

41

42 MR. EVANS: No. I just provided a  
43 presentation on the very first, on 26A. I still have  
44 to provide information on 26B, 24 and 23.

45

46 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Okay. Continue.

47

48 MR. EVANS: Okay. Thank you. For Unit  
49 26B the Council had made a recommendation for just that  
50 portion south of 69 degrees 30 north latitude and west

1 of the Dalton Highway. OSM's preliminary  
2 recommendation for this is five caribou per day as  
3 follows: calves may not be taken. Bulls may be  
4 harvested July 1 to October 14 and from December 10 to  
5 June 30. Cows may be harvested from October 14 to  
6 April 30.

7  
8 For Unit 26B remainder, the regulation  
9 would read five caribou per day July 1 to April 30.  
10 Bulls may be harvested July 1 through April 30. Cows  
11 may be harvested October 14 to April 30.

12  
13 The changes from the previous  
14 regulations include the following: A reduction in the  
15 harvest limit 10 to 5 caribou per day, a shortening of  
16 the cow and bull season, a prohibition on the take of  
17 cows with calves, and a prohibition on the take  
18 of calves.

19  
20 Difference from the State regulations.  
21 This is probably the most complex one of all the four  
22 areas as far as differences from the State regulations.  
23 Unit 26B is divided up into only two hunt areas under  
24 the Federal regs versus four under the State  
25 regulations. The State has three hunt areas in the  
26 area designated Unit 26B remainder under the Federal  
27 regs. The three areas are south of 69 degrees 30  
28 minutes and east of the Dalton Highway, the northwest  
29 portion of Unit 26B, and 26B remainder. So that's  
30 what's in the State regulations

31  
32 For the area south of 69 degrees 30  
33 minutes and west of the Dalton Highway, the bull season  
34 under the Federal regulations ends October 14th versus  
35 October 10th, the State regulations, and allows for the  
36 bull season following the rut to start December 10th  
37 for the Federal regulations versus May 16th for the  
38 State regulations.

39  
40 Again for the area south of the 69  
41 degrees 30 minutes and west of the Dalton Highway, the  
42 cow season under the Federal proposed regulations is  
43 October 14th to April 30th, which is 6.5 months versus  
44 July 1st to October 10th for the State, which is 3.5  
45 months. Initially the thought was to allow for more  
46 protection of cows with calves from the spring to mid  
47 October.

48  
49 However, when drafting this proposal  
50 for this area following the spring RAC meeting, I

1 didn't realize that the caribou were being taken from  
2 the Central Arctic Caribou Herd as well as the  
3 Teshekpuk Caribou Herd at different times of the year.  
4 The State regulations reflect the timing of the  
5 migration of the Teshekpuk Caribou Herd in this area,  
6 which occurs basically from mid October to mid May.

7  
8                   The State basically has no cow season  
9 for the Teshekpuk Caribou Herd. So, in effect, the  
10 cows and calves are protected from October 11th to June  
11 30th, which provides more protection for the Teshekpuk  
12 Caribou Herd than under the proposed Federal  
13 regulations. So the State apparently has more  
14 protection for cows with calves than the current  
15 Federal proposed regulation.

16  
17                   The rest of the year is primarily  
18 harvested from the Central Arctic Herd, which is doing  
19 okay, so, hence, the July 1st to October 10th season.  
20 In addition, most of the Central Arctic Caribou harvest  
21 comes from non-local hunters. The Federal harvest  
22 limit of five caribou per day versus five caribou total  
23 gives Federally qualified users more harvest  
24 opportunity and aligns with the recommendation by the  
25 North Slope RAC and is more consistent with the other  
26 game management units.

27  
28                   For 26B remainder, the bull season  
29 under the Federal regs July 1st to April 30th is the  
30 same as the State 26B remainder but shorter than the  
31 bull season under the State regs for the northwest  
32 portion and then the area south of 69 degrees 30 and  
33 east of the Dalton Highway where there's no closed  
34 season under the State regs.

35  
36                   For 26B remainder, the cow season under  
37 the Federal regs October 14th to April 30th is shorter  
38 than the State 26B northeast corner and the remainder  
39 area, which has a season of July 1st to April 30th.  
40 It's also shorter than the northwest portion, which has  
41 a season of July 1st to May 15th and it's also shorter  
42 than the area south of 69 degrees 30 and east of the  
43 Dalton Highway, which has that same season of July 1st  
44 to May 15th.

45  
46                   Unit 26B remainder of the harvest is  
47 limited to five caribou per day versus five caribou  
48 total. Again, gives Federally qualified users more  
49 opportunity and aligns with the recommendation by the  
50 North Slope RAC and again is more consistent with the

1 other game management units.

2

3                   The five caribou per day is the same as  
4 for the northwest portion of 26B for residents under  
5 State regs. The State recommendation for five caribou  
6 limit along the Dalton Highway is primarily due to  
7 increased hunting pressure from areas accessible by the  
8 Dalton Highway.

9

10                   Some discussion topics for this unit  
11 will be does the Council want to keep with two hunt  
12 areas or divide it up into four hunt areas as under the  
13 State regulations. Does the Council want to adopt a  
14 shorter cow season for the area south of 69 degrees 30  
15 and west of the Dalton Highway to give more protection  
16 to females with calves in the Teshekpuk Caribou Herd  
17 and that was what I was describing before, the  
18 difference between the State and the Federal  
19 regulations.

20

21                   If we keep the Federal proposed season  
22 for the take of cows from October 14th to April 30th,  
23 does the Council think this is enough protection for  
24 cows with calves for the Teshekpuk Caribou Herd. We've  
25 heard already -- you know, Gordon has already mentioned  
26 that that's the herd that's probably most vulnerable to  
27 hunting pressure, so that's something to consider.

28

29                   Does the Council want to adopt a five  
30 caribou total for areas accessible by the Dalton  
31 Highway. Again, the recommendation is to have five  
32 caribou per day versus five caribou total. That gives  
33 the subsistence hunters more opportunity to harvest  
34 animals.

35

36                   Does the Council want to make changes  
37 to the bull season for Unit 26B remainder. If the  
38 recommendations are to go with four hunt areas, then  
39 the bull seasons will have to be made for each of those  
40 hunt areas. This is complicated and I apologize. This  
41 is the way it is.

42

43                   Does the Council want to make any  
44 changes to the cow caribou season for Unit 26B  
45 remainder. Again, if the recommendations are to go  
46 with four hunt areas, then the cow seasons will have to  
47 be made for each of the hunt areas. Currently the  
48 Federal regulations have only two hunt areas versus  
49 four.

50

1 I'll ask for any questions now on that  
2 and then I'll go on to Unit 23. I'll stop after each  
3 unit and ask for questions and see if you have any  
4 understanding and then I'll go onto 23 and then I'll go  
5 onto 24.

6  
7 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Any questions to Tom  
8 regarding Unit 26B.

9  
10 MR. NAGEAK: Yes.

11  
12 CHAIRMAN BROWER: James.

13  
14 MR. NAGEAK: On Page 71 in my book  
15 here, 26B remainder, I have 10 caribou per day, however  
16 the 10 has been decreased to 5. Is that what you're  
17 saying there on that particular -- way at the top of  
18 Page 71. I thought there might be a discrepancy on the  
19 numbers there.

20  
21 MR. EVANS: I think this is a mistake.  
22 I think it should be five caribou per day and it should  
23 be July 1st to April 30th instead of June 30th.

24  
25 MR. NAGEAK: July 1st to April 30th, is  
26 it?

27  
28 MR. EVANS: April 30th, yeah.

29  
30 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you for that,  
31 James. Any other comments from the Council regarding  
32 26B.

33  
34 MS. MORRY: Mr. Chair, I have a  
35 question. I'm just wondering, since we're speaking  
36 about 26A, which is north of our valley, is it open for  
37 public comment?

38  
39 CHAIRMAN BROWER: We're going through  
40 the proposals as they're being introduced to the  
41 Council. These are the Council's proposals. If you're  
42 wanting to make a comment regarding any of these  
43 proposals, we'll give you an opportunity at a later  
44 time when we get into the public input after the  
45 introduction of the proposals.

46  
47 MS. MORRY: Okay. I'm trying to get a  
48 better understanding of how you work.

49  
50 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Okay. Any other

1 questions from the Council to Tom.

2

3 (No comments)

4

5 CHAIRMAN BROWER: If not, continue,

6 Tom.

7

8 MR. EVANS: Okay. So now we're going

9 to go to Unit 23.

10

11 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Tom, identify the

12 page number for the Council members, please. 71.

13

14 MR. EVANS: Hang on a minute. Unit 23

15 starts on Page 71. Again, I would encourage you to

16 look at these fact sheets. I mean these are really

17 useful for trying to follow along with me. They're

18 kind of in the back of the packets that have the maps

19 on the front. Okay, is everybody on board. Okay.

20

21 So for Unit 23 it's five caribou per

22 day as follows: Calves may not be taken. Bulls may be

23 harvested July 1 to October 14 and from February 1 to

24 June 30. Cows may be harvested July 15 to April 30,

25 however cows accompanied by calves may not be taken

26 July 15 to October 14.

27

28 For Unit 23 remainder, it's five

29 caribou per day; however, calves may not be taken.

30 Five bulls per day July 1 to October 14

31 and February 1 to June 30 and five cows per day;

32 however, cows accompanied by calves may not be taken

33 September 1 to October 14. The season for the cows is

34 September 1 to March 31.

35

36 In that first area I mentioned is the

37 hunt area in the northwest corner of Unit 23, which the

38 North Slope Council had recommended to kind of take

39 into consideration the concerns for the village of

40 Point Hope, which is Point Hope and Point Lay, which

41 fall under the North Slope RACs area. The Council had

42 made a recommendation that -- I think Robert had made

43 this, that we describe that northwest corner area as

44 that portion basically from the mouth of the Singoalik

45 River east to the Noatak National Preserve north of

46 26A.

47

48 In talking with the State

49 representatives and other people, OSM came up with

50 another area that we think probably better describes

1 that area and matches the things. So that language,  
2 which is similar to the language that's written on  
3 these fact sheets but it's a little bit different is  
4 that portion that includes all the drainages north and  
5 west and including the Singoalik River drainage, that  
6 would be the description of the hunt area. That would  
7 dovetail with the area that the State has for the moose  
8 regulations, so the hunt area for the State and Federal  
9 regulations would be the same.

10

11 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Questions of Tom.

12

13 (No comments)

14

15 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Continue, Tom.

16

17 MR. EVANS: Okay. So if there are no  
18 further questions on that, we'll go to Unit 24. Again,  
19 the North Slope RAC had proposed these regulations to  
20 take into consideration concerns by Anaktuvuk Pass,  
21 which is also a member of the North Slope RAC.

22

23 Unit 24A south of the south bank of the  
24 Kanuti River is one  
25 caribou that's August 10 to March 31. That is  
26 basically the same regulation that's already in the  
27 subsistence regulations and basically takes care of the  
28 Ray Mountain population down there.

29

30 Unit 24B, that portion south of the  
31 south bank of the Kanuti  
32 River, upstream from and including that portion of the  
33 Kanuti-Kilolitna River drainage, bounded by the  
34 southeast bank of the Kodosin-Nolitna Creek, then  
35 downstream along the east bank of the Kanuti-Kilolitna  
36 River to its confluence with the Kanuti River is one  
37 caribou. The regulation for that is August 10 to March  
38 31.

39

40 Are you following, James?

41

42 MR. NAGEAK: I don't know what Kanuti  
43 is.

44

45 MR. EVANS: Okay. (Shows James on the  
46 map)

47

48 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Tom, you're going to  
49 have to come to the mic to get the rest of the  
50 communications.

1 MR. EVANS: Okay. So, as I was  
2 explaining to James, the way we had originally written  
3 the regulation in May it was north of the Kanuti River  
4 with these restrictions. The area north of Kanuti  
5 River is basically what the Council wanted to do, but  
6 the way it was written it ended up being only a portion  
7 of that area. So it was basically the area in 24A and  
8 24B north of the Kanuti River and the Kanuti River  
9 doesn't quite go to the boundary of 24B. It intersects  
10 with the Koyukuk River. So we basically just included  
11 language to kind of encompass that, so it's basically  
12 the area that the North Slope RAC had intended to  
13 cover.

14  
15 The description now would be Unit 24,  
16 that portion north of and including the Kanuti Rivers  
17 in Units 24A and 24B and that portion north of the  
18 Koyukuk River downstream from the confluence with the  
19 Kanuti River in Unit 24B to the Unit 24C boundary.

20  
21 The regulations for that area are five  
22 caribou per day, no  
23 calves may be taken. Bulls may be harvested July 1 to  
24 October 14 and February 1 to June 30. Cows may be  
25 harvested from July 15 to April 30; however, cows  
26 accompanied by calves may not be taken  
27 July 15 to October 14. So that's the area that you  
28 guys had proposed for this unit. It was the only area.

29  
30  
31 Units 24C and 24D, five 5 caribou per  
32 day; however, calves may not be taken. Bulls may be  
33 harvested July 1 to October 14 and February 1 to June  
34 30. Cows may be harvested September 1 to March 31;  
35 however, cows accompanied by calves may not be taken  
36 September 1 to October 14.

37  
38 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Any questions to Tom.

39  
40 MR. EVANS: I'm going to go on. If I  
41 could go, Charlie -- I mean Harry, I'm sorry. If I  
42 could follow up with the changes from the previous  
43 regulations and then the discussion points, then I'll  
44 ask for questions.

45  
46 So differences between the previous  
47 regulations. A shortening of the bull and cow season,  
48 a prohibition on the harvest of calves, a prohibition  
49 on a season for protection of cows with calves. Unit  
50 24 is now divided up into four hunt areas; 24A and 24B

1 north of the Kanuti River drainage, 24A south of the  
2 Kanuti River drainage, 24B south of the Kanuti River  
3 drainage, and 24C and D, versus two in the previous  
4 regs.

5  
6 The new regs clarifies which portion of  
7 24B are included in the regulations for the hunt area  
8 north of the Kanuti River. That's basically what I  
9 just explained with the modification to the unit area  
10 description. Basically, although these don't look  
11 exactly like the State regulations, they're essentially  
12 the same as the State regulations for this area. It's  
13 written a little differently the way we got it, but  
14 it's basically the same.

15  
16 So now I'd open up for questions if  
17 anyone had any questions on 24.

18  
19 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Any questions for Tom  
20 from the Council regarding Unit 24 caribou.

21  
22 (No comments)

23  
24 CHAIRMAN BROWER: If there are no  
25 questions from the Council, continue, Tom.

26  
27 MR. EVANS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
28 That ends my preliminary summary report on this  
29 proposal. So now we're at the point where it goes back  
30 to the Council for discussion.

31  
32 CHAIRMAN BROWER: As stated earlier,  
33 we'll follow through with the processes and procedures  
34 that's been presented before us. Report on the Board  
35 consultation. Eva.

36  
37 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council and  
38 for all the people we have attending here, the Federal  
39 Subsistence Program has in policy a tribal consultation  
40 policy and the Federal Subsistence Board developed a  
41 policy to try to incorporate tribal comments and  
42 opportunity for consultation in the Federal subsistence  
43 regulatory process. So we include that in the Regional  
44 Advisory Council process. In advance of the meeting,  
45 we hold consultation opportunity for tribes to provide  
46 comment on these proposals that may affect their  
47 community and their region. So we get that input and  
48 then share it to the Councils at this meeting.

49  
50 So that's this section here. When we

1 held the tribal consultation for this proposal, at that  
2 meeting we didn't get call-ins from many of the tribes.  
3 Many had already made recommendations on the special  
4 action that occurred earlier this summer. We did get  
5 one comment from the Inupiat Community of the Arctic  
6 Slope and I will read that comment to you. This was  
7 submitted by Doreen Lampe with ICAS.

8

9                   Their statement is the Inupiat  
10 Community of the Arctic Slope (ICAS) respectfully  
11 provides this comment regarding the new hunt area for  
12 caribou. ICAS would like to regulate our own renewable  
13 resources on the Arctic Slope. In the 1970s, our  
14 leadership had envisioned our people and residents to  
15 self-regulate all aspects of our livelihood, which  
16 includes the caribou.

17

18                   They reference a publication, the  
19 Inupiat View, for that background on the vision that  
20 they had. They submitted -- this is their original  
21 1970 guiding document that was originating that vision  
22 of self-management. So they wanted to reference this  
23 original document for the Council.

24

25                   That concludes their statement.

26

27                   Thank you.

28

29                   CHAIRMAN BROWER: In regards to our  
30 next item is number three, agency comments.

31

32                   We have Alaska Department of Fish and  
33 Game.

34

35                   MR. CRAWFORD: Yes, Mr. Chair. Drew  
36 Crawford, Department of Fish and Game, also Subsistence  
37 Liaison Program in Anchorage. I'll be providing  
38 recommendations for all the wildlife proposals for the  
39 Department today. The Department's preliminary  
40 recommendation for Proposal WP16-61/62/63 and 64  
41 support with modification to change bag limits and open  
42 seasons for caribou in Units 23, 24, 26A and 26B to  
43 agree with State regulations. Over.

44

45                   CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Drew. Do  
46 we have the Federal agencies.

47

48                   Any Federal agency comments.

49

50                   (No comments)

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: If there are no  
2 Federal agency comments, Native, tribal, village  
3 comments on this proposal.

4  
5 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council.  
6 For the public participating, we always open this up to  
7 tribes that are either online who would like to weigh  
8 in and this is an opportunity for official tribal  
9 representation to comment on this proposal. So if  
10 there's anyone authorized by the tribe to speak on  
11 behalf of the tribe for any comments that's either  
12 joined us online or attending the meeting, this is the  
13 opportunity to provide that comment.

14  
15 MS. MORRY: Would that have to be a  
16 tribal member or a tribal council member?

17  
18 MS. PATTON: It would need to be  
19 someone who has been authorized to speak on behalf of  
20 the tribe on this issue. We do have public comment  
21 that comes later and you can speak for yourselves at  
22 that time.

23  
24 CHAIRMAN BROWER: If there are no  
25 Native, tribal, village comments.

26  
27 (No comments)

28  
29 CHAIRMAN BROWER: We have Interagency  
30 Staff Committee. Any comments regarding this proposal.

31  
32 (No comments)

33  
34 CHAIRMAN BROWER: We'll move on to  
35 number four, advisory group comments.

36  
37 MR. JOHNSON: Mr. Chair.

38  
39 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Carl.

40  
41 MR. JOHNSON: So the Northwest Arctic  
42 Subsistence Regional Advisory Council made one  
43 modification to this proposal. It was specific just to  
44 Unit 23. Since the OSM recommendation closely follows  
45 the original proposal, if you'd just turn to Page 71 of  
46 your meeting books, that would be the Unit 23 OSM  
47 recommendation. So I'll read off the Northwest Arctic  
48 RAC's recommendation. You can see how their  
49 recommendation differs from the OSM recommendation.

50

1                   The Northwest Arctic RAC's  
2 recommendation was to extend the bull season ending on  
3 October 14 to October 31. So that's the first change  
4 they made that differs from both the original proposal  
5 and the OSM recommendation. Secondly, they shortened  
6 the cow season. Their date for the cow season is July  
7 31 to March 31. Then they also changed the period  
8 whereby cows with calves may not be taken. Their  
9 modification was for that period to be July 31 to  
10 October 10. They also agreed with the prohibition on  
11 the taking of calves. That's the only other Council  
12 that's weighed in on this proposal. Western Interior  
13 is meeting at this time in Galena and we don't have  
14 their action on that yet.

15

16                   Thank you, Mr. Chair.

17

18                   MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chair.

19

20                   CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

21

22                   MR. G. BROWER: Could you restate the  
23 date for the bull and the last part.

24

25                   MR. JOHNSON: Certainly. The change  
26 for the bull season would be instead of ending on  
27 October 14 it would end on October 31.

28

29                   MS. PATTON: And please restate the  
30 unit for which they were making that recommendation.

31

32                   MR. JOHNSON: And this is just  
33 specifically for Unit 23. Unit 23 was the only  
34 modification that Northwest Arctic made to this set of  
35 proposals, 61 through 64.

36

37                   MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair.

38

39                   CHAIRMAN BROWER: Just a second. Did  
40 that help, Gordon, or did you need additional  
41 information.

42

43                   MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chair. I would  
44 probably refer to Anaktuvuk representative Nageak. I  
45 just wanted to look at the dates.

46

47                   CHAIRMAN BROWER: So you've got to  
48 remember this is for Unit 23 the discussion we're  
49 talking about in terms of where the seasons are being  
50 changed. That's near Point Hope.

1 MR. G. BROWER: Yeah, I understand  
2 that. I just know this went through the Council and we  
3 heard it. I just think it would be prudent for  
4 Anaktuvuk representative on this October 31 date.

5  
6 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Gordon.

7  
8 James.

9  
10 MR. SHEARS: Mr. Chair.

11  
12 CHAIRMAN BROWER: James and then Bob.

13  
14 MR. NAGEAK: Yeah, thank you, Gordon.  
15 Mr. Chair. Somebody who could turn the bulls into a  
16 nice healthy food before October 31 would make a lot of  
17 money because October 14 was definitely a date in which  
18 we know the bulls are starting to rut and they're  
19 rutted by 31st quite a bit. So that's why we don't  
20 hunt bulls after the middle of October. We know that  
21 they're -- except for some people that have tasted it  
22 and liked it. If we consider sport hunters, then the  
23 31st would be a good date for those people to hunt the  
24 bulls. That's my feeling right now.

25  
26 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, James.

27  
28 Eva.

29  
30 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council. I  
31 just wanted to add for the Northwest Arctic Council  
32 they had just taken this action on Unit 23  
33 specifically because it's in their region and had noted  
34 that they didn't want to -- you know, they would defer  
35 to the North Slope Council in terms of the other  
36 regions that were within the North Slope Region. So I  
37 just wanted to make that note too.

38  
39 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you for that.

40  
41 Bob.

42  
43 MR. SHEARS: Thank you, Mr. Chair.  
44 Eva, Carl, perhaps one of you can answer this in  
45 regards to this recommendation by the Northwest Arctic  
46 RAC. We were kind of adjudicating just that portion  
47 for Point Hope, north of the Singoalik River drainage  
48 is fine as a definition, and kind of left it up to them  
49 to describe. Like what James is saying, for the life of  
50 me, why would they want to harvest bulls until October

1 31st except to take advantage of a larger caribou  
2 population passing through their region.

3  
4 I can understand there's a lag time  
5 from the bulls in the Point Hope region, north of  
6 Singoalik River region, finally reaching their southern  
7 regions, but it's two different animals from October 14  
8 to October 31st. They're rutting heavily by then. Do  
9 they really have value to them besides trophy value at  
10 that point?

11  
12 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Carl.

13  
14 MR. JOHNSON: Thank you, Mr. Chair.  
15 This is, I guess, for the Council as a whole. I guess  
16 I wouldn't expend a whole lot of energy getting inside  
17 the head of the Northwest Arctic Council members. I  
18 think you're already making a good point here on how  
19 you will differ and why from the Northwest Arctic  
20 Council's recommendation. This is more just  
21 informational so you know what other Councils have  
22 done. It will be up to the Board in the end to figure  
23 out the difference between the Councils and come up  
24 with a final decision.

25  
26 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

27  
28 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you for that,  
29 Carl.

30  
31 Any other questions.

32  
33 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chair.

34  
35 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

36  
37 MR. G. BROWER: I think it would be  
38 prudent to make sure the way we describe it when it  
39 comes before the Federal Board of Game to look at this  
40 proposal that we're looking for food on the table just  
41 like in Unit 26A. Somebody tried to propose from the  
42 State to cut the bulls off until December 31, when we  
43 know you can catch a bull in December 5 and it's good  
44 again to eat. Anyway, we're just thinking about better  
45 conservation measures that make sense.

46  
47 Thank you.

48  
49 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you for that,  
50 Gordon.

1 James.  
2  
3 MR. NAGEAK: Yeah. It just.....  
4  
5 MS. DAGGETT: Mr. Chair, this is Carmen  
6 Daggett.....  
7  
8 MR. NAGEAK: .....occurred to me that  
9 there's a difference in the term bulls for the  
10 Nunamiut. There's pagnik and then there's  
11 nukatagauraq. The young bull and the mature one. So  
12 if the regulation includes the young bull, I would  
13 probably say no way because the young bulls are good  
14 during that time. So for the Federal government to  
15 understand for the Inupiaq language, Inupiat way of  
16 knowing the caribou, there are different types of terms  
17 that are used for bull.  
18  
19 It just occurred to me.  
20  
21 Thank you.  
22  
23 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you for that,  
24 James.  
25  
26 Further discussion.  
27  
28 (No comments)  
29  
30 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I think we're down to  
31 advisory group comments.  
32  
33 MS. DAGGETT: Mr. Chair.  
34  
35 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Who is this?  
36  
37 MS. DAGGETT: This is Carmen Daggett  
38 from Fish and Game in Kotzebue.  
39  
40 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Carmen, I'm trying to  
41 follow the process that we're discussing. Is this  
42 related to the proposal that we're discussing now?  
43  
44 MS. DAGGETT: Yes, it is, actually.  
45  
46 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Related to advisory  
47 committee comments?  
48  
49 MS. DAGGETT: Yes. So there's two  
50 advisory committees from Unit 23 that have met so far

1 and they have discussed these caribou proposals. They  
2 both supported those proposals as amended and their  
3 comments on 16-49 were that the bulls rut a lot later  
4 in their region down by Buckland. Then for the  
5 Singoalik one they just supported 16-61 proposal. The  
6 Kotzebue Sound Advisory Committee did.

7

8 Then the Noatak and Kivalina Advisory  
9 Committee met and they both supported the RAC in their  
10 amendments for both of those caribou proposals. So  
11 just you're aware of what the advisory committees on  
12 the State side are saying in addition to the RAC from  
13 Unit 23.

14

15 Thank you.

16

17 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you for sharing  
18 that, Carmen. If there's no other advisory groups at  
19 this time, we'll move on to number five, summary of  
20 written public comments.

21

22 Do we have a summary of written public  
23 comments, Eva?

24

25 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council. We  
26 also check in with the Subsistence Resource Commission.  
27 We have James Nageak here as a representative of the  
28 SRC. We didn't receive any formal comments, but just  
29 wanted to note that the SRC is also involved in the  
30 review process here.

31

32 And we did not receive any other  
33 written public comments at this time.

34

35 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you. Public  
36 testimony regarding WP16-61/62/63 and 64.

37

38 Come on up to the table, Brian.

39

40 DR. PERSON: Good morning, Council  
41 members. My name is Brian Person. I'm a wildlife  
42 biologist with the North Slope Borough, Department of  
43 Wildlife Management. I think I'm going to take my hat  
44 off and just speak as a resident of Unit 26. (Takes  
45 hat off). There.

46

47 (Laughter)

48

49 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Now you're official.

50

1 DR. PERSON: Okay. I guess I just want  
2 to remind this Council that the regulations that you're  
3 talking about is pretty overwhelming, the amount of  
4 information that has just been presented to you. Some  
5 things that I've heard throughout the last day and a  
6 half are, one, trying to simplify things to try to mesh  
7 State and Federal regulations so they fit your hunting  
8 practices and namely for Anaktuvuk. That's my biggest  
9 concern really.

