

1 YUKON-KUSKOKWIM DELTA ALASKA FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE
2 REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

3
4 PUBLIC MEETING

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7
8
9 Egan Convention Center
10 Anchorage, Alaska
11 March 9, 2016
12 8:42 a.m.

13
14
15
16 COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

- 17
18 Lester Wilde, Chairman
19 Robert Aloysius
20 John Andrew
21 David Bill, Sr.
22 William Brown
23 James Charles
24 Annie Cleveland
25 Dorothy Johnson
26 Michael Peters
27 Greg Roczicka
28 Dale Smith
29 Anthony Ulak

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35
36 Acting Regional Council Coordinator, Robert Larson

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P R O C E E D I N G S

(Anchorage, Alaska - 03/09/2016)

(On record)

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. Let's call this meeting to order. At this time I'll ask Mr. James Charles to please give the invocation.

MR. CHARLES: (Invocation)

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, James.

We'll call this meeting to order, the time is now 8:43. I'd like to welcome all of you to our YK-Delta annual winter meeting. At this time I think we'll have some introductions starting with the young man in the left way over there in the back room.

SEAN: I'm with Alaska Department of Fish and Game and I'm just here to spectate.

MR. ALOYSIUS: You got to speak up louder, can't hear.

MR. MEARS: Good morning. My name is Jeremy Mears. I work for the US Fish and Wildlife Service out of Fairbanks.

MR. DAVIS: Jerry Davis with Yukon Delta, the CDQ group out of Emmonak.

MR. RIVARD: Don Rivard. Fish biologist with the US Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of Subsistence Management.

MS. GRANT: I'm Rosalie Grant. I'm the Fish and Wildlife biologist with the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

MS. KENNER: I'm Pippa Kenner. I'm an anthropologist with the Office of Subsistence Management here in Anchorage.

MR. WEBBER: Aaron Webber. US Fish and Wildlife Service, fish biologist out of Bethel.

MR. MARK: John Mark. Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge Information Technician from

1 Quinhagak.

2

3 MR. SANCHEZ: Good morning. Ronnie
4 Sanchez. I am the Refuge supervisor for the southern
5 zone of Refuges here in Alaska.

6

7 MR. BORN: Ray Born. Yukon Delta
8 Deputy Refuge Manager in Bethel.

9

10 MR. HARPER: Ken Harper, US Fish and
11 Wildlife Service, fishery biologist. Kenai Fish and
12 Wildlife Field Office. I work on the Kuskokwim River.

13

14 MR. MOOS: Good morning. I'm Kenton
15 Moos. I'm the Refuge manager for Koyukuk/Nowitna and
16 Innoko Refuges out of Galena.

17

18 MR. MASCHMANN: I'm Gerald Maschmann.
19 I'm with the US Fish and Wildlife Service out of
20 Fairbanks.

21

22 MS. HENRY: Good morning, everyone.
23 I'm Suzanna Henry. I'm the Refuge manager at Togiak
24 National Wildlife Refuge that has its headquarters in
25 Dillingham.

26

27 MS. MONCRIEFF: Good morning. I'm
28 Catherine Moncrieff. I'm the Staff anthropologist for
29 the Yukon River Drainage Fisheries Association.

30

31 MS. KLEIN: Good morning. My name is
32 Jill Klein. I'm a special assistant to Commissioner
33 Cotten at the Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

34

35 MS. GARCIA: I'm Sabrina Garcia with
36 the Alaska Department of Fish and Game. I'm the summer
37 season assistant manager on the Yukon River.

38

39 MS. SCHMIDT: Good morning everyone.
40 I'm Stephanie Schmidt. I am the summer season manager
41 on the Yukon River for the Alaska Department of Fish
42 and Game.

43

44 MR. FOX: Yeah, good morning. I'm
45 Trevor Fox with the US Fish and Wildlife Service out of
46 Anchorage and I'm the InterAgency Staff Committee
47 member for the agency.

48

49 MR. PAPPAS: Good morning. George
50 Pappas. State Subsistence Liaison to the Board of Fish

1 and Board of Game and I work at OSM.

2

3 MR. ANDERSON: Good morning. Jeff
4 Anderson. I work for the US Fish and Wildlife Service.
5 I'm the field supervisor at the Kenai Fish and Wildlife
6 Conservation Office.

7

8 MR. ABRAHAM: Pete Abraham. RIT for
9 Togiak. Also on the RAC for Bristol Bay area. And
10 also I'm still on vacation for 52 years in Togiak for
11 two weeks, it's hot up here.

12

13 (Laughter)

14

15 CHAIRMAN WILDE: And the young man that
16 just came in with the glasses on top of his head.

17

18 (Laughter)

19

20 MR. PELTOLA: Gene Peltola, Jr., ARD,
21 OSM.

22

23 CHAIRMAN WILDE: And the young lady
24 over there.

25

26 MS. NELSON: Hazel Nelson, Subsistence
27 Division.

28

29 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you. And our
30 recorder, would you please introduce yourself.

31

32 REPORTER: My name is Tina and I'm the
33 court reporter for this RAC this morning.

34

35 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you. Dale.

36

37 MR. SMITH: Good morning. Dale Smith
38 from Mekoryuk.

39

40 MR. LARSON: Good morning. My name is
41 Robert Larson. I am the DFO, the Council coordinator
42 for this meeting. Thank you.

43

44 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Lester Wilde from
45 Hooper Bay.

46

47 MR. ROCZICKA: Greg Roczicka. Bethel.

48

49 MS. JOHNSON: Dorothy Johnson.
50 Mountain Village.

1 MR. BILL: David Bill, Sr. Toksook
2 Bay.
3
4 MR. ULAK: Anthony Ulak. Scammon Bay.
5
6 MS. CLEVELAND: Annie Cleveland.
7 Quinhagak.
8
9 MR. PETERS: Mike Peters from Marshall.
10
11 MR. BROWN: William Charley Brown.
12 Eek.
13
14 MR. CHARLES: James Charles from
15 Tuntutuliak.
16
17 MR. ALOYSIUS: I don't know who I am, I
18 have no name.
19
20 (Laughter)
21
22 MR. ALOYSIUS: (In Yup'ik)
23
24 My name is Bob Aloysius. I presently
25 reside at Saglik (ph), on the map you call it Kalskag.
26
27 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you. Public
28 comments will be welcome for each agenda item and for
29 the regional concerns not included on this agenda for
30 anyone who would like to make some public comments.
31
32 And please note that these times are
33 estimated and the agenda is subject to change at any --
34 at the discretion of any of us up here.
35
36 Yes, sir.
37
38 MR. LARSON: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I
39 would like to remind the audience that there is a sign-
40 up sheet on the table at the back. Also on the table
41 is some informational pamphlets or items that the
42 Council is going to be talking about. So please, it's
43 called a sign-up sheet but that's not accurate, please
44 print your name so we could read it and put your name
45 on the sign-up sheet for the record.
46
47 CHAIRMAN WILDE: And could you also
48 announce that Donlin.
49
50 MR. LARSON: Yes, Mr. Chair. I've got

1 a note that there will be a Donlin Mine EIS
2 presentation and that will be in the big room, Friday,
3 3:45 p.m. So everyone's invited to hear an update on
4 the Donlin Mine.

5
6 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you. The agenda
7 is as follows:

8
9 Item 5 will be review and adopt the
10 agenda.

11
12 Item 6 election of officers.

13
14 Item 7 will review and approve previous
15 minutes.

16
17 Item 8 will be Council member reports.

18
19 Council member reports.

20
21 Chair's report.

22
23 Item 9 public and tribal comments on
24 non-agenda items, if there are any.

25
26 Item 10 is old business.

27
28 Item 11 is new business.

29
30 Under new business will be call for
31 Federal fish and shellfish regulatory
32 proposals.

33
34 Identify and priority information needs
35 for FRMP.

36
37 Approve Fiscal Year 2015 annual report.

38
39 Board non-rural policy timeline.

40
41 Letter for joint Council, which was
42 passed out this morning, it's a letter
43 like this.

44
45 Item 12 agency reports.

46
47 Gerald Maschmann.

48
49 Unless a special report is requested by
50 the Council, all agencies should be

1 prepared to only provide written
2 reports for this meeting.
3
4 Item 13 future meeting dates.
5
6 Confirm dates and location for fall
7 2016 meeting.
8
9 Select location for winter 2017
10 meeting.
11
12 Item 14 is closing comments.
13
14 Item 15 will be adjournment.
15
16 At this time we'll go into election of
17 officers.
18
19 Yes, Mr. Aloysius.
20
21 MR. ALOYSIUS: You're the only
22 fortunate one who has an agenda.
23
24 CHAIRMAN WILDE: In the back of your
25 book there's an agenda in your book.
26
27 MR. ALOYSIUS: I don't have one.
28
29 CHAIRMAN WILDE: In the back.
30
31 MR. ROCZICKA: There's some up here.
32
33 CHAIRMAN WILDE: And the agenda is
34 entitled YK1. It's towards the back of the book.
35
36 MR. SMITH: Mr. Chair.
37
38 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes.
39
40 MR. SMITH: Was there a revised agenda
41 because some of the information that you mentioned I
42 don't have that.
43
44 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. Yeah, under the
45 agenda there's a couple additions.
46
47 Under new business is the letter from
48 the joint Council. That's under Item -- put that under
49 E. And then under agency reports, there's a report
50 from Gerald Maschmann.

1 Everybody got their agenda.
2
3 MR. ALOYSIUS: Not me.
4
5 CHAIRMAN WILDE: It's listed under --
6 in the very back end of your book and it's listed under
7 YK1.
8
9 MR. ROCZICKA: It's about 26 pages in.
10 Maybe your Staff could bring in more books.
11
12 (Pause)
13
14 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Do we have any other
15 agendas just in case some of these guys don't have --
16 everybody have an agenda down there.
17
18 These guys.
19
20 MS. CLEVELAND: They didn't bring their
21 books.
22
23 MR. ROCZICKA: There's a bunch of them
24 out there.
25
26 CHAIRMAN WILDE: There's a bunch of
27 them out there.
28
29 MR. LARSON: There's a bunch of them
30 out there.
31
32 CHAIRMAN WILDE: We could break for
33 five minutes until you guys get ready.
34
35 (Pause)
36
37 MR. LARSON: Have you done roll call,
38 do we know who's here or not.
39
40 CHAIRMAN WILDE: No, we'll do roll call
41 next. One thing I forgot on your agenda is roll call
42 to establish quorum.
43
44 At this time, Mr. Secretary, who's our
45 Secretary, would you call the roll -- if not would you
46 call the roll please.
47
48 MR. LARSON: They can call the roll.
49
50 CHAIRMAN WILDE: I apologize for this

1 morning, we just weren't quite ready.
2
3 Go ahead, call the roll.
4
5 MR. LARSON: William Brown.
6
7 (No comments)
8
9 MR. LARSON: Are you present?
10
11 MS. CLEVELAND: (In Yup'ik)
12
13 MR. ALOYSIUS: (In Yup'ik)
14
15 MR. BROWN: Yeah.
16
17 MR. LARSON: James Charles, are you
18 present?
19
20 MR. CHARLES: Here.
21
22 MR. LARSON: John Andrew.
23
24 MR. ANDREW: Here.
25
26 MR. LARSON: Michael Peters.
27
28 (No comments)
29
30 MR. LARSON: Michael Peters.
31
32 MR. PETERS: Yeah.
33
34 MR. LARSON: Lester Wilde.
35
36 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Present.
37
38 MR. LARSON: Dale Smith.
39
40 MR. SMITH: Here.
41
42 MR. LARSON: Anthony Ulak.
43
44 MR. ULAK: Here.
45
46 MR. LARSON: Annie Cleveland.
47
48 MS. CLEVELAND: Here.
49
50 MR. LARSON: Dorothy Johnson.

1 MS. JOHNSON: Here.
2
3 MR. LARSON: Raymond Oney.
4
5 (No comments)
6
7 MR. ANDREW: I think he's still at the
8 hospital.
9
10 CHAIRMAN WILDE: He'll be excused for
11 the day.
12
13 MR. LARSON: Greg Roczicka.
14
15 MR. ROCZICKA: Here.
16
17 MR. LARSON: Robert Aloysius.
18
19 MR. ALOYSIUS: Here.
20
21 MR. LARSON: And David Bill, Sr.,
22
23 MR. BILL: Here.
24
25 MR. LARSON: And I need the -- Mr.
26 Chair, all present except for one excused absence.
27
28 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay, thank you.
29
30 MR. LARSON: And I would like to take a
31 moment to apologize for Bob Aloysius, we know who he is
32 and I have no idea where your name tag disappeared to.
33
34 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. We're going on
35 down our agenda and review -- I'm sorry we went through
36 the agenda already. You heard the agenda. All in
37 favor of adopting the agenda as is.....
38
39 MR. ROCZICKA: There was no motion.
40
41 CHAIRMAN WILDE: I'm sorry, let me get
42 my mind straight and we'll get back to it. At this
43 time we'd like to have a motion to adopt the agenda as
44 read.
45
46 MR. ULAK: So moved, Anthony.
47
48 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Anthony Ulak made a
49 motion to adopt the agenda.....
50

1 MR. SMITH: Second.
2
3 CHAIRMAN WILDE:as read, do I
4 hear a second.
5
6 MR. CHARLES: Second.
7
8 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Seconded by Mr. James
9 Charles. Any further comments.
10
11 (No comments)
12
13 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any additions.
14
15 (No comments)
16
17 MR. ROCZICKA: Question.
18
19 MR. ULAK: Question.
20
21 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Question's called for.
22 All in favor say aye.
23
24 IN UNISON: Aye.
25
26 CHAIRMAN WILDE: All opposed, same
27 sign.
28
29 (No opposing votes)
30
31 CHAIRMAN WILDE: We have an agenda. At
32 this time we'll go on with our agenda and go into our
33 election of officers. And do you have any nominat --
34 I'll turn the chair over to our capable Mr. Bob here.
35
36 MR. LARSON: Thank you, Mr. Chair. At
37 this time we'll elect the Chair of the Yukon Kuskokwim
38 Delta Regional Advisory Council.
39
40 I would entertain a motion for a
41 nominee.
42
43 (No comments)
44
45 MR. LARSON: Would you like to nominate
46 someone to be your Chair.
47
48 MR. ULAK: Mr. Chairman. I nominate
49 Lester Wilde.
50

1 MR. LARSON: Thank you.
2
3 MR. PETERS: Mr. Chairman, I second
4 that.
5
6 MR. LARSON: So process wise we don't
7 need a second for this. But we do need to take a
8 moment and make sure that there's not another
9 nomination.
10
11 (No comments)
12
13 MR. LARSON: I don't see another
14 nomination, is that the will of the Council.
15
16 MR. CHARLES: Move to close the
17 nominations.
18
19 MR. LARSON: It appears that it's clear
20 of the will of the Council to have Lester Wilde as
21 their new Chair. I don't know that we need to vote,
22 we'll have a unanimous consent.
23
24 Is there any objections to that.
25
26 (No objections)
27
28 MR. LARSON: Congratulations, Mr.
29 Wilde, you're the new Chair.
30
31 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you.
32
33 MR. LARSON: I'll pass the.....
34
35 (Applause)
36
37 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you. At this
38 time we need a Vice Chair.
39
40 MR. LARSON: You are the Chair.
41
42 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. We need
43 nominations for Vice Chair.
44
45 MR. ULAK: Mr. Chairman. I nominate
46 Greg Roczicka.
47
48 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Greg Roczicka has been
49 nominated for Vice Chair. Is there any other
50 nominations.

1 (No comments)
2
3 MR. PETERS: Move nominations be
4 closed.
5
6 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Motion's been made to
7 close nominations. Any other discussion.
8
9 MR. ULAK: Question.
10
11 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Question's called for.
12 All in favor say aye.
13
14 IN UNISON: Aye.
15
16 CHAIRMAN WILDE: All opposed, same
17 sign.
18
19 (No opposing votes)
20
21 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you. Greg,
22 you're the Vice Chair. We need a Secretary.
23
24 MS. JOHNSON: I nominate Anthony Ulak.
25
26 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Anthony Ulak is
27 nominated for Secretary. Any other nominations.
28
29 (No comments)
30
31 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any other nominations
32 for Secretary.
33
34 MR. CHARLES: Close the nominations.
35
36 CHAIRMAN WILDE: A motion's been made
37 to close the nominations. Any other discussion.
38
39
40 (No comments)
41
42 MR. ROCZICKA: Request unanimous
43 consent.
44
45 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Unanimous consent has
46 been requested, any opposition.
47
48 (No opposition)
49
50 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Is there any other

1 opposition to the unanimous consent.
2
3 (No comments)
4
5 CHAIRMAN WILDE: There being none, so
6 be it.
7
8 The next person for me to nominate is
9 Treasurer.....
10
11 MR. ROCZICKA: There's no treasurer.
12
13 CHAIRMAN WILDE: What's that?
14
15 MR. ROCZICKA: There's no treasurer.
16
17 MR. ALOYSIUS: No.
18
19 CHAIRMAN WILDE: No treasurer, I'm
20 sorry. We've got everybody we needed then. I'm still
21 not quite awake so you'll have to bear with me a little
22 bit until my mind catches up with what we're doing.
23
24 Review and approve previous minutes.
25
26 Is there a motion.
27
28 MR. ULAK: Mr. Chair. I move to approve
29 the minutes.
30
31 CHAIRMAN WILDE: What is Tony. Could
32 you state your nomination again for -- I mean your
33 motion.
34
35 MR. ULAK: Mr. Chair. I move to approve
36 the minutes.
37
38 CHAIRMAN WILDE: A motion been made to
39 approve the minutes as written. Is there a second to
40 the motion.
41
42 MR. PETERS: Second.
43
44 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Seconded by Mr.
45 Peters. Any further discussion.
46
47 (No comments)
48
49 MR. ROCZICKA: Question.
50

1 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Question's called for.
2
3 MR. ANDREW: Mr. Chairman.
4
5 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes.
6
7 MR. ANDREW: Aren't we going to make
8 any corrections or additions on the minutes.
9
10 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Well.....
11
12 MR. ANDREW: There's some typos in
13 there, some names are misspelled and villages, should
14 be changed.
15
16 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Well, a motion's been
17 made and it's already been passed that they be approve
18 as written.
19
20 MR. LARSON: We did not vote.
21
22 MR. ROCZICKA: We haven't voted yet.
23
24 MR. LARSON: We did not.
25
26 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman.
27
28 CHAIRMAN WILDE: We did not vote.
29
30 MR. ROCZICKA: We're under discussion.
31
32 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman. May I
33 remind you.....
34
35 REPORTER: Bob. Bob.
36
37 MR. ALOYSIUS:that.....
38
39 REPORTER: Bob.
40
41 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Bob, would you turn
42 your mic on please.
43
44 MR. ALOYSIUS: May I remind you that
45 there was a motion to adopt the minutes and there was a
46 second and now you're in the discussion period to see
47 if there is any corrections or comments like he said.
48
49 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Are there any
50 corrections to the minutes then.

1 MR. ANDREW: Mr. Chairman. There's
2 quite a few typos in there and some of the names wrong
3 village to their names.

4
5 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Could you point those
6 out, do you have them.

7
8 MR. ANDREW: Well, I just saw a few on
9 the second page on your -- on your second page there is
10 a name that says Jason Nimi and it's supposed to be
11 James Nicori of Kwethluk. And then five lines down
12 they put me down as John Archer. My last name is
13 Andrew. And the next page in there on the second
14 paragraph I say Mr. Epchook name was misspelled and
15 then the next paragraph from there Martin Nicolai's
16 testimony it says -- I remember we had a moose season
17 up four days and it wasn't -- this says 8 days. And
18 then down from there, next paragraph it says James
19 Nicori and the last name was misspelled.

20
21 MR. LARSON: How do you spell his name.

22
23 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Could you spell that
24 Nicori name.

25
26 MR. ANDREW: N-I-C-O-R-I.

27
28 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chair.

29
30 MR. ANDREW: Mr. Chairman.

31
32 MR. ROCZICKA: And also you have E-P-C-
33 H-O-O-K, and it's Ispchook in here.

34
35 MR. ANDREW: E-P-C-H-O-O-K.

36
37 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any other corrections
38 to the minutes.

39
40 (No comments)

41
42 MR. LARSON: Can I ask a question.

43
44 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes.

45
46 MR. LARSON: The very first correction
47 that John Andrew had.

48
49 CHAIRMAN WILDE: What was that first
50 correction you had on the minutes.

1 MR. LARSON: It was a name.
2
3 REPORTER: John, turn a mic on.
4
5 MR. ANDREW: One, two, three, four,
6 five, six lines down the name Jason Nimi, it's supposed
7 to be James Nicori.
8
9 MR. ULAK: Mr. Chair. John, what's
10 that, was it James Nicolai?
11
12 MR. ROCZICKA: Nicori. Nicori.
13
14 MR. ANDREW: It says (In Yup'ik).
15
16 MR. ULAK: Okay.
17
18 MR. ANDREW: Then my last name is not
19 Archer, (In Yup'ik) down in the middle of the page.
20
21 MR. ULAK: Okay.
22
23 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Are there any other
24 corrections to the minutes.
25
26 (No comments)
27
28 CHAIRMAN WILDE: There being none we
29 have a motion on the floor that was seconded. All in
30 favor of the motion signify by saying aye.
31
32 IN UNISON: Aye.
33
34 CHAIRMAN WILDE: All opposed, same
35 sign.
36
37 (No opposing votes)
38
39 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Motion's carried.
40
41 We are down to Item 8, reports, Council
42 member reports. Any Council member have any reports.
43
44
45 (No comments)
46
47 CHAIRMAN WILDE: And I don't have any
48 prepared reports at this moment. It seems like there
49 was something that came over at one time and I can't
50 put it in my mind right now but if and when it comes up

1 I'll report on it.

2

3 MR. SMITH: Mr. Chair.

4

5 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Go ahead, Mr. Smith.

6

7 MR. SMITH: I have a comment, would
8 that be appropriate at this time.

9

10 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes, go ahead with
11 your comment.

12

13 MR. SMITH: Okay. Back in October of
14 2014 was my first RAC Council meeting in Bethel and at
15 that time I had made a testimony regarding C&T use of
16 muskox on Nunivak Island. And either it's my
17 misunderstanding or I didn't know the process or the
18 system that within the Fish and Wildlife, I didn't hear
19 anything regarding that request. So I did talk with
20 Pippa and with Gene regarding the request and if we
21 could work on that for future use.

22

23 The other comment I have was regarding
24 our reindeer and muskox management plan that was signed
25 back in 1992 and looking at Fish and Wildlife and their
26 turnover and basically the agreement was basically
27 dropped and the community is looking at trying to
28 resurrect the plan there and I know that Mr. Ray Born
29 is here and just looking at the system, it's been two
30 years now, and I know that there's been some turnover
31 within Fish and Wildlife and we just felt like we were
32 left out in the cold, literally. We were trying to get
33 this plan moving. The community is interested in
34 pursuing that.

35

36 So I just wanted to put that on record.
37 That the community of Mekoryuk is looking to try to
38 resurrect the muskox and reindeer management plan for
39 the benefit of the people there and for the -- at least
40 for the benefit of the organizations also. Because I
41 know that there's been some turnover and maybe some
42 misunderstandings. Just making sure that we move that
43 forward.

44

45 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

46

47 CHAIRMAN WILDE: And, Dale, have you
48 started the process of doing a proposal for these C&T
49 of those two, and it'll have to come from your tribe
50 and presented to us and then at that time we'll discuss

1 it.

2

3 MR. SMITH: Yes, Mr. Chair. I did talk
4 with Pippa and we will be working on that. I guess the
5 next cycle, which is next year for wildlife, so we'll
6 be doing that.

7

8 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay, we'll be
9 expecting it.

10

11 Okay. At this time public comments,
12 tribal and -- are there any public and tribal comments
13 on non-agenda items.

14

15 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman.

16

17 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Go ahead, Mr.

18 Aloysius.

19

20 MR. ALOYSIUS: We're still on Council
21 comments.

22

23 CHAIRMAN WILDE: What was that?

24

25 MR. ALOYSIUS: We're still on Council
26 comments.

27

28 CHAIRMAN WILDE: No, we're not. We're
29 on the agenda and we're down to Item 9 public and
30 tribal comments on non-agenda items.

31

32 Yes, Mr. Peters.

33

34 MR. PETERS: Mr. Chairman.

35

36 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Could you please turn
37 on your mic.

38

39 MR. PETERS: Okay. Thank you, Mr.
40 Chairman.

41

42 I would like to comment on some of the
43 proposals about how it's going to, you know, affect us
44 on the Upper end of the Yukon. Coming from Marshall in
45 Y2 of how it's going to affect us and, you know, Mr.
46 Oney is not here, but, you know, from Y1 and I think
47 it's very important that, you know, coming from the
48 Yukon we do comment on some of these proposals of how
49 it's going to affect us in our area.