10  
11 Second, to remind you that the  
12 regulations that are in place that were put through the  
13 Board of Game this past year came from regional  
14 meetings held in Anaktuvuk Pass, Barrow, Atqasuk,  
15 Wainwright, Point Lay. Through a lot of deliberation  
16 at the last at the Board of Game with other Regional  
17 Advisory Councils in Units 23 and 24, what came out of  
18 the proposals may not be perfect.

19  
20 One could always argue that, yeah, you  
21 can take a young bull after October 15th and, yes,  
22 people use calf skins for drums. They traditionally  
23 used calf hides for underwear and there are a lot of  
24 nuances. Unfortunately, regulations are never a one-  
25 size-fits-all.

26  
27 But I would urge you to simplify things  
28 and try to align the State and Federal regulations as  
29 closely as possible. It seems like the regulations in  
30 place we're trying to give them an opportunity to work,  
31 to help hasten the recovery of these herds. I would  
32 recommend that you, as a resident of Unit 26A, albeit a  
33 transplant, I suggest trying to align these regulations  
34 more closely with the State regulations respectfully.

35  
36 Thank you.

37  
38 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you for that,  
39 Brian.

40  
41 Andrew.

42  
43 MR. HOPSON: Hi. Andrew Hopson with  
44 Naqragmiut Tribal Council. Earlier you talked about  
45 going over all the regulations for the areas, 23, 24,  
46 26, and went over talking about all the regulations and  
47 in those there's no regulations for the Dalton Highway.  
48 There's regulations west of the highway, but who's  
49 regulating the Dalton Highway and do they have  
50 regulations for that easement?

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: It's managed by the  
2 State. You can see it on a map. Anything in the white  
3 is managed by the State. The pink is under Federal  
4 lands. We have some maps here before us, so I hope  
5 that answers your question, Andrew.

6  
7 Eva, do we have any other public  
8 testimony at this time.

9  
10 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council. I  
11 believe Larry had wanted to address the Council as  
12 well.

13  
14 MR. BURRIS: Good morning. So  
15 concerning the Dalton Highway, my co-worker is the one  
16 that asked me to bring up the issue of the Dalton  
17 Highway and access to it by the public and, therefore,  
18 sport hunters have access to it. So I was thinking  
19 about that, how to go about bringing this concern up.

20  
21 I guess the issue is timing. I'm  
22 considering it's a State-funded roadway and the State  
23 has an obligation to provide that access. Maybe we can  
24 prod the State into relinquishing responsibility for  
25 access and maintenance of the Dalton Highway during  
26 this key, critical subsistence harvest time for the  
27 community of Anaktuvuk Pass. Whereas perhaps maybe  
28 July 20 to December 1 close that to public access and  
29 maybe only for Nuiqsut residents and/or Kuukpik  
30 shareholders, but all other access besides -- I mean  
31 just close it off to public.

32  
33 Maybe industry and Federal government  
34 can cover the cost of maintenance and managing the  
35 access of it during that closed time where the State is  
36 not covering the cost of it with their public money so  
37 we would have that ability to block access to the  
38 public and, therefore, sport hunters.

39  
40 Thank you.

41  
42 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Lawrence.  
43 I know we have a very small area of Federal lands  
44 identified through BLM on that access. You'll probably  
45 have to work with BLM again generating a proposal to  
46 address your request. Whether that's going to be  
47 feasible or not, that determination needs to be made by  
48 the Board of Game on the Federal Subsistence Board, I  
49 think.

50

1 Eva, do you have a comment.

2

3 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council.  
4 Just a response. The Federal Subsistence Board doesn't  
5 have jurisdiction over those State lands and the  
6 Department of Transportation management, the lower  
7 lands are noted on BLM lands. That might be something  
8 that if the community of Anaktuvuk Pass is interested  
9 in pursuing that to approach BLM and a proposal to  
10 Board of Game directly, but the Federal Subsistence  
11 Board doesn't have jurisdiction over the management of  
12 that road.

13

14 MR. BURRIS: I see. I understand. One  
15 part I forgot to mention was that I believe it should  
16 be closed from July 20 to December 1 or until food  
17 security for this community of Anaktuvuk Pass on  
18 caribou is established or solidly established. So the  
19 State should consider that. They should close this  
20 road so we can establish our food security during this  
21 critical time of subsistence. Food security for the  
22 community.

23

24 Thank you.

25

26 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Lawrence,  
27 for your comments. Do we have any other public  
28 testimony.

29

30 Sollie.

31

32 MR. HUGO: Once again I'm Sollie Hugo.  
33 This proposal, it appears to be regulating all the  
34 portions of our region, Unit 26A, B. When I looked at  
35 your color-coded maps, you have three different  
36 scenarios. On one side of the corridor of the Dalton  
37 Highway you have yellow, purple, the green and then the  
38 blue. That's all within Unit 26B. I'm just kind of  
39 curious. If you're going to regulate the highway, are  
40 you talking about -- I mean whoever regulates this  
41 highway, is it on both sides of the highway or one side  
42 or the other side because it's color coded it's so  
43 confusing.

44

45 CHAIRMAN BROWER: So these maps were  
46 generated, Tom. Maybe you could give an explanation as  
47 to why these maps were generated specific to the  
48 proposals.

49

50 MR. EVANS: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

1 Sollie. So these maps -- so the State has regulations  
2 for east of the Dalton Highway, west of the Dalton  
3 Highway, they have a northeast corner there and then  
4 the northwest corner and then the lower parts of the  
5 unit.

6  
7 The North Slope RAC had made proposals  
8 only for that portion south of the 69 degrees 30  
9 minutes and west of the Dalton Highway. So when we put  
10 these maps together, what we did is we -- so if the map  
11 you're referring to would be 26B, it would be the  
12 second to the last one over here. The first thing is  
13 the proposed regulations that was done by the Council.  
14 This is what the Council had proposed.

15  
16 The right-hand side is the current  
17 State regulations, which is already in the book here.  
18 So those are already done. And then our recommended  
19 recommendations are down there and you notice we have  
20 fewer units than what the State has and that will be  
21 one thing that the Council here will try to decide,  
22 whether they want to keep with only two units or split  
23 it up into four units or whatever.

24  
25 But it's just kind of a representation  
26 so you can kind of see the regulations for each of the  
27 areas. You're right, it does look a little different  
28 than the State regulations as it stands.

29  
30 MR. HUGO: Thank you. On James's  
31 comment on the sentence at Page 70 where it says you  
32 may not transport more than five caribou per regulatory  
33 year from Unit 26 except to the community of Anaktuvuk  
34 Pass. That could also send a different message to all  
35 hunters, whether they're sport hunters or subsistence  
36 hunters, plain old hunters. I agree with James, that  
37 could send a different message. You can have 30 people  
38 all of a sudden going hunting saying, hey, we can go  
39 catch five caribou and bring them to the village of  
40 Anaktuvuk Pass and that would be okay. That's how I  
41 read it.

42  
43 You mentioned yesterday or one of your  
44 board members mentioned yesterday be careful of what  
45 you say or how you describe what you're implementing.  
46 That kind of strikes me as a message to all the  
47 hunters, whether they're from this state or out of  
48 state. It's just giving them a message I would think,  
49 something like a subliminal message. I can go catch  
50 five caribou, it's okay, and then I'll just transport

1 them to AKP. Suppose that person catches 15, 20  
2 caribou a day. Would he break the law just by assuming  
3 that he can bring his five caribou per regulatory year?

4  
5 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Tom, reference the  
6 Federal subsistence regulations and that's what it's  
7 referring to, Page 122, I think is where we are on the  
8 discussion point.

9  
10 MR. EVANS: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Mr.  
11 Sollie. So the regulation says you may not transport  
12 more than five caribou per regulatory year. So unless  
13 they're going to stay within 26, the only amounts that  
14 they're allowed to hunt within Unit 26 is five unless  
15 you're from Unit 26 except to the community of  
16 Anaktuvuk Pass. So you can get more to Anaktuvuk Pass.  
17 So I think this actually benefits Anaktuvuk Pass. The  
18 way I read it is that if they get more, they can  
19 transport more to Anaktuvuk Pass and that would benefit  
20 the folks here, but maybe I'm reading it wrong too.  
21 This is the way I read it.

22  
23 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council.  
24 Maybe I can respond as well. So these are just the  
25 Federal subsistence regulations, so this hunt is only  
26 open to Federally qualified subsistence users. So  
27 these proposed regulations are just for the rural  
28 residents of the area. With the conservation concern  
29 and also meeting the needs of communities in the  
30 region, that regulation is in place so that -- because  
31 it is open to subsistence hunters throughout the state.  
32 If you're a rural resident, then you qualify to hunt in  
33 26A.

34  
35 So it was an attempt to limit the  
36 amount of caribou that would leave the region and go to  
37 other places, other communities, except for Anaktuvuk  
38 Pass because it's recognized the relationships between  
39 the communities in the North Slope, Nuiqsut and Barrow  
40 and Wainwright, of sharing caribou with Anaktuvuk Pass.  
41 So that regulation, that stipulation was in place to  
42 stem the flow of too many caribou going outside of the  
43 region and these are all subsistence hunting  
44 regulations except for to Anaktuvuk Pass.

45  
46 So it's allowing more caribou to be  
47 transported to Anaktuvuk Pass, recognizing that  
48 relationship of sharing between the communities, and  
49 also the needs of Anaktuvuk Pass in the recent years.  
50 So that was the intention of that regulation, was

1 actually to help support this region with the  
2 subsistence harvest.

3

4 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Okay. Thank you,  
5 Eva. Sollie, I hope that -- we're trying to get that  
6 clarification for you. Tom, did you have additional  
7 information you wanted to provide?

8

9 MR. EVANS: I just wanted to -- Eva  
10 mentioned that it was open to all residents and it's  
11 just actually -- the residents that are allowed to hunt  
12 caribou in 26A and 26C are the residents of Unit 26 and  
13 to Point Hope. Then for 26B it's the residents of Unit  
14 26 Anaktuvuk Pass, Point Hope and the residents of the  
15 Unit 24 within the Dalton Highway corridor management  
16 area. So it's not residents throughout all the state.  
17 So I just wanted to clarify that.

18

19 MR. SOLLIE: Okay. Thank you very  
20 much. I just want to comment on Mr. Parrett's studies,  
21 the population count. Thank you for your studies, Mr.  
22 Parrett. Those are very good informal surveys you  
23 brought, but, having said that, those are kind of -- at  
24 times they are kind of iffy. That's why you have a  
25 sampling, a plus or minus, when you do the surveys.  
26 From his statements he said he couldn't get a real  
27 accurate or somewhat near accurate count of the total  
28 population of the Western Arctic Herd.

29

30 Albeit, after saying that, it's very  
31 difficult to try and determine a count, especially if  
32 it's a moving animal. It goes from place to place,  
33 they diverse a lot, they spread out. You cannot do a  
34 survey and use that sample incorrect as it may seem or  
35 near correct as it may seem. It will still have a plus  
36 or minus sampling and that's a big area that's in the  
37 gray. We don't know which way it's leading to. Is  
38 that a good sample or a bad sample. Is it near  
39 accurate or a very big gap in the plus or minus  
40 sampling of their survey.

41

42 If you're doing this statistically,  
43 then we have to make speculations because this is a  
44 statistical count and you have to speculate. But  
45 having no other way to count, then we would have to  
46 stand on those and go with those as recorded.  
47 Hopefully somewhere in the future we can have a better  
48 system of counting all the caribou we're so concerned  
49 about.

50

1                   The proposals here, they're good, but  
2 they have some catches. You regulate for us to have  
3 five caribou per day during July or December through  
4 March 15 and then cows three per day from October to  
5 December 5. I'm saying these are good proposals if the  
6 caribou were here. These were good proposals. They  
7 are. They have good intentions, but since we have to go  
8 distances, a long ways anymore, and that's the case  
9 today, our gas consumption is the most terribly  
10 ignored, cost like hell place in the whole USA. It  
11 hurts us to buy gas just to go harvest five caribou.

12  
13                   I mean I would feel like I'm cutting  
14 myself short here by harvesting only five caribou and I  
15 went 120 miles and it cost me \$800. I would think in  
16 the local, right in the immediate residence of our  
17 peoples, we would ask maybe you can up that to 10 since  
18 we have to travel the distances and that takes a lot of  
19 time and we don't have roads.

20  
21                   If we had access like the Dalton  
22 Highway, we wouldn't be so concerned with the number  
23 that you're proposing to this proposal, but I would  
24 think 10 caribou would be preferential for our region  
25 because it takes a lot of time, costs a lot of money  
26 and we have to travel long distances just to bag five  
27 caribou.

28  
29                   It's the sensitive areas. We totally  
30 tend to ignore the small things. We make details with  
31 the big things, we correct them and we stand on them,  
32 but it's the little things that we tend to ignore that  
33 just makes us fall down hard.

34  
35                   I'm kind of agreeing with your  
36 proposals. Reluctant to agree, but we have to have a  
37 foothold somewhere, so this would be a good start.  
38 Some of these areas here -- I'm on the Subsistence  
39 Advisory Panel, I'm the chairman, with the BLM and I'm  
40 also on ICAS seat 7, the Inupiat Community of the  
41 Arctic Slope. I failed to mention that yesterday.  
42 Yesterday was my Inupiat man that was speaking  
43 yesterday. Today I'm the civilized education person, I  
44 guess.

45  
46                   (Laughter)

47  
48                   MR. HUGO: But your proposals are well  
49 worded, they have good intentions, but we have to  
50 follow through with them. Over the years we never get

1 to see the results of all our comments, our  
2 testimonies, our tears. We never see here's the result  
3 right here. Look, we're posting it up. This is what  
4 you said. We're making it happen. We don't get to  
5 enjoy the results of our comments, our words, our  
6 heartfelt words.

7  
8                   When you do those proposals, you should  
9 make it a public notice so we can enjoy that. We need  
10 some kind of incentive. We have all these things  
11 working against us. We need some kind of incentive.  
12 Give us something to have some kind of joy over or  
13 happiness, some relief, because all these people, even  
14 our elders, they're all tense. They're losing  
15 something. They know they're losing it. We'll never  
16 get it back. It's gone and we just have to adapt like  
17 we always do. Inupiats, we adapt.

18  
19                   With all these proposals being thrown  
20 at us, we get so hampered down with so much paperwork.  
21 We have so many organizations, it's -- I'm not sure how  
22 to put it. It's inconclusive. I feel like an  
23 incoherent incoherent trying to read all the material  
24 coming from 10 different entities all pointing to one  
25 concern. I mean that's how I feel. I feel like a  
26 incoherent incoherent at times trying to read all this  
27 material.

28  
29                   We're sure jumbled up with so many  
30 organizations. That's why you have proposal after  
31 proposal, resolution after resolution. I'm not sure if  
32 that's how they set it, but it seems to be -- I would  
33 have to say that again, it's a system set up to fail  
34 us. That's how I feel.

35  
36                   Having said that, I'm still in support  
37 of your proposals and I hope you pull through with  
38 those. I'm still kind of uneasy about having to wait  
39 till December for Mr. Nageak's seat there to be filled.  
40 I wish there was some quicker way because by the time  
41 we have somebody in that seat all the things will have  
42 been said and done. Lately, over the past two decades,  
43 everything has been said and done and that's how we  
44 found out about it because it was already said and done  
45 before we even had our input and our voice and we live  
46 here.

47  
48                   We're residents. We're all Inupiats.  
49 We're determined to save what's left of our culture  
50 even though that's impossible. We'll try to fool

1 ourselves and say how we saved a portion of our culture  
2 and we'll become good, honest John Pilgrims, citizen  
3 USA, 5307256.

4

5                   But we need to quit bumping heads.  
6 We're so good at bumping heads. We've become experts  
7 at that. We need to have some kind of collaboration  
8 between the residents, the Federal Board, the State  
9 Board and the Subsistence Advisory Panel. There's so  
10 many organizations you don't know which one to sit in,  
11 which one is correct and who's right and who's wrong.  
12 After a while you sit in so many you get confused and  
13 you get stale and you don't want to participate no  
14 more. But with these kind of things happening in our  
15 regions we can't ignore that.

16

17                   We have to stand up. And your  
18 proposals are making us stand up because it concerns  
19 our lifestyle. We can't depend on Old MacDonald with  
20 his farm 3,000 miles away. We cannot do that. We're  
21 not farmers. We're hunter/gatherers. We've always  
22 been. We need assistance because the State is really  
23 -- they belittle us. They know that we're under their  
24 thumb because we're sitting right here in the National  
25 Park, which just puts us under another thumb, a bigger  
26 one.

27

28                   I'm tired. It's tiring, but I support  
29 your proposals if it would help us in any way bring us  
30 our food back, at least our food. All our culture is  
31 gone. At least we'll have our food on our table.

32

33                   Thank you.

34

35                   CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Sollie.

36

37                   (Applause)

38

39                   CHAIRMAN BROWER: Tom, did you have a  
40 response.

41

42                   MR. EVANS: I wanted to respond through  
43 the Chairman, Sollie. I had a question. You  
44 recommended maybe the limit of 10 caribou per day. You  
45 were looking at the regulations for 26A. Anaktuvuk  
46 Pass sits right on the border with 24B.

47

48                   MR. HUGO: Oh, that's another thing. I  
49 forgot to mention that. Since we're so close to 26B  
50 and 26A, why don't you -- I know that in the past we

1 wanted to make that one whole unit. I'm not sure if  
2 that's possible or not.

3  
4 CHAIRMAN BROWER: There's going to be a  
5 time to provide some comments regarding the subunits  
6 within our region. That rural determination process  
7 might be one area that could be considered in terms of  
8 the boundaries in the areas. The boundary line goes  
9 right smack in the middle of your village.....

10  
11 MR. HUGO: Yes, it does.

12  
13 CHAIRMAN BROWER: .....from north and  
14 south. There's 24 on one side, 26 on the other side.

15  
16 MR. HUGO: Yeah, that's why we're weary  
17 when we're trying to hunt south. Is it open, is it  
18 closed. Because the moose season would be closed five  
19 miles away, but it would be open here. You know, it's  
20 like.....

21  
22 CHAIRMAN BROWER: So it's almost  
23 providing you different opportunities to take resources  
24 at different locations if you interpreted it that way.

25  
26 MR. HUGO: Yes. That's a well put case  
27 in point.

28  
29 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you. Again,  
30 Sollie, thank you very much for your comments. They're  
31 very helpful. It's not we're trying to work against  
32 you, we're here with you trying to work for you.

33  
34 MR. HUGO: Oh, I apologize if I seemed  
35 like I was directing my comments to you guys. It's not  
36 you guys. It's these you guys.

37  
38 (Laughter)

39  
40 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you. Thank you  
41 for that clarification, Sollie.

42  
43 Tom, did you want to further your  
44 discussion.

45  
46 MR. EVANS: So I just wanted to clarify  
47 with Sollie that you would make the recommendation to  
48 increase the harvest for Anaktuvuk Pass to 10 per day  
49 in Units 26A and 24. That would be a recommendation  
50 that you would like to put forward?

1 MR. HUGO: Yes, that would be a  
2 recommendation. So stated.  
3  
4 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Sollie.  
5  
6 Tom, are you finished?  
7  
8 MR. EVANS: Yes.  
9  
10 CHAIRMAN BROWER: James.  
11  
12 MR. NAGEAK: Don't forget that just  
13 west of us over here is 24.  
14  
15 MR. HUGO: Yeah, that's true also.  
16 We're so enclosed.  
17  
18 MR. NAGEAK: So we have three different  
19 designations right here at Anaktuvuk Pass. When  
20 someone is concerned about Unit 24 we're a part of that  
21 too, so don't forget that.  
22  
23 MR. HUGO: They all tie in, that 24,  
24 26. They seem to be in the same area, but I'm  
25 wondering why they have different units. They all  
26 serve the same purpose. They're all the same animals.  
27 So consider that.  
28  
29 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Sollie, just another  
30 thing. These are for individual people. So if there  
31 are two of you on that five a day, it's five a day for  
32 one person.  
33  
34 MR. HUGO: Oh. Okay, that's another  
35 thing.  
36  
37 CHAIRMAN BROWER: If there's two people  
38 in your hunting group, you could get 10.  
39  
40 MR. HUGO: Okay. You should have put  
41 you and one other party may catch up to five per day.  
42  
43 Thank you.  
44  
45 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Just a second,  
46 Sollie.  
47  
48 Gordon.  
49  
50 MR. G. BROWER: Yeah, that was the

1 other thing that is easy to recognize. I might be  
2 hunting with my son and he can catch five and then I  
3 can catch five and I put a tent, wake up the next day  
4 and he can catch five again. It's per day.

5  
6 But I really would support your concept  
7 of creating a unit for around Anaktuvuk Pass. With all  
8 these criss-crossing different regulatory extremes from  
9 24 to 26 to 23, it seems that there should be a way to  
10 create a unit that has consistent regulations that you  
11 can work with better and not be confused and  
12 over-regulated.

13  
14 Thank you.

15  
16 MR. HUGO: Thank you. Yes, that's a  
17 good comment. We would stand on that. We would like  
18 to see that. I keep emphasizing that it takes us quite  
19 the distance anymore to harvest caribou. We have to go  
20 50, 60 miles. Going there it takes at least a day or  
21 two in the summertime. It takes a lot of gas. By the  
22 time you're coming back with your five caribous you  
23 would have already consumed maybe two of them. So  
24 that's why I'm saying maybe 10 would be preferable.  
25 And this would be a sensitive area because we're in  
26 Unit 24, 25 and 26. That makes it a sensitive area.

27  
28 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Sollie.

29  
30 MR. HUGO: Thank you.

31  
32 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Sam.

33  
34 MR. KUNAKNANA: Thank you. Listening  
35 to Mr. Burris over here on the Dalton Highway and  
36 listening to you saying that we're here for the  
37 community of Anaktuvuk Pass, I'd like to think that  
38 maybe we can write up a letter to the State on the  
39 dates to see if the State can have the first migration  
40 pass through that first before they can open up the  
41 Dalton Highway to the sport hunters.

42  
43 To me, you know, it's the same as what  
44 we're going to do with the ANS. I'd like to think that  
45 maybe we can, as a Federal board write up a letter, put  
46 it in our minutes and address it to the State so that  
47 they let the first herd pass by first before they open  
48 up the Dalton Highway for the sports hunters.

49  
50 Thank you.

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you for that,  
2 Sam.  
3  
4 Tom, did you have any other.  
5  
6 MR. EVANS: I have nothing further.  
7  
8 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Okay. Timothy, did  
9 you put in a card?  
10  
11 MR. AHGOOK: You ran out. There's no  
12 page to fill out.  
13  
14 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Okay. Go ahead,  
15 Timothy. I'll allow that. We're under public  
16 testimony regarding the proposals that we're  
17 discussing. Go ahead.  
18  
19 MR. AHGOOK: All these regulations and  
20 permits that you give out to each trophy hunters for  
21 State of Alaska and there's some kind of problem that  
22 needs to be resolved. As a hunter, as a resident, this  
23 harvesting proposal is not done yet. I object it  
24 because it kind of affected that little Native  
25 allotments that we got to use to hunt for our own  
26 traditional values even if it's on State land. But we  
27 need to propose something that the Advisory Council and  
28 UCAN and each entities to include access to Native  
29 allotments even though it's through State land and  
30 Federal and other source.  
31  
32 It's pretty hard. I mean you as the  
33 Council should already realize that. There's one  
34 little point where we can't get to. It's stopping us.  
35 It's that Native allotments we need to go to. That's  
36 where all the caribou go south.  
37  
38 There's one little proposal you guys  
39 forget to add on. It's more making like an access road  
40 to tribal lands. But the State and the Federal is  
41 holding us back. Is there a way we can just work with  
42 the State and the Federal to at least have an access  
43 subsistence harvesting/hunting time towards south? I  
44 know it's not on corporate land. I know it's probably  
45 on State and Federal or in the corp lands.  
46  
47 I know it's not done. You're just  
48 playing with regulations right now, but in the long run  
49 -- I'm a grandpa, I'm an uncle. What do I got for my  
50 grandkids? I mean to put all these regulations and

1 stuff that -- our forefathers and sisters used dog team  
2 to travel there and back. It wasn't hard. There was  
3 no law saying we can't drive our ATV just down there.  
4 There was no law until you guys come here and start  
5 putting in law, subsistence law.

6  
7 But anyway, we need to work something  
8 out with ASRC, North Slope Borough and other entities  
9 to at least give us a little portion of it. I mean I  
10 know everybody is agreeing to trophy hunters, let them  
11 hunt all they want up there and now they're forgetting  
12 about us hunters down here going south. Come on, make  
13 us equal. You want sport hunters to get around and let  
14 us Native people struggle just to go south and trying  
15 to get to our Native allotments. Come on. That's most  
16 of the harvest that's going south too from here. They  
17 go tree line. They go towards Western Arctic Herd.

18  
19 But I want something where you guys  
20 could look because we're combined to being boxed in.  
21 We're like a little box. We can't go nowhere and hunt.  
22 It's just like that. It's just like tribal allotments  
23 we've got down there. I know there's some access we  
24 can work with and change regulations about our  
25 community.

26  
27 Man, that hurts, but I think -- I know  
28 you guys say you guys are going to accomplish something  
29 as soon as you leave from here, but there's always a  
30 little point left behind. You may be proud of it,  
31 saying get out of here, I'm done. I accomplished  
32 something at Anaktuvuk. No, no. Hold on a minute.  
33 There's one thing we got to remember. We still want  
34 access to Native allotments. It's true. We can't --  
35 we got nothing here, then where would we go.

36  
37 But anyway, as a UCAN council, we're  
38 just starting to make corrections on the harvesting.  
39 Like, you know, maybe caribou go -- when the caribou  
40 come through here south, we know they come from  
41 Chandler area and go down that way instead of coming  
42 through here. That's how come we've got to have some  
43 kind of access, all-terrain vehicle used to Native  
44 allotments.

45  
46 I would be very happy if this come in  
47 to some regulations between our people only. It's just  
48 access to the Native allotments. I know everybody in  
49 Alaska got right-of-way right to their Native  
50 allotments. No problem with hunting, no problem with

1 Park Service, no problem with State and Federal. They  
2 got good access. But hold on a minute. We're still --  
3 we're in the button yet.

4  
5 CHAIRMAN BROWER: So, Timothy.....

6  
7 MR. AHGOOK: You guys never popped the  
8 button yet, so.....

9  
10 CHAIRMAN BROWER: .....we can work on  
11 that, but we're trying to address the proposals that  
12 we're presenting this morning that's specific to  
13 caribou. I hear what you're saying. I think we can  
14 work with National Park Service in terms of creating an  
15 access to Native allotments. We can pursue that avenue  
16 with more discussion on what access routes could be  
17 taken or considered.

18  
19 I don't exactly know where the  
20 allotments are. We need to work with National Park  
21 Service and you and other community members that have  
22 inholdings within Gates of the Arctic. I think that's  
23 something that can get discussed and figured out to see  
24 if that's something that's allowable.

25  
26 I don't know the answer just from  
27 sitting here and learning from you regarding access to  
28 inholdings within the Gates of the Arctic. I need to  
29 learn a little bit more about that and what has been  
30 written into law by Congress in regards to the access  
31 and Park Service lands, Gates of the Arctic. Those  
32 things I don't really know about at this time.

33  
34 To get back on track with our agenda  
35 item, we're talking about proposals that are specific  
36 to caribou at this time. Thank you.