50

1 Thank you.

2

3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Do you have anything
4 to say Mr.....

5

6 MR. ALOYSIUS: My apologies. I'd like
7 to remind the Staff that for many years we've been
8 asking for minutes, at least a week prior to our
9 meetings. There's such a thing as email now days, it's
10 much faster than the postal service. And if I had
11 minutes to review prior to being here I know I would
12 have a lot of things to say about that.

13

14 But just a reminder.

15

16 And my eyes are not as good as they
17 used to be and I didn't see the part that says,
18 reports, so sorry.

19

20 CHAIRMAN WILDE: You're welcome, Bob.

21

22 Are there any tribal -- or non-agenda
23 -- or comments on non-agenda items.

24

25 MR. ULAK: Mr. Chairman.

26

27 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes, Mr. James, go
28 ahead, Charles.

29

30 MR. CHARLES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

31

32 Back in January 2016, I went to
33 Fairbanks and attend the Board of Fish meeting there.
34 And Greg was there and so was other members. And John
35 was there, too. And I made a report for this RAC, even
36 I wasn't there at the meeting in fall time, fall
37 meeting, but next time I'd like somebody who was there
38 at the meeting to make the report of what happened at
39 the meeting. I -- even, I didn't know -- I made a
40 report because my village area like Tuntutuliak and
41 other areas didn't want a permit system for subsistence
42 fishing in my area. I heard that on the radio. They
43 were talking over the radio and so I made the report at
44 that time for this RAC and I wasn't there at the
45 October meeting.

46

47 Thank you.

48

49 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Mr.
50 Charles.

1 Mr. Ulak, did you have a comment.
2
3 MR. ULAK: (Shakes head negatively)
4
5 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Since there are no
6 tribal comments, is there any other comments from the
7 Council before we go on.
8
9 MR. ULAK: Oh, Mr. Chair, I think it
10 would be appropriate if we can have our emails updated
11 so we can have, like what's his name, Bob Aloysius,
12 stated, that we can have the minutes in advance, have
13 our email -- somebody's got to have our email so we can
14 read in advance, you know.
15
16 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah, you could -- if
17 you have an email you could get in touch with our --
18 with Bob over here and he can record that down so we
19 could have it on record.
20
21 That's okay.
22
23 MR. LARSON: Yes, Mr. Chair, that is
24 absolutely okay. And I would like to note that for
25 this cycle, because of the joint Council meeting, that
26 we did not mail the minutes to the Council members,
27 but, instead, posted them on our website and everyone
28 should have received an email or letter in the mail
29 that reminded the Council members that they were not
30 going to get a written copy of the Council meeting
31 materials, but it was, instead, posted on line. So if
32 that's -- I don't think we're going to do that in the
33 future but there was some administrative reasons why
34 that seemed to be a most effective way of sharing that
35 information for this meeting. So it was posted on
36 line, but you should have received a link for those of
37 you who have emails.
38
39 CHAIRMAN WILDE: We haven't had a
40 meeting like this for a long time and, you know, it
41 gets kind of confusing after awhile. So I guess we
42 could forgive you guys for it for this time, this one
43 time.
44
45 Any other Council comments.
46
47 Go ahead, Mr. Brown, before we go on
48 with our agenda.
49
50 MR. BROWN: Could I speak with my own

1 language.

2

3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes, you got a
4 translator back there.

5

6 If anybody needs a translator to
7 understand what Mr. Brown -- he's going to be speaking
8 in Yup'ik. Translators are back there if you need a
9 translator. The little box machines are back there if
10 you need them. If you can't understand Yup'ik, it
11 might be a good idea to get yourself a translator.

12

13 (Pause)

14

15 MR. BROWN: (In Yup'ik)

16

17 TRANSLATOR: I told him to speak slowly
18 and not to ramble on so long before the translations.

19

20 Quyana.

21

22 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Everybody got
23 translators if they need them. We want to make sure
24 that you catch every word.

25

26 (Laughter)

27

28 CHAIRMAN WILDE: So we'll wait until
29 everybody gets their translator.

30

31 (Laughter)

32

33 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay, Mr. Brown, you
34 have the floor.

35

36 MR. BROWN: (In Yup'ik)

37

38 MR. ROCZICKA: The machine's not
39 working.

40

41 CHAIRMAN WILDE: We have new
42 translators that haven't worked with us before so if
43 you'll excuse them, they're -- until they get the
44 equipment all set up.

45

46 MR. RIVARD: Tina, can you crank up the
47 volume a little bit?

48

49 REPORTER: Sorry, I'll get a speaker in
50 a little bit and get some extra sound, but it's not on

1 the translators microphones.
2
3 (Pause)
4
5 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Are we ready to try
6 again.
7
8 (Laughter)
9
10 TRANSLATOR: Yeah.
11
12 (Laughter)
13
14 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Go ahead, Mr. Brown.
15
16 MR. BROWN: (In Yup'ik)
17
18 TRANSLATOR: His real name is William.
19 Last fall, December, talked about your subsistence
20 netting. We did not know what the name of that agency
21 was. The Federal and State, some of them spoke, from
22 the State that it is open in regards to catching red
23 salmon and then some of us -- and in the mouth of the
24 river, did not go all the way into the river. My
25 village told them to tell them to understand that the
26 way it has been all the time, from the past -- from
27 time past. I mention that as much as I can. That is
28 the only report that I have.
29
30 Thank you, Chairman.
31
32 MR. BILL: Mr. Chair.
33
34 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes, Mr. Bill, go
35 ahead.
36
37 MR. BILL: (In Yup'ik)
38
39 TRANSLATOR: Lots of people do not
40 understand what the Federal does in regards to our
41 village and the State. We do not always understand.
42 So the State and Federal should help each other. What
43 the State and Federal says is not understood. Some of
44 them are under Federal agency control and whatever the
45 State is so concerned with should also be stated
46 clearly.
47
48 Thank you.
49
50 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes, Mr. Charles.

1 MR. CHARLES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
2 Charlie Brown remind me of what I should say about my
3 area. I live close to the mouth of Kuskokwim and we
4 had Federal managing the Kuskokwim chinook fishery last
5 couple of years. And they want -- the people in my
6 village want the Federal to do the same again for this
7 coming season. And there are people in my area like
8 the system or managing the fishery, chinook fishery,
9 last couple of years. And the -- because they are
10 allowed to set the net 100 yards from the mouth of the
11 Kuskokwim. And we are allowed to fish on the (In
12 Yup'ik) on the west side, they are called non-spawning
13 rivers, non-salmon spawning rivers and they like that
14 area. So be opened for public. So Charlie reminded me
15 of that.

16
17 Thank you.

18
19 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Mr.
20 Charles.

21
22 Mr. Aloysius.

23
24 MR. ALOYSIUS: Along with everybody
25 else on the Kuskokwim River, the area I come from is
26 confused who has the dominant authority over the
27 Kuskokwim River. And I tried to explain over and over
28 that the Feds have jurisdiction up to Aniak and after
29 Aniak it's the state of Alaska. And I never have any
30 answer because it's clear to me but how do you make it
31 clear to other people. It creates more havoc. A lot
32 of people get cited for not knowing.

33
34 The other thing that the people want
35 for the last two years is the elimination of the four
36 inch mesh but no one pays any attention to that because
37 it's a detriment to the king salmon that are going up,
38 we all know it, even the scientists know it. So there
39 has to be something that we're going to have to start
40 early before the season on educating the people again
41 on who has jurisdiction from the mouth of the Kuskokwim
42 River up to Aniak and who has jurisdiction from Aniak
43 up. And the thing that is very confusing, too, is
44 everybody's on a conserve the king salmon, that means
45 don't target them and, yet, people do, because the
46 community thing that allocates so many king salmon for
47 each village, many people are saying that's against
48 conservation. So let's get the Feds and the State
49 together to make sure that people understand exactly
50 what they want. Do they want to conserve king salmon

1 or do they make exceptions. And if the Feds make
2 exceptions, people are saying, well, I can make my own
3 exceptions too.

4
5 Get it straight.

6
7 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Mr.
8 Aloysius.

9
10 Any other comments before we go into
11 our.....

12
13 MR. SMITH: Mr. Chair.

14
15 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Dale go ahead.

16
17 MR. SMITH: Just a comment during the
18 first day we saw a presentation by the North Pacific
19 Fisheries Management Council and their efforts to try
20 and reduce salmon and halibut bycatch in the Bering
21 Sea, so I guess my question is does this Council have a
22 stance on reducing bycatch in the Bering Sea? Maybe
23 you have but if this Council can either push or support
24 major reductions of bycatch of salmon and halibut in
25 the Bering Sea, at least, for my area and Nunivak
26 Island, you know, we do subsist for halibut and for a
27 few years we've been seeing reductions in halibut so --
28 and I know that Nelson Island also, Toksook Bay, so if
29 we can -- maybe, I don't know, I'm just asking that
30 question right off hand. Is there a way that this
31 Council can either write a letter or something to the
32 Council, North Pacific Council, to really look at
33 reducing the bycatch for halibut and salmon.

34
35 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Roczicka.

36
37 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chair. I can address
38 that for Dale.

39
40 Yes, this Council has gone on record at
41 every public hearing opportunity when the North Pacific
42 Council and we have called for the most restrictive
43 measures in the options that they have put forward and,
44 not only this Council, but because of the huge amount
45 of public concern that was generated across the state,
46 they have now incorporated into their management
47 structure for the North Pacific, that they have to
48 manage with consideration of the salmon throughout
49 their range and what the effects are of the Bering Sea
50 trawl fleet and there have been substantial reductions

1 that are in place. And over the last couple of years
2 their bycatch has been about one-tenth of what it was
3 at some of the high levels of 10 years ago. So there
4 have been substantial response and restrictions put
5 into place.

6

7 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Mr.
8 Roczicka.

9

10 Mr. Peters.

11

12 MR. PETERS: Mr. Chairman. You know,
13 on some of this stuff, you know, coming from the Yukon,
14 I think, you know, it affects us too in our areas like,
15 you know, we would like to have some sort of say on how
16 it's going to affect us on the Yukon. Also like me
17 coming from Marshall, and we do have people from the Y1
18 or like from Mountain Village all the way down to
19 Emmonak and Alakanuk and I think the delegates over
20 there need to -- you know, how it can affect us also
21 and we would like to -- you know, I would like to work
22 with Yukon delegates and get some answers from them.

23

24 Thank you.

25

26 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any other comments.
27 Mr. Roczicka, short and sweet please.

28

29 MR. ROCZICKA: Actually I should add on
30 that we'll want to continue to push for more reductions
31 with that fleet and, you know, the ideal is if we could
32 get it down to zero. But every time it comes up we'll
33 make sure that it's -- and Staff should be on notice
34 for that, that it gets on our agenda.

35

36 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any other comments
37 from Council.

38

39 MR. BILL: Mr. Chair.

40

41 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes, Mr. Bill.

42

43 MR. BILL: (In Yup'ik)

44

45 TRANSLATOR: So he's talking about, oh,
46 the changes in the (In Yup'ik) the fisheries there in
47 his area. So this area has the -- there has been
48 changes down there, the fisheries so I have made
49 comments about that change but there has been no
50 attention given to that comments I have made. And so

1 people are not really paying attention to what are we
2 saying when we look at the Kuskokwim River and the
3 Yukon River. Though we talk about those areas we make
4 comments annually every year so if you all can help
5 with this concern I am just saying that for now.

6

7 MR. ANDREW: Mr. Chairman.

8

9 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Go ahead, Mr. Andrew.

10

11 MR. ANDREW: Mr. Chairman, guyana.

12

13 TRANSLATOR: At my home we've been
14 meeting in Unit 4, and the villages have been meeting
15 talking about the Kuskokwim that is -- the number has
16 come down for years and maybe three years now. Several
17 villages, those who have fished customarily and so a
18 few have been given -- a few to fish for the salmon but
19 -- and the system that they had to appoint a fisherman
20 to fish for certain families has not -- it hasn't been
21 working well, that process has not worked well. So we
22 know, as fishermen, the first catch we have, we
23 distribute them to the elders and the first catch we --
24 is always shared with the elders in the community. And
25 we all had fish camps and we all had smokehouses at
26 fish camps and we'd fill up our smokehouses but now --
27 now we were -- all the restrictions and the numbers
28 that are allowed has really changed that system we
29 have. And just only a certain area would be open and
30 people would just go and -- in great numbers to try and
31 catch there in just that one little open area and that
32 is not good for our people.