37  
38 MR. AHGOOK: I know I may go out of  
39 order, but that's the only thing I could see. What  
40 were you guys talking about? You left something  
41 behind. Thank you very much. My name from UCAN.

42  
43 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Timothy.

44  
45 (Applause)

46  
47 CHAIRMAN BROWER: We also have Della.  
48 There's some feedback coming in through one of the  
49 phones on the teleconference. If we could have them  
50 mute their phones, please.

1 MS. PATTON: Just a reminder to folks  
2 on teleconference if you could please push \*6 on your  
3 telephone and that will help clear up the background  
4 noise so everyone can hear. So just push \*6.

5  
6 Thank you.

7  
8 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Go ahead, Della.

9  
10 MS. TAGAROOK: Good afternoon. My name  
11 is Della Tagarook. I'm a resident of Anaktuvuk Pass.  
12 I know you guys have been talking about the handbook  
13 that was out and doing regulations and whatnot. What  
14 I'd like to find out is if you guys could write to DOT  
15 to have them -- I know it's going to hurt Nuiqsut.  
16 Have them make the Dalton Highway restricted. Stop  
17 those spare hunters going to Coldfoot or to Wiseman.  
18 Stop them. They're coming from out of state to go hunt  
19 caribou. What they bring back? Horns. No meat,  
20 nothing.

21  
22 We're so lucky to have a few caribous  
23 from the hunters that were hunting up north. That was  
24 really good to enjoy. Just a few slabs. And they  
25 shared portions to the utuqqanaaqs, but the  
26 utuqqanaaqs only got a bag just for one day. Good  
27 meal.

28  
29 I'd also like to find out how AKP  
30 residents could utilize the non-NPRA impact funds to  
31 send our hunters to where the caribous are at. Find  
32 ways to help our Nunamiut people feed their stomachs  
33 because we can't afford 50 or 23 dollars just for one  
34 piece of steak. It costs \$78, almost \$80 just to get  
35 four of them or two of them.

36  
37 That's all I have to say. Quyanaq.

38  
39 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you for your  
40 comments and testimony, Della.

41  
42 Questions.

43  
44 (No comments)

45  
46 CHAIRMAN BROWER: If not, thank you  
47 again. Quyanaq.

48  
49 MS. TAGAROOK: I hope this goes  
50 through. Especially write a letter to DOT.

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Tom, did you have any  
2 other items to discuss regarding this proposal?

3

4 MR. EVANS: Not at this time.

5

6 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Regional Council  
7 recommendation.

8

9 MR. SHEARS: Can we take a break before  
10 we make a motion.

11

12 CHAIRMAN BROWER: We'd like to take a  
13 lunch break at this time. We'll come back at quarter  
14 to 2:00. I'll go on the lunch recess.

15

16 (Off record)

17

18 (On record)

19

20 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I'd like to bring our  
21 North Slope Regional Advisory Council back to order  
22 after a brief lunch recess. We're under our agenda  
23 item North Slope Region proposals. We've gone through  
24 our presentation procedures and now under item 7,  
25 Regional Council recommendations, discussion and  
26 justification. What's the wish of the Council at this  
27 time regarding WP16.

28

29 MR. SHEARS: Mr. Chair.

30

31 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Bob.

32

33 MR. SHEARS: I'd like to make a motion  
34 to adopt Wildlife Proposal 16-61.

35

36 MR. NAGEAK: Second.

37

38 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Motion on the floor  
39 and seconded. Further discussion.

40

41 MR. SHEARS: Mr. Chair.

42

43 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yes, Bob.

44

45 MR. SHEARS: The OSM recommendation  
46 indicating refining the designation of the unit in  
47 question, Unit 23, changing the language in the  
48 proposal from that portion north of the line from the  
49 mouth of the Singoalik River east of the boundary in  
50 Noatak National Preserve north of the Unit 26A

1 boundary. Their recommendation to change that language  
2 to that portion north of and including the Singoalik  
3 River drainage I'm in support of. That seems to make  
4 it more clear.

5  
6 CHAIRMAN BROWER: A modification  
7 language?

8  
9 MR. G. BROWER: Yeah, Mr. Chair.

10  
11 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

12  
13 MR. G. BROWER: Yeah, I'm supportive of  
14 that. I think it's just restating and making it more  
15 clear maybe.

16  
17 MR. SHEARS: Should that be offered as  
18 an amended motion?

19  
20 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Amending motion, yes.

21  
22 MR. SHEARS: Okay. Therefore, Mr.  
23 Chair, I'd like to make an amending motion to the  
24 Wildlife Proposal 16-61 to change the language of the  
25 designation of Unit 23 from that portion north of the  
26 line from the mouth of the Singoalik River east of the  
27 boundary in Noatak National Preserve north of the Unit  
28 26A boundary. Instead to read that portion north of  
29 and including the Singoalik River drainage.

30  
31 CHAIRMAN BROWER: We have an amending  
32 motion on the floor.

33  
34 MR. G. BROWER: Second.

35  
36 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Seconded by Gordon.

37  
38 MR. G. BROWER: Question.

39  
40 CHAIRMAN BROWER: If there's no further  
41 discussion, the question has been called. Sam, did you  
42 have some discussion to the amending motion?

43  
44 MR. KUNAKNANA: No.

45  
46 CHAIRMAN BROWER: What's that, Tom?

47  
48 MR. EVANS: Mr. Chairman, just remember  
49 that this is four proposals, so you've got Unit 23,  
50 26A, 26B and 24 to kind of look at. So when

1 you're.....

2

3 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Understood.

4

5 MR. EVANS: Okay.

6

7 CHAIRMAN BROWER: WP16, there's four  
8 proposals in there. The question has been called on  
9 the amending motion. All in favor of the amending  
10 motion signify by saying aye.

11

12 IN UNISON: Aye.

13

14 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Opposed say nay.

15

16 (No opposing votes)

17

18 CHAIRMAN BROWER: None noted. Back to  
19 the main motion.

20

21 MR. NAGEAK: I move for the main  
22 motion.

23

24 CHAIRMAN BROWER: There's already a  
25 motion on the floor, James. Is there any further  
26 discussion regarding the Proposal 61, 62, 63, 64.

27

28 MR. NAGEAK: Mr. Chair.

29

30 CHAIRMAN BROWER: James.

31

32 MR. NAGEAK: I would make an amending  
33 motion, I guess, to define what the bulls are for the  
34 Nunamiut people. I talked about the young bull and the  
35 mature bull, nukatagauraq and pagnik. As it reads, it  
36 says bulls may not be harvested at a certain time.  
37 That the bull be defined as mature caribou bulls as  
38 opposed to young bulls that we recognize. It's just a  
39 definition change.

40

41 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chair.

42

43 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Can you -- wait,  
44 Gordon. Can you identify which proposal you're  
45 referring to in regards to your amending motion.

46

47 MR. NAGEAK: Which one is that, sir?

48

49 MR. EVANS: That would be 61 and that  
50 was because the Northwest had extended that season to

1 October 30th and that's where that issue came up of  
2 mature versus immature bulls.

3

4 MR. NAGEAK: Yeah.

5

6 CHAIRMAN BROWER: 61 refers to Unit 23  
7 and he's wanting to address the one for AKP.

8

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

10

11 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

12

13 MR. G. BROWER: It seems to me that we  
14 know the difference and it kind of leads to -- when you  
15 say five bulls, we know what the bulls are and I think  
16 there's sufficient language in folks that know there's  
17 these younger, immature bucks to be able to  
18 differentiate those. That's all I wanted to add. I  
19 know which bull. (In Inupiaq).

20

21 MR. NAGEAK: Where is that statement  
22 where bulls may not be taken?

23

24 CHAIRMAN BROWER: James offered to  
25 provide an amending motion. The motion is going to  
26 fail if we don't have a second to the motion. We're  
27 back to the main motion. James, did you want to  
28 identify the language you were referring to.

29

30 MR. NAGEAK: There was a statement that  
31 bulls may not be taken and I'm sorry I can't -- all I'm  
32 saying is bulls may be harvested.

33

34 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I think we were  
35 referring to the proposal from Unit 23 and that was  
36 identifying the longer season for that segment of the  
37 unit.

38

39 MR. SHEARS: Mr. Chair. Are we asking  
40 for a modifying motion to add the verbiage for the  
41 remainder of Unit 23 south of the Singoalik River  
42 drainage with the language suggested by the Northwest  
43 Arctic RAC under their Wildlife Proposal 16-49 adding  
44 to our Wildlife Proposal 16-61, a motion to include the  
45 language Unit 23 remainder, five caribou per day as  
46 follows; however, calves may not be taken. Five bulls  
47 per day July 1 to October -- I'm going to say October  
48 14th to match our date for north of Singoalik River  
49 drainage. We can consider amending that date under the  
50 following second amendment, but for now I'm going to

1 stipulate five bulls per day July 1st to October 14th  
2 and February 1 to June 30 and five cows per day;  
3 however, cows accompanied by calves may not be taken  
4 September 1 to October 14 during the period September 1  
5 to March 31 as an amending motion.

6

7 CHAIRMAN BROWER: We have an amending  
8 motion on the floor as stated by Bob.

9

10 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chair.

11

12 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

13

14 MR. G. BROWER: Under discussion.....

15

16 CHAIRMAN BROWER: We haven't had a  
17 second yet. We need a second.

18

19 MR. KUNAKNANA: Second.

20

21 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Seconded by Sam. Go  
22 ahead, Gordon, under discussion.

23

24 MR. G. BROWER: I think the  
25 deliberations and the community involvement in that  
26 area had suggested a date and I think we just redefined  
27 the boundary and restated it a little bit different,  
28 right?

29

30 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Providing the dates.

31

32 MR. G. BROWER: I would want to stay  
33 consistent with what Point Hope had suggested because  
34 of their public meeting in that community to come up  
35 with what was satisfactory in that neck of the woods  
36 and without compromise. It's just my two cents.

37

38 CHAIRMAN BROWER: There's no discussion  
39 on the amending motion.

40

41 MR. SHEARS: So right now, Mr. Chair,  
42 the motion as amended is as written on Page 101 of our  
43 handbooks.

44

45 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I was looking at 68.  
46 Okay. Page 101 as written. Any further discussion on  
47 the amending motion WP16-61.

48

49 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chair.

50

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

2

3 MR. G. BROWER: Maybe just for a point  
4 of clarity. You were just restating what Point Hope  
5 wanted there, Bob, or were you putting a compromised  
6 date between the two?

7

8 MR. SHEARS: Actually what I was adding  
9 was the context for the remainder of Unit 23 in  
10 addition to what Point Hope wanted. Also including the  
11 rest of the unit into the discussion so that we could  
12 begin -- if we agree with this language on Page 101 as  
13 a starting point, then we could talk about the dates of  
14 how many bulls -- the period of five bulls per day in a  
15 following amendment.

16

17 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Maybe just for  
18 further discussion on the subject I think we have to be  
19 clear in terms of what the remainder of 23 is. We were  
20 being specific to the northern corner for the residents  
21 of Point Hope. I think that's what we were trying to  
22 address and not the whole unit. That's what we were  
23 trying to keep from developing regulations for another  
24 subunit that we're not really engaging with.

25

26 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chair.

27

28 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

29

30 MR. G. BROWER: I think that's  
31 consistent with how we've acted in the past. Not to  
32 try to influence what Northwest Arctic Borough wants  
33 and them not trying to influence what we want in the  
34 two different RACs. It seems to me they will come up  
35 with adjoining that boundary we just outlined what they  
36 want on there. It seems like that's been our practice  
37 for many years when we're teetering on a boundary  
38 issue.

39

40 MR. SHEARS: Okay, Mr. Chair. I  
41 thought we were past that point where we had already  
42 considered perhaps a good -- you know, seek the advice  
43 of OSM staff to advise us. I thought we were moved  
44 past our initial proposal for that area within our  
45 region and that consultation has already taken place  
46 with the other areas affected by this -- other areas in  
47 this Unit 23 that have been affected. They have their  
48 recommendations they provided to us today and now  
49 they're looking to the North Slope RAC to combine the  
50 proposals for a single proposal for the entire unit.

1 Am I misunderstanding?

2

3 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I'll have Carl  
4 provide the clarification. He's raising his hand for  
5 that. Carl.

6

7 MR. JOHNSON: Certainly, Mr. Chair.  
8 Thank you. Now the language on 101 is the OSM  
9 recommendation that modifies your original proposal, so  
10 this would cover all of Unit 23. The top part  
11 addresses the revised language on that portion north of  
12 and including the drainage and then Unit 23 remainder  
13 is west of Unit 23.

14

15 Now there's no need, there's no  
16 requirement, there's no expectation that you as a  
17 Council agree with the Northwest Arctic Council  
18 regarding extending that fall bull hunt from October 14  
19 to October 31st. For your own reasons, you may  
20 disagree with that and you are welcome to stick with  
21 the original dates if you desire if that makes sense  
22 based on your own expertise and your own experience as  
23 hunters and what you know about the condition of bulls  
24 during that time as they start to rut.

25

26 What I'm hearing from the amendment  
27 that's on the table, if passed, and then if the full  
28 motion as amended twice passes, you would be adopting  
29 the OSM recommended modifications as indicated on Page  
30 101, which would cover all of Unit 23.

31

32 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Did that help?

33

34 MR. SHEARS: Yes, Mr. Chair. That's  
35 exactly what I'm trying to do. I'm setting up the  
36 framework to disagree with Wildlife Proposal 16-49 that  
37 asks for a consideration of five bulls per day from  
38 July 1st to October 31st.

39

40 MR. JOHNSON: Mr. Chair.

41

42 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Carl.

43

44 MR. JOHNSON: And to assist the Council  
45 in the future, just as a procedural matter under  
46 Robert's Rules, your starting point with your initial  
47 motion could be the OSM modification. You don't have  
48 to start with your original proposal and then amend and  
49 amend in order to get to the OSM modification. If  
50 that's your preference, that can be your starting point

1 and then your Council might disagree with you and you  
2 might go back to the original proposal, but that might  
3 help with clarity.

4

5 CHAIRMAN BROWER: With that stated,  
6 where do we -- we're still under discussion on the  
7 amending motion.

8

9 MR. SHEARS: Yes, Mr. Chair.

10

11 CHAIRMAN BROWER: What's the wish of  
12 the Council.

13

14 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chair.

15

16 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

17

18 MR. G. BROWER: It gets a little  
19 confusing when we start to make some amendments,  
20 especially when they started making some, in my mind, a  
21 position of -- this happened in another meeting where  
22 the planning commission was voting on something and  
23 they intended to vote no and voted yes on something  
24 because it was a communications problem. It would be  
25 good to make sure everybody is on the same page when we  
26 start to vote on the framework here.

27

28 To my understanding, what you just  
29 outlined is basically what OSM has recommended and  
30 would not change the suggestion by our cousins on the  
31 Northwest Arctic Borough to change that to October 31.

32

33 MR. SHEARS: That's correct.

34

35 MR. G. BROWER: I would take it up to  
36 the vote, so I second it.

37

38 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I was just going to  
39 state that we could rescind the motion with the  
40 concurrence of the seconder. That's another option.

41

42 MR. G. BROWER: Or we can vote it and  
43 not vote on it and it dies.

44

45 CHAIRMAN BROWER: That too. What's the  
46 wish of the Council. The second amending motion has  
47 been seconded. Further discussion. Maybe some  
48 clarification in terms of if you vote yes, what does it  
49 mean.

50

1 MR. JOHNSON: Mr. Chair.

2

3 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Carl.

4

5 MR. JOHNSON: That's an excellent  
6 point, Mr. Chair. If you notice, one of the reasons  
7 per Robert's Rules it can get a little confusing, so  
8 that's why on the back of your card there one of the  
9 last things we do when you're voting eventually on the  
10 motion is to restate the motion and your coordinator  
11 can provide you the yes or no. What does it mean if  
12 you vote yes, what does it mean if you vote no.  
13 Because one of the other things we do is we always put  
14 a motion in the positive even if we're against it. So  
15 it's always a good point to remind what that is.

16

17 So in this case you're voting on an  
18 amendment which, if adopted, would amend your  
19 underlying motion to adopt the OSM preliminary  
20 conclusion as stated on Page 101. That's a yes vote.

21

22 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Understood. Still  
23 under discussion.

24

25 MR. G. BROWER: (In Inupiaq). Are you  
26 guys understanding? We would be just primarily  
27 adopting the conclusion of OSM with this thing.

28

29 MR. NAGEAK: Call for the question.

30

31 CHAIRMAN BROWER: If there's no further  
32 discussion, the question has been called. All in favor  
33 of the amending motion signify by saying aye.

34

35 IN UNISON: Aye.

36

37 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Opposed say nay.

38

39 (No opposing votes)

40

41 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Amending motion  
42 passes. Back to the main motion.

43

44 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chair.

45

46 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

47

48 MR. G. BROWER: Are we still under  
49 deliberation of the main motion of all three.....

50

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: All four proposals.  
2  
3 MR. G. BROWER: All four proposals?  
4  
5 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yes. We just  
6 addressed modifications.  
7  
8 MR. G. BROWER: We just addressed  
9 modifications for 23, we did a little bit -- did we do  
10 some other one?  
11  
12 MR. JOHNSON: Mr. Chair.  
13  
14 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Carl.  
15  
16 MR. JOHNSON: This brings it back to  
17 your original motion, which is just on WP16-61. You  
18 have not yet discussed the other three proposals. So  
19 where you stand now -- again, procedurally, the point  
20 of approving the amendment is just to now have the  
21 opportunity to finally say yes or no to this proposal  
22 as amended, which is as stated on Page 101, the OSM  
23 conclusion. So you just agreed to just amend it. Now  
24 you have to decide whether or not you want to pass it  
25 as amended.  
26  
27 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Pass as amended. 16-  
28 61, to pass the main motion as amended.  
29  
30 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chair. I'd like to  
31 make a motion.....  
32  
33 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.  
34  
35 MR. G. BROWER: .....to pass WP16-61 as  
36 amended.  
37  
38 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Motion on the floor.  
39  
40 MR. KAYOTUK: Second.  
41  
42 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Seconded by Sam. The  
43 motion is to pass WP16-61 as amended. All in favor of  
44 the motion signify by saying aye.  
45  
46 IN UNISON: Aye.  
47  
48 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Opposed say nay.  
49  
50 (No opposing votes)

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: None noted. We have  
2 the other remaining proposals. 16-62. What's the wish  
3 of the Council.  
4  
5 MR. SHEARS: Mr. Chair.  
6  
7 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Bob.  
8  
9 MR. SHEARS: Motion to accept Wildlife  
10 Proposal 16-62.  
11  
12 CHAIRMAN BROWER: We have a motion on  
13 the floor.  
14  
15 MR. G. BROWER: Second.  
16  
17 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Seconded by Gordon.  
18 Discussion regarding WP16-62.  
19  
20 MR. KUNAKNANA: Question.  
21  
22 CHAIRMAN BROWER: If there's no further  
23 discussion on the motion, the question.....  
24  
25 MR. JOHNSON: Mr. Chair. As amended by  
26 OSM or just as your original?  
27  
28 MR. SHEARS: Just as original, right?  
29 That's where you start at.  
30  
31 CHAIRMAN BROWER: So the motioner is  
32 indicating what he's indicated. He's not asking for as  
33 amended by OSM.  
34  
35 MR. SHEARS: Right.  
36  
37 CHAIRMAN BROWER: The question has been  
38 called on the motion to adopt WP16-62 as presented.  
39 All in favor of the motion signify by saying aye.  
40  
41 IN UNISON: Aye.  
42  
43 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Is that everybody?  
44  
45 MR. SHEARS: I'm sorry, Mr. Chair. I'm  
46 lost. What are we voting on? Could we have it read  
47 into the record.  
48  
49 CHAIRMAN BROWER: WP16-62, Unit 24  
50 caribou. Unit 24A south of the south bank of the

1 Kanuti River, one caribou August 10 to March 31. Unit  
2 24B, that portion south of the south bank of the Kanuti  
3 River, upstream from and including that portion of the  
4 Kanuti-Kilolitna River drainage, bounded by the  
5 southeast bank of the Kodosin-Nolitna Creek, then  
6 downstream along the east bank of the Kanuti-Kilolitna  
7 River to its confluence with the Kanuti River, one  
8 caribou August 10 to March 31.

9  
10 Unit 24, that portion north of and  
11 including the Kanuti River in Units 24A and 24B and  
12 that portion north of Koyukuk River downstream from the  
13 confluence with the Kanuti River in Unit 24B to the  
14 Unit 24C boundary, five caribou per day as follows;  
15 however calves may not be taken. Bulls may be  
16 harvested July 1 to October 14 and then another season  
17 February 1 to June 30. Cows may be harvested July 15  
18 to April 30; however, cows accompanied by calves may  
19 not be taken July 15 to October 14.

20  
21 Units 24C and 24D, five caribou per day  
22 as follows: however calves may not be taken. Bulls may  
23 be harvested July 1 to October 14 and another season of  
24 February 1 through June 30. Cows may be harvested  
25 September 1 to March 31; however cows accompanied by  
26 calves may not be taken September 1 through October 14.

27  
28 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chair.

29  
30 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon and then Carl.

31  
32 MR. G. BROWER: I don't know if there's  
33 some conflict here. There's two areas in this. Cows  
34 may be harvested July 15 through April 30; however,  
35 cows accompanied by calves may not be taken July 15 to  
36 October 14. That seems confusing. It's almost leading  
37 to suggest that between July 15 and October 14 we can  
38 kill a cow and a calf together. So I think you should  
39 explain that a little bit.

40  
41 CHAIRMAN BROWER: There's several dates  
42 identified when the hunts are occurring and it  
43 specifies that you can take a cow at a certain time and  
44 then you can't take a cow accompanied by a calf at  
45 another timeframe. Carl or Tom.

46  
47 MR. EVANS: I can do that. So you can  
48 take a cow, you just can't take -- you can take a cow  
49 from July 15 to April 30, any cow, a single cow, but a  
50 cow that's accompanied by a calf you cannot take.....

1 MR. G. BROWER: Can you go a little  
2 slower, please, and see where we're at.

3  
4 MR. EVANS: Okay. So we're at the cows  
5 may be harvested; however, cows accompanied by calves  
6 may not be taken July 15 to October 14th. Do you see  
7 that? So any cow can be taken between July 15th and  
8 April 30th as long as it's not accompanied by a calf.  
9 Wait. A cow can be taken July 15th to April 30th;  
10 however, between July 15th and October 14th and cow  
11 with a calf may not be taken. The idea was to provide  
12 protection for the cows that had calves so they spent a  
13 longer time with -- the cow and the calf spend a longer  
14 time together so it increases the chances that the calf  
15 will survive when it's weaned in the fall.

16  
17 If a cow doesn't have a calf, you can  
18 take it any time between July 15th and April 30th. If  
19 it has a calf, then you're restricted to taking it  
20 outside the period between July 15th and October 14th.  
21 So you can take it between October 15th and April 30th  
22 basically. You could take a cow with a calf after  
23 that.

24  
25 MR. G. BROWER: After that you could  
26 take a cow with a calf?

27  
28 MR. EVANS: The way it's written, yes.  
29 But it's after October 14th. So it would be October  
30 15th to April 30th.

31  
32 MR. G. BROWER: I don't know who made  
33 these rules. It almost seems almost inappropriate.

34  
35 (Laughter)

36  
37 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I thought we had made  
38 comments about trying to make them less confusing, but  
39 additional language has arisen and caused the  
40 confusion. James.

41  
42 MR. NAGEAK: As Confucius say.....

43  
44 (Laughter)

45  
46 MR. NAGEAK: I have definitions about  
47 cows. There's a kulavak, which is a normal cow, and  
48 then there's (in Inupiaq), which is a cow that no  
49 longer bears calves. So the Inupiat people know the  
50 difference between the cow that is no longer bearing as

1 opposed to a kulavak, which is able to bear calves.  
2 I'm just making you aware that for the Inupiat people  
3 they know the difference, okay.

4

5 MR. JOHNSON: Mr. Chair.

6

7 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, James.

8

9 Carl.

10

11 MR. JOHNSON: Back to a point I was  
12 going to make before Gordon had his question. So Bob's  
13 original motion was to support Proposal WP16-62 as  
14 originally proposed by this Council. However, Mr.  
15 Chair, what you read into the record is actually the  
16 OSM modification, not the original proposal.

17

18 CHAIRMAN BROWER: There was no  
19 indication of where OSM interjected it's language to  
20 the proposal.

21

22 MR. JOHNSON: Essentially there's only  
23 one meaningful change between the Council's original  
24 proposal and this, which is the three-month prohibition  
25 at the beginning of the cow season for taking cows with  
26 calves. That's the one area that was inserted by OSM  
27 because of the concern about a cow being taken before  
28 the calf is weaned and biological data suggests that  
29 mid October is about the time when calves are weaning  
30 and can survive on their own without the cow.

31

32 CHAIRMAN BROWER: So that should have  
33 been noted into the document so it could be identified  
34 by the people that are reading the proposal.

35

36 MR. EVANS: That's not quite correct.

37

38 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Why is that not  
39 correct?

40

41 MR. EVANS: So the original proposal by  
42 the North Slope RAC was just for the proportion that  
43 area north of the Kanuti River in Units 24A and 24B.  
44 They did not make any recommendations for the rest of  
45 Unit 24, 24C or 24D.

46

47 So OSM basically went and we looked at  
48 that proposal, we modified the unit area description to  
49 make it more accurate to reflect what you wanted, we  
50 added the information about the cows and the season. So

1 that's what -- so what you read was OSM's  
2 recommendation. Because if we make a change in one  
3 part of Unit 24, that means we've got to make changes  
4 in the other parts of Unit 24 because we look at the  
5 unit as a whole. What Harry read was OSM's  
6 recommendation, which was correct what Carl said.

7  
8 So the question to you guys is what  
9 you're making the motion on is what to accept. You're  
10 accepting the original proposal, which is just for the  
11 little bit of 24, which is that portion north of the  
12 Kanuti River, which would be that section in black  
13 that's kind of in the middle of this proposed  
14 regulation, or to make a recommendation to all of Unit  
15 24 as OSM has done because OSM had to basically make a  
16 recommendation for the whole unit. I think,  
17 basically.....

18  
19 CHAIRMAN BROWER: The other side of  
20 this, Tom, is that we had discussions with our  
21 representatives in terms of how far south they were  
22 going. Here we go again, going beyond the information  
23 that was provided by a representative for that portion  
24 that was being used by the community. We were not  
25 looking to interject additional distances further than  
26 what we were dealing with for the users on the south  
27 side of 26.

28  
29 MR. EVANS: Of 24.

30  
31 CHAIRMAN BROWER: So OSM is again  
32 coming in and interjecting additional language to  
33 modify it for the whole unit, which we're not proposing  
34 to do.

35  
36 Thank you.

37  
38 MR. EVANS: That is correct, Harry.  
39 But because we make a change to one part of the unit  
40 and we're trying to make the regulations consistent, we  
41 have to make -- when you make a change to one part of  
42 the unit, we have to make the rest of the unit match  
43 with it.

44  
45 CHAIRMAN BROWER: So the impacts from  
46 that we've not even had discussions for the  
47 representatives in Unit 24 regarding OSM's  
48 recommendation. We've not had any kind of feedback in  
49 terms of if they would support this or not.