33

34 So how it is -- the process going now
35 it's not working to well for us and -- under Board of
36 Game there are proposals that we get big animals, big
37 game, bears, moose, caribou. The -- the --
38 restrictions on the weapons and so that was -- been
39 granted by the regulators and we know that and we know
40 the .222 rifles, our children do use rifles like that
41 when they hunt so if that regulation is adopted it's
42 going to hurt the communities and the villages so
43 that's all I will share for now.

44

45 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Aloysius.

46

47 MR. ALOYSIUS: Followup on the
48 community.....

49

50 REPORTER: Bob, your mic.

1 MR. ALOYSIUS: The Feds hand out
2 permits for so many people.....

3
4 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Turn your mic on.

5
6 MR. ALOYSIUS:in the village to
7 fish for people that need king salmon or any other
8 salmon that are caught for the period that they're out
9 there fishing. I live in Kalskag on the hill side, not
10 one, not one of those fishers ever ever come to my
11 door, and I'm not the only one. There's a lot of in-
12 fighting in most villages, Kalskag and Lower Kalskag,
13 but the people that are selected are relatives of the
14 city or the tribal council and their families are the
15 ones that benefit and a lot of people go without. And
16 that is something that is not right and that has to be
17 changed. And if the Feds are sincere about making sure
18 people get a taste of the king salmon that's supposed
19 to be conserved, let them enforce it and have the
20 village select fishers, like John said, many of the
21 fishers don't have a boat or an engine or the equipment
22 to fish, they have to go borrow it around from somebody
23 else. And, you know, blood is thicker than hell out
24 there in the villages and we know it. Because the
25 people who are doing the fishing are afraid if they
26 don't give it to their relatives their relatives are
27 going to raise hell with them. So the people on the
28 outside of that blood circle go without.

29
30 Thank you.

31
32 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Mr.
33 Aloysius.

34
35 Any more comments.

36
37 (No comments)

38
39 CHAIRMAN WILDE: There being none we
40 are going to continue on with our agenda.

41
42 We are down to old business.

43
44 Item A under old business is Refuge
45 proposed rule on hunting update. Yes, go ahead, Mr.
46 Abraham.

47
48 MR. ABRAHAM: Some of you people know
49 me from the Bethel area and I've been in Togiak for
50 quite some time.

1 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Could you please state
2 your name and where you're from for the record.

3

4 MR. ABRAHAM: Yes.

5

6 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you.

7

8 MR. ABRAHAM: She knows me.

9

10 (Laughter)

11

12 MR. ABRAHAM: (In Yup'ik) our concern
13 about the king salmon. I have helped study king salmon
14 in the Togiak area in the river for quite some time.
15 Before that I've been with the Refuge Information for
16 20 or more years and the RAC for 21 years too.

17

18 I have concerns just exactly like you
19 guys do about king salmon we're losing. And there's
20 quite a few factors why the king salmon is declining in
21 the rivers. The big factor is high seas fishermen out
22 there, that's the biggest factor. But we have studied
23 Togiak area for quite some time. We interviewed nine
24 elders in the area there and the difference, like 75
25 years ago until maybe nine years ago, nine years, the
26 weather has changed. The loss of snow in the
27 mountains. So when you have a lot of -- lose a lot of
28 snow in the mountains, weather wise, the rivers are
29 drying. Where the king salmon spawns they're drying up
30 too. So the king salmon have concentrated on the main
31 river and they have more predators than where they
32 usually spawn. Not only that where you spawn, the
33 beavers dam those areas there and you cannot fight the
34 beaver because they're constant, I mean they're
35 workers.

36

37 Anyway I have been studying these as an
38 RIT, every summer, and I work with sportsmen over there
39 off and on. In Togiak, we used to have at least 15,000
40 in the river but when they started going down after
41 1997, went down to maybe 10,000, that's when I started
42 really looking at checking. And contact the people in
43 the Yukon area, the people I know, and even in the
44 Kuskokwim. In the Kuskokwim, in the spring time,
45 during the king salmon season (indiscernible) families
46 about 200 kings, in Yukon area, close to 200 kings,
47 too. And the difference between that area and my area,
48 in Togiak we're targeting about 60 to maybe close to
49 100, 100 kings per season. But you people up there in
50 the Yukon and Kuskokwim are the people that are the

1 most hurting up there.

2

3 We cannot fix what's an age of doom
4 right now, I guess we talk with the high seas fishermen
5 out there. We need a powerful representative from
6 these two rivers over there, the people here. I know
7 the dollar sign is more powerful than the human voice.
8 But if we have some kind of agreement out there with
9 the high seas fishermen, you -- maybe it'd work before
10 it's too late in our rivers over there. They're coming
11 but they're coming less. Remember yesterday we talked
12 -- they looked at the numbers, we're in dangerous
13 levels down in the bottom there. If those numbers are
14 caught we will have nothing in our area.

15

16 So we cannot fix what's happening right
17 now just by talking. We need to take an action with
18 the powerful representatives from our areas over there.
19 Because you people depend on the fish like people in
20 Togiak.

21

22 I would have told you this earlier
23 before going around and around on from different
24 subjects. That is my concern.

25

26 Good luck to you guys and I hope it
27 works. I'm in the phonebook. I try to help out as
28 much as I can by translating from there to there. I
29 work with ADF&G and I work with US Fish and Wildlife
30 and I work with Traditional Councils of the villages.
31 Your voice is in the traditional council and I hope you
32 guys get a powerful representative.

33

34 That's all I got for you guys.

35

36 Quyana.

37

38 (In Yup'ik)

39

40 TRANSLATOR: He's not speaking Yup'ik
41 because you cannot translate.....

42

43 MR. ABRAHAM: There's some people that
44 can understand both sides, thank you.

45

46 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Quyana.

47

48 Yes.

49

50 Please state your name and where you're

1 from.

2

3 MR. BORN: Good morning, Mr. Chair.
4 I'm Ray Born, the Deputy Refuge Manager at Yukon Delta
5 and I wanted to respond to a couple of the good
6 questions. We'll talk first a little bit about the
7 muskox and reindeer question you brought up.

8

9 My understanding right now is there's a
10 new method of doing the surveys, much better than we've
11 done historically. So I agree we need to update that
12 plan and improve upon it and find a good way we can
13 work best together with Mekoryuk and the State and Fish
14 and Wildlife Service. And that'll be my goal is to
15 work more on that.

16

17 From the salmon issue of the Kuskokwim
18 management. Can you hear me.

19

20 MR. ALOYSIUS: Closer. Closer.

21

22 MR. BORN: Okay. I can talk closer
23 into the mic.

24

25 So on the salmon issue it's my intent
26 to start discussions next week on the Kuskokwim River
27 management, how we're going to approach that for next
28 year so I invite anybody that's working on that process
29 to get a hold of me and we'll kind of start the
30 discussions. We don't have a preseason forecast yet
31 and that kind of determines how we'll be able to move
32 forward in the coming year. But I foresee if the
33 numbers are similar to last year we'll have a similar
34 process this coming year. But that's kind of where we
35 need to go to.

36

37 I wanted to talk briefly about the
38 bycatch issue. Some of the reports I read this year
39 from National Marine Fisheries indicates the bycatch
40 for salmon in the pollock fishery is about two percent,
41 so that's a pretty low number. I don't know if we can
42 improve upon that, I'm happy to work with everybody the
43 best I can but I think that's a pretty low percentage.
44 Of course, subsistence take of the salmon is much
45 higher than that, which, as it should be, but we should
46 continue to work together. And anybody that's
47 interested in the National Marine Fisheries report
48 please let me know, I'll be glad to send that to you.
49 It's been peer reviewed, it's a very specific report on
50 that particular issue in that way.

1 Talking about everybody understanding
2 what the rules and regulations are. I have a strong
3 Refuge Information Technician team now at Yukon Delta.
4 We're going to use those team members to reach out to
5 all the villages to talk about the regulations and how
6 that's going to go into place. Part of their task for
7 this year is to get out and visit every single village
8 and answer questions, understand any concerns you may
9 have, bring them back to me so that we can answer those
10 questions for you.

11
12 So I'm looking forward to working
13 together with everybody in the upcoming year to do a
14 good job of managing all of our resources together as
15 one team.

16
17 Thank you. Mr. Chair.

18
19 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you. And who is
20 going to be covering this proposed rule on hunting.
21 Okay, that's good, thank you.

22
23 MR. SANCHEZ: Thank you, Council.
24 Ronnie Sanchez, Refuge supervisor for the southern zone
25 of Alaska.

26
27 So a quick update, I guess, on the
28 proposed rule that is out there right now.

29
30 We just kind of finished up statewide
31 hearings and open houses that we held through several
32 communities here in Alaska. On February 8th there was
33 one in Bethel. This is the area that covers within the
34 Council. And then just on March 1st we had one in
35 Dillingham. Again, an open house followed up by a two
36 hour hearing to take comments.

37
38 The biggest update I can give to the
39 Council right now is that the comment period was
40 extended for an additional 30 days so the comment
41 period now is going through April 7th. And part of it
42 was because we heard from folks out there that they
43 wanted to make sure these, within the RAC meetings now,
44 that we would be able to get comments from everybody
45 that attended here. So I strongly encourage everybody
46 that -- I'm sure everybody totally agrees with what
47 we're proposing, but by the far chance there is not, we
48 do want -- not want, we do need to hear from you on
49 what your concerns are. So, again, that's the update,
50 is to say that we have extended the comment period

1 through April 7th.

2

3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any questions or
4 comments.

5

6 Mr. Peters.

7

8 MR. PETERS: I got a question like on
9 some of these, you know, how it's going to affect us
10 like on the Yukon. And I think on the ones that's
11 going to really affect us, I think we should have a
12 draft copy of how we could work -- work -- and get --
13 you know how it's going to affect my area on the Yukon.
14 And if we could have some sort of feedback on that, you
15 know, on some of these proposals that are being brought
16 forth and how it's going to affect my area.

17

18 Thank you.

19

20 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Greg Roczicka, did
21 you have any other comments or did you have a question.

22

23 MR. ROCZICKA: Did you want him to
24 respond.

25

26 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Oh, I'm sorry, go
27 ahead.

28

29 MR. SANCHEZ: So if I can, before the
30 end of these meetings this week, I'll make sure we have
31 lots of different maps and -- and talks about what the
32 proposed rule for each game management unit within the
33 Yukon, I'll make sure those get out on the table here,
34 that people can pick up and look at that.

35

36 MR. PETERS: Thank you.

37

38 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Roczicka.

39

40 MR. ROCZICKA: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

41

42 Well, this proposed rule was brought to
43 us back in October and we registered our concerns
44 unanimously at that point in time being opposed to it,
45 however, it had not been put forward and actually sent
46 out to the Federal Register, that did not occur until
47 January and if we go through -- look at that proposed
48 rule, under the criteria that we have here on whether
49 or not a proposal should pass, it says is there a
50 conservation concern: No, there is not. And so that

1 doesn't apply as far as implementing this rule.

2

3 Is it supported by substantial evidence
4 such as biological or traditional ecological knowledge:
5 No, it is not. And actually it contradicts traditional
6 knowledge and biological information that have been
7 used in predator management areas.

8

9 Will it be beneficial or detrimental to
10 subsistence needs and users: Yes, it will.

11

12 The point that has been consistently
13 made, even though it's being -- harvest is occurring on
14 certainly not to any detriment of predator populations
15 at all and it's being done under State because Federal
16 does allow it under subsistence but you don't want to
17 allow it for the State to occur under their regulations
18 with very liberal harvest opportunities.

19

20 And so this -- keeping a balanced
21 measure, that's where a failure of the Federal system
22 comes into play, is that, we have openings but there's
23 nothing, no responsibility and no accountability for
24 the managers to make sure there's anything there to
25 catch, to actually manage.

26

27 And if you want to look at natural
28 diversity as being your trigger or driving rule, it's
29 been said over and over and over again, we have 10,000
30 years of rural residents living here and who have
31 conducted activities that would be very distasteful to
32 the people who put forward rules and regulations like
33 this that are being brought in by, essentially, animal
34 welfare groups who just have their own visceral
35 distaste with that form of management.

36

37 And the final one, would the
38 recommendation unnecessary restrict other uses: Yes,
39 it does. It is in direct conflict with the whole
40 premise for why Refuges were created under Title VIII
41 of ANILCA, that they would be managed for hunting and
42 fishing opportunity and you have no conservation
43 concern, there is nothing in here.

44

45 And I would just reassert for this
46 Council that, you know, we were unanimously opposed to
47 it the last time and we certainly heard the other RACs
48 voice similar concerns at the joint meeting yesterday
49 and so I would move and ask unanimous consent that we
50 develop a joint statement with the other Councils to at

1 this time specifically recommending to the Federal
2 Subsistence Board and bringing in their deference
3 clause that they have to the Councils, that the Fish
4 and Wildlife Service should withdraw this proposed
5 rule.

6
7 CHAIRMAN WILDE: There's a motion on
8 the floor, is there a second to the motion.

9
10 MR. ULAK: Second.

11
12 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any further
13 discussion.

14
15 (No comments)

16
17 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any further discussion
18 on the motion.

19
20 MR. SMITH: Question.

21
22 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Question's called for.
23 All in favor say aye.

24
25 IN UNISON: Aye.

26
27 CHAIRMAN WILDE: All opposed, same
28 sign.

29
30 (No opposing votes)

31
32 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Motion carried.

33
34 MR. SANCHEZ: Thank you all. I
35 appreciate your words, I really do.

36
37 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you. And now we
38 are down to new business.

39
40 At this time we would call on OSM to
41 call for Federal fish and shellfish regulatory
42 proposals. Mr. Pappas.

43
44 MR. PAPPAS: Good morning. I apologize
45 for interrupting this process, but you made a motion
46 and just to make certain, you're looking to develop a
47 joint statement with the other Regional Advisory
48 Councils and when would you like that done, would you
49 like that done and out during this week while
50 everybody's here or are you talking a specific

1 timeline, between now and the end of the public comment
2 period. When would you like that completed?

3

4 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Greg.

5

6 MR. ROCZICKA: I'd like to try to, for
7 myself, before the joint Councils -- before the end of
8 Friday, before we're done, and I don't know if there's
9 any plans on moving forward for us to get back
10 together. I saw that there's a letter here for a joint
11 letter that was put forward, I think, by Southcentral
12 or something, that it was mentioned yesterday, if
13 there's going to be a chance for the joint Councils to
14 get back together, then if not just the offices could
15 work with the other Regional Advisory Councils to put
16 something together.

17

18 MR. PAPPAS: Thank you, very much. My
19 point is we have simultaneous Council meetings going
20 on, we have enough Staff here to scramble somebody to
21 bring this to the attention of the Councils while they
22 have a quorum in place and have a vote actively going
23 on here. Would you like us to do that, Mr. Chair?

24

25 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes.

26

27 MR. PAPPAS: Thank you.

28

29 CHAIRMAN WILDE: That'd be a good idea.

30

31 MR. ROCZICKA: Yes.

32

33 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. Mr. Rivard,
34 you're sitting there patiently and I'm sure you have a
35 comment.

36

37 MR. RIVARD: I'm just here to address
38 your next item when you're ready for that.

39

40 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. Go ahead.

41

42 MR. RIVARD: Good morning, Mr. Chair
43 and members of the Council. My name is Don Rivard.
44 I've been working with this Council for about 15 years
45 now. I just wanted to let the folks -- there's a lot
46 of new faces as far as I'm concerned on the Council and
47 I just wanted to let you know that I've worked with
48 this Council for quite awhile and really enjoy working
49 with this Council. I'm the Staff fishery biologist at
50 OSM assigned to.....

1 (Teleconference interruption)
2
3 REPORTER: Sorry, go ahead Don.
4
5 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Go ahead, continue,
6 Mr. Rivard.
7
8 MR. RIVARD: Okay. So we're going to
9 go through the -- there's the call for the regulatory
10 proposals. It's in your book on Page 225 in the main
11 part of the book, not that supplemental that you got
12 for your Council itself, but the actual meeting
13 materials there. Page 225.
14
15 So the Federal Subsistence Board is
16 accepting proposals through April 1st of 2016 to change
17 Federal.....
18
19 (Teleconference interruption)
20
21 REPORTER: Okay, that's that. Go
22 ahead.
23
24 MR. RIVARD: Okay. I'm going to start
25 over here.
26
27 The Federal Subsistence Board is
28 accepting proposals through April 1st 2016 to change
29 Federal regulations for the subsistence harvest of fish
30 and shellfish on Federal public lands for the 2017 to
31 2019 regulatory year, and that is April 1st 2017 to
32 March 31st, 2019.
33
34 The Board will consider proposals to
35 change Federal fisheries -- fishing seasons, harvest
36 limits, methods of harvest and customary and
37 traditional use determinations. The Board will also
38 accept proposals for individual customary and
39 traditional use determinations from residents of
40 National Park and National Monument Resident Zone
41 Communities or those who already hold a Section 13.440
42 subsistence use permits.
43
44 So here's the current regulations book
45 and this expires March 31st of 2017 so we're starting
46 the process now to update this book.
47
48 I'm here today to let you know that
49 that's -- that the changes are going to take place,
50 that we do have a call for proposals, and if this

1 Council would like to submit any proposals themselves
2 we could go through some changes you would like to see
3 made to the regulations and get it noted and help you
4 develop proposals or you can contact me later if you
5 don't want to do it right now. If you look on that
6 announcement at the top of the page, it's got the
7 contact as Deborah Coble, but you can contact me at
8 that same 800 number there, 1-800-478-1456.

9

10 So at the will of the Council now.

11

12 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

13

14 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Mr. Rivard.

15 Did you have anything else, Mr. Pappas.

16

17 MR. PAPPAS: I'm here to listen and
18 also add to the process here is the Board of Fish does
19 have a call for fisheries proposal which is due on
20 April 10th, but it's for Cook Inlet, it's for Kodiak,
21 it's not your area. And there were some decisions that
22 were made for your river at the Board of Fish this year
23 and I wanted to see if there was any response to them.

24

25 One of them was there are new State
26 regulations defining a purse seine. The depth and
27 length and mesh size of a purse seine for use for
28 subsistence. If you want to put a proposal to the
29 Federal Subsistence Board to match that you can. If
30 you don't want to, the in-season manager can put it on
31 the permit and I don't have a recommendation one way or
32 the other but I would assume just like the last couple
33 of years there would be consultation with the Refuge
34 during the pre-season meetings or in-season meetings
35 discussing what size net folks want to use, what depth
36 they want to use and that could be put on a permit.

37

38 So that's one change that happened.

39

40 And the other change of interest was
41 the State now has redefined some of the districts in
42 the river, but if you look at our regulations, the
43 Federal Subsistence fishery regulations reference the
44 management plan on the State, so if the management --
45 if the State puts in different boundaries for districts
46 in the river for managing the fishery, by default, the
47 Federal regulations would pick those up because it's in
48 their management plan now and if the Federally-
49 qualified users want to do something different they can
50 bring it to the manager and we can do the -- the in-

1 season manager has the authority on the Federal side
2 for time and area, you can move it up and down and I
3 would assume -- you've done that before -- and I would
4 assume if folks were interested we could do it again to
5 make sure the subsistence users understand a very
6 bright line of where the districts are.

7

8 So I'm here just to say that if you
9 have something to go to the Federal Board I can help
10 Don. If you have something to go to Board of Fish, if
11 you're interested in Kodiak or Cook Inlet I can also
12 take that.

13

14 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

15

16 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Mr. Pappas.
17 Anything else you have Mr. Rivard.

18

19 MR. RIVARD: That's all for that topic
20 right now unless you want to go through some potential
21 proposals.

22

23 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. Before we get
24 into that I've had a request for a break at this time
25 and I think it might be a good idea, about 10 minutes.
26 Have a 10 minute break before we get into Item B.

27

28 (Off record)

29

30 (On record)

31

32 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Call the meeting back
33 to order.

34

35 (Pause)

36

37 CHAIRMAN WILDE: At this time on our
38 agenda we have Item B, identify priority information
39 needs for the FRMP. Mr. Rivard.

40

41 MR. RIVARD: Yes, thank you, Mr. Chair.
42 Don Rivard with OSM.

43

44 We're going to go through priority
45 information needs. As you know we come to your Council
46 every other year and ask if you have priority
47 information needs for the Fisheries Resource Monitoring
48 Program.

49

50 I distributed -- you know, I used to

1 say I passed out copies of stuff, but Bill Thomas, who
2 was the Chair of Southeast, every time I'd say pass
3 out, he'd say, no, you don't pass out things, you
4 distribute them, because pass out means like falling on
5 the floor, you know, passing out. So I always try to
6 remember that. So I did pick up some traditional
7 ecological knowledge from Bill Thomas many years ago.

8

(Laughter)

9

10
11 MR. RIVARD: So priority information
12 needs. I distributed two things in front of you, they
13 have some yellow and green on them, two sheets. One's
14 for the Yukon and one's from the Kuskokwim River, do
15 you see that on the top. Okay.

16

17 So we're coming to you today to see if
18 you have -- if you want to update some of your priority
19 information needs, if you have some other ones that
20 have come to mind recently. These are for the past
21 three calls that we've made, you can see there's 2016,
22 this was the last one that we just finished up, the
23 call, and we're in the process of funding projects that
24 were approved for the 2016 FRMP. I also have, you'll
25 see the 2014 and the 2012 on the back, so these are for
26 the past three cycles -- your priority information
27 needs for the regions of the Yukon and the Kuskokwim
28 River, your Council helped develop some of these.

29

30 The ones in the yellow and the green
31 are common for each year, pretty much, and you'll see
32 -- let's just look at the Kuskokwim region, for
33 example, reliable estimates of chinook, chum, sockeye
34 and coho salmon escapement, that's been a high priority
35 for your Council ever since we started doing the
36 fisheries program in 2000. So we pretty much keep that
37 on there. A lot of these are the weir projects, one of
38 the projects that are counting salmon.

39

40 So it's your pleasure. We can go
41 through each region at a time and see if you want to
42 continue with some of these, some of these have had
43 projects that are funded right now to address a couple
44 of these issues.

45

46 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Could you go ahead and
47 go through each one of those.

48

49 MR. RIVARD: Yes. So we'll start with
50 the Kuskokwim River, and I'll just go through the 2016,

1 a lot of the 2014 and others they're kind of redundant
2 to some extent, but just to give you some sample of
3 what some of the priority information needs have been
4 recently.

5
6 So the first one is reliable estimates
7 of chinook, chum, sockeye and coho salmon escapement.

8
9 The second one is: Methods for
10 including quality of escapement measures, for example
11 potential egg deposition, sex and size composition of
12 spawners. Spawning habitat utilization and
13 establishing chinook salmon spawning goals and
14 determining their reproductive potential and genetic
15 diversity of spawning escapements.

16
17 The third one: Estimate the size and
18 growth of the sportfishery over the next 30 years,
19 including the impacts of the sportfishery on cultural
20 values and social systems. We did not get a proposal
21 in for that this time. And understanding of the
22 meaning and significance of sharing in the context of
23 the social, cultural and economic life of people in the
24 Lower Kuskokwim area. We did get a proposal in for
25 that. Local knowledge of whitefish species to
26 supplement information from previous research in
27 Central Kuskokwim River drainage communities. And then
28 there's a group of communities, include, Kalskag, Lower
29 Kalskag, Aniak and Chuathbaluk or Red Devil, Sleetmute
30 and Stony River. We did not get a proposal in for that
31 particular information need. Local knowledge of
32 whitefish species to supplement information from
33 previous research in Lower Kuskokwim River drainage
34 communities, a group of communities might include
35 Kwethluk, Akiachak and Tuluksak and we did get a
36 proposal in for that one.

37
38 And then the last one here for the 2016
39 is an indexing method for estimating species specific
40 whitefish harvest on an annual basis for the Kuskokwim
41 drainage. Researchers should explore and evaluate an
42 approach where sub-regional clusters of community
43 harvest can be evaluated for regular surveying with
44 results being extrapolated through the rest of the
45 cluster contributing to drainage-wide harvest
46 estimates. We did not get a proposal for that
47 particular one.

48
49 CHAIRMAN WILDE: So out of -- you only
50 got two proposals out of all those?

1 MR. RIVARD: Excuse me, Mr. Chair. The
2 first one, the reliable estimates, we did get a
3 proposal that's being funded to put a weir up in the
4 Upper Kuskokwim River drainage, it's the Salmon River
5 of the Pitka Fork, it's above McGrath.

6
7 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Uh-huh.

8
9 MR. RIVARD: And it's the -- the State
10 of Alaska, they have run this weir for the last two
11 years, they put it in 2014 and it's -- we are going to
12 fund this starting in 2016, this year, and we found
13 it's a -- like probably somebody from the State could
14 even talk about it better than I can, but it's an
15 amazing -- they put it -- this weir has counted a lot
16 of fish way up in the drainage. I think they had
17 something like 6,000 fish this year.

18
19 MR. ROCZICKA: It's closer to seven.