50

1 MR. EVANS: That is correct. That's  
2 what we're doing at this meeting here.

3  
4 CHAIRMAN BROWER: You're not catching  
5 what I'm saying. We've not had any consultation with  
6 that other Regional Advisory Council that deals with  
7 Unit 24.

8  
9 MR. EVANS: That is correct because the  
10 Western is meeting right now.

11  
12 MR. G. BROWER: Yeah, Mr. Chair.

13  
14 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

15  
16 MR. G. BROWER: I don't even recall  
17 dialogue about when we're talking about the State going  
18 to start making all these regulations and let's get  
19 ahead of the curve before more conservative management  
20 proposals are on the fringes and to try to do more  
21 grassroots proposals. I don't recall saying that we  
22 should be killing the cow with a calf. It seems to me  
23 you take off July 15 to October 14 and that's what I  
24 thought in my mind that cows may be harvested; however,  
25 cows accompanied by a calf may not be taken period.

26  
27 MR. EVANS: So if you remember back to  
28 the North Slope RAC meeting in the spring when you made  
29 the recommendations for the special actions, you also  
30 -- the proposals came at that time and we drafted the  
31 proposal to reflect the Council's desires. At that  
32 point the Council had expressed -- kind of supported  
33 that basically the protection of cows with calves was a  
34 good conservation measure. So we get that proposal  
35 from you guys and then we go ahead and modify it to  
36 make it into regulation.

37  
38 So that's what we've done here. What  
39 you see is OSM's recommendation and you guys can decide  
40 whether you want to accept a portion of it, the whole  
41 thing. I would suggest you look at it in its entirety  
42 because we're looking at all of Unit 24, but remember  
43 the Western Interior is meeting right now and they have  
44 their own recommendations for Unit 24, so you could  
45 defer to whatever the recommendation of the Western  
46 Interior does since it's outside of your region. So  
47 these are options that you have.

48  
49 Granted, you only made a recommendation  
50 for that little portion of 24 because that was the

1 portion that affected Anaktuvuk Pass. So that's where  
2 we're at right now. So this is the kind of the set up  
3 of where we're at now in terms of making decisions.

4

5 CHAIRMAN BROWER: So we've been set up.

6

7 (Laughter)

8

9 CHAIRMAN BROWER: That's exactly the  
10 way I see it. I mean we addressed what we wanted to  
11 address through this Council with the input from our  
12 representatives to address the small portion of the  
13 area that's being used by our constituents here. But  
14 then when the OSM staff have generated additional  
15 language to impact the whole unit and that's not what  
16 we were asking for.

17

18 MR. EVANS: Well, that's correct, but  
19 we did provide you copies of this ahead of time, ahead  
20 of the meeting, so you guys had a chance to look at  
21 this. But you're right, Harry, the way you're looking  
22 at it is correct.

23

24 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Carl.

25

26 MR. JOHNSON: Mr. Chair, thank you.  
27 I'm going to see if I can maybe put this a different  
28 way. So your original proposal only dealt with a  
29 portion of Unit 24, so the conservation measures that  
30 this Council felt were valuable, not taking of calves  
31 and not taking of cows with calves, would only apply to  
32 that part of Unit 24, which means that conservation  
33 measures this Council feels are necessary for the  
34 health of the caribou would not be applied in the other  
35 parts of Unit 24, which means people would be  
36 authorized to go in and harvest calves and/or cows with  
37 calves.

38

39 So somebody who may want to go take  
40 cows with calves could skip out of the part that you  
41 protected in Unit 24 and go down to the other part,  
42 which OSM added, and could harvest cows with calves and  
43 calves in that portion of Unit 24.

44

45 So correct me if I'm wrong, but if you  
46 look at what the existing regulation is and then  
47 compare it to what you as a Council proposed and what  
48 OSM added, that's really the kind of end result, would  
49 be somebody -- without that OSM modification, somebody  
50 could conceivably go and kind of thwart your suggested

1 conservation measures in the other part of Unit 24.

2

3 CHAIRMAN BROWER: But then it could  
4 also be that the Interior Council could generate a  
5 similar conservation measure that prevents that from  
6 happening.

7

8 MR. EVANS: That's correct.

9

10 MR. JOHNSON: That's very correct, Mr.  
11 Chair. In the end, as is often the case with Councils  
12 who may differ on specific proposals, on the same  
13 proposal, it will be the end for the Board to decide.  
14 I guess I just wanted to explain it in that way so that  
15 you wouldn't feel that OSM had done something untoward  
16 in trying to undermine the Council, but instead ensure  
17 that its suggested conservation efforts were more  
18 comprehensive.

19

20 MR. EVANS: Mr. Chair.

21

22 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Tom.

23

24 MR. EVANS: Another way of looking at  
25 it is you could make the recommendation for just the  
26 area that you proposed and then the Western Interior  
27 could take that recommendation and decide whether they  
28 accepted the recommendation you made for just the area  
29 that you proposed north of the Kanuti River in 24A and  
30 24B, which would be in align with what you originally  
31 proposed without the additional changes in the  
32 regulations in the rest of 24 that OSM put together in  
33 trying to maintain a consistency between all the  
34 proposals we had for all these areas. We were trying  
35 to make it consistent.

36

37 So that is another option that I think  
38 you could do at this point since it's outside your  
39 area. You could do that and that would be in align  
40 with what you had kind of originally proposed as a RAC.

41

42 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you. What's  
43 the wish of the Council WP16-62.

44

45 MR. SHEARS: Mr. Chair.

46

47 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Bob.

48

49 MR. SHEARS: The original motion, the  
50 main motion was just the wildlife proposal that we

1 drafted at our last meeting just dealing with that area  
2 of Unit 24 that's north of the Kanuti River that  
3 affects Anaktuvuk Pass, our region. OSM recommendation  
4 they reached out to the Interior, they've got  
5 resolution 16 -- Wildlife Proposal 16-37 from the  
6 Interior and currently Mountain Region is meeting to  
7 come up with their own proposal for Unit 24. I don't  
8 really have a vested interest from my seat in what  
9 they're going to recommend.

10

11 I think that our original proposal  
12 serves the community of Anaktuvuk Pass well. It  
13 doesn't stipulate -- it doesn't say anywhere in the  
14 original motion that cows with calves may not be taken  
15 July 15th to October 14th. It simply says calves may  
16 not be taken. Cows with calves may not be taken. Or,  
17 no, excuse me, it just says calves may not be taken.  
18 Sometimes a cow with a calf gets taken. I'm okay with  
19 that.

20

21 That's why I just forwarded the  
22 original proposal on the main motion and that's why I  
23 was getting kind of confused about what we were voting  
24 on there. It sounded like there was some confusion on  
25 the Council that thought we were considering the entire  
26 OSM recommendation for the entire Unit 24.

27

28 Unlike this last resolution, this last  
29 wildlife proposal dealing with Unit 23 where I had kind  
30 of a vested interest in what Northwest RAC was doing  
31 with the bull count, I don't have that interest in this  
32 proposal. I'm willing to let the other regions  
33 adjudicate their regions as they best see fit. I just  
34 want to see Anaktuvuk Pass being serviced and I think  
35 our original proposal does that well.

36

37 MR. G. BROWER: That's what the motion  
38 is on, right?

39

40 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Not as I read it. I  
41 think we need to restate the motion to clarify the  
42 action that we're looking to take.

43

44 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council.

45

46 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Eva.

47

48 MS. PATTON: It is a little bit  
49 confusing in the layout of the book. Page 82 is the  
50 original proposal that the Council submitted and then

1 at the end I think what happened is -- you may have  
2 been reading from Page 101. That includes the OSM  
3 modification, the recommendation from OSM and then what  
4 those changes would look like in the regulation.

5  
6 So the proposal, as was submitted by  
7 the North Slope Regional Advisory Council is on Page  
8 82, the proposed Federal regulation.

9  
10 MR. NAGEAK: Which we've passed  
11 already.

12  
13 CHAIRMAN BROWER: No. No, we haven't.

14  
15 MR. G. BROWER: We need to pass it.

16  
17 CHAIRMAN BROWER: So what I read was  
18 not the correct page. I was reading 102.

19  
20 MR. G. BROWER: You were reading the  
21 modified one.

22  
23 CHAIRMAN BROWER: The modified version.  
24 So what I needed to do was read page number 82, which  
25 was the Regional Advisory Council's original proposal.

26  
27 MR. EVANS: Just if I may make a note.  
28 The other change we made to just this portion of it was  
29 the area descriptor. So we made a change to how that  
30 area descriptor is written to make it more clearer and  
31 then we added the thing with the protection of cows  
32 with calves. So just keep that in mind.

33  
34 CHAIRMAN BROWER: So in regards to our  
35 discussion, I think we made a motion and it was  
36 seconded to adopt the Proposal WP16-62 as to how it was  
37 presented by the Regional Advisory Council. That's the  
38 one we wanted to act on.

39  
40 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chair.

41  
42 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

43  
44 MR. G. BROWER: I think it would be  
45 more appropriate to read that one in unless we were  
46 looking to entertain amendments that OSM is  
47 recommending instead of ours.

48  
49 CHAIRMAN BROWER: So the item we want  
50 to get on record and take action on is the proposed

1 Federal regulation Unit 24 on Page 82 of our booklet.  
2 Unit 24 caribou. That portion south of the south bank  
3 of the Kanuti river, upstream from and including that  
4 portion of the Kanuti-Kilolitna River drainage, bounded  
5 by the  
6 southeast bank of the Kodosin-Nolitna Creek, then  
7 downstream along the east bank of the Kanuti-Kilolitna  
8 River to its confluence with the Kanuti River, one  
9 caribou.

10  
11 Unit 24, that portion north of the  
12 south bank of the Kanuti River downstream from the  
13 Kanuti-Kilolitna River, five caribou per day as  
14 follows: Up to five bulls per day; however, calves may  
15 not be taken July 1 to October 14 and February 1 to  
16 June 30. Up to five cows per day; however, calves may  
17 not be taken July 15 to April 30.

18  
19 Unit 24 remainder, five caribou per  
20 day; however, cow caribou may not be taken May 16 to  
21 June 30 and the regulatory dates are July 1 to June  
22 30.

23  
24 MR. SHEARS: Okay. That's our main  
25 motion.

26  
27 CHAIRMAN BROWER: That's the main  
28 motion

29  
30 MR. SHEARS: Mr. Chair. I'd like to  
31 make an amended motion to address OSM's concern about  
32 to further refine the description of the boundary of  
33 Unit 24.

34  
35 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Is that the amending  
36 motion or you're reading it further?

37  
38 MR. SHEARS: I'm going to read it  
39 further. Describing a motion to describe Unit 24B is  
40 that portion -- is the original phrase that was titled  
41 Unit 24 earlier. Unit 24B is that portion south of the  
42 south bank of the Kanuti River, upstream from and  
43 including that portion of the Kanuti-Kilolitna River  
44 drainage, bounded by the southeast bank of the Kodosin-  
45 Nolitna Creek, then downstream along the east bank of  
46 the Kanuti-Kilolitna River to its confluence with the  
47 Kanuti River.

48  
49 That text indicated in italics in front  
50 of us, the main context of this amended motion is in

1 the following description of Unit 24 rewording it  
2 originally the main motion said that Unit 24 is that  
3 portion north of the south bank of the Kanuti River  
4 downstream from the Kanuti-Kilolitna River. The  
5 amended motion is Unit 24 is that portion north of and  
6 including the Kanuti River in Units 24A and 24B and  
7 that portion north of the Koyukuk River downstream from  
8 the confluence of the Kanuti River in Unit 24B to the  
9 Unit 24C boundary.

10

11 CHAIRMAN BROWER: The amending motion.

12

13 MR. G. BROWER: I would second that.

14

15 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Seconded. Further  
16 discussion. Under discussion, Bob, just remind me  
17 where you were reading that portion.

18

19 MR. G. BROWER: Very good. Mr. Chair,  
20 I'm looking at OSM recommendation page on Page 102.

21

22 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you.

23

24 MR. EVANS: Harry, just a note. You  
25 probably would want to -- since the units change a  
26 little bit, you probably want to read that little Unit  
27 24A south of the south bank of the Kanuti River because  
28 that area in terms of area doesn't change, but because  
29 of the change that we made down below, that changes  
30 that up front. So you might want to include that as  
31 well.

32

33 MR. SHEARS: Oh, include that in the  
34 amendment.

35

36 MR. EVANS: Yeah, 24A and 24B.

37

38 MR. SHEARS: I missed that. Units 24C  
39 and Unit 24D you mean, Tom?

40

41 MR. EVANS: No, the 24 -- well, yes.  
42 24A, anything in bolded text on Page 102.

43

44 MR. SHEARS: Right. I thought I did  
45 read that. I didn't?

46

47 MR. EVANS: No.

48

49 MR. SHEARS: Okay.

50

1 MR. NAGEAK: I move that we adjourn it.

2

3 (Laughter)

4

5 CHAIRMAN BROWER: So the amending  
6 motion Bob read is on Unit 24B.

7

8 MR. SHEARS: Yes.

9

10 CHAIRMAN BROWER: On Page 102.

11

12 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chair.

13

14 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

15

16 MR. G. BROWER: I'm led to understand  
17 that we should also describe Unit 24A, 24B, the section  
18 down here that may be affected by that little language.  
19 It might be prudent to quickly rummage down through  
20 that and read it in whole to be clear.

21

22 MR. SHEARS: So this amending motion is  
23 to -- exactly. Perhaps it would be better if we reread  
24 it. Tom has indicated there was a question there. The  
25 title of this amending motion is redefining Unit 24  
26 instead as Units 24A, 24B, 24C and 24D.

27

28 MR. EVANS: Basically it's 24A, 24B  
29 north of the Kanuti River, 24A and B south of the  
30 Kanuti River, 24A and then 24C and 24D.

31

32 MR. SHEARS: Actually, yeah. There's  
33 like six components to this four parts.

34

35 MR. JOHNSON: Mr. Chair.

36

37 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Carl.

38

39 MR. JOHNSON: I'm always one for trying  
40 to simplify things. So you Council members have the  
41 Council meeting book before you. This meeting book is  
42 actually part of this meeting's administrative record.  
43 So a simple way, as Tom indicated, proposed changes are  
44 always going to be in the bold language. A simple way  
45 to state the motion would be to amend the motion to  
46 accept the bolded unit descriptors as recommended by  
47 OSM on Page 102.

48

49 MR. SHEARS: Very good.

50

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Is that a little bit  
2 clearer than what we've been discussing.

3

4 MR. JOHNSON: At least that way, Mr.  
5 Chair, Mr. Shears doesn't have to take the time to read  
6 it again, the entire description. As far as for  
7 clarity of the record and allowing the Board to  
8 understand this Council's actions, that's not entirely  
9 necessary as long as we refer to the page number in the  
10 meeting book and the different aspects. Like, in this  
11 case, the unit descriptions that Bob is looking for  
12 adding to your original motion.

13

14 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

15

16 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Carl.

17

18 MR. NAGEAK: Mr. Chair.

19

20 CHAIRMAN BROWER: James.

21

22 MR. NAGEAK: The way I'm understanding,  
23 after October 14th Simon Pollock could go out and shoot  
24 a calf, right?

25

26 CHAIRMAN BROWER: After October 24.

27

28 MR. NAGEAK: After October 24. So that  
29 would mean that I could call Simon Pollock and say,  
30 Simon, shoot me a calf. I need a skin for my drum. So  
31 that took care of my problem on the skin, so thank you.

32

33 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Okay. Further  
34 discussion on the amending motion.

35

36 MR. G. BROWER: Let's call for the  
37 question.

38

39 CHAIRMAN BROWER: The question has been  
40 called on the amending motion to include the language  
41 on Page 102, the bolded language, as identified as  
42 descriptors. All in favor of the amending motion  
43 signify by saying aye.

44

45 IN UNISON: Aye.

46

47 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Opposed say nay.

48

49 (No opposing votes)

50

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: No nays. Back to the  
2 main motion.

3  
4 MR. EVANS: So one question I have for  
5 you, Harry. Okay, that went well, but did you guys  
6 want to accept the cows accompanied by the calves  
7 provision or not?

8  
9 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Is that in regard to  
10 the amending motion that we just acted on or are you  
11 talking about the main motion?

12  
13 MR. EVANS: So we're back to the main  
14 motion.

15  
16 CHAIRMAN BROWER: We're back to the  
17 main motion of the discussion.

18  
19 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chair.

20  
21 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

22  
23 MR. G. BROWER: We've amended the  
24 descriptors and I'd like to, under dialogue, up to five  
25 cows per day, however calves may not be taken July 15  
26 to April 30. Suggest that we change that language just  
27 after the semicolon, however calves may not be taken,  
28 to change that only with, however cows accompanied by a  
29 calf may not be taken without the July 15 and October  
30 14 dates. It's consistent with Unit 26A and some of the  
31 other dialogue we were engaged in. But I'll leave  
32 that. It's just dialogue. I'm not making it as a  
33 motion.

34  
35 MR. EVANS: Gordon, just to reflect a  
36 little bit, you said it was the same as 26A. I think  
37 there was a season in 26A for cows accompanied by  
38 calves may not be taken from July 16th to October 15th.  
39 So there was a season for cows and calves in 26A. We  
40 haven't gotten there yet. In the OSM recommendation.  
41 Also, if you do that, James won't be able to take his  
42 calf for his drum if it's a full season.

43  
44 CHAIRMAN BROWER: If we do that, James  
45 won't be able to take his request for a calf. We'll  
46 just leave it as is. Any further discussion on the  
47 main motion regarding Proposal 16-62.

48  
49 MR. G. BROWER: So if we added this  
50 July 15 to October 14, that would take care of that.

1 MR. NAGEAK: Question.  
2  
3 CHAIRMAN BROWER: The question has been  
4 called on the main motion. If there's no further  
5 discussion on the main motion, all in favor of the  
6 motion signify by saying aye.  
7  
8 IN UNISON: Aye.  
9  
10 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Opposed say nay.  
11  
12 (No opposing votes)  
13  
14 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you.  
15  
16 Next proposal 16-63.  
17  
18 MR. SHEARS: Mr. Chair.  
19  
20 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Bob.  
21  
22 MR. SHEARS: A motion to forward  
23 Wildlife Proposal 16-63 to the Federal Subsistence  
24 Board.  
25  
26 CHAIRMAN BROWER: It's on Page 84. 16-  
27 63, existing Federal regulation. Is that what we're  
28 reading? The proposed Federal regulation is 26A. Up  
29 to five caribou per day; however, no more than three  
30 cows per day; calves may not be taken. Is that the  
31 language you're referring to, Bob?  
32  
33 MR. SHEARS: I'm sorry, Mr. Chair. The  
34 proposed Federal regulation is identified on Page 84 in  
35 bold print down towards the bottom that's titled  
36 proposed Federal regulation Unit 26A caribou. Up to  
37 five caribou per day; however, no more than three cows  
38 per day; calves may not be taken December 6th to March  
39 15th. Up to five bulls per day; calves may not be  
40 taken March 16th to July 15th. And up to five caribou  
41 per day; however, no more than three cows per day; cows  
42 accompanied by calves may not be taken during the  
43 period of July 16th to October 15th. Then from October  
44 16th to December 5th up to three cows per day; however,  
45 calves may not be taken.  
46  
47 That's the original Wildlife Proposal  
48 16-63.  
49  
50 CHAIRMAN BROWER: There's a motion on

1 the floor to adopt Proposal 16-63.  
2  
3 MR. KUNAKNANA: Second.  
4  
5 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Seconded by Sam.  
6 Discussion. Any further discussion on Proposal WP16-  
7 63. James.  
8  
9 MR. NAGEAK: Yeah, Mr. Evans. Does  
10 that mean on October 16th I could go out and shoot a  
11 calf?  
12  
13 MR. SHEARS: Not under the current  
14 wording.  
15  
16 MR. EVANS: Calves are prohibited.  
17  
18 MR. NAGEAK: Oh, so on 16th of October  
19 I could do it, right?  
20  
21 MR. EVANS: No.  
22  
23 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Calves may not be  
24 taken.  
25  
26 MR. KUNAKNANA: Mr. Chair, I have a  
27 question.  
28  
29 CHAIRMAN BROWER: James, did that help  
30 with your -- let me finish with James first. I'd like  
31 to make sure James is.....  
32  
33 MR. NAGEAK: Huh?  
34  
35 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Did you get the  
36 answer regarding your question? Tom, he was looking to  
37 you and he raised the question towards you and you need  
38 to provide him an answer, please.  
39  
40 MR. NAGEAK: He said, no, I can't.  
41  
42 MR. EVANS: I said no.  
43  
44 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Okay. Does that  
45 help?  
46  
47 MR. NAGEAK: Okay.  
48  
49 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you.  
50

1 Sam.

2

3 MR. KUNAKNANA: Okay. I have a  
4 question over here on up to three cows per day, however  
5 calves may not be taken. Is it suggesting that they  
6 can get cows and just leave the calves out there? When  
7 you take a look at the wording too.

8

9 MR. EVANS: So from October 16th to  
10 December 5th that would be correct.

11

12 MR. KUNAKNANA: Yes, up to three cows  
13 per day, however calves may not be taken.

14

15 MR. EVANS: Right.

16

17 MR. KUNAKNANA: Essentially you can  
18 just shoot the female and leave the calves out there.

19

20 MR. EVANS: Correct.

21

22 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chair. I think  
23 there's a word problem here and I don't think it came  
24 from us because we would be saying cows accompanied by  
25 a calf. We wouldn't say kill the mama and let the  
26 foxes get the little one or we'd try to get it because  
27 it wasn't -- inadvertently, yeah, we might do that or  
28 once in a great while we'll target the calf and we know  
29 that, but the way it sounds you make us out to be nuts  
30 with some of this language.

31

32 MR. EVANS: Mr. Chair, to respond to  
33 Gordon.

34

35 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Tom.

36

37 MR. EVANS: When we did these, remember  
38 we had the State regulations is what we were trying to  
39 follow, so we were trying to make them as similar to  
40 the State regulations or with whatever changes you guys  
41 recommended. So the idea was that if you had  
42 protection for cows with calves between the time that  
43 they're born somewhere in June, late May, through  
44 October and after October it was assumed that the  
45 calves would be weaned or could be weaned, that they  
46 would be fair game just like anything else. So that  
47 was kind of the thought behind it. It wasn't  
48 intentional to say that you could -- assuming that at  
49 that time of the year calves are weaned, so they're  
50 fair game as well, the calves.

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Did that help with  
2 the clarification.

3

4 MR. SHEARS: Mr. Chair.

5

6 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yes, Bob.

7

8 MR. SHEARS: Perhaps the OSM  
9 recommendation it kind of rewords that original draft.  
10 The OSM recommendation on Page 103 we could ask the  
11 Council to review that and maybe somebody may want to  
12 consider that as an amending motion to change the  
13 language.

14

15 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chair. This is  
16 more consistent with what we've said, I think, on Page  
17 103.

18

19 MR. EVANS: Yeah, we did that language  
20 change in response to trying to make it simpler based  
21 on comments we had at the last RAC meeting. Calves  
22 cannot be taken at all regardless of when, so that just  
23 eliminates the potential for that.

24

25 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chair.

26

27 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

28

29 MR. G. BROWER: We know when a calf is  
30 on his own. You can see them when they're fattened up  
31 and they're good meat. We know it's not a six-month-  
32 old baby one. I know that for a fact. Unless you want  
33 to have a tiny barbecue.

34

35 CHAIRMAN BROWER: So are we going to  
36 read the language on Page 103.

37

38 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chair.

39

40 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

41

42 MR. G. BROWER: I would hope that Bob  
43 over there, he seems to know how to get the language  
44 right, because we're talking about -- we made a motion  
45 to accept the proposed Federal regulation Unit 26A  
46 caribou on Page 84 that should now reflect this OSM  
47 modified one, which I think we modified. I think this  
48 one is your language, this one is ours.

49

50 (Laughter)

1                   CHAIRMAN BROWER: Bob, he's looking to  
2 you.  
3  
4                   MR. SHEARS: So moved, Mr. Chair. As  
5 an amended motion, adopting the language recommended on  
6 Page 103 to replace that language in the original  
7 proposal.  
8  
9                   CHAIRMAN BROWER: We have an amending  
10 motion to accept the language for WP16-63 as identified  
11 on Page 103 of the booklet.  
12  
13                  MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chair.  
14  
15                  CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yes.  
16  
17                  MR. G. BROWER: I would second the  
18 motion.  
19  
20                  CHAIRMAN BROWER: Seconded by Gordon.  
21 Further discussion.  
22  
23                  MR. KUNAKNANA: Question.  
24  
25                  CHAIRMAN BROWER: The question has been  
26 called on the motion. All in favor of the motion to  
27 adopt the language on Page 103 signify by saying aye.  
28  
29                  IN UNISON: Aye.  
30  
31                  CHAIRMAN BROWER: Opposed say nay.  
32  
33                  (No opposing votes)  
34  
35                  CHAIRMAN BROWER: So WP16-63 has been  
36 adopted as identified on Page 103. Next proposal, 16-  
37 64.  
38  
39                  MR. SHEARS: Mr. Chair.  
40  
41                  CHAIRMAN BROWER: Bob.  
42  
43                  MR. SHEARS: A motion to forward  
44 Wildlife Proposal 16-64 to the Federal Subsistence  
45 Board.  
46  
47                  CHAIRMAN BROWER: Motion on the floor  
48 to forward Proposal 16-64.  
49  
50                  MR. G. BROWER: Second.

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Seconded by Gordon.

2

3 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chair, I would  
4 suggest that it be read into the record for discussion  
5 purposes.

6

7 CHAIRMAN BROWER: 16-64 is on Page 86.  
8 Existing Federal regulation, Unit 26B caribou. Ten  
9 caribou per day; however, cow caribou may be taken only  
10 from October 1 to April 30. You may not transport more  
11 than five caribou per regulatory year from Unit 26  
12 except to the community of Anaktuvuk Pass.

13

14 Continuing, the proposed Federal  
15 regulation. Unit 26B caribou. The bold language reads  
16 Unit 26B, that portion south of 69 degrees 30 minutes  
17 north latitude and west of the Dalton Highway. Up to  
18 five bulls per day December 10 to October 14;  
19 however, calves may not be taken. Up to five cows per  
20 day July 15 to April 30; however, calves may not be  
21 taken.

22

23 Unit 26B remainder. Ten caribou per  
24 day July 1 to June 30; however, cow caribou may be  
25 taken only from October 1 to April 30. So that's  
26 something wrong with that language there in terms of  
27 what I just read previously. Am I misreading that?

28

29 MR. EVANS: Again, you only proposed  
30 language for the first portion of Unit 26B and then  
31 this was what was already in the regulations. So you  
32 only made recommendations to that portion south of 69  
33 degrees 30 and west of the Dalton Highway. So the  
34 other language that's in there is just what was in the  
35 existing regulations. So you can make a decision  
36 whether you want to keep that 10 or change it to a five  
37 or whatever you want to do.

38

39 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you.

40

41 MR. SHEARS: Mr. Chair. Are we under  
42 discussion still?

43

44 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yes. Gordon was  
45 asking to get that read into the record, so I did.

46

47 MR. SHEARS: I'd like to ask the  
48 Council to consider a motion, an amending motion, to  
49 adopt the OSM recommendation for Wildlife Proposal 16-  
50 64 at the bottom of Page 103 and continuing on Page

1 104.

2

3 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Amending motion to  
4 adopt the OSM language on Page 103 and 104.