20
21 MR. RIVARD: It's closer to 7,000. So
22 this was kind of like, previously unknown that that
23 amount of fish was going that high up. I mean they
24 probably have been for awhile, but it's just now we got
25 a -- there's a weir out in the upper part of the
26 drainage that's letting us know what's going up there
27 that high. So the State put in a proposal to fund it
28 by us and it's been approved.

29
30 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

31
32 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Mr. Rivard.
33 Are there any other priority information needs, any
34 Council members.

35
36 Ms. Pippa.

37
38 MS. KENNER: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
39 This is Pippa Kenner with OSM and I've lost my name tag
40 thing.

41
42 In addition to some of the funding for
43 weir projects we received a proposal to do some in-
44 season subsistence salmon harvesting surveys in the
45 middle Kuskokwim, and that's an attempt to get a handle
46 of how many fish are being taken out of the water in-
47 season to help management. Right now we get the number
48 of salmon that are removed from the river for
49 subsistence through a post-season survey, household
50 survey, so this is an attempt to start getting some

1 better information in-season. However, it's not clear
2 that it's been funded yet. Our funding may not extend
3 to that project.

4
5 We, also, are funding a whitefish study
6 looking at the harvest and traditional ecological
7 knowledge of whitefish in the Lower Kuskokwim in some
8 of the coastal communities, and that has been assured
9 funding.

10
11 And we also got -- received a proposal
12 to look at sharing networks on the Kuskokwim, in the
13 Kuskokwim management area, and the proposal we got
14 included the Yukon and that, too, is in danger of not
15 being funded. We're not sure if our funding this year
16 is going to extend down to that.

17
18 Now, in addition to that we also have a
19 lot of projects in the water that were funded two years
20 ago through our program. So we help fund the post-
21 season harvest survey for salmon. The working group
22 meetings we help fund. We help fund ONC's in-season
23 surveys in the Bethel area. And a couple of other
24 projects.

25
26 Thank you.

27
28 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Can I ask you, Pippa,
29 how much is available for funding for the monitoring
30 program this year, is there anything available this
31 year?

32
33 MS. KENNER: Well, what we do when we
34 get the money, of course, is we fund the projects that
35 are already in the water from two years ago and then we
36 are able to give the money leftover for new projects.
37 And I think at maximum we had \$2 million.

38
39 MR. RIVARD: Just under.

40
41 MS. KENNER: And it -- but it looks
42 like we may be able to fund only to 1.2 million new
43 projects this year and that's for the entire state.

44
45 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you. Any other
46 priorities that the Council feel that need to be
47 requested for funding.

48
49 Mr. Peters.

50

1 MR. PETERS: Mr. Chair. You know, how
2 it's going to affect us on the Yukon, I think it's very
3 important that, you know, on this funding
4 opportunity.....

5
6 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Peters, can you
7 wait until we get to the Yukon before we address the
8 Yukon.....

9
10 MR. PETERS: Okay.

11
12 CHAIRMAN WILDE:we're addressing
13 the Kuskokwim right now.

14
15 MR. PETERS: Okay, thank you, very
16 much.

17
18 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes, Mr. Roczicka.

19
20 MR. ROCZICKA: I just got a question
21 for clarification here.

22
23 You're asking us to identify priority
24 information needs for 2016 but all those proposals have
25 gone in and this has gone out so I'm not sure what's
26 being asked of us.

27
28 MR. RIVARD: I'm sorry. This is for
29 our next cycle, the 2018.

30
31 MR. ROCZICKA: For 2018.

32
33 MR. RIVARD: Yes. So we're bringing
34 the other stuff to you, from 2016, to show you what the
35 priority information needs for this past round, and so
36 just to give you some idea, maybe spur some ideas for
37 you guys as well. But, yeah, this is for the 2018. It
38 takes about a year to go through our review process and
39 then to get ready. Our call for proposals will come
40 out this fall, actually probably November sometime and
41 then people will have three months to submit their
42 proposals, they'll go through an evaluation and your
43 Council will see -- will get a review of those again
44 probably next fall.

45
46 MR. ROCZICKA: Thank you. And you
47 probably mentioned it up front and I missed it.

48
49 MR. RIVARD: No, I failed to do that, I
50 should have. Thank you.

1 MS. KENNER: This is Pippa again, Pippa
2 Kenner with OSM. And also three of the projects I
3 mentioned, the post-season salmon harvest survey
4 support for cooperative management in terms of the
5 working group and the in-season harvest assessment that
6 goes on in the Bethel area, in-season, those will all
7 be up for renewed funding. So if you have comments on
8 whether you would like those to be priority information
9 needs, it would be a good time to talk about it now.

10

11 CHAIRMAN WILDE: You heard the request
12 from Pippa. Mr. Smith, do you have a comment.

13

14 MR. SMITH: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Just
15 looking at the chinook, chum, sockeye, coho and we're
16 talking about fisheries and since I'm from Nunivak
17 Island, would halibut be part of that?

18

19 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Rivard.

20

21 MR. RIVARD: Halibut is a little
22 special -- it's handled differently so George is going
23 to explain that.

24

25 MR. PAPPAS: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Mr.
26 Smith. The halibut is not managed under the Federal
27 Subsistence Program, that's through the International
28 Halibut Commission. That's not part of the
29 jurisdiction of the Federal Subsistence Board. But
30 three miles of marine waters around Nunivak Island are
31 under Federal Subsistence fisheries jurisdiction for
32 other species, but halibut specifically -- halibut,
33 migratory birds, marine mammals are not within the
34 Federal Subsistence Management Program.

35

36 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

37

38 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Mr. Pappas.
39 Okay, Mr. Dale.

40

41 MR. SMITH: Okay.

42

43 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Roczicka.

44

45 MR. ROCZICKA: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
46 I'm not sure exactly how to approach this one here but
47 one of the concerns that's been brought forward by my
48 tribal council is what the vast increase in the amount
49 of four inch nets that we've gotten out there since it
50 had those restrictions that have been put in place for

1 the last couple of years for only four inch was being
2 allowed to conserve king salmon and people ended up
3 using them for targeting king salmon, which is -- was
4 like Mr. Aloysius concerns earlier, but the huge amount
5 in increase in the number of those nets now that people
6 have them, and what that could do to our whitefish
7 populations and I don't know if there's some kind of
8 enumeration project you might be able to put in for
9 what are our whitefish numbers. I know there's been a
10 couple studies done, we've gotten documentation of
11 their spawning areas and some of their run timings and
12 so forth but as far as something that could go forward
13 for an actual enumeration, similar to what's done for
14 salmon. I know that's asking a lot for limited money
15 but if we could incorporate that in there.

16

17 And, again, it's a huge concern for us.
18 We, in the last three years, seen probably at least a
19 quadrupling, if not greater amount of four inch and
20 whitefish gear on the Kuskokwim specifically for people
21 wanting to use it during the restricted periods for
22 chinook.

23

24 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Rivard.

25

26 MR. RIVARD: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Mr.
27 Roczicka. Yeah, what I'm hearing is what are the
28 affects on both probably the salmon and the whitefish
29 populations with the increased use of four inch mesh
30 nets. Is that a good summary of that?

31

32 MR. ROCZICKA: Or just an enumeration
33 of what our whitefish are because there is.....

34

35 MR. RIVARD: Population assessment of
36 whitefish.

37

38 MR. ROCZICKA: Population assessment of
39 whitefish, there you go.

40

41 MR. RIVARD: And, Mr. Chair, if I may,
42 you have two Refuge managers who also serve as in-
43 season managers in their respective areas that are here
44 as well, Jeff Anderson from Kenai, the Kenai Office
45 also covers the Kuskokwim, and then I -- Roy?

46

47 MR. BORN: Ray.

48

49 MR. RIVARD: And, Ray, from Yukon
50 Kuskokwim Delta National Wildlife Refuge. And we

1 really encourage your Council to work closely with the
2 in-season fishery managers and the land managers to
3 help you develop the fisheries information needs so
4 they may have some ideas themselves to help you kind of
5 spur some ideas, and some of the things that are
6 important to them as well.

7

8 So just so you're aware and maybe they
9 have something they would like to contribute as well.

10

11 Thank you.

12

13 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any more discussion on
14 the Kuskokwim priority information needs.

15

16 Mr. Aloysius.

17

18 MR. ALOYSIUS: Thank you. On your
19 number 7, an index in method for estimated species
20 specific whitefish harvest. Are you going to limit
21 that index just to the villages that are named in the
22 five and six or are you going to check the whitefish in
23 all of the Kuskokwim drainage because there's more than
24 just a number of villages that utilize whitefish.

25

26 MS. KENNER: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Mr.
27 Aloysius.

28

29 I believe that priority information
30 need is written the way it is because currently, as you
31 know, we don't have a reporting process for people
32 harvesting whitefish. There are household harvest
33 surveys that are done in some years, in some
34 communities, but at this point that's about all we have
35 to know what people are harvesting. So this is a
36 proposal to take a group of communities that all --
37 that have existing information about their harvest and
38 use of whitefish to create an indexing system so on a
39 yearly basis we might be able to predict or estimate
40 what the harvest is in a certain group of communities.
41 The proposer of that project would come to us and tell
42 us what would be the best index communities to use.

43

44 MR. ALOYSIUS: Thank you. The reason I
45 ask that is because during the last four years there's
46 been unlimited four inch gear on the Kuskokwim River
47 targeting king salmon. And they don't target whitefish
48 but they catch a lot of whitefish. In the old days,
49 the only time we harvest and targeted whitefish is
50 after the salmon season and now it's free for all, from

1 the time the ice melts until it freezes up. And, you
2 know, it scares the heck out of me and a lot of people
3 that, you know, you're supposed to be conserving one
4 species and, yet, you're really raising heck with the
5 -- and declining the number of whitefish.

6

7 It doesn't make sense to a lot of old
8 people, and to me.

9

10 You know I've lived on that river for
11 80 years and I see the fluctuation of the salmon, the
12 decline, the steady decline since 1960 and now, you
13 know, we're just trying to bring back the population of
14 the whitefish in Whitefish Lake after Ray Baxter's
15 error in opening up Whitefish Lake for commercial
16 fishing unknown to the people of our area and that
17 population crashed to almost nothing and it's been
18 steadily coming back and now we're starting to see a
19 decrease in the whitefish population in that lake
20 again. So, you know, there has to be some correlation
21 between the unlimited use of four inch mesh during the
22 summer for whitefish because, you know, that's what
23 it's four, it's for whitefish.

24

25 Thank you.

26

27 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Mr.
28 Aloysius.

29

30 Any further comments on the Kuskokwim
31 Monitoring Program.

32

33 (No comments)

34

35 CHAIRMAN WILDE: If not we'll -- go
36 ahead, Mr. Brown.

37

38 MR. BROWN: (In Yup'ik)

39

40 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Could you hold on just
41 a minute, Mr. Brown, and let the -- go ahead.

42

43 MR. BROWN: (In Yup'ik)

44

45 TRANSLATOR: You know certain species
46 and certain species that we do not hunt for. And then
47 in the fall when we are harvesting we harvest then.
48 And then they do have limits on how much they can get.
49 And they did not have no limits on the whitefish. When
50 we have enough we quit catching them. Their flesh is

1 like the plants. There are times when we cannot
2 harvest them because they are not ripe.

3

4 MR. BROWN: Quyana.

5

6 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Quyana. Any further
7 discussion on the Kuskokwim, on the monitoring program
8 needs -- information needs.

9

10 (No comments)

11

12 CHAIRMAN WILDE: If not we'll go on to
13 the Yukon.

14

15 Mr. Rivard.

16

17 MR. RIVARD: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
18 Just one note as well, what we'd like to do is when the
19 principle investigator decides to maybe address on of
20 these information needs, is that they also talk with
21 Council members that are interested in a particular
22 topic, like maybe what Bob and Greg have been talking
23 about lately, to kind of help them kind of tune-in --
24 fine-tune their proposal to us. And so we're really
25 trying to encourage more of that interaction right up
26 front as soon as possible as they're developing the
27 proposals.

28

29 I lost my mic.

30

31 REPORTER: Okay.

32

33 MR. RIVARD: All right, we're going to
34 go to the Yukon region. And, again, this is looking
35 back at your last priority information needs were for
36 the Yukon region and your Council helped develop some
37 of these.

38

39 The first one in yellow there is
40 reliable estimates of salmon escapements and, again,
41 that's a high priority, it's been for just about ever
42 since this program started in 2000. We did get one
43 proposal that we're funding, or a continuation of
44 Henshaw Creek weir up on the Koyukuk.

45

46 The second one is geographic
47 distribution of salmon and whitefish species of special
48 interest are the Nulato River, Salmon River -- Salmon
49 Fork and the Black River, Porcupine River and Chandler
50 River. We did get one proposal in for this and it was

1 not recommended for funding for various reasons. One
2 of them was cost was pretty high.

3
4 An indexing method for estimating,
5 again, species specific whitefish harvest on an annual
6 basis for the Yukon drainage. We don't believe we got
7 one in for that.

8
9 Methods in green, the one methods for
10 including quality of escapement measures, we did not
11 get a proposal in for that one.

12
13 Review of escapement data collection
14 methods throughout the Yukon drainage to ensure that
15 test fisheries are accurately accounting for size
16 distribution and abundance of fish, are smaller chinook
17 salmon being counted accurately, for example, and we
18 did not get one for that particular priority
19 information need.

20
21 Assessment of incidental mortality with
22 gillnets. We did not get any proposals in for that.

23
24 Harvest of spawning escapement change
25 through time in relation to changes in gillnet
26 construction and use. Again, we did not get one in for
27 that.

28
29 Bering cisco population assessment and
30 monitoring. We did get a proposal in for this for
31 Bering cisco.

32
33 And then the last one, burbot
34 population assessments of lakes and rivers known to
35 support subsistence fisheries. We received two for
36 that. One is above the -- right now is going to be
37 funded and the other one is pending, if we have a
38 little bit more, extra funding, we'll be able to maybe
39 on that.

40
41 CHAIRMAN WILDE: I didn't quite get the
42 one, two and three, whether they were funded or not.

43
44 MR. RIVARD: One, yes, we had one -- we
45 got Henshaw Creek weir, it's going to be continued to
46 be funded for salmon escapement monitoring.

47
48 We did -- for number 2, the geographic
49 distribution of salmon and whitefish in those rivers
50 there, we got two proposals.

1 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Neither one is being
2 funded.
3
4 MR. RIVARD: Okay, there I am, I'm
5 back.
6
7 CHAIRMAN WILDE: And Item 3.
8
9 MR. RIVARD: Indexing for whitefish
10 harvest we did not get any proposals in for that
11 particular one.
12
13 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you. Any
14 questions or discussions on monitoring program for the
15 Yukon.
16
17 Mr. Aloysius.
18
19 MR. ALOYSIUS: Thank you. Your last
20 one, burbot, aka, lush.
21
22 MR. RIVARD: Yes.
23
24 MR. ALOYSIUS: Because a lot of people
25 don't know what a burbot is, but, yet we eat them.
26
27 (Laughter)
28
29 MR. ALOYSIUS: Thank you.
30
31 MR. RIVARD: I've had that happen to me
32 in my life.
33
34 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any -- I was just
35 thinking about what you were saying, thinking, lush
36 fish in my head all this time, what are you talking --
37 go ahead Mr. Peters.
38
39 MR. PETERS: You know when Marshall on
40 the Yukon River -- you know there's a lady here from
41 Mountain Village now so all the way down, go from
42 Emmonak, Alakanuk, all the way up to Marshall, you
43 know, and one of the concerns are really on these
44 projects -- on like -- like I think on escapement and
45 stuff like that and I think the numbers would vary on
46 these escapement, but one of the concerns all the time
47 is about these have these dipnets and some areas it
48 works and some areas it don't work. What I'm trying to
49 say is some of the elders in my area, and I could talk
50 for Marshall, they were considering if they could come

1 back with the net fishing, you know. And, you know,
2 the Yukon is so wide, all the way up to the Canadian
3 Border and I think not -- now, I could talk for my
4 area, of how it's going to affect us or what kind of
5 projects is coming up for the future season and with
6 all these drastic cutbacks, is how -- you know, how are
7 you going to get the word out. I know there's always a
8 great concern about whitefish and the main thing is
9 about how -- how we're going to get the salmon back.
10 And another concern is, you know, I see you got some of
11 these, like on these spawning grounds, I think in our
12 area there's Andreafsky River and also a little further
13 up from Marshall there's the Innoko River and I think
14 somewhere along the line when they take a study they
15 need to identify all the drainage of where the -- where
16 the fish spawn and stuff like that. And with this --
17 now days with this concern about the water being very
18 low and stuff like that and the beaver dams affecting
19 the spawning grounds and I thought I'd bring that to
20 your attention because they're not -- you know, coming
21 from the Yukon, we need some sort of a feedback about,
22 you know, what -- an example of where are these surveys
23 and stuff like that -- you know, have someone do a
24 draft of where it's working and where it's not working.
25 That's just a consideration.

26

27 But the loss of our chinook I think
28 it's going to be always there and we talk about, you
29 know, subsistence lifestyle, you know, we live it -- we
30 live it on the Yukon. Not just the Yukon, but all over
31 Alaska. Like the past few days I heard, you know,
32 right now I -- I'm 63 years old and, you know, we all
33 have to work together what I'm -- what I'm saying, is,
34 because our grandkids -- I got five grandkids and how
35 it's going to affect our grandkids, not just on the
36 Yukon but all along the Yukon or wherever they come. I
37 think with these recommendations, you know, they should
38 take it very serious and take into consideration and
39 see if they could do some sort of feedback. I'm not
40 saying they're not -- not doing a bad job but at they
41 should -- the Department is trying to help us and try
42 -- try to get the answers out to the people that can't
43 make it to the meeting, or the elders.

44

Thank you, very much.

45

46

Thank you, Mr. Chair.

47

48

49

50

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Peters, what are
you suggesting. We are discussing information needs

1 for the Yukon. I understood you mentioned a lot of
2 different areas. Is there a specific information that
3 you would need to include in our resource monitoring
4 program. That's what we're discussing.

5

6 MR. PETERS: Okay.

7

8 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Is there any.....

9

10 MR. PETERS: Well, what I would like to
11 see is, you know, the feedback on the -- on the
12 spawning grounds and, you know, see if they could work
13 out the numbers with my area.

14

15 Thank you.

16

17 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Rivard. Do you
18 have any comments to that.

19

20 MR. RIVARD: Well, I'm not sure if I
21 heard a.....

22

23 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Well, I thought maybe
24 you understood it.

25

26 MR. RIVARD:fisheries
27 information.....

28

29 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. Pippa, you got
30 it.

31

32 MS. KENNER: I do. Thank you, Mr.
33 Chair. This is Pippa Kenner with the Office of
34 Subsistence Management.

35

36 Several of the points that Mr. Peters
37 made are familiar to me. So what I heard him say is
38 that we have a number of projects for estimating the
39 population of different species of salmon on the Yukon.
40 And he was suggesting some -- I believe he was
41 suggesting some kind of like what we call a Meta
42 analysis to look at all the different information
43 that's being collected and to get a big picture view of
44 what projects are working and what aren't. And what
45 management measures are working and which ones aren't
46 and giving feedback to the communities.

47

48 Now, I'm not going to talk about
49 whether we think we already do that or whether it would
50 be helpful, I'm just going to tell you what I think --

1 all of these suggestions are helpful.

2

3 Another one is that, Mr. Peters is
4 aware that in some areas people talk about dipnets,
5 using dipnets as a method of getting their subsistence
6 salmon working very well, and then in other places it
7 doesn't work very well and it doesn't seem like there's
8 been any information collected about that. Just to
9 tell people on the Yukon, between the upper and lower
10 Yukon how people are feeling about using that method.

11

12 Another thing was that the impact of
13 beavers. Beavers and low water conditions and what
14 those effects are having. I think probably he's
15 talking primarily about the salmon populations and how
16 those spawning grounds are being affected.

17

18 Those were a few things that I was able
19 to -- that I heard.

20

21 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Did she get that
22 right?

23

24 MR. PETERS: Yeah, you got that right
25 on the spawning -- like what she indicated.

26

27 Thank you, very much, Mr. Chair.

28

29 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. Thank you. Any
30 other -- Mr. Aloysius.

31

32 MR. ALOYSIUS: Thank you. Once again
33 how do we get information back, we, the Councils, it's
34 our responsibility to bring information back to the
35 village and that's inherent. We hear that over and
36 over, it's one of our responsibilities, is that we are
37 responsible to bring information back. We can't bring
38 information -- but whenever we're at a meeting, we get
39 information and it's our responsibility to make sure
40 people at home get that information.

41

42 Thank you.

43

44 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Pippa.

45

46 MS. KENNER: I just wanted to do a
47 followup with Mr. Peters, Mr. Chair.

48

49 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Go ahead.

50

1 MS. KENNER: When you talked about
2 wanting to know the status of the tributaries to the
3 Yukon in your area, are you talking about the Innoko,
4 for instance, or did you have another river in mind.

5
6 MR. PETERS: It's a little further up
7 river where I live at but, you know, I think what the
8 Department needs to look at all the spawning grounds
9 where the fish spawn and just, you know, since it's on
10 the Yukon I thought I'd bring these to your attention
11 and see what kind of numbers and escapement is going up
12 the spawning grounds.

13
14 Thank you.

15
16 CHAIRMAN WILDE: You got that, Pippa.

17
18 MS. KENNER: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Yes,
19 I do.

20
21 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Ulak.

22
23 MR. ULAK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

24
25 For our Y1 area at the mouth of Yukon,
26 we fish commercially at Black River. There's no
27 fishery salmon, chinook salmon study done there, I
28 don't think so. But last summer we did dipnetting. We
29 -- most fishermen got quite a bit of chinook and they
30 released them, catch and release.

31
32 And one item that I heard was at mouth
33 of Yukon at Emmonak, I heard of a test fishery, the
34 fishery -- test fishery net was set in wrong spots, I
35 think that needs to be corrected or more information
36 needs to be done. Mouth of Yukon, before you get to
37 Sheldon's Point, name which was changed to Nunam Iqua,
38 there's a slough that goes into -- they have a slough
39 that goes -- that connects to Black River. I think
40 that area would be a good spot for a test fishery by
41 Fish and Game.

42
43 Quyana.

44
45 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you. One thing
46 that was requested by us and through us was through the
47 monitoring program, we have a number of areas where we
48 have not had any proposals and there are one, two,
49 three, four, five different monitoring program
50 information needs that have been written down that we

1 have not had any proposals on, right, and that's an
2 index method, method for including quality escapement,
3 a review of escapement data collection methods,
4 assessment of incidental mortality with gillnets and
5 harvest and spawning escapement changes through time
6 and relation to changes in gillnet.

7

8 So if we could get some of those
9 proposals then I don't know how much we'll have as far
10 as availability of revenue.

11

12 Go ahead, Mr. Rivard.

13

14 MR. RIVARD: Mr. Chair. What I'm
15 hearing from you is you would like to have those as
16 priority information needs for the next cycle, is that
17 what you're saying?

18

19 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes. Since we
20 discussed those earlier in prior times I think it might
21 be a good idea to go ahead and continue on with trying
22 to get that information.

23

24 MR. RIVARD: So noted, thank you.

25

26 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Bill.

27

28 MR. SMITH: Mr. Chair, thank you.

29

30 The Kuskokwim and Yukon, Nelson Island
31 and Nunivak Island are in between those, and I know
32 that the Nelson Islanders and some of the Nunivak
33 Islanders go to Cape VanCouver to do driftnetting. Has
34 there ever been any studies or monitoring at that area?

35

36 CHAIRMAN WILDE: That's what -- if you
37 need to have that -- if you feel that there's a need
38 for that information, then we should put that on
39 so.....

40

41 MR. SMITH: Please.

42

43 CHAIRMAN WILDE: You got that Pippa.

44

45 MS. KENNER: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
46 Again, this is Pippa Kenner with OSM. I might have
47 missed it, driftnetting for salmon.

48

49 MR. SMITH: Mr. Chair. Yes.

50

1 MS. KENNER: Okay.
2
3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Are there any other
4 informational needs we need for the Yukon River besides
5 what was mentioned.
6
7 (No comments)
8
9 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Rivard, do you
10 have a comment.
11
12 MR. RIVARD: Yeah, just to let you know
13 that the list that you have in front of you now, we
14 will have the 2018 draft priority information needs
15 list to you in the fall and you'll get a chance to make
16 sure that we captured what you asked for today in that
17 list and maybe you'll come up with a couple other ones
18 between now and then as well that we might include. So
19 we'll come back to you in the fall and you'll have a
20 chance to review this again and maybe add to it.
21
22 Thank you.
23
24 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. Before we get
25 to the next subject, Dorothy, do you have a comment.
26
27 MS. JOHNSON: Yeah, I just had a
28 question and a comm -- well, a question.
29
30 When a sonar is not working, for
31 instance, we have a sonar that wasn't working, I
32 believe it was right above Pilot Station last year, how
33 do you get an accurate count on the chinook or any
34 other fish that go through there and how long does it
35 take to get the sonar back up and working to get an
36 accurate count?
37
38 MR. RIVARD: Well, it's State of
39 Alaska, Department of Fish and Game operates that sonar
40 so would you guys like to comment on that. I can't
41 answer that question.
42
43 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Is there anyone here
44 from Fish and Wildlife -- Fish and Game, I mean. Mr.
45 Mush.....
46
47 MR. MASCHMANN: Maschmann.
48
49 MS. KENNER: Maschmann.
50

1 MR. MASCHMANN: I think that's a great
2 question and I would ask you to reserve that for the
3 Yukon breakout session tomorrow if you can do that.