5

6 MR. JOHNSON: Point of order, Mr.  
7 Chair. Apologies. We had gotten to the point where  
8 the underlying motion was read into the record, but I  
9 don't recall if it was seconded. I don't believe it  
10 was, Mr. Chair.

11

12 CHAIRMAN BROWER: What was Bob and  
13 Gordon saying?

14

15 MR. SHEARS: I thought we were under  
16 discussion.

17

18 MR. KUNAKNANA: Yeah, I seconded.  
19 Might as well go under discussion right now.

20

21 MR. JOHNSON: My apologies. I just  
22 wanted to make sure.

23

24 CHAIRMAN BROWER: So we're still on  
25 discussion of the amending motion as Bob indicated  
26 on.....

27

28 MR. NAGEAK: Mr. Chair.

29

30 CHAIRMAN BROWER: James.

31

32 MR. NAGEAK: Yeah, I'm glad that  
33 somebody was bold enough to cross off 510 caribou a  
34 day.

35

36 (Laughter)

37

38 MR. NAGEAK: But there's no number  
39 before that.

40

41 MR. SHEARS: The change is 10 to five.

42

43 MR. NAGEAK: Oh, 10 is the one that's  
44 crossed off. I thought it was 510 caribou a day.

45

46 (Laughter)

47

48 MR. NAGEAK: Okay, I stand corrected.

49

50 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chair.

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.  
2  
3 MR. G. BROWER: Are we under discussion  
4 with the proposed amendment?  
5  
6 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Amending motion, yes.  
7 Bob made the amending motion.  
8  
9 MR. G. BROWER: It would be important  
10 to look at 69 degrees 30 minutes. Where is that line?  
11 Because the concerns I think it shouldn't be so  
12 arbitrary. We saw Lincoln and his caribou modeling and  
13 the distinct movement of different caribou herds. We  
14 do know Teshekpuk/Western Arctic is declining, but to  
15 my understanding Central Herd is very strong.  
16  
17 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon, 69/30 is  
18 right next to my house.  
19  
20 MR. G. BROWER: (In Inupiaq).  
21  
22 CHAIRMAN BROWER: The one that you're  
23 talking about, 69/30. Right next to the Ikpikpuk River.  
24 They're going south. I think they're wanting to  
25 parallel the post going that far south for this  
26 regulation to be effective in that area.  
27  
28 MR. G. BROWER: I don't think 69/30 is  
29 in 26B.  
30  
31 MR. EVANS: Correct.  
32  
33 CHAIRMAN BROWER: If we have a map, can  
34 we pinpoint what that latitude is talking about.  
35  
36 MR. EVANS: And if I could just say  
37 something with what Gordon said. When I read the notes  
38 for this area, I didn't realize the caribou were taken  
39 from both the Central Caribou Herd and the Teshekpuk  
40 Caribou Herd at different times of the year. So State  
41 regulations reflect the timing of the migration of the  
42 Teshekpuk Caribou here, which occurs from mid October  
43 to May. Outside of that time the caribou are being  
44 taken mostly from the Central Arctic Caribou Herd. So  
45 from mid October to May it's mostly from the Teshekpuk  
46 Caribou Herd. From basically July 1st to October 10th  
47 it's mostly being taken from the Central Arctic Caribou  
48 Herd.  
49  
50 So Gordon is on the right track there

1 thinking about the two herds.

2

3 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Why are we saying  
4 Central when we're talking Western and Teshekpuk?

5

6 MR. EVANS: Just because in this area  
7 the way the caribou migrate.

8

9 MR. G. BROWER: Central Arctic Caribou.

10

11 MR. EVANS: So that's why the State had  
12 done the regulations the way they did them because at  
13 different times of the year you're looking at different  
14 populations in that area west of the Dalton Highway and  
15 south of that 69/30.

16

17 MR. G. BROWER: I was just going to  
18 make a point that the herd in that area, Central Arctic  
19 Herd, according to Lincoln, Porcupine Herd, Central  
20 Herd, they haven't declined. In fact, the population  
21 is sustainable and it's higher than in the past. It  
22 seems to me, you know, folks that subsist can Ski-Doo  
23 over there with a little more liberal hunt in that  
24 sector. Maybe I just need to quit thinking too much.

25

26 DR. YOKEL: Mr. Chair.

27

28 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Dr. Yokel.

29

30 DR. YOKEL: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Dave  
31 Yokel, BLM. The Central Arctic Herd and Teshekpuk Herd  
32 do overlap. Their total ranges overlap in this area.  
33 So there are a couple things that are trying to be done  
34 with this quartering of 26B is to allow as liberal a  
35 harvest from the Central Arctic Herd, which is healthy  
36 as you noted, as possible to help protect the people in  
37 Nuiqsut, but then to conserve the Teshekpuk Herd, which  
38 is in decline, when it migrates through there in the  
39 fall and winter and some of them wind up by the Dalton  
40 Highway where you have hunters from the south coming  
41 up.

42

43 So they wanted to protect the Teshekpuk  
44 Herd after it got out of the range of Nuiqsut and they  
45 got what they needed and protect them before they got  
46 down by the highway. So that's why the 60/30, which is  
47 a north/south divider. You're correct, Mr. Chairman.  
48 It goes all the way west to your house and it goes all  
49 the way around the world back to the Dalton Highway  
50 again.

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yeah, I know about  
2 that part.  
3  
4 DR. YOKEL: So this is very complicated  
5 because of the overlap of those two herds and the  
6 different condition they're in and trying to provide  
7 for the people of Nuiqsut without giving up too much  
8 caribou to the people driving up the highway.  
9  
10 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chair.  
11  
12 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Dr. Yokel.  
13  
14 Gordon.  
15  
16 MR. G. BROWER: With that explanation,  
17 it kind of brings daylight when somebody's got their  
18 marbles in order.  
19  
20 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you.  
21  
22 DR. YOKEL: The years are very limited  
23 for that.  
24  
25 (Laughter)  
26  
27 CHAIRMAN BROWER: We're still under  
28 discussion for WP16-64.  
29  
30 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chair.  
31  
32 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.  
33  
34 MR. G. BROWER: I seem to have heard  
35 that the Council Member Shears made an amending motion,  
36 which there was a point of order, which I think was  
37 reversed, right?  
38  
39 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yes.  
40  
41 MR. G. BROWER: To that OSM language.  
42  
43 CHAIRMAN BROWER: The page number.  
44  
45 MR. SHEARS: The amending motion was to  
46 adopt the OSM recommended language on the bottom of  
47 Page 103 and continuing on Page 104.  
48  
49 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Further discussion on  
50 that amending motion.

1 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chair. I would, at  
2 this time, with a better understanding from Tom and Dr.  
3 Yokel, I would support the amending motion.

4  
5 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Question.

6  
7 MR. G. BROWER: I call for the  
8 question, Mr. Chair.

9  
10 CHAIRMAN BROWER: The question has been  
11 called on the amending motion as identified on Page 103  
12 and Page 104. All in favor of the amending motion  
13 signify by saying aye.

14  
15 IN UNISON: Aye.

16  
17 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Opposed say nay.

18  
19 (No opposing votes)

20  
21 CHAIRMAN BROWER: None noted. Thank  
22 you.

23  
24 We're back to the main motion regarding  
25 WP16-64.

26  
27 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chair. If there's  
28 no additional dialogue, I would call for the question  
29 on the main motion unless there's an objection to the  
30 question.

31  
32 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Hearing no objection  
33 to the question, we have a motion to adopt WP16-64.  
34 All in favor of the motion signify by saying aye.

35  
36 IN UNISON: Aye.

37  
38 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Opposed say nay.

39  
40 (No opposing votes)

41  
42 CHAIRMAN BROWER: None noted.

43  
44 Thank you, Council members.

45  
46 MR. SHEARS: Five caribou per day.

47  
48 CHAIRMAN BROWER: We are now -- do we  
49 have another proposal, Tom, or should we take a five-  
50 minute recess.

1 MR. NAGEAK: Good idea. Thank you.

2

3 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I'll listen to my  
4 elders and before anybody responds I'm going to ask for  
5 a five-minute recess.

6

7 (Off record)

8

9 (On record)

10

11 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Good afternoon,  
12 everyone. If we could take our seats. I'd like to  
13 call the meeting back to order of the North Slope  
14 Regional Advisory Council. We have several more  
15 proposals to consider here. We're still under North  
16 Slope regional proposals. We're down to WP16-65,  
17 create delegated authority for moose Units 26B and 26C  
18 on Page 110 of your booklet.

19

20 Tom.

21

22 MR. EVANS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
23 Members of the Council. As Charlie -- as Harry  
24 mentioned -- I keep calling you Charlie for some reason  
25 today. As Harry mentioned, it's on Page 110 of the  
26 subsistence book. Was submitted by the Arctic National  
27 Wildlife Refuge, requests that delegated authority be  
28 given to the refuge to announce annual harvest quotas,  
29 announce the number of permits to be issued and to open  
30 and close the season for moose in Units 26B and 26C.

31

32 Although the number of moose in the  
33 Arctic Coastal Plain in 26B and 26C increased slightly  
34 from 2014 to 2015, they were still at low numbers and  
35 not able to support the existing harvest quota of five  
36 moose.

37

38 Temporary special action WSA15-08  
39 closed the moose season on Federal public lands in  
40 Units 26B remainder and 26C for 2015-2016 regulatory  
41 year. Under the State regulations there's no open  
42 season for moose in Units 26B and 26C for the 2015-2016  
43 regulatory year.

44

45 Moose in Unit 26B remainder are located  
46 in the upper riparian area in the upper section of the  
47 Canning River. The State management goals for moose in  
48 Unit 26B and 26C are for Unit 26B to maintain a  
49 population of 300 moose with short yearlings comprising  
50 at least 15 percent using a three-year average of the

1 population. In Unit 26C, the State management  
2 objectives are to maintain a population of at least 150  
3 moose with short yearlings comprising at least 15  
4 percent, again using a three-year average of the  
5 population. Then for both populations is to maintain  
6 bull:cow ratios of at least 35 bulls per 100 cows when  
7 hunting seasons are open.

8  
9 Comprehensive surveys have never been  
10 conducted in Units 26B and 26C; however, trend counts  
11 conducted in the areas count for a large percentage of  
12 the moose as moose habitat in this area is limited.  
13 Usually it's focused around the river drainages where  
14 the willows are.

15  
16 From 2003 and 2011, the North Slope  
17 population has remained relatively stable at low levels  
18 around 52 and then declined from 2011 to 2014 to  
19 around 23 and then increased slightly in 2015 to 36.

20  
21 The results from the 2014 moose survey,  
22 the North Slope population was 23 adults and no short  
23 yearlings, which was approximately a 50 percent  
24 reduction of the 10-year average. From 2015 survey,  
25 the population increased a little bit to 36 animals  
26 with 31 adults and five calves, so there was some  
27 reproductive output for 2015.

28  
29 The moose harvest on the affected  
30 Federal public lands in Units 26B and 26C has been  
31 limited to residents of Kaktovik since 2004, with up to  
32 three permits issued annually and a harvest quota of  
33 three moose, two bulls in Unit 26 and one moose in Unit  
34 26B. Since 2004, nine bull moose have been reported  
35 harvested, with an average of one moose harvested per  
36 year and up to three permits are issued annually.  
37 Moose season was closed under the State and Federal  
38 regulations for the 2014-2015 regulatory year.

39  
40 If this proposal was adopted, it would  
41 delegate authority to the Arctic National Wildlife  
42 Refuge Manager to announce annual harvest quotas,  
43 announce the number of permits to be issued and the  
44 ability to open and close the Federal season. This  
45 gives the staff at the Refuge more flexibility to  
46 restrict the harvest until the population recovers and  
47 provide limited harvest opportunity when there is a  
48 harvestable surplus.

49  
50 Closure of the season would remove the

1 opportunity for Kaktovik residents to harvest a moose  
2 until the population recovers to levels that can  
3 sustain a harvest.

4  
5 OSM's preliminary conclusion is to  
6 support Proposal WP16-65 with modification to create a  
7 may be announced season, remove the  
8 regulatory language referencing harvest quotas and  
9 establish delegated authority to the Arctic National  
10 Wildlife Refuge to again determine annual quotas, set  
11 opening and closing season dates and the number of  
12 Federal permits to be issued via a delegation of  
13 authority letter.

14  
15 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

16  
17 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Tom.  
18 After the presentation of analyses, the second item is  
19 report on Board consultation, tribes and ANCSA  
20 corporations.

21  
22 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council.

23  
24 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Eva.

25  
26 MS. PATTON: We held a tribal  
27 consultation opportunity and informed the Native  
28 Village of Kaktovik. We didn't get any comments on  
29 this. We had tribal council members that had  
30 participated in some discussion around this proposal  
31 when we were there for the special action, but there  
32 were no further comments from the tribes on this  
33 proposal.

34  
35 Thank you.

36  
37 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you. Number  
38 three is agency comments. Alaska Department of Fish  
39 and Game.

40  
41 MR. CRAWFORD: Yes, Mr. Chair. This is  
42 Drew Crawford with the Alaska Department of Fish and  
43 Game in Anchorage.

44  
45 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Continue, Drew.

46  
47 MR. CRAWFORD: The Department's  
48 recommendation for WP16-65 is to oppose. We oppose  
49 this proposal because, one, delegating authority to the  
50 Refuge Manager bypasses the process. Residents of

1 Kaktovik would not be able to participate in providing  
2 input about opening and closing seasons or the number  
3 of permits to be issued. Secondly, there's no  
4 requirement (cut out) when calculating harvestable  
5 surplus.

6  
7

8 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Are you done, Drew?

9

10 MR. CRAWFORD: Yes, sir. Over. Unless  
11 there are any questions.

12

13 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

14

15 MR. G. BROWER: Yeah, this is Gordon  
16 Brower. You suggest or want to convey to oppose this  
17 because it wouldn't provide for the community the  
18 public process in terms of -- I didn't catch that very  
19 well. Maybe you could restate that part.

20

21 MR. CRAWFORD: Yes. Our concern is  
22 that residents of Kaktovik would not be able to  
23 participate in providing input about opening and  
24 closing seasons or the number of permits to be issued.  
25 Over.

26

27 MR. G. BROWER: Thank you. I just  
28 wanted to better understand that part.

29

30 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Any other questions  
31 to Drew at this time.

32

33 MR. KAYOTUK: Mr. Chair.

34

35 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Lee.

36

37 MR. KAYOTUK: They say opening and  
38 closing like immediately for no further additional  
39 harvest for Kaktovik at this time until further quotas  
40 are being harvested for more moose in the area.

41

42 MR. G. BROWER: I think that was to  
43 Drew, right?

44

45 MR. KAYOTUK: Uh-huh.

46

47 MR. G. BROWER: That was a question to  
48 you from the Kaktovik representative.

49

50 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Drew, are you still

1 on?

2

3 MR. CRAWFORD: Yes. Beth Lenart, are  
4 you still on the line?

5

6 MS. LENART: I am on the line. This is  
7 Beth Lenart. Can you hear me?

8

9 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yes, we can, Beth.

10

11 MS. LENART: Okay. As I understood the  
12 proposal, it would delegate our authority to the Refuge  
13 Manager and our concern was when setting an opening and  
14 closing date that residents of Kaktovik wouldn't have  
15 an opportunity to provide input. Usually harvest  
16 quotas are established by the State or the Federal  
17 system and it's based on harvestable surplus, but any  
18 other aspect of those regulations we should be using  
19 the public process. At least that's how we see it.

20

21 So that was one of our concerns, is  
22 that there wouldn't be a public process if residents of  
23 Kaktovik, for reasons of weather or the river is  
24 freezing late or something, that they might not be able  
25 to take advantage of a season that was set if the  
26 season was open right now. It's likely the season  
27 won't be open for a couple years because that moose  
28 population is so low, but in the future that's what I  
29 was concerned about.

30

31 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chair.

32

33 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Just a second,  
34 Gordon. Eva could maybe get with Lee. Did that help  
35 with your question, Lee?

36

37 MR. KAYOTUK: Yes, Mr. Chair. Thank  
38 you.

39

40 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

41

42 MR. G. BROWER: Yeah, Mr. Chair. The  
43 scheme that harvestable surplus issues that we deal  
44 with through the State and some of the concerns -- I  
45 think we dealt with Kaktovik for 10 years too on moose  
46 or greater. Some of the biologists that were willing  
47 to take their cap off and talk a little bit about the  
48 moose in that area and say, hey, they all die, some  
49 more are going to come. These ones are -- it's a  
50 transient population, this moose in this area. Even if

1 it was depleted, they would come around in that area,  
2 so it fluctuates all the time.

3  
4 The second part, is there any laws that  
5 would prohibit or are we breaking any rules by seeing  
6 if the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge would have a  
7 better management program, which has been sometimes  
8 controversial at times in this area.

9  
10 Thank you.

11  
12 MR. GLASPELL: Mr. Chair.

13  
14 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Good afternoon. Go  
15 ahead.

16  
17 MR. GLASPELL: Hi, I'm Brian Glaspell  
18 and I'm the manager at Arctic National Wildlife Refuge  
19 and I'd just like to offer a couple points of  
20 clarification on this particular proposal. So, at  
21 present, this is only a Federal hunt and it's only open  
22 to the residents of Kaktovik and we have been speaking  
23 with those residents for the last couple of years.

24  
25 Informally what I've heard is some  
26 degree of frustration that the hunt is either on or  
27 off. It's as simple as that. So if we fail to meet  
28 some population objective, there's no opportunity  
29 whatsoever. What we were asked is there any more  
30 flexibility possible in this system. What if we wanted  
31 the opportunity for one moose for a particular  
32 ceremony, could that be an option. The answer is,  
33 under the current regulation, no.

34  
35 So we're looking for some opportunity  
36 to provide more flexibility while still taking a  
37 conservative approach in hoping that that population  
38 continues to come back. This was the solution that we  
39 came up with. So it's not a desire to circumvent the  
40 public process in any way. In fact, it's an attempt to  
41 provide more flexibility and hopefully some degree of  
42 opportunity for the residents there rather than the on  
43 again, off again kind of approach that we're compelled  
44 to take with the current regulations.

45  
46 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you for that,  
47 Brian. James. Did you have your hand up?

48  
49 MR. NAGEAK: No, I didn't.

50

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Eva.

2

3 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council.

4 Just to add to what Brian was saying there and, again,  
5 we didn't get any formal comments through the tribal  
6 consultation, but when we were in Kaktovik for the  
7 special action, which was to close the harvest, again  
8 it's only residents of Kaktovik because of Section 804  
9 under ANILCA it's only residents of Kaktovik that have  
10 harvest of this moose population. Due to the severe  
11 decline, it was requested to be closed for conservation  
12 measures.

13

14 At that meeting about the closure of  
15 the heard, we did discuss that there a proposal coming  
16 forward for delegated authority, which would allow  
17 flexibility to open if there were a limited harvest  
18 that would be available. There was positive feedback.  
19 Lee was at that meeting as well and could speak to the  
20 comments that were made, but it was participation by  
21 both the city of Kaktovik and the tribal president. So  
22 we did get some public feedback and discussion around  
23 it at that time.

24

25 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chair.

26

27 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yes, Gordon.

28

29 MR. G. BROWER: And maybe this is to  
30 ADF&G. I know you guys are probably the foremost  
31 population estimators. From the period of time the  
32 population in these areas have been estimated in size,  
33 we seen from the '70s when Western Arctic Herd crashed  
34 and then the government was giving beef to people, I  
35 think it was maybe '75 or something like that, maybe  
36 '74, and then the population skyrocketed over time.  
37 What kind of trends are these moose enduring over that  
38 timeframe? Because I don't think, you know, 35 moose  
39 -- between 35 and 50 for the last 40 years can  
40 accomplish any sort of a trend other than to prove that  
41 this animal in this area is a transient population.

42

43 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Drew, any response.

44

45 MS. LENART: Mr. Chair. This is Beth  
46 Lenart from Fish and Game in Fairbanks and I can help  
47 answer some of that. That North Slope moose population  
48 has fluctuated through time across from west of the  
49 Colville River in 26A and then in 26B and 26C and those  
50 populations were much higher in the late 1980s. Then

1 in the early 1990s and mid 1990s there was a crash.  
2 Then they recovered somewhat in 26A and then in 26B.  
3 They did not recover as well in 26C, but there were  
4 probably 100 moose for a little while and then we had  
5 about 60 moose as I think Brian noted for a few years  
6 and then they really declined in the last couple years  
7 and that's similar to what we're seeing in other parts  
8 of the North Slope.

9

10                   You know, some of that just has to do  
11 with the fact that they're on the edge of their  
12 habitat. There could be some part of a transient  
13 population. So I think both the State and the Federal  
14 agencies were looking at things conservatively these  
15 past couple years. We just went off what we thought  
16 would be harvestable surplus.

17

18                   I remember at another meeting you  
19 talking about those moose that are just kind of  
20 wandering off of the central part of that coastal plain  
21 and whether or not they could be available for harvest  
22 and we haven't really addressed that issue.

23

24                   MR. G. BROWER: Yeah, it certainly  
25 helps. She coupled her answer with 26A, 26B, when 26C  
26 is a remote area, outer fringes of that habitat and why  
27 that many animals reside in that area. Some  
28 explanations I got from biologists that knew what was  
29 going on in that area that had studied these things.  
30 This was a transient population in this area. Meaning  
31 if you killed all of them, more than likely it would  
32 regenerate from another area because they just move in  
33 that area.

34

35                   CHAIRMAN BROWER: These would be like  
36 from across the Brooks Range, Unit 25 animals moving in  
37 from Unit 25 into 26C or 26B. Is that something that  
38 might occur, Beth, in regards to the discussion on  
39 transient animals?

40

41                   MS. LENART: Mr. Chair. This is Beth.  
42 That's correct, there's a couple of things going on.  
43 There is a transient population from that 25A, the  
44 upper Sheenjok, upper Colleen River and also the Old  
45 Crow Flats and they move from the Old Crow Flats into  
46 the upper Colleen, upper Sheenjok and then into the  
47 upper Kongakut Rivers. So there have been studies with  
48 radio-collared moose that indicate there is a transient  
49 portion of that population. There are some that stay  
50 in that area, but a large proportion of that particular

1 population is transient.

2

3 We also think that this 50 moose that  
4 the Refuge has been counting in what we call central  
5 26C, like the drainages of the Itkillik and the  
6 Hulahula and those drainages are resident moose in that  
7 area on that part of the sort of coastal plain, central  
8 26C and we think that's different from the 25A  
9 population that goes into the upper Kongakut.

10

11 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Beth. Any  
12 further discussion. We were just hearing agency  
13 comments. We heard from ADF&G and Arctic Wildlife  
14 Refuge. Any other agencies looking to provide comments  
15 regarding this proposal WP16-65.

16

17 (No comments)

18

19 CHAIRMAN BROWER: If not, I'll move on.  
20 Native, tribal, village or other.

21

22 (No comments)

23

24 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Any Interagency Staff  
25 Committee comments.

26

27 (No comments)

28

29 CHAIRMAN BROWER: None. Advisory group  
30 comments.

31

32 MS. PATTON: We did not get any  
33 comments from ACs.

34

35 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Subsistence Resource  
36 Commission.

37

38 MS. PATTON: This management and  
39 population again is just for the Native Village of  
40 Kaktovik and that resides within Arctic National  
41 Wildlife Refuge, so the SRCs are not involved with this  
42 at all.

43

44 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Summary of written  
45 public comments.

46

47 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council.  
48 There were no public comments submitted in writing.

49

50 Thank you.

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you.  
2  
3 Public testimony.  
4  
5 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council. I  
6 would just check on teleconference. I had put the word  
7 out to the Native Village of Kaktovik and the city and  
8 others there. If there's anyone on teleconference from  
9 Kaktovik.  
10  
11 (No comments)  
12  
13 MS. PATTON: It doesn't sound like  
14 anyone has joined us from Kaktovik at this time.  
15  
16 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you. Regional  
17 Council comments, recommendations.  
18  
19 MR. KAYOTUK: Mr. Chair.  
20  
21 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yes, Gordon -- I mean  
22 Lee.  
23  
24 MR. KAYOTUK: Lee Kayotuk for the  
25 record. I guess it's for the Fish and Wildlife  
26 agencies. If there was -- you know, between now and  
27 springtime, what if the population popped up. Is there  
28 a way of a special action hunt could be requested  
29 between now and springtime of 2017 at this time?  
30  
31 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Fish and Wildlife  
32 Service. Tom.  
33  
34 MR. EVANS: Mr. Chairman. In response  
35 to Lee. Yes, anyone can do a special action at any  
36 time if the conditions change and were warranted. Of  
37 course, it would go through another analysis and then  
38 it would be determined whether the season could be  
39 opened for a limited moose hunt.  
40  
41 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.  
42  
43 MR. G. BROWER: I want to make sure Lee  
44 is done before I.....  
45  
46 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Gordon.  
47  
48 MR. KAYOTUK: Go ahead. Thank you, Mr.  
49 Chair.  
50

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Lee.

2

3 Gordon.

4

5 MR. G. BROWER: That leads me to some  
6 questions. The timeframe of this proposal to be  
7 enacted by the Federal Board of Game.

8

9 MR. EVANS: So these regulations, when  
10 enacted, will be good for the 2016-2018 regulatory  
11 years and they'll be decided on by the Federal Board  
12 next April.

13

14 MR. G. BROWER: All right. Having said  
15 that, it's very appropriate for Lee to ask that special  
16 action stuff because it wouldn't be turned over should  
17 this be approved immediately. But the question maybe  
18 to the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge manager. Say  
19 that question is posed while you're under its  
20 stewardship and the community wanted a special action,  
21 how would that structure work?

22

23 MR. GLASPELL: Well, that's a good  
24 question. I guess it would depend on the nature of the  
25 request and the timing and a host of other factors, but  
26 I think typically that request would go in and we'd  
27 consult with OSM and make some recommendation going  
28 forward. I think the timing of this actually works out  
29 pretty well though. The season, I believe, starts July  
30 1 under current regulation. So if the Board were to  
31 meet and make a decision on the recommendation for  
32 delegated authority in April, then that would take  
33 effect before next year's hunt began.

34

35 The effect would be similar to that of  
36 proposing or requesting special actions on an annual  
37 basis, but it would remove that extra procedural layer.  
38 It would allow us to enter into that kind of  
39 negotiation with Kaktovik each year rather than having  
40 them submit a request for a special action, having us  
41 hold a hearing and temporarily close the season each  
42 year and so on.

43

44 At present, just as a reminder, the  
45 regulation says five moose annually. We can debate the  
46 relative size of the population and which part is  
47 transient and which part is resident, but at the end of  
48 the day I think we're all in agreement that we're  
49 talking about tens of moose, not hundreds, and it's  
50 unlikely in the near future that we're going to have a

1 population that can sustain that level of five  
2 annually.

3  
4 So what we're looking to do is provide  
5 an opportunity to have some window of opportunity if we  
6 see a short-term change in that population and we can  
7 do that with the delegated authority. With the current  
8 regulations, as I said before, it's on or off, it's  
9 open or closed and we're stuck with that outside of the  
10 special action request process.

11  
12 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chair, just a  
13 follow up.

14  
15 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

16  
17 MR. G. BROWER: So just from what I'm  
18 listening you bring some consistency with this proposal  
19 I would think. A little bit more consistent approach to  
20 management here. The second part of that is are you  
21 going to work with ADF&G on population estimates in  
22 this area or is that something the Arctic Refuge does  
23 on its own?

24  
25 MR. GLASPELL: Thanks for asking that  
26 question. We work closely with ADF&G on all manner of  
27 things and, of course, we would continue to work with  
28 them on this issue as well. Typically we have been  
29 flying moose surveys in the spring of each year. We  
30 being Arctic Refuge staff pilots and observers. That  
31 doesn't mean that we couldn't look for more ways to  
32 include the Department of Fish and Game and we  
33 certainly work with them on managing other ungulate  
34 species and other species across the Refuge. So  
35 there's no reason that we couldn't and wouldn't  
36 continue that.

37  
38 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chair, I have no  
39 further questions.

40  
41 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Brian,  
42 Gordon. Council recommendations.

43  
44 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chair. I would  
45 really like to -- it sounds like the Refuge is  
46 communicating with the community of Kaktovik and yet I  
47 had not heard from Kaktovik if this proposal is  
48 something they want and if the current scheme is still  
49 the viable way to manage that moose hunt over there.  
50 If this proposal were to be entertained, I would hope

1 that Kaktovik would entertain the motion.

2

3 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Any responses, Lee.

4

5 MR. KAYOTUK: Mr. Chair. I guess I'm  
6 trying to see how this works here. So in order for a  
7 proposal to work if we do make a motion, I could see  
8 opening and closing of a five harvest moose in our  
9 area, so we'll let -- answer that for like if saying  
10 emergency hunt after the proposals or before any of --  
11 the proposal is passed at this time.

12

13 MR. EVANS: Mr. Chairman.

14

15 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Tom.

16

17 MR. EVANS: So in answer to your  
18 question, so up to when -- if this proposal passed as  
19 of July 1st, 2016, the Refuge would have delegated  
20 authority and they would have the ability to open and  
21 close the season and set the harvest limits and  
22 whatnot. Prior to that if you want to make a change to  
23 -- you know, a situation arises where a whole bunch of  
24 moose show up near the coast or there's a cultural  
25 event or something and there's opportunity to get a  
26 moose, because I know moose are kind of rare in that  
27 area and they're not always close by, you could request  
28 a special action and we could process that special  
29 action and make a decision as to whether the moose  
30 could be harvested.

31

32 After 2016, you wouldn't have to do a  
33 special action. You could just request that same  
34 request to the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge and they  
35 could make that decision. They'll consult with Fish  
36 and Game and us to see if they think it's appropriate,  
37 but it would be a simpler process if they had delegated  
38 authority.

39

40 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chair.

41

42 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

43

44 MR. G. BROWER: So I think that's  
45 important to think about. I kind of understand it, you  
46 know, delegating that authority to a Wildlife Refuge.  
47 It would be maybe a quicker response. But I don't know  
48 the relationship between Arctic National Wildlife  
49 Refuge and Kaktovik, if they're working well together  
50 or whether OSM and Fish and Wildlife Service is more

1 beneficial to that community. I don't know. I'm not  
2 -- I'm just listening to it.

3

4 MS. PATTON: Pardon me, Mr. Chair and  
5 Council. For folks that are on teleconference, if you  
6 could please hit \*mute on your phones. Someone is  
7 typing in the background. I mean \*6 in order to mute  
8 your phone. That would be appreciated.

9

10 Thank you.

11

12 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Eva.

13

14 MR. GLASPELL: Mr. Chair. If I could,  
15 I could respond to the nature of our relationship.

16

17 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Brian.

18

19 MR. GLASPELL: I'm certainly not  
20 speaking for the residents of Kaktovik, but from my  
21 perspective at the Refuge I think we have very good  
22 communication. In fact, this year in March we signed a  
23 memorandum of understanding between the Fish and  
24 Wildlife Service and the Native Village of Kaktovik  
25 that is focused on communication. It compels us to  
26 share information with them and, likewise, from the  
27 tribal entity. That's the first and only one of its  
28 kind that the Fish and Wildlife Service has directly  
29 with the tribal council. It was highlighted across the  
30 nation this summer.

31

32 It derives from the past history of so  
33 much political activity and interest being focused on  
34 the coastal plain and the Refuge and specifically there  
35 in the community. But what it does is actually commit  
36 us to a formal arrangement, a very regular  
37 communication about all kinds of resource issues that  
38 matter to us mutually. So I think that document alone  
39 assures that we'll have pretty close communication  
40 going forward, whether it's moose management or other  
41 issues.

42

43 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you for that,  
44 Brian.

45

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

47

48 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

49

50 MR. G. BROWER: I hope I'm not just

1 dominating the dialogue here, but I think this is a  
2 good place to hear this. A proposal that ADF&G says  
3 oppose it, don't do it, and you've got community here  
4 that's in the Gates of the Arctic, just like Kaktovik  
5 is in the National Wildlife Refuge. And I don't really  
6 know the relationship between Gates of the Arctic and  
7 the community, if it's adversarial, if they work well  
8 together, if they have community concerns.

9  
10 I hear access problems for sure that  
11 linger and linger and linger and there's supposed to be  
12 a process in place to address access issues. Are those  
13 the type of things the community is going to endure or  
14 already does endure probably? Because I know there's  
15 access issues as well in ANWR.

16  
17 I think it's good to try to flesh this  
18 out, the type of relationships. I see benefits and I  
19 see -- I wish the Native Village of Kaktovik would  
20 mention something and it's good to hear that an MOU has  
21 been developed with the community. I'm led to think  
22 it's okay. It might even be in the best interest of  
23 Kaktovik. I would hope that Lee would be the one.

24  
25 Mr. Chair, I make a motion to adopt  
26 WP16-65. I didn't really say that, but I was trying to  
27 let Lee do that.

28  
29 MR. KAYOTUK: Mr. Chair, Gordon. At  
30 this time, I was getting to that point, thank you.

31  
32 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Second the motion.

33  
34 MR. KAYOTUK: Second the motion.

35  
36 CHAIRMAN BROWER: We have WP16-65  
37 regarding Arctic National Wildlife Refuge moose on the  
38 floor. Further discussion.

39  
40 MR. SHEARS: Mr. Chair.

41  
42 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Bob.

43  
44 MR. SHEARS: You're going to pull me  
45 into this, aren't you. You can probably tell from my  
46 body language, Brian, I'm not happy about this  
47 proposal. I don't think it offers the community of  
48 Kaktovik any assurances no matter what population. No  
49 numbers have been committed that suggest what  
50 population would be required to how you're going to

1 allow your consideration. And understanding that you  
2 have to manage the Refuge for the best interest of the  
3 Refuge, not necessarily the subsistence needs of the  
4 community of Kaktovik.

5  
6 The population of moose is no more  
7 biologically different in ANWR than it is in downtown  
8 Anchorage. It's a moose. If there was only one moose  
9 left in the entire Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, I  
10 would be perfectly happy if it was in Lee's cellar. I  
11 don't understand why out of 23 animals that exists  
12 there -- and, yes, the population is down from hundreds  
13 that it was a couple decades ago, why the community, if  
14 they didn't desire to have one for a certain special  
15 reason that they couldn't have one except that it's a  
16 Refuge.

17  
18 It's a National Wildlife Refuge and  
19 you, as the manager, have a conscionable responsibility  
20 to preserve that animal for the benefit of all  
21 Americans. It's your responsibility to overlook the  
22 subsistence needs of the community of Kaktovik because  
23 you represent a much bigger picture.

24  
25 Giving you this authority to  
26 arbitrarily decide when the community of Kaktovik can  
27 harvest a moose is almost essentially denying them --  
28 permanently denying them ever the opportunity of  
29 harvesting a moose.

30  
31 I cannot support this proposal in any  
32 way and I completely agree with the objection of the  
33 State of Alaska.

34  
35 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Bob.

36  
37 Still under discussion.

38  
39 MR. KAYOTUK: Mr. Chair.

40  
41 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Lee.

42  
43 MR. KAYOTUK: Yeah, I know it's a  
44 difficult thing to address here. When there's no  
45 caribou and you've got a moose running around, oh, we  
46 can't get it because it's a closed season. Well, we've  
47 got no caribou. We've got a moose, but we can't hunt  
48 it, so we're just going to have to watch it go and say,  
49 well, I hope you bring back 200 moose into our area  
50 that we hopefully could harvest in the next couple

1 years. Hopefully that will change what they're doing  
2 in that part of the country.

3

4 Thank you.

5

6 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you for that,  
7 Lee. I think some of the other things to think about  
8 is there's populations on the south side of the Brooks  
9 Range and the moose hunt occurs. These resources are  
10 transient into the area. I'm not sure how you, as a  
11 Wildlife Refuge, see that, whether it be a positive or  
12 a negative.

13

14 We've had problems with trying to  
15 manage other resources in Kaktovik and within the  
16 Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. Take muskox for an  
17 example. That used to be a thriving population for  
18 several years. It was an introduced species to the  
19 Refuge. Kaktovik was able to conduct a hunt for many  
20 years because it was another means of nutritional  
21 value. It dwindled and the population declined. There  
22 are no more hunt. There was something else killing  
23 those animals. It was the brown bear. So there's been  
24 a problem happening within the Refuge over the years.  
25 I just wanted to share some of this information.

26

27 I'm trying to understand what would be  
28 the benefit if we were to give this authorization to  
29 the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. I mean I hear Mr.  
30 Shears' concerns as well. He said this is a National  
31 Wildlife Refuge. It's not just managed within one  
32 little agency of the Federal program. It's a National  
33 Wildlife Refuge. The whole United States has a say so  
34 over this Refuge and could get involved in decisions  
35 that are being made regarding subsistence if it leads  
36 to that.

37

38 So these are things that we have to be  
39 considerate about and really cognizant about how is it  
40 going to benefit the community for real. These are  
41 real-time situations and when we're going through  
42 hardships and the resources are depleting in number,  
43 you know, it makes it very difficult for us as Council  
44 members to make an appropriate decision that would help  
45 the community to meet its subsistence needs.

46

47 Thank you.

48

49 Yes, James.

50

1 MR. NAGEAK: Arctic National Wildlife  
2 Refuge. I grew up in Kaktovik. In the early 1950s,  
3 the Federal Fish and Wildlife person went to Kaktovik  
4 and told my grandfather Andrew Akootchook that it was  
5 an Arctic National Wildlife Refuge now and told my  
6 grandfather Andrew Akootchook that he can no longer  
7 hunt Dall sheep and it's recorded and somebody found  
8 the letter, a record of response by my grandfather to  
9 the Federal Fish and Wildlife person that bad things  
10 were happening now at Kaktovik because now somebody  
11 from outside of the area is saying to me I can no  
12 longer hunt sheep and my grandfather's reply at that  
13 point was the famous thing that you see, hunger knows  
14 no law.

15  
16 So that's how that saying came at the  
17 very beginning of a response of a Native person, an  
18 Inupiat, my grandfather, responded to such regulations  
19 that we're pondering upon. I just wanted to make that  
20 clear that sometimes Lee is going to get hungry for  
21 moose burger. What's going to happen to him if he gets  
22 a moose because there were no whales and stuff at  
23 Kaktovik.

24  
25 Thank you.

26  
27  
28 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, James.

29  
30 Any other comments.

31  
32 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chair.

33  
34 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

35  
36 MR. G. BROWER: You know, I appreciate  
37 those comments from James. Also the perspective from  
38 Mr. Shears, representative out of Barrow. I'm not one  
39 to be an alarmist, but we have endured so much. Just  
40 like how Anaktuvuk on caribou, we have revolved around  
41 transient moose population, fluctuations, opens,  
42 closures. We don't know if it's going to open, special  
43 action. It's just I don't know if it would be any  
44 better, but Bob brings out some great points. It is a  
45 Wildlife Refuge and it's maybe your duty that these  
46 animals have a reprieve in a Refuge from mankind.

47  
48 I don't know if that's the goal of the  
49 Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, but certainly I think  
50 there's laws in place for the residents that have the

1 indigenous right to subsist in these areas because  
2 their community is in there and they have the right to  
3 use these resources sustainably.

4  
5 I'm teetering either way. There's a  
6 motion on the floor to vote on this. It's not a motion  
7 on the floor to approve it. There's a motion to adopt  
8 this and it can go either way. If it were a pilot  
9 project where there was a reverting back just to see  
10 how well under Arctic National Wildlife Refuge regime  
11 how the community fares in terms of response, the use  
12 of these resources. I don't know if we're doing any  
13 better with the current situation. Is it the lesser of  
14 two evils and which one is it.

15  
16 MR. GLASPELL: Mr. Chair.

17  
18 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Go ahead.

19  
20 MR. GLASPELL: I mean I really  
21 appreciate this discussion and Bob's points are good  
22 ones. Our responsibility at Arctic National Wildlife  
23 Refuge is to manage fish and wildlife in their natural  
24 diversity. It is also to provide continued subsistence  
25 opportunities for local rural residents. Those are  
26 both legislative purposes written into law. Sometimes  
27 it's a challenge to balance those two things, but  
28 that's what we're charged to do.

29  
30 In this case specifically, remember  
31 that we're operating from a position where this season  
32 is currently closed and our sole goal here was to look  
33 for an opportunity to provide an opportunity. I heard  
34 that directly from the residents in Kaktovik. What can  
35 we do about this. Is there any way maybe we could get  
36 one moose.

37  
38 Well, like I said earlier, this is our  
39 attempt to find a way to make that possible. The  
40 alternative, as some of you have suggested, is to  
41 continue with the system of annual closures and annual  
42 special actions and work through that cumbersome  
43 process. Gordon, you're exactly right. The decision  
44 here is which one is better. I'm not certain that I  
45 know the answer to that. I do believe that the process  
46 we currently deal with is cumbersome. It requires a  
47 hearing every year. It requires somebody to put  
48 together a special action request if they'd like to see  
49 something different.

50

1 I do think we can do better by working  
2 directly with the Refuge, the folks that are charged  
3 with managing those resources and with the community,  
4 the folks that would like to get at some of those  
5 resources. I've heard some talk earlier in this  
6 meeting about cutting out the middle man. This is an  
7 example of trying to cut out the middle man.

8  
9 In response to your question about a  
10 pilot program, well, everything we do here is, in  
11 essence, a pilot program. If this doesn't work, in two  
12 years you come back and somebody proposes an alternate  
13 regulation to remove delegated authority to change the  
14 season, whatever. This is all fluid. It's the  
15 definition of adaptive management.

16  
17 I would expect that we'll be somewhat  
18 under the microscope and if we don't do a good job,  
19 we'll hear about it and one or more of you and members  
20 of the community will propose a change and we'll be  
21 back in two years talking about that change. So in no  
22 way should you expect that you're locked into some new  
23 system where the Refuge gets to make all the decisions.  
24 That's not what I'm interested in doing. Not at all.

25  
26 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you for that,  
27 Brian. Further discussion.

28  
29 Carl.

30  
31 MR. JOHNSON: Thank you, Mr. Chair. He  
32 covered exactly what I was going to cover, but from the  
33 Federal Subsistence Management Program's perspective.  
34 When Bob was talking about, well, the Arctic Refuge has  
35 its mandates, just as a reminder, the closure was  
36 enacted through special action and the decision was  
37 made by the Federal Subsistence Board to close it.  
38 Similarly to the Refuge obligations, Title VII of  
39 ANILCA mandates, as the Board has delegated authority  
40 from the Secretaries to manage for conservation of  
41 healthy fish and wildlife populations and for  
42 continuation of customary and traditional subsistence  
43 uses.

44  
45 As we've seen through the history of  
46 this program, as you know, there are many times when  
47 the Board has to make decisions to close harvest even  
48 to Federally qualified users because of a conservation  
49 concern. So the management objectives are relatively  
50 similar either whether it's the Refuge or the Board

1 making the decision.

2

3                   In the case of the OSM modification  
4 that was suggested to this proposal and the delegated  
5 authority letter, what that does essentially is the  
6 Federal Subsistence Board tells the Refuge Manager we  
7 now authorize you to make these decisions on our  
8 behalf, acting as if we would, in which case those  
9 Title VIII mandates transfer from the Board to the  
10 Refuge Manager when acting on behalf of the Board in  
11 making decisions.

12

13                   So it's semantics, but in the end you  
14 still would, either with the Refuge Manager making the  
15 decision or if it were somebody submitting a special  
16 action to the Board, most likely both would come up  
17 with the same analysis looking at the conservation of  
18 the population and also the continuation of subsistence  
19 uses.

20

21                   I just wanted to bring that to the  
22 table and suggest that that's -- you know, what he was  
23 saying is -- you know, in the end really, the current  
24 system is the Board decides through special action and  
25 the suggested program, as suggested by the OSM  
26 modification, would be to eliminate that round robin  
27 process and just connect the dots between Kaktovik and  
28 the Refuge Manager. I imagine too the efficiency of  
29 that is emboldened by the MOU in place between the  
30 Refuge and the community.

31

32                   Thank you, Mr. Chair.

33

34                   CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you.

35

36                   MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chair.

37

38                   CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

39

40                   MR. G. BROWER: I don't have any  
41 further comments, but if we're going to act on the  
42 motion, I would suggest that a roll call vote be  
43 conducted.

44

45                   MR. REXFORD, SR.: Mr. Chair.

46

47                   CHAIRMAN BROWER: Who is this?

48

49                   MR. REXFORD, SR.: Edward Rexford, Sr.  
50 from Kaktovik.

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Go ahead, Edward.  
2  
3 MR. REXFORD, SR.: Is it open to the  
4 public to make comments on the -- I just walked in. Is  
5 this about the moose closure here?  
6  
7 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yes, it is. We've  
8 gone into the public testimony and moved into our  
9 Regional Council recommendations and we're under  
10 discussion of a motion, but I'll allow your comments  
11 since you called in. Edward, go ahead.  
12  
13 MR. REXFORD, SR.: Yes. Edward  
14 Rexford, Sr. I live in the village of Kaktovik here.  
15 We have been trying to work with the Refuge Manager and  
16 Fish and Wildlife folks on a better way to do a count  
17 on the moose than doing the surveys because different  
18 parts of the year there's abundance of moose in the  
19 Refuge. Just like one day I saw 13 moose in one little  
20 creek five miles in length.  
21  
22 When they do their survey it's the  
23 wrong time of the year I'm guessing because it's a low  
24 count. We need to find a way to improve the surveys  
25 more accurately so our people here won't be so affected  
26 on the moose closures and the sheep closures for that  
27 matter. I just thought I'd bring that up to your  
28 attention.  
29  
30 Thank you.  
31  
32 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you for sharing  
33 that, Edward. Questions from the Council to Edward.  
34  
35 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chair.  
36  
37 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.  
38  
39 MR. G. BROWER: Edward, Gordon Brower  
40 from Barrow. We've been talking about this for the  
41 better part of maybe two hours now I would think.  
42 Maybe your position -- I know we have some positions  
43 from the State of Alaska opposing this proposal WP16-65  
44 with this proposed regulation of one moose and hand  
45 over the management to ANWR folks, the Refuge, and  
46 debating whether that was a good move. It sounds like  
47 from parts of your testimony that you're supportive of  
48 this as a tribal president for the Native Village of  
49 Kaktovik.  
50

1 MR. REXFORD, SR.: In support of what,  
2 the closure?

3  
4 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chair. This is  
5 Gordon again. I think Edward wasn't present when the  
6 proposal was read and the preliminary conclusions about  
7 changing the moose management and handing that over to  
8 the Wildlife Refuge and cutting out the middle man, per  
9 se, talk. I think that's what we're debating, whether  
10 that's a good idea or not.

11  
12 So far ADF&G's position has staunchly  
13 opposed this particular proposal primarily because I  
14 think handing over the management to Arctic National  
15 Wildlife Refuge for the open, closures or any other  
16 types of discussions that the community may have with  
17 the Refuge in terms of moose needs and for its  
18 disposition.

19  
20 MR. REXFORD, SR.: Okay. I understand  
21 now. Well, I'd have to take it up with our tribal  
22 council to make an official statement on this. We  
23 haven't had a chance to talk about this yet, but that's  
24 something that we could do probably in the future.

25  
26 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chair.

27  
28 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

29  
30 MR. G. BROWER: There's a motion on the  
31 floor to vote on this proposal and it's an action item  
32 that we're going to be undertaking. We're under  
33 discussion. We haven't called the question yet. After  
34 that we're going to be voting on this. It appears that  
35 from the Refuge Manager that there's an existing MOU  
36 with the Native Village of Kaktovik. I think maybe a  
37 three-party MOU to create a better working relationship  
38 it sounds like. We're at a point where we're going to  
39 be voting on this proposal, which includes this  
40 regulation in Unit 26B remainder, 26C moose for one  
41 moose by Federal registration permit by residents of  
42 Kaktovik.

43  
44 We're about ready to vote on it to pass  
45 it on to the Federal Board of Game to review that. I'm  
46 not sure if there's time or reprieve to get the full  
47 council's deliberation on it of the Native Village of  
48 Kaktovik, but the motion is on the floor. Just as you  
49 dialed in I was going to suggest that they do a roll  
50 call vote if the question is called.

1 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council. If  
2 I may, there are a couple options for the Council in  
3 terms of taking action. Council can make a motion to  
4 support the proposal and vote to support or oppose the  
5 proposal. In this instance, this proposal only affects  
6 the community of Kaktovik. If the Council wishes, the  
7 Council could decide to take no action or to defer to  
8 the recommendations of the tribal council and the  
9 community.

10  
11 The Federal Subsistence Board will be  
12 taking up the recommendations of the Council, but also  
13 again have an opportunity for tribal consultation in  
14 advance of the Federal Subsistence Board meeting as  
15 another step to have that feedback from communities and  
16 from the tribes on their recommendations.

17  
18 If the tribal council has not had an  
19 opportunity to review as a council and make a formal  
20 recommendation, this Council could as an action either  
21 take no action or recommend to defer to the  
22 recommendations of the tribal council. So there are  
23 some opportunities or different ways forward that this  
24 Council could take action today or defer that action.

25  
26 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you for that,  
27 Eva. Just to reiterate, the proposed Federal  
28 regulation Unit 26B remainder and 26C on moose. Units  
29 26B remainder and 26C, one moose by Federal  
30 registration permit by residents of Kaktovik only. The  
31 harvest quota will be announced annually by the Manager  
32 of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. Federal public  
33 lands are closed to the taking of moose except by a  
34 Kaktovik resident holding a Federal registration permit  
35 and hunting under these regulations. There is no open  
36 season at this time.

37  
38 So that's what we're going to be  
39 considering, Edward, if you heard what I was saying.

40  
41 MR. REXFORD, SR.: Yes, I did. Thank  
42 you, Harry.

43  
44 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you. Further  
45 deliberations by the Council.

46  
47 MR. G. BROWER: Yeah, Mr. Chair.

48  
49 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

50

1 MR. G. BROWER: Just from listening to  
2 Eva, there is an opportunity to defer this to the  
3 tribal council in Kaktovik. I'm wondering if that  
4 recommendation from the tribal council would go  
5 directly to the Federal Board of Game if that was the  
6 process.

7  
8 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Then we would have to  
9 retract the motion to approve the proposal what we're  
10 currently under. If we were going to take a different  
11 action or vote this down or to defer to take action, I  
12 think we have to retract in the sense that the motioner  
13 and the seconder concur with each other and retract the  
14 motion to take another action.

15  
16 MR. JOHNSON: Mr. Chair.

17  
18 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Carl.

19  
20 MR. JOHNSON: I'd like to speak to the  
21 suggestion that the Council could defer to the tribal  
22 council for Kaktovik. This Council has a specific  
23 directive under Section 805 to make recommendations and  
24 the Board will give deference to the Council's  
25 recommendations subject to the three exceptions, but  
26 this Council is the only body that gets deference from  
27 the Federal Subsistence Board on recommendations for  
28 proposals.

29  
30 It's not uncommon for one Council to  
31 defer to another Council for proposals that are in  
32 their region because that Council's recommendation has  
33 that deference from the Federal Subsistence Board.  
34 That does not apply to the tribal consultation process.  
35 That's one of the areas where the Councils are unique  
36 compared to the different relationship that tribes have  
37 on a government-to-government basis with the Federal  
38 Subsistence Board. So only this Council's  
39 recommendation is entitled to that deference that's  
40 spelled out in Section 805.

41  
42 So my encouragement would be to make a  
43 recommendation of some sort, whether it's to support  
44 this proposal or oppose it and then have a good  
45 statement on the record for the Board so the Board can  
46 understand your recommendation and then defer to it as  
47 suggested by 805 or to disagree with it in connection  
48 with those three exceptions in 805 when the Board is  
49 not required to accept the Council's recommendation.  
50

1 Thank you, Mr. Chair.  
2  
3 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you for that,  
4 Carl.  
5  
6 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chair.  
7  
8 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Go ahead.  
9  
10 MR. G. BROWER: Maybe I spoke too early  
11 and should have had Carl clarify that a little bit  
12 earlier. It sounds like we need to make a  
13 recommendation from this board, from this Council.  
14 Considering the alternative, right now it's a moose  
15 closure. We don't know when it's going to work out and  
16 this gives an opportunity to open it and ask the  
17 manager of the Wildlife Refuge to develop a -- it says  
18 right there announce annually the quota for this  
19 resource. It seems like that's ready to be open and  
20 work with the manager.  
21  
22 On top of that, we have a chance to  
23 revisit this in a couple years if the Refuge Manager  
24 says no way, nobody is hunting nothing and we'd be able  
25 to -- right now nobody is hunting that resource right  
26 now under the current closure. So it seems like  
27 there's an opportunity here to try something new.  
28 We've been working with the same regime for the  
29 last.....  
30  
31 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Twenty years.  
32  
33 MR. G. BROWER: At least. 1998 I  
34 started being on this Council and the issues have been  
35 just like what we've been hearing. It's a big circle  
36 and maybe it's time to break a spoke in that wheel and  
37 replace it with a Refuge Manager who's got mandates to  
38 provide subsistence opportunities as well.  
39  
40 I would suggest we have a roll call  
41 vote on this thing.  
42  
43 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you for that,  
44 Gordon.  
45  
46 Further discussion on the motion.  
47  
48 (No comments)  
49  
50 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chair. I would

1 call for the question.

2

3 CHAIRMAN BROWER: The question has been  
4 called on the motion to approve Proposal WP16-65.  
5 Gordon is asking for a roll call vote. Our  
6 secretary.....

7

8 MR. KAYOTUK: Mr. Chair.

9

10 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yes, Lee.

11

12 MR. KAYOTUK: At this time I'd like to  
13 do a roll call vote.

14

15 CHAIRMAN BROWER: You're on.

16

17 MR. JOHNSON: Mr. Chair.

18

19 CHAIRMAN BROWER: We're getting ready  
20 to vote.

21

22 MR. JOHNSON: I understand that, which  
23 is why I need to raise the point. I just wanted to  
24 clarify that you're voting on the original proposal,  
25 which does not include the delegation of authority  
26 letter as stated in the OSM conclusion. So just noting  
27 that for the record.

28

29 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

30

31 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chair.

32

33 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

34

35 MR. G. BROWER: I think we vote on this  
36 in the same way that we add amendments. Is that the  
37 protocol? I just want to make sure that we capture  
38 what the intent of the dialogue that ensued to try a  
39 new spoke.

40

41 CHAIRMAN BROWER: So I read the  
42 proposed Federal regulation earlier. I didn't make  
43 mention of OSM's recommendation.

44

45 MR. G. BROWER: Support with  
46 modifications.

47

48 CHAIRMAN BROWER: If that's the  
49 amendment you wish to make.

50

1 MR. G. BROWER: Maybe I need to refer  
2 to some of the guys that are Robert's Rules of order  
3 very savvy.

4  
5 CHAIRMAN BROWER: OSM's preliminary  
6 findings are on Page 122. Support Proposal WP16-65  
7 with modification to create a may be announced season,  
8 remove regulatory language referencing harvest quotas  
9 and delegate authority to determine annual quotas, set  
10 opening and closing season dates, and the number of  
11 Federal permits to be issued via a delegation of  
12 authority letter only.

13  
14 MR. G. BROWER: Which is Appendix 1.

15  
16 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Appendix 1.

17  
18 MR. G. BROWER: Does that suffice as  
19 the type of language that would be needed to amend  
20 that?

21  
22 MR. EVANS: So essentially OSM's  
23 recommendation is similar to the proposal that the  
24 Council did. It's just a way of doing it. So there's  
25 not that much difference between the proposal by the  
26 Arctic Refuge and OSM's modification to it. It's just  
27 a way of procedurally handling the delegation of  
28 authority.

29  
30 MR. G. BROWER: I'm going to refer to  
31 Bob. I think he's always more clear on these.  
32 Sometimes I get a little mixed up.

33  
34 MR. JOHNSON: Mr. Chair.

35  
36 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Carl.

37  
38 MR. JOHNSON: Through the Chair. I'd  
39 like to answer Gordon's question. Yes. Your amendment  
40 states clearly the intent of the Council is to support  
41 with the OSM modification, so you did clearly state  
42 that.

43  
44 MR. G. BROWER: Did I make that in the  
45 form of an amending motion? I didn't hear a second.

46  
47 MR. KAYOTUK: Second.

48  
49 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Seconded by Lee, the  
50 amending motion.

1 MR. G. BROWER: Call for the question  
2 on the amending motion.  
3  
4 CHAIRMAN BROWER: The question has been  
5 called. If there's no objection to the amending motion  
6 regarding OSM's preliminary conclusion to support  
7 Proposal 16-65 with modifications as found on Page 122,  
8 all in favor of the amending motion signify by saying  
9 aye.  
10  
11 IN UNISON: Aye.  
12  
13 (No opposing votes)  
14  
15 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Back to the main  
16 motion.  
17  
18 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chair. I call for  
19 the question on the main motion.  
20  
21 CHAIRMAN BROWER: The question has been  
22 called on the main motion. We're ready to do a roll  
23 call vote, Lee.  
24  
25 MR. KAYOTUK: Mr. Chair. At this time  
26 I'd like to do a roll call vote. Seat 1, 2011-2017,  
27 Gordon R. Brower, Barrow.  
28  
29 MR. G. BROWER: Yes.  
30  
31 MR. KAYOTUK: Seat 2, 2011-2016, Robert  
32 B. Shears, Barrow.  
33  
34 MR. SHEARS: Oppose.  
35  
36 MR. KAYOTUK: Seat 3, vacant. Seat 4,  
37 vacant. Seat 5, 1993-2016, Harry K. Brower, Jr.,  
38 Barrow. Chair.  
39  
40 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yes.  
41  
42 MR. KAYOTUK: Seat 6, 2014-2017, Sam  
43 Kunaknana, Nuiqsut.  
44  
45 MR. KUNAKNANA: Oppose.  
46  
47 MR. KAYOTUK: Seat 7, 2008-2017, James  
48 M. Nageak, Anaktuvuk Pass.  
49  
50 MR. NAGEAK: Yes.

1 MR. KAYOTUK: Seat 8, vacant. Seat 9,  
2 2006-2015, Lee Kayotuk, Kaktovik. Yes. Seat 10, 2009-  
3 2015 Rosemary Ahtuanguak, vice Chair, Barrow.

4  
5 (No response)

6  
7 MS. PATTON: Absent.

8  
9 MR. KAYOTUK: Mr. Chair. I'd like to  
10 let you know I did announce a roll call at this time.

11  
12 CHAIRMAN BROWER: So the yeses have it  
13 3 to 2. The motion passes.

14  
15 MS. PATTON: We have a vote of 4 to 2,  
16 four yes, two no.

17 CHAIRMAN BROWER: So 4 to 2, the  
18 corrected number. The proposal passes. Let me find my  
19 agenda.

20  
21 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council.  
22 Just to check back in with the president of the tribal  
23 council, Mr. Rexford. There is still an opportunity  
24 for the tribal participation in this process if the  
25 tribe wishes to make a recommendation to the Board.  
26 There will be an opportunity prior to the Federal  
27 Subsistence Board meeting, so we'll be in touch on the  
28 timing of that.

29  
30 Thank you for calling in and joining us  
31 on this discussion.

32  
33 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Quyanaq.

34  
35 MR. REXFORD, SR.: Thank you.

36  
37 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you for calling  
38 in. North Slope Regional Proposal 16-66. Delegation  
39 of authority for quota to-be-announced season for sheep  
40 in 26A. The page is 128. Presentation procedure for  
41 the proposal.

42  
43 Tom.

44  
45 MR. EVANS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
46 Members of the Council. Proposal WP16-66 was submitted  
47 by Western Arctic National Parklands and requests  
48 removal of regulatory language referencing sheep  
49 harvest quotas, closure of the sheep harvest season for  
50 the DeLong Mountains in a portion of Unit 26A and to

1 delegate authority to the Superintendent of the Western  
2 Area Parklands to determine annual sheep harvest quotas  
3 and limits.

4  
5           The proponent believes that the large  
6 decline in the overall population, the low numbers of  
7 rams in the population, and the very low recruitment  
8 rate of lambs all suggest that any harvest could be  
9 detrimental to the overall population, could prolong or  
10 worsen the current decline, and hamper recovery.  
11 Delegated authority is needed to allow for management  
12 flexibility.

13  
14           In 2014, the State of Alaska issued an  
15 Emergency Order to close the sheep seasons in Units 23  
16 and 26A. Currently there is no open season for sheep  
17 west of the Etluk River, which is DeLong Mountains  
18 area under the State regulations. In 2014, the Federal  
19 Subsistence Board also approved a Temporary Special  
20 Action WSA14-03 which closed the sheep season on Units  
21 23 and 26A, that portion west of Howard Pass and the  
22 Etluk River for the 2014/2015 regulatory year.

23  
24           The sheep populations in DeLong  
25 Mountains, which occur in Units 23 and 26A have  
26 declined approximately 5--70 percent since 2011. The  
27 population estimates for the DeLong Mountains in 2013  
28 was 1946 versus 2,809 in 2011. The low number of rams  
29 and the low recruitment rates were observed during  
30 recent surveys in 2014 and 2015. The total average  
31 annual harvest from 2004 to 2014 was 23 sheep with a  
32 range of 17 to 31.

33  
34           The effects of this proposal. If this  
35 proposal is adopted, all sheep hunting under Federal  
36 regulations will be closed in Unit 26A, thus further  
37 limiting harvest opportunities for Federally qualified  
38 subsistence users. There is currently no open season  
39 under State regulations. Any additional harvest would  
40 be detrimental to this population at this time.

41  
42           The Federal inseason manager would be  
43 given the delegated authority to determine annual  
44 quotas, set opening and closing  
45 season dates for the may-be-announced season, the  
46 number of permits to be issued, and the method of  
47 distribution. The inseason manager would keep the  
48 season closed until the population had reached a level  
49 which could sustain some limited harvest in Unit 26A.  
50

1                   So this is kind of a very similar type  
2 proposal that we just discussed for the moose in terms  
3 of the delegated authority.

4  
5                   OSM's preliminary conclusion is to  
6 support Proposal WP16-66 with modification to create a  
7 may-be-announced season, remove regulatory language  
8 referencing harvest quotas and delegate authority to  
9 determine annual quotas, set opening and closing season  
10 dates, the number of permits to be issued, and the  
11 method of distribution via a delegation of authority  
12 letter.

13  
14                   Providing delegation of authority  
15 letter to the Western Arctic Parklands will allow for  
16 management flexibility for sheep hunts based on the  
17 status of the population.

18  
19                   That's all.

20  
21                   CHAIRMAN BROWER: That letter is found  
22 on Page 139 as Appendix 1. Thank you for that, Tom.  
23 Report on Board consultation with tribes and ANCSA  
24 corporations.

25  
26                   Eva.

27  
28                   MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council. We  
29 did not have any comments during the scheduled tribal  
30 consultation on this proposal.

31  
32                   CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you. Agency  
33 comments. Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

34  
35                   (No comments)

36  
37                   CHAIRMAN BROWER: Any other Federal  
38 agencies wishing to provide comments regarding this  
39 Proposal 16-66.

40  
41                   (No comments)

42  
43                   CHAIRMAN BROWER: Native, tribal,  
44 village.

45  
46                   MS. PATTON: No comments were received.

47  
48                   CHAIRMAN BROWER: Interagency Staff  
49 Committee.

50

1 (No comments)  
2  
3 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Advisory group  
4 comments.  
5  
6 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair. There were no  
7 -- we received no comments from Advisory Committees  
8 unless Carmen Daggett is online and has comments. Carl  
9 has the actions from the Northwest Arctic Council.  
10  
11 MR. JOHNSON: Actually the only other  
12 Council that's looking at this is Western Interior.  
13  
14 MS. PATTON: Western Interior, yes, and  
15 they're meeting today, so no actions we've received yet  
16 on that one.  
17  
18 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you.  
19  
20 Subsistence Resource Commission.  
21  
22 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council. We  
23 did not receive any comments from the SRC.  
24  
25 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Summary of written  
26 public comments.  
27  
28 MS. PATTON: No public comments were  
29 submitted.  
30  
31 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Any request for  
32 public testimony.  
33  
34 MS. PATTON: Unless we have someone in  
35 the audience that would like to speak to this, we  
36 didn't receive any requests.  
37  
38 MR. CRAWFORD: Mr. Chair. Did you hear  
39 me when I gave the Fish and Game comments earlier?  
40 Over.  
41  
42 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Negative. There was  
43 no sound coming through.  
44  
45 MR. CRAWFORD: Okay. I'll repeat.  
46 This is Drew Crawford with Fish and Game in Anchorage.  
47  
48 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Go ahead.  
49  
50 MR. CRAWFORD: The Department's

1 recommendation is to oppose Wildlife Proposal 16-66.

2

3 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I'm not sure if  
4 there's some kind of break in the communications, Drew.  
5 You're kind of broken up and we're not hearing  
6 everything that you said. Did you hear me, Drew?

7

8 MS. DAGGETT: This is Carmen Daggett  
9 from Fish and Game. Can you hear me?

10

11 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yes, we can.

12

13 MS. DAGGETT: Okay. Drew Crawford, I  
14 could hear him say that the Department is opposed to  
15 that proposal.

16

17 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Alaska Department of  
18 Fish and Game is opposed to this proposal.

19

20 MS. DAGGETT: Yes, 16-66, we're  
21 opposed.

22

23 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Carmen.

24

25 MS. DAGGETT: No problem.

26

27 CHAIRMAN BROWER: We're down to  
28 Regional Council recommendations. What's the wish of  
29 the Council. 16=66.

30

31 MR. SHEARS: Mr. Chair.

32

33 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Bob.

34

35 MR. SHEARS: A motion to forward the  
36 recommendation for WP16-66 to the Federal Subsistence  
37 Board.

38

39 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Does that include the  
40 modification from OSM?

41

42 MR. SHEARS: Yes, that's including the  
43 modification as recommended by OSM.

44

45 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you. We have a  
46 motion on the floor.

47

48 MR. G. BROWER: Seconded.

49

50 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Seconded. Sam,

1 discussion.

2

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

4

5 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

6

7 MR. G. BROWER: I know this is similar  
8 to what we were just working on with ANWR. What does  
9 the Gates of the Arctic -- I'm just trying to get a  
10 little bit of examples of how this would work. Is  
11 there a similar thing that goes on with the Gates of  
12 the Arctic that could be explained to us giving them  
13 the authority to announce open and closures, things  
14 like that. I think that's basically what is at hand  
15 here for the DeLong Mountain, Howard Pass area.

16

17 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Gordon.

18

19 MR. ADKISSON: Mr. Chair. This is Ken  
20 Adkisson with the Western Arctic National Parklands.  
21 Maybe I could try addressing that question since the  
22 proposal came from the Western Arctic National  
23 Parklands.

24

25 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Is that okay, Marcy?

26

27 MS. OKADA: Yeah, I was hoping Ken  
28 Adkisson was online.

29

30 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you.

31

32 Go ahead, Ken.

33

34 MR. ADKISSON: Yeah, Western Arctic  
35 National Parklands has a fairly long relationship  
36 working with the Department of Fish and Game under dual  
37 management with a number of notable successes,  
38 especially some muskoxen on the Seward Peninsula and  
39 within Unit 23. Largely we work together on joint  
40 surveys, population surveys, consult with each other  
41 and determining allowable harvest or harvestable  
42 surpluses.

43

44 Generally we work together in parallel  
45 with the regulations to try to figure out how the  
46 allowable harvest will be allocated between the State  
47 and Federal system. Often we simply wind up sharing a  
48 single quota and then depending upon the kind of hunt  
49 that we're talking about, whether it's a State general  
50 hunt or a Tier I subsistence hunt or Tier II under the

1 State. We work out how that's going to happen and then  
2 we work out the allocations for the permits or the  
3 distribution of them.

4  
5           It works pretty well for the most part,  
6 but it does take a lot of work. Often we're working  
7 within some kind of framework of a cooperative  
8 management plan where we're able to get those. In some  
9 cases we haven't been able to get those. It's worked  
10 pretty well. Sheep, as you probably know, have been  
11 pretty contentious, I think, for a while up in your  
12 direction. Following that big crash in the '90s, sheep  
13 hunting was basically closed down for a number of  
14 years.

15  
16           Eventually when it was reopened it was  
17 determined to be a surplus of older rams and basically  
18 what happened was the State sort of unilaterally  
19 decided to have a drawing hunt on those animals and it  
20 created a really big ruckus in Unit 23 especially with  
21 the Regional Council up there at the time. It went  
22 through a lot of interplay let's say between the State  
23 and Federal systems on that. Initially it led to  
24 complete State -- Federal closures on the public lands  
25 to non-subsistence users.

26  
27           It took a number of years working  
28 together to get all that stuff sorted out. We finally  
29 did and we've been running a relatively successful hunt  
30 up there for the last several years until largely  
31 probably weather got the sheep again this go around.  
32 They've already mentioned a severe decline between 2011  
33 and '14.

34  
35           We conducted a survey in the Western  
36 Part of the Baird Mountains this July and the  
37 preliminary results of that survey indicate that the  
38 sheep population is continuing to decline. There's one  
39 sort of brighter note to all of that thought and it may  
40 well be weather-related too. Lamb production  
41 apparently increased but because of the size of the  
42 population it's -- you know, seeing a nice increase in  
43 lamb production is probably no reason to expect sudden  
44 changes in the population and improvement of the  
45 status.

46  
47           One problem with all of that is getting  
48 the DeLong Mountains because it's a larger area, the  
49 sheep are more scattered, it's more costly to do  
50 surveys. What the Park Service's current plans to do

1 are to continue trying to survey the Baird Mountains  
2 every year and hopefully come up with a financial and  
3 human resources to increase our surveys in the DeLong  
4 Mountains. Currently that's maybe running about every  
5 three to five years and we'd like to kind of get a  
6 better frequency on that.

7

8                   It's often assumed that the sheep  
9 population in the Delongs is mirroring that of the  
10 Bairds, but I'd really feel more comfortable if we had  
11 more current data on the DeLongs. So there's no  
12 question probably that the hunt needs to be closed  
13 again at this point and so that's the important thing  
14 to keep in mind for conservation purposes.

15

16                   The question of whether you want to  
17 delegate authority to the Park Manager to work with  
18 ADF&G and the local folks in working out something when  
19 conditions improve there's probably another matter. I  
20 think the first thing is to concentrate on the closure.

21

22                   What the State did in March of 2015 was  
23 simply close all their seasons. It would take another  
24 regulatory proposal to the Board of Game to really  
25 reopen those. That was considered on the Federal side  
26 too and that's still an option is simply to close the  
27 hunt. But it was felt that by going through the  
28 delegated authority letter and maybe we could free  
29 things up and add more opportunities.

30

31                   One thing is sure, I think. We can try  
32 to work on our data collection and reporting back to  
33 groups like the RAC. As we go down the road in the  
34 next few years we'd be looking especially to the RAC to  
35 help us for input into how things can happen when the  
36 situate biological situation improves. For the short  
37 term, I sort of suspect that those hunts are going to  
38 remain closed for a few years perhaps.

39

40                   That's about it.

41

42                   CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Ken.

43

44                   Gordon.

45

46                   MR. G. BROWER: Yeah, Mr. Chair. The  
47 only concerns I have is we had these emergency closures  
48 with very, very little communication to -- I don't know  
49 if we missed the boat somewhere or if we didn't attend  
50 the -- what's that, Subsistence Resource Council, the

1 SRC, and there was dialogue that we missed. It seems  
2 to me better communication especially when it comes  
3 time for conservative management up to and including  
4 closing closures. There seems like there's drastic  
5 measures that go in immediately, not this gradual  
6 shutdown maybe for lack of monitoring.

7  
8 It may be my own conclusion that  
9 allowed hunts to other Federally qualified users. I  
10 don't know what the causation is, but there should be  
11 much better detailed communication into these  
12 especially when we're looking at promoting these  
13 Refuges or Parklands. There is still some comfort in  
14 the way it's always been, but I don't know if it will  
15 be a better job or better coordination.

16  
17 Those are just some of my concerns.

18  
19 MR. ADKISSON: Gordon, through the  
20 Chair if I might. Yeah, I fully understand that and  
21 it's a tough situation. I think especially with the  
22 sheep. They're kind of at the northwestern limits of  
23 their range. So the question remains is how much is  
24 harvest factoring into it and how much are weather  
25 events maybe that we can't predict.

26  
27 What happened in this specific case was  
28 that we had survey data from 2011. Weather prevented  
29 us from getting surveys in 2012 and '13. When they got  
30 out and looked at it in July of 2014 it was like oh my  
31 gosh this is really bad. That led to basically an  
32 emergency order on the State side immediately closing  
33 their hunt.

34  
35 On the Federal side we couldn't get our  
36 hunt closed down. We actually had to go to the Federal  
37 Board for a special action and that took quite a while  
38 and that went out in the form of public notices all  
39 over and a hearing in Kotzebue. It took us a while to  
40 actually get the Federal hunt closed down. We caught a  
41 lot of flack frankly from the State and our inability  
42 to close the hunt. So we're sensitive to all that and  
43 we're looking for better ways to improve things for  
44 sure.

45  
46 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you for that,  
47 Ken.

48  
49 Further discussion.  
50

1 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chair. I don't  
2 have any further comments.

3  
4 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Any further  
5 discussion in regards to the motion of WP16-66.

6  
7 (No comments)

8  
9 MR. G. BROWER: Call for the question.

10  
11 CHAIRMAN BROWER: The question has been  
12 called to move forward on WP16-66 with OSM's  
13 recommended modifications noted on Page 136 of your  
14 booklets. All in favor of the motion signify by saying  
15 aye.

16  
17 IN UNISON: Aye.

18  
19 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Opposed say nay.

20  
21 (No opposing votes)

22  
23 CHAIRMAN BROWER: None noted. Thank  
24 you, Council members. We're down to crossover  
25 proposals. I'm not sure what the Council feels at this  
26 time. It's a little bit after 5:00. I think we're  
27 supposed to have some kind of event. I don't know what  
28 time it's supposed to start, Eva. These are crossover  
29 proposals from Western Interior and Northwest Arctic  
30 Regions.

31  
32 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council. I  
33 let the community know yesterday that we might be  
34 starting dinner around 6:00 this evening. At the wish  
35 of the Council, if you wish to keep working. I know  
36 there's still quite a bit on the agenda. If we're not  
37 able to conclude by 6:00, an opportunity to take a  
38 break for dinner and resume later in the evening if  
39 that's where we're at.

40  
41 CHAIRMAN BROWER: What's the wish of  
42 the Council.

43  
44 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chair. I could  
45 compromise and say we go on until 5:30 or something,  
46 have dinner and come back and try to finish up.

47  
48 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Okay. What's the  
49 wish of the Council. Move forward.

50

1 MR. G. BROWER: I think it's important  
2 to finish. It would be good.

3  
4 CHAIRMAN BROWER: We'll move on to our  
5 crossover proposals with the Western Interior and  
6 Northwest Arctic Region. WP16-37 Change in season and  
7 harvest limit for caribou (Units 21D, 22, 23, 24, 26A  
8 and 26B). Tom.

9  
10 MR. EVANS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
11 So we've talked a little bit about WP16-37. Basically  
12 this was submitted by Jack Reakoff as an individual  
13 even though you know full well he's the Chairman of the  
14 Western Interior RAC. It was to change caribou hunting  
15 regulations on Federal public lands in Units 21D, 22,  
16 23, 24, 26A, and 26B. So it overlaps with all the  
17 caribou regulations that the North Slope Borough  
18 proposed. Those regulations basically parallel the  
19 State regulations almost verbatim.

20  
21 The one difference that I see for you  
22 guys that's different than what you guys did in 26A,  
23 Proposal WP16-37 recommended that they split 26A into a  
24 north half and a south half. This Council chose not to  
25 do that.

26  
27 I don't know. At this point I can go  
28 through all the proposal. I know we're getting short  
29 of time. One option might be to take no action  
30 considering that you've already dealt with your caribou  
31 proposals in the Units 23, 24, 26A and B. It's up to  
32 the Council what you want to do. I'm happy to do  
33 whatever you would like me to do.

34  
35 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Council members.

36  
37 MR. SHEARS: Mr. Chair.

38  
39 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yes, Bob.

40  
41 MR. SHEARS: I think in our base  
42 proposals on our North Slope RAC Proposals 61/62/63 and  
43 64, we attempted to accommodate the language that the  
44 other regions brought into those that supported them as  
45 far as unit descriptors and even their dates in certain  
46 cases. I don't feel that we need to -- it would be  
47 redundant to do this again. I think we've accomplished  
48 this part, but correct me if I'm wrong. That was my  
49 feeling when we were doing our base proposals is that  
50 we were also accommodating the other region's

1 proposals.

2

3 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I'm in agreement with  
4 you, Bob. It seems to be we're doing something all  
5 over again as to what we've already accomplished.

6

7 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chair. I tend to  
8 agree, but it would be nice to see what they said.

9

10 That's about all.

11

12 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you.

13

14 MR. SHEARS: Mr. Chair, through the  
15 Chair, a question for Tom. So if there are differences  
16 that exist between other region's proposals and our  
17 proposals at this point going forward, what's the next  
18 step? Is it the Federal Subsistence Board that  
19 adjudicates those differences or is there going to be  
20 further efforts to blend them to make one that the  
21 Federal Subsistence Board would act on?

22

23 MR. EVANS: So we discussed this in  
24 OSM, realizing that they might get different results  
25 from different RACs. So I think we'll obviously have a  
26 discussion when we get back to OSM and maybe make a  
27 decision as to what we think would be best. Maybe we  
28 would have kind of a summary thing of what we thought  
29 given all these different differences what may be the  
30 best thing, but we haven't really decided that yet how  
31 that's going to proceed after this. It's kind of new  
32 with all these different things. So that's the best I  
33 can do at this point.

34

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

36

37 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

38

39 MR. G. BROWER: To my understanding,  
40 the crossover stuff, there's some areas that affects  
41 both sides is what I'm understanding. It seems to me  
42 we're all on the same bandwagon nowadays. I think  
43 those small differences are -- I think Lincoln said  
44 earlier to me as long as they're not really big  
45 differences, you know. I don't think we've made any  
46 proposals or recommendations to the State Board of  
47 Game.

48

49 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Just a quick question  
50 to Eva in regards to our presentation procedures. Do

1 we follow through these steps that have been outlined  
2 for us or are we able to take no action on these  
3 proposals without going into these procedures.

4

5 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council.  
6 I'll let Carl weigh in on the crossover proposals here.

7

8 MR. JOHNSON: Thank you, Mr. Chair. So  
9 as this Council conducts public meetings and provides  
10 public notice that there will be an opportunity to  
11 discuss these proposals, I suggest even if the  
12 Council's ultimate action is to take no action, you  
13 have a process we can go through and then somebody at  
14 the end could submit a motion to take no action based  
15 on your previous actions on 61 through 64.

16

17 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

18

19 CHAIRMAN BROWER: The first one is  
20 WP16-37, starts on Page 142.

21

22 MR. EVANS: Just if I may make a little  
23 comment on Proposal WP16-48, allowing the use of  
24 snowmachines to position animals in Unit 23. That's a  
25 little bit different than anything we've talked about  
26 so far, but the other ones basically overlap with what  
27 we have been discussing already for caribou regulations  
28 for the units we've been talking about.

29

30 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you. Any  
31 reports on Board consultation.

32

33 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council. We  
34 had no comments from tribes on WP16-37.

35

36 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you. Any  
37 agency comments. Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

38

39 MR. CRAWFORD: Good evening, Mr. Chair.  
40 Drew Crawford with Fish and Game. The Department's  
41 preliminary recommendation for Proposal WP16-37 is to  
42 support with modification to change bag limits and open  
43 seasons for caribou in Units 26A remainder and portions  
44 of Unit 26B to agree with State regulations. Over.

45

46 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you. Federal  
47 agencies.

48

49 (No comments)

50

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Nobody rises.  
2 Native, tribal, village.  
3  
4 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council. We  
5 didn't receive any comments.  
6  
7 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Interagency Staff  
8 Committee.  
9  
10 (No comments)  
11  
12 CHAIRMAN BROWER: None. Advisory group  
13 comments.  
14  
15 MR. JOHNSON: Thank you, Mr. Chair. So  
16 both the Seward Peninsula and Northwest Arctic Councils  
17 met and discussed this proposal and each made  
18 modifications that are unique to their units. So for  
19 Northwest Arctic they modified just for Unit 23 only  
20 five caribou per day, bulls taken February 1st through  
21 October 31st, cows taken July 31st through March 31st  
22 with the stipulation that cows with calves may not be  
23 taken during the period of July 31st through October  
24 10th and for all times the take of calves is  
25 prohibited.  
26  
27 Then for Seward Peninsula their  
28 suggested modifications were strictly for Unit 22.  
29 They extended the season dates to a July 1st through  
30 June 30th, so a full year season, with a harvest limit  
31 of five caribou in Unit 22E extended to include a  
32 portion of Trout Creek, which was changed in an  
33 amendment for another proposal, amend the area in the  
34 Pilgrim River drainage and Unit 22B west of the Niukluk  
35 River, which with a may-be-announced season delegated  
36 to the BLM Anchorage Field Office with no season  
37 restrictions and no sex restrictions, provide an  
38 entirely new hunt area and Unit 22A south of the  
39 Golsovia River and then finally amend all of Unit 22 to  
40 have a year-round season with no sex restrictions and a  
41 harvest limit of five caribou. So that's a pretty  
42 drastic change for Unit 22 and that was the Seward  
43 Peninsula's action.  
44  
45 Thank you, Mr. Chair.  
46  
47 CHAIRMAN BROWER: So in regards to the  
48 crossover between the North Slope Regional Advisory  
49 Council and Unit 22, we don't see the map identifying  
50 where we would be crossing over to Seward Pen's

1 discussions. That's what I was trying to identify in  
2 regards to the map.

3

4 MR. JOHNSON: Correct. Tom noted at  
5 the beginning of his presentation Unit -- your previous  
6 proposals were limited to areas that are within this  
7 region, but WP16-37 is pretty much the entire range of  
8 the caribou period and units that are very far away  
9 from here. That will speak well if the Council chooses  
10 to take no action if the Council does not want to make  
11 recommendations about Unit 22.

12

13 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Carl.

14

15 Any other advisory groups.

16

17 MR. EVANS: Mr. Chairman.

18

19 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Tom.

20

21 MR. EVANS: Also the Western Interior  
22 is meeting now, so they have no recommendation.

23

24 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you.

25

26 Summary of written public comments.

27

28 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council.  
29 There were no written comments submitted.

30

31 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Request for public  
32 testimony.

33

34 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council.  
35 Because this proposal had come from another region and  
36 primarily was affecting those communities, unless  
37 there's someone from Anaktuvuk Pass that wishes to  
38 speak to that, I don't think we have anyone online from  
39 those communities.

40

41 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Regional Council  
42 recommendations. What's the wish of the Council.

43

44 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chair.

45

46 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

47

48 MR. G. BROWER: I would propose that we  
49 take no action.

50

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Motion on the floor  
2 to take no action regarding WP16-37.

3  
4 MR. NAGEAK: Second.

5  
6 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Seconded by James.  
7 Further discussion.

8  
9 (No comments)

10  
11 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Sam.

12  
13 MR. KUNAKNANA: Question.

14  
15 CHAIRMAN BROWER: The question has been  
16 called on the motion to take no action on WP16-37. All  
17 in favor of the motion signify by saying aye.

18  
19 IN UNISON: Aye.

20  
21 (No opposing votes)

22  
23 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you. Next  
24 proposal is WP16-48 found on Page 206.

25  
26 Tom.

27  
28 MR. EVANS: Jennifer Hardin will  
29 present this analysis.

30  
31 MS. HARDIN: Good afternoon, Mr. Chair  
32 and members of the Council. For the record, my name is  
33 Jennifer Hardin and I am the Anthropology Division  
34 supervisor at the Office of Subsistence Management in  
35 Anchorage. I'll be presenting the analysis for  
36 Proposal WP16-48 today and it begins on Page 206 of  
37 your meeting book.

38  
39 Wildlife Proposal 16-48 was  
40 submitted by the Native Village of Kotzebue. The  
41 village requests modification of the unit-specific  
42 provision that currently defines how a hunter may use a  
43 snowmachine to harvest caribou on Federal public lands  
44 in  
45 Unit 23.

46  
47 Currently, Federally qualified  
48 subsistence users may legally use a snowmachine to  
49 position a hunter to select and harvest a caribou as  
50 long as the hunter does not take the animal from a

1 moving snowmachine. The proponent asks the Federal  
2 Subsistence Board to modify this provision to allow the  
3 use of a snowmachine to position a caribou, wolf, or  
4 wolverine for harvest.

5  
6 Federal proposal WP16-48 would be  
7 consistent with the State regulation adopted in 2014  
8 that allows hunters in Units 22, 23 and 26A to use a  
9 snowmachine to position a caribou, wolf or wolverine  
10 for harvest. The Alaska Board of Game adopted this  
11 regulation to allow the use of snowmachines to track  
12 and pursue these animals without the prohibition  
13 against driving, herding, harassing or molesting game.

14  
15 The proponent states that the proposed  
16 Federal regulatory change would provide consistency  
17 across adjacent State and Federal management  
18 boundaries, thereby avoiding confusion and  
19 unintentional violations and would benefit law  
20 enforcement by eliminating opposing rules.

21  
22 The proponent notes that the proposed  
23 change would fix a longstanding conflict between  
24 regulatory restrictions and local hunting practices.  
25 The proponent reports that pursuing and harvesting  
26 caribou, wolves and wolverine in the manner proposed is  
27 an integral part of local tradition for many hunters in  
28 the area and is the only practical way to hunt these  
29 animals during the winter in most of Unit 23.

30  
31 Further, the proponent states that the  
32 regulatory imposition of Western cultural values, such  
33 as ideas about fair chase, as a substitute for  
34 traditional cultural values is at the heart of the  
35 issue raised in the proposal.

36  
37 Inupiat hunters have a long history of  
38 traveling far and positioning both hunters and animals  
39 in order to successfully meet their subsistence needs.  
40 Before snowmachines became common in the 1960s, most  
41 people of the area traveled by foot or by dog  
42 team to hunt caribou during winter months. Sleds and  
43 snowmachines are now used together and allow for the  
44 transport of hunters, gear, meat and hides.

45  
46 This customary and traditional hunting  
47 practice has been discussed at length by subsistence  
48 users in previous Regional Advisory Council meetings as  
49 well as at Federal Subsistence Board meetings as well  
50 as in ethnographic accounts.

1                   Subsistence users have noted that in  
2 context of caribou hunting, the Inupiaq word inillak  
3 means the hunter positions himself close to where the  
4 caribou would pass or cross depending on the way the  
5 wind is blowing. To the Inupiat, inillak is quite  
6 different from herding and it is used specifically in  
7 caribou hunting. Inupiat hunters position both  
8 themselves and caribou during a hunt. Further, the  
9 Inupiaq word unu means to cooperatively push or move  
10 the caribou.

11  
12                   Subsistence users have reported that  
13 whether using dog team, snowmachines or stalking on  
14 foot it is customary for a hunter to go on one side of  
15 the herd and unu them towards the hunter waiting on the  
16 other side so that they are able to selectively and  
17 efficiently harvest the caribou that they want. This  
18 remains a common practice in Unit 23 and the current  
19 preferred method of positioning both hunters and  
20 caribou in winter is by snowmachine.

21  
22                   Wolves and wolverine are also highly  
23 valued subsistence resources in Unit 23. During winter  
24 months they are hunted by snowmachine. Most wolves and  
25 wolverine are shot in Unit 23 rather than trapped.  
26 This method is preferred because much of the region is  
27 open tundra and is conducive to tracking and ground  
28 shooting using snowmachines and rifles.

29  
30                   At this point I want to say that it's  
31 important to note that existing agency-specific  
32 regulations may conflict with the proposed regulations.  
33 Both the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the  
34 National Park Service have regulations in place  
35 prohibiting the use of snowmachines in a manner that  
36 results in herding, harassment, hazing or driving of  
37 wildlife.

38  
39                   Because the conflicts may exist between  
40 the proposed regulation and existing agency-specific  
41 regulations, OSM staff considered recommending that the  
42 Board defer taking action on this proposal until a  
43 later date. However, OSM decided not to recommend  
44 deferral at this juncture because all available  
45 information supports the customary and traditional  
46 hunting practice proposed by the proponent.

47  
48                   If the proposed regulatory changes were  
49 adopted, Federal regulations would recognize the  
50 customary and traditional

1 practice of using snowmachines to efficiently and  
2 effectively pursue and harvest caribou, wolves and  
3 wolverines in Unit 23. This regulatory change would  
4 also make Federal hunting regulations consistent with  
5 State regulations in Unit 23.

6  
7 The proposed changes would have little  
8 to no effect on current hunting behavior and no changes  
9 in the population status of caribou, wolves and  
10 wolverines are anticipated. Supporting customary and  
11 traditional practices that provide for continued  
12 subsistence opportunities would benefit Federally  
13 qualified  
14 subsistence users. For these reasons, the OSM  
15 preliminary recommendation is to support Wildlife  
16 Proposal WP16-48.

17  
18 Thank you, Mr. Chair and Council  
19 members.

20  
21 I'm happy to answer any questions.

22  
23 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you. Questions  
24 from the Council.

25  
26 MR. KAYOTUK: Mr. Chair.

27  
28 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Lee.

29  
30 MR. KAYOTUK: She said a snowmachine  
31 may not be used to position a caribou, wolf or  
32 wolverine for harvest provided that an animal is not  
33 shot from a moving snowmachine. So in order to  
34 position these animals you'd have to stop, get off your  
35 machine and shoot. Is that correct?

36  
37 MS. HARDIN: Through the Chair. The  
38 proponent requested a modification that would allow you  
39 to pursue wolves, wolverines or caribou on a moving  
40 snowmachine provided that the actual shooting took  
41 place once the snowmachine was stopped. So it would be  
42 at a complete stop, not necessarily off the  
43 snowmachine.

44  
45 MR. KAYOTUK: Mr. Chair. So that will  
46 be positioning yourself in order to stop first before  
47 attempting to shoot the animals, correct?

48  
49 MS. HARDIN: Through the Chair.  
50 Correct, positioning yourself and positioning -- the

1 proponent requests the ability to position the animals  
2 as well as the hunter.

3

4 MR. KAYOTUK: Thank you.

5

6 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chair.

7

8 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

9

10 MR. G. BROWER: You know, sometimes  
11 it's better just to shoot it from the snowmachine for  
12 humane killing purposes if you chase it and chase it  
13 until its got no more breath. To position yourself,  
14 sometimes you've got to do that. I think it's more  
15 humane if you caught right up to them and then take  
16 care of it right there and then. I just thought I'd  
17 throw that out.

18

19

20 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Go ahead, James,  
21 question to Jennifer.

22

23 MR. NAGEAK: Understanding the Proposal  
24 16-48 it says to allow a Federally qualified user to  
25 use a snowmachine to position a caribou, wolf or  
26 wolverine for harvest. The term position is consistent  
27 with the way the hunter, which is stationary, and to  
28 use the snowmachine to position the caribou toward that  
29 hunter that is stationary. That's the way that a lot  
30 of the hunter in pre-history have used in hunting the  
31 caribou or the wolves or the wolverine.

32

33 When I see that word position a  
34 caribou, my mind says that two brothers, one is  
35 stationary, the other runs around the caribou and  
36 positions the caribou for that hunter to shoot and  
37 kill. (In Inupiaq) were two samples of positioning the  
38 caribou for hunting.

39

40 Was that the way these people in the  
41 Native Village of Kotzebue have used positioning in  
42 that way or is this a new way of being an individual?  
43 A lot of times we're individualizing the hunt for  
44 subsistence where a lot of times the hunters are  
45 positioned and there are other people that would  
46 position the caribou, wolverine towards those that are  
47 stationary. Anyway, that's how I'm understanding this  
48 traditionally using some form of mechanism to position  
49 the caribou.

50

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Jennifer.

2

3 MS. HARDIN: Thank you. I won't try to  
4 speak for the Native Village of Kotzebue, but I would  
5 like to note that this proposal was submitted to change  
6 the current regulation which specifies that  
7 snowmachines can be used to position a hunter and the  
8 Native Village of Kotzebue specifically would like to  
9 see that changed to acknowledge that the hunter is  
10 positioning the caribou and specifically noted that  
11 this is a customary and traditional practice that has  
12 been going on for many, many generations.

13

14 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you for stating  
15 that, Jennifer. I was going to give you some examples  
16 of what our subsistence hunting for marine mammals.  
17 They're moving all the time and we have to pursue them  
18 in kayaks or boats and while they're still in motion  
19 shoot and harpoon and retrieve them. Otherwise if we  
20 were just stationary, we'd lose them.

21

22 I was going to say this is Western  
23 technology just getting caught up to the type of  
24 hunting that we conduct. It's just being recently  
25 interpreted into that since the Federal governments  
26 came into place everything was made illegal. You have  
27 to follow our Western practices without even consulting  
28 with our constituents our hunting practices.

29

30 What's your title again? Anthropology  
31 Division. Using that level of information, looking  
32 back in history and practices and traditional methods.  
33 So that was something that was imposed on us by Federal  
34 or State subsistence practices to minimize the effects  
35 on our methods.

36

37 Thank you.

38

39 Any further discussion. We're just  
40 going through the introduction of the proposal. We  
41 still have several things to consider here to move  
42 along. Thank you, Jennifer, for that.

43

44 Do we have a report on Board  
45 consultation.

46

47 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council. We  
48 did not receive any comments in the tribal consultation  
49 session.

50

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Agency comments.  
2 Alaska Department of Fish and Game.  
3  
4 MR. CRAWFORD: Yes, Mr. Chair. This is  
5 Drew Crawford with Fish and Game in Anchorage. The  
6 Department's recommendation is to support Proposal  
7 WP16-48. Over.  
8  
9 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you. Federal  
10 agency comments.  
11  
12 (No comments)  
13  
14 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Native, tribal and  
15 village.  
16  
17 MS. PATTON: We did not receive any  
18 other comments. This proposal was submitted by  
19 Kotzebue and discussed in that region there.  
20  
21 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Interagency Staff  
22 Committee.  
23  
24 (No comments)  
25  
26 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Advisory group  
27 comments.  
28  
29 MR. JOHNSON: Mr. Chair.  
30  
31 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Carl.  
32  
33 MR. JOHNSON: Northwest Arctic  
34 Subsistence Regional Advisory Council did meet and  
35 discussed this proposal. In addition to adding  
36 striking the hunter to select individual language from  
37 the original regulation and agreeing on adding wolf and  
38 wolverine as the Native Village of Kotzebue did, the  
39 Northwest Arctic Council modified this proposal to  
40 additionally add furbearers, moose, sheep and bear to  
41 the specifically named animals that could be positioned  
42 using a snowmachine.  
43  
44 Thank you, Mr. Chair.  
45  
46 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Carl. Any  
47 advisory committees.  
48  
49 (No comments)  
50

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Subsistence Resource  
2 Commission.

3  
4 (No comments)

5  
6 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Summary of written  
7 public comments.

8  
9 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council. We  
10 did receive one letter on Proposal WP16-48 from the  
11 Western Arctic Caribou Herd Working Group and that  
12 letter can be found on Page 223 of your meeting books.

13  
14 I'll briefly summarize their letter and  
15 this was a letter addressed to the Federal Subsistence  
16 Board. On behalf of the Western Arctic Caribou Herd  
17 Working Group, the group's executive committee is  
18 submitting a comment in support of Proposal WP16-48 to  
19 allow the use of snowmachines to position a caribou,  
20 wolf or wolverine for harvest provided that the animals  
21 are not shot from a moving snowmachine. This proposed  
22 regulation change would be consistent with the State of  
23 Alaska game regulation that went into effect on July  
24 1st, 2014 on State-managed lands.

25  
26 The working group does not believe that  
27 this regulation change would affect the abundance or  
28 population trend of the Western Arctic Caribou Herd.  
29 This change would accommodate local hunting practices  
30 that have been used since snowmachines first arrived in  
31 Game Management Unit 23 and addresses the need for  
32 rural subsistence users to be able to use the most  
33 efficient methods to take wild resources important for  
34 their livelihood, particularly with consideration to  
35 the high price of food and fuel in the Northwest  
36 Alaska.

37  
38 And they thank for the opportunity to  
39 comment and that was on behalf of the Western Arctic  
40 Caribou Herd Working Group and signed by Vern  
41 Cleveland, Sr., who is the chair of the group  
42 currently.

43  
44 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Eva.

45  
46 Public testimony.

47  
48 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair. We did not  
49 receive any requests to comment on this proposal.  
50

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Regional Council  
2 recommendations. Motion to adopt.  
3  
4 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chair.  
5  
6 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.  
7  
8 MR. G. BROWER: Make a motion to adopt.  
9  
10 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Motion on the floor  
11 to adopt Proposal WP16-48.  
12  
13 MR. NAGEAK: I would second that  
14 motion.  
15  
16 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Second. Discussion.  
17  
18 MR. G. BROWER: Question.  
19  
20 MR. SHEARS: Mr. Chair.  
21  
22 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Bob.  
23  
24 MR. SHEARS: Before we move forward  
25 with doing what's logical, I wonder if anybody has  
26 really explored the ramifications of this proposal. I  
27 think I know where this comes from. It happened in  
28 Point Hope two years ago. One of the Lane boys -- a  
29 wolverine came close to town, just on the east side of  
30 town by the lagoon. One of the Lane boys, a teenager,  
31 got out there with a snowmachine in the middle of the  
32 day.  
33  
34 It was beautiful, the middle of March,  
35 kind of windy, bright, and the State police officer had  
36 been transporting a -- was in town to transport a  
37 prisoner and he was riding in the passenger seat with  
38 the public safety officer just coming to town and  
39 waiting for the plane that day and observed this boy go  
40 out and get that wolverine, his first one.  
41  
42 He was a very proud boy for about five  
43 minutes until the VSO stopped him and said what you did  
44 was just illegal, son. I'm going to have to confiscate  
45 that wolverine. Broke his heart. Broke his family's  
46 heart because he did what all of us do. It's a logical  
47 thing.  
48  
49 I think that's kind of what led up to  
50 this. What we do we feel is right and it really is

1 much more humane than steel jaw trapping, it's very  
2 effective for feeding our families, clothing them. But  
3 what's most notable here, as I hear it -- and,  
4 Jennifer, you did a great job of putting this together.  
5 It really captured the essence of how these animals are  
6 harvested with motorized equipment.

7

8                   What I'm terribly afraid of is this  
9 gets to the Federal Subsistence Board, gets adopted,  
10 gets written into our regulations that it is  
11 permissible to fair chase, pursue and shoot caribou,  
12 bears, moose, wolves, wolverines. Can you imagine what  
13 PETA is going to do with this on a national front? It  
14 could jeopardize our subsistence way of life.

15

16                   That's all I have.

17

18                   CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Bob, for  
19 that observation. The other side of this too, there's  
20 got to be two sides to the story. It's better than  
21 being an illegal hunter and trying to fix something  
22 that's been happening for a very long time regardless  
23 of the outside influences. We've been law-abiding  
24 citizens and we continue to do that, but we're still  
25 trying to catch up with Western influences that's been  
26 imposed on us for many, many years. So I think there's  
27 both sides and we have to try and put a balance in  
28 this.

29

30                   In all fairness, this is something  
31 that's been going on for a long time and just trying to  
32 get it legalized. I mean our subsistence way of life.  
33 It's been not really well documented to where it's  
34 been meaningful to our Federal agencies. They're just  
35 learning about these things as they come in and make  
36 their own observations at times. What might be illegal  
37 for them it's not a problem for us. It's a mindset.

38

39                   I think trying to fix the problem and  
40 not cover it up is something that I look forward to  
41 getting accomplished regardless of other outside  
42 influences. I think we need to help identify real  
43 circumstances that we're dealing with. Just like you  
44 said, it's even a more humane practice than utilizing a  
45 leg hold trap and having an animal suffer for a few  
46 days, you know.

47

48                   I was just whispering to James, this is  
49 something that we do all the time. I mean that example  
50 of our subsistence practices for whaling. These are

1 real situations. We're in motion. We're in pursuit.  
2 We're not trying to position the whale. We get up to  
3 it and harvest it to bring home for food.

4  
5 So these are real situations I think we  
6 have to realize that we're dealing with today and  
7 getting them to where we're not being cited for like  
8 the example you provided for that young man in Point  
9 Hope. It was a poor thing to do for a first harvest of  
10 a young man. It probably really disturbs that boy to  
11 pursue that type of an animal again when it was  
12 confiscated by that police officer. So there's  
13 ramifications one way or the other, so I think trying  
14 to fix it this might be an attempt to do that.

15  
16 So we're still under discussion.

17  
18 (No comments)

19  
20 CHAIRMAN BROWER: If there's no further  
21 discussion, I'll recognize the question.

22  
23 MR. KUNAKNANA: Yes, call for question.

24  
25 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Bob.

26  
27 MR. SHEARS: Final discussion. Yeah, I  
28 agree with you, Harry, and your wisdom. We need to  
29 rise to the occasion, accept this as a challenge and  
30 move forward with it. It's an opportunity.

31  
32 Very well.

33  
34 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you. The  
35 question has been called on the motion to adopt  
36 Proposal WP16-48. All in favor of the motion signify  
37 by saying aye.

38  
39 IN UNISON: Aye.

40  
41 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Opposed say nay.

42  
43 (No opposing votes)

44  
45 CHAIRMAN BROWER: None noted. Thank  
46 you, Council. I think we're going to a recess. I'm  
47 looking to Eva to maybe give us some guidance as to how  
48 long of a time period we need to recess and maybe come  
49 back to finish the rest of these proposals.

50

1 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council and  
2 for the community. We have dinner that's ready here  
3 that we'll put out. We also have the opportunity for  
4 drum and dance as well. So time to eat dinner and time  
5 to dance and celebrate a bit and then we can reconvene.  
6

7 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Table the rest of the  
8 items until our next meeting. It may be 2:00 in the  
9 morning before the dance is over.

10

11 Just my immediate thought.

12

13

14

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1 I don't know. That's why I was saying  
2 we're volunteers doing our work. We're tasked with a  
3 lot of information and sharing and trying to make  
4 decisions on the best way forward, but we're still  
5 overwhelmed in trying to move forward. So that's why I  
6 was saying maybe tabling the remaining agenda items. I  
7 mean these are just my observations. It's getting to  
8 be we're meeting later and later on issues that have  
9 compiled.

10  
11 The Federal agencies are looking to  
12 maybe holding two meetings instead of one meeting  
13 annually. Maybe that's something that we could fix or  
14 consider and bring to the attention of the Federal  
15 Subsistence Board in terms of the amount of information  
16 that we're trying to deal with in a two day period,  
17 which is a bit overwhelming when you're meeting from  
18 9:00 in the morning until 6:00 in the evening and then  
19 wanting to continue until later on and this is a public  
20 service.

21  
22 MR. JOHNSON: Mr. Chair.

23  
24 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Carl.

25  
26 MR. JOHNSON: I can say as far as  
27 deferring the agency reports that's certainly within  
28 the Council's discretion and that would definitely  
29 shorten the time left on the agenda. However, as a  
30 practical matter though, the Federal Subsistence Board  
31 meets in January to discuss the FRMP projects, so it  
32 would be impossible to defer to your next scheduled  
33 meeting, which is in March, on that.

34  
35 However, one option is to on the record  
36 today identify a future meeting date to meet by  
37 teleconference to complete the agenda, at least the  
38 action items, then that way those would be accomplished  
39 in enough time. It would have to be done soon enough  
40 to be prepared for January, so probably within the next  
41 month or so. So if you could at least state on the  
42 record today a date and time to conduct a  
43 teleconference to complete your agenda, then that would  
44 meet our requirements in order to have the proper  
45 public notice.

46  
47 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

48  
49 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you for that,  
50 Carl.

1 Council.

2

3 MR. KAYOTUK: Mr. Chair.

4

5 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Lee.

6

7 MR. KAYOTUK: Yeah, I know this meeting  
8 is, say, three and four. You know, two days is -- look  
9 at this book. We only covered for the most part of it.  
10 If you guys could get money to extend the days, like  
11 three days instead of being here until -- 9:00 until  
12 midnight at night. We brought this up before at the  
13 fall meeting, yet you guys addressed it yet. There's a  
14 lot of information that needs to be covered, but not  
15 enough days to cover this information, which is  
16 important.

17

18 Thank you.

19

20 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I couldn't tell you  
21 the day and time at this time not having a calendar and  
22 I've not looked at my work calendar. I have other  
23 commitments as well in regards to my other job. My  
24 other three jobs. So I think only in fairness I think  
25 you need to give us an opportunity to at least give  
26 some indication and reviewing and identifying with our  
27 work calendars in trying to identify a time.

28

29 I'm not sure how that follows through  
30 with your suggestion, Carl, we need 15 days for notice  
31 in regards to setting up meetings or teleconference. I  
32 think that's something that we're probably able to deal  
33 with in a short period of time if there's emails that  
34 we could follow through with to Eva and maybe suggest a  
35 date once we review our work calendars. I know I have  
36 several travels I'm going to be going on related to my  
37 work at home.

38

39 MR. JOHNSON: Mr. Chair. Just as a  
40 matter of requirements we have to follow in order to  
41 have something published in the Federal Register, we  
42 have to at least pick a range of dates, like say the  
43 week of whatever at this meeting in order to have  
44 during this public meeting at least an announcement to  
45 put the public on heads-up notice as to that future  
46 meeting date. That at the very least is something we  
47 need to be able to state on the record and that is a  
48 range of dates that it would be during a certain period  
49 of time.

50

1 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council.  
2 Just to follow up. We work our person in the office  
3 that works with D.C. and the FACA requirement. So as  
4 long as we have on the record at least a range of  
5 dates, the intension publicly noticed that the Council  
6 plans to resume in a couple or a few weeks in order to  
7 conduct that teleconference meeting, that does give us  
8 a little bit of flexibility and we can modify those  
9 dates to a specific time that is honored by the  
10 Council.  
11  
12 CHAIRMAN BROWER: November 31.  
13  
14 (Laughter)  
15  
16 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Or November 32.  
17 Okay.  
18  
19 MR. G. BROWER: December 10 through the  
20 15th.  
21  
22 CHAIRMAN BROWER: December 10th through  
23 the 15th. Like I said, I've got to look at my work  
24 calendar. I have several travels on my calendar I have  
25 to look to. That week is open and we could definitely  
26 probably work with one day within that December 10th  
27 through -- December what, Gordon?  
28  
29 MR. G. BROWER: December 10th through  
30 the 15th.  
31  
32 CHAIRMAN BROWER: December 10th through  
33 the 15th.  
34  
35 MR. SHEARS: 11th through the 15th.  
36  
37 CHAIRMAN BROWER: 11th through the  
38 15th. Is that something that we could consider at this  
39 time.  
40  
41 MR. NAGEAK: My time ends now.  
42  
43 (Laughter)  
44  
45 MS. PATTON: Remember, James, I'm going  
46 to call you.  
47  
48 (Laughter)  
49  
50 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council.

1 Also for everyone that's participated in this meeting  
2 from the community of Kaktovik, a follow-up  
3 teleconference would allow us to further work on some  
4 of the proposals that were discussed here today and  
5 coalesce the feedback from the community. So it would  
6 be an opportunity to follow up on that as well.

7  
8 CHAIRMAN BROWER: So we have identified  
9 10th through 15th, sometime in that time. Motion to  
10 recess until December 15th or 11th.

11  
12 MR. SHEARS: Second.

13  
14 CHAIRMAN BROWER: So moved.

15  
16 MR. NAGEAK: Question.

17  
18 CHAIRMAN BROWER: the question has been  
19 called on the motion to.....

20  
21 MR. NAGEAK: What's the motion?

22  
23 (Laughter)

24  
25 CHAIRMAN BROWER: What's the motion?  
26 You're getting me all mixed up, James. Motion to  
27 recess until December 10 through 15 to a teleconference  
28 to follow through with the remaining agenda items.

29  
30 MR. KUNAKNANA: Second it.

31  
32 CHAIRMAN BROWER: It's been seconded.  
33 All in favor of the motion signify by saying aye.

34  
35 IN UNISON: Aye.

36  
37 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Opposed say nay.

38  
39 (No opposing votes)

40  
41 CHAIRMAN BROWER: None noted. Thank  
42 you. Thank you, Carl, Tom, all the staff.

43  
44 Thank you very much for all the time  
45 spent here. Eva.

46  
47 (Off record)

48  
49 (END OF PROCEEDINGS)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

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

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

THAT the foregoing pages numbered 122 through 304 contain a full, true and correct Transcript of the NORTH SLOPE FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING, VOLUME II taken electronically on the 4th 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 24th day of November 2015.

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