4
5 We're going to talk about Yukon for as
6 many hours as you guys want to talk about it tomorrow
7 in the breakout session.

8
9 MS. JOHNSON: Okay. Well, since we
10 were on the monitoring program I thought I'd bring the
11 question up, so you want me to bring that up tomorrow?

12
13 MR. MASCHMANN: Well, I think that
14 would be -- if you feel like there's an information
15 need.....

16
17 MS. JOHNSON: Uh-huh.

18
19 MR. MASCHMANN:to maybe, you
20 know, evaluate the sonar and that would be an
21 information need, I think you could suggest it.

22
23 MS. JOHNSON: Thank you.

24
25 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any other information
26 needs for Yukon monitoring program.

27
28 (No comments)

29
30 CHAIRMAN WILDE: There being none,
31 thank you.

32
33 MR. RIVARD: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

34
35 CHAIRMAN WILDE: At this time we'll go
36 on down to Item C approve 2015 annual report, Council
37 coordinator. Do you have that.

38
39 MR. LARSON: Well, there's two parts,
40 Mr. Chair.

41
42 First if you look on Page 223 of your
43 general information for your book you'll see a
44 discussion of what should be in an annual report and
45 why it's required, not required, but how it's
46 authorized and typical type of information that's
47 included in it. And in your packet, and I'll look and
48 find the page for you exactly, but it's fairly close to
49 the front of your packet that's specific to the Yukon
50 Council's information there is an annual report.

1 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Can I see that page,
2 please.
3
4 MR. ROCZICKA: I think it's on 12.
5
6 (Pause)
7
8 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Are there any other --
9 what was that Mr. Roczicka.
10
11 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chair. I've been
12 looking at the one on Page YK12 and 13 as the annual
13 report.
14
15 MR. LARSON: Okay.
16
17 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. This has not
18 been approved, I guess. It hasn't been sent out,
19 right.
20
21 (No comments)
22
23 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Has this been sent?
24
25 MR. LARSON: No, it is not. This is
26 the draft annual report that was prepared per your
27 direction at your fall meeting. This is the Council's
28 opportunity to review what they suggested that we draft
29 up and if you would like to have some additions to your
30 annual report, this is a good time to do it. But this
31 is the stage where we do final approval of the annual
32 reports.
33
34 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Just to make sure that
35 everybody understands this one, I think I'm going to go
36 ahead and read this one.
37
38 This letter is addressed to Mr. Tim
39 Towarak, Chair of the Federal Subsistence Board. It
40 goes as follows:
41
42 Greetings Chairman Towarak. This is
43 the fiscal year 2015 annual report of
44 the Yukon Kuskokwim Delta Subsistence
45 Regional Advisory Council as authorized
46 under Title VIII of the Alaska National
47 Interests Lands Conservation Act or
48 ANILCA, Section .805(a)(3)(d) the
49 Council wishes to share information and
50 raise a number of concerns dealing with

1 information of Title VIII of ANILCA and
2 continuation of subsistence users in
3 the Yukon Kuskokwim Delta region.
4

5 In 2015 the Council met in Bethel,
6 February 25 to 26 in Bethel -- in
7 October -- oh, the Council met in
8 Bethel February 26th and in Bethel
9 October 7 and 8. During the February
10 meeting the Council heard public
11 comments regarding changes to unit
12 boundaries, salmon interception, rural
13 determination, customary and
14 traditional use determination, the
15 reintroduction of wood bison and the
16 proposed Kuskokwim River fisheries
17 partnership project.
18

19 The Council supported a 60 percent
20 reduction in salmon bycatch in the
21 Bering Sea pollock fisheries and
22 formation of the Kuskokwim Fisheries
23 Partnership Project.
24

25 During the October 7 and 8 meeting the
26 Council heard testimony on salmon and
27 moose management concerns.
28

29 The proposed rule on hunting in
30 Refuges.
31

32 The Council provided recommendations to
33 the Federal Subsistence Board on 10
34 proposals to change subsistence hunting
35 regulations and wrote subcommittee with
36 the Western Interior Council, and the
37 second letter requesting the proposed
38 hunting regulations for Refuges,
39 including a provision for subsistence
40 use of wildlife.
41

42 From its various discussion the Council
43 has identified the following issues to
44 bring to your attention with this
45 annual report.
46

47 1. Dipnet. The use of dipnet on the
48 Yukon/Kuskokwim Rivers is not a
49 traditional subsistence gear type for
50 most of the region and does not allow

1 users to meet subsistence needs.
2 Subsistence users should be able to use
3 any of the usual harvest methods for
4 the subsistence harvest. The Council
5 recommends that the Board determine
6 that dipnets should not be the only
7 gear type allowed during the open
8 subsistence fisheries on the Yukon and
9 the Kuskokwim Rivers.

10
11 2. Accountability for in-season
12 managers. The Council is concerned
13 with how the US Fish and Wildlife
14 Service in-season managers are held
15 accountable for ensuring that there are
16 fish and wildlife available to harvest
17 for subsistence users. Subsistence use
18 is required to have the highest
19 priority in management. But there are
20 several examples of recent policies and
21 actions that are being implemented that
22 do not provide the continuation of
23 subsistence use. The Council
24 recommends the Board be vigilant in
25 providing guidance to other Federal
26 agencies regarding their obligations
27 under Title VIII of Alaska National
28 Interests Lands Conservation Act to
29 provide for the continuation of
30 subsistence uses.

31
32 3. Communication challenges. Two way
33 communication and an education process
34 between local residents and the Federal
35 agencies Staff regarding what
36 constitutes a traditional way of life
37 are needed. This concept is not easily
38 explained or understood. The Council
39 requests the Board provide direction
40 and Staff training in methods to
41 incorporate this concept into
42 management plans and policies of all
43 Federal land management agencies.

44
45 Thank you for your consideration, the
46 management and the program issues of concern to the
47 Council.

48
49 Please address any questions with this
50 letter directly to Eva Patton, subsistence Council

1 coordinator, Office of Subsistence Management at 800 --
2 the address, sincerely, my name.

3
4 Any other subjects that you would like
5 to be included in the annual report.

6
7 Mr. Roczicka.

8
9 MR. ROCZICKA: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
10 First, I'd like to express appreciation to the Staff
11 that took our words and put them on paper, they do a
12 tremendous job of that. I believe this report actually
13 does go to the Secretary of Interior, the full report.
14 But in that number 2 for the accountability issue which
15 was raised at the last meeting, some restructuring of
16 that to be clear. And it was kind of mentioned
17 earlier, regarding that proposed rule, but it says the
18 Council is concerned with how Fish and Wildlife Service
19 in-season managers affect, and it says are held
20 accountable, it's actually that they are not held
21 accountable, or that they're allowed management
22 flexibility for ensuring that there's adequate fish or
23 wildlife populations to provide for subsistence uses.

24
25 And that following sentence.
26 Subsistence use is required to have the highest
27 priority in management but there are several examples
28 of recent policy that are going to be implemented and
29 it says, do not provide -- I want to change that to
30 say, that they are detrimental to providing for the
31 continuation of subsistence uses.

32
33 And the additional point that needs to
34 go in there is that what's essentially happening here
35 through such things as the proposed rule, is that, the
36 priority use is being given to non-governmental
37 organizations from outside of Alaska who want to impose
38 their existential beliefs on subsistence management and
39 providing for subsistence needs in this state.

40
41 CHAIRMAN WILDE: And those you can get
42 together with Mr. Roczicka.

43
44 MR. ROCZICKA: Yes, I'll get them.

45
46 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes, Mr. Smith.

47
48 MR. SMITH: Mr. Chair. Just for a
49 clarifying question. In the letter it's stated that
50 the Council supported a 60 percent reduction in salmon

1 bycatch in the Bering Sea pollock fishery, was that
2 also -- was halibut also a part of that?

3

4 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Just the salmon. As
5 you heard before, that we don't have anything to do
6 with halibut. This Council or the agencies do not have
7 any jurisdiction.

8

9 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman.

10

11 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Go ahead.

12

13 MR. ROCZICKA: I could actually maybe
14 clarify for him.

15

16 This is to the North Pacific Fisheries
17 Management Council which manages the cod and the
18 pollock, which has the bycatch of salmon that is of
19 concern, and also some halibut as well. But halibut
20 regulations are done by a separate Pacific Halibut
21 Commission so that would be -- for those reductions it
22 wouldn't be going through the North Pacific Council,
23 they'd be going to the Halibut Commission.

24

25 MR. SMITH: Mr. Chair. Just for the
26 sake of understanding -- let me go back.

27

28 If I recall when the -- the first
29 meeting I attended, the North Pacific Council was there
30 and gave a presentation of bycatch and they identified
31 salmon and halibut, if I recall. So the concern for my
32 area was that there was a lot of halibut bycatch by
33 some trawlers at the mouth of the Kuskokwim River. So
34 I took it as an opportunity to -- or at least my
35 understanding was that this Council would either
36 support the limited reduction in the bycatch for
37 halibut also. So I guess it's a clarifying comment or
38 question but I just wanted to put that on record also.

39

40 CHAIRMAN WILDE: I don't see any reason
41 why we couldn't support that.

42

43 Any other concerns.

44

45 Mr. Pappas.

46

47 MR. PAPPAS: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

48

49 CHAIRMAN WILDE: I'm sorry, could you
50 wait. Mr. Aloysius, I'm sorry, go ahead.

1 MR. ALOYSIUS: This new guy here
2 reminded me and it should remind all of us that we are
3 not only concerned with the Yukon and the Kuskokwim
4 River, because we are also responsible for what happens
5 on Nunivak.

6
7 Thank you.

8
9 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Bob.

10
11 And thank you, Mr. Smith.

12
13 Go ahead, Mr. Pappas.

14
15 MR. PAPPAS: Through the Chair. Mr.
16 Smith. The Federal Subsistence Management Program and
17 the Board has said many times over, this is a place for
18 folks to voice their subsistence concerns. From your
19 area, what we hear here are you have subsistence
20 concerns regarding halibut. It's on the Federal public
21 record now.

22
23 Now, we don't have jurisdiction or
24 authority to manage under the Federal Subsistence
25 Program, but we do have the ability, through your RAC,
26 through your Council report, to have a public record
27 stating that there is a subsistence concern for halibut
28 in your part of Alaska.

29
30 Now, we have the Special Assistant to
31 the Commissioner, who is very familiar with the Federal
32 regulatory bodies outside of here, if you have further
33 questions about how to contact who, North Pacific
34 Council, if you have further questions you can ask the
35 Assistant here if you're interested, sir.

36
37 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Ms. Klein.

38
39 MS. KLEIN: Mr. Chair, thank you. My
40 name is Jill Klein. I'm a special assistant to
41 Commissioner Cotten who sits on the North Pacific
42 Fisheries Management Council. And I just wanted to
43 follow up on the conversation about the issue of
44 halibut bycatch being taken up at the Council and I
45 think Mr. Smith was correct, that it was brought up in
46 the Council's presentation and in April 2016 they will
47 be working on Bering Sea/Aleutian Island halibut and
48 they will be looking at the abundance based halibut
49 limits and what they call discard mortality rates, so
50 the amount of halibut that's caught and discarded,

1 that's not alive anymore. So they are taking up the
2 issue of halibut bycatch, if you do want to include
3 that in your comments or in your letter, your annual
4 letter.

5

6 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you.

7

8 Mr. Smith.

9

10 MR. SMITH: Thank you. Yeah, I realize
11 that this forum is to bring up concerns and I realize
12 the regulatory process. So maybe it's a good
13 opportunity right now for me to make a recommendation
14 to have one of the members here, depending on funding,
15 attend the North Pacific Fisheries Management Council
16 meeting next month to testify on the bycatch issue. I
17 know that the Nelson Island area also has concerns,
18 particularly Nunivak and Nelson, the fishermen there,
19 so if we could possibly think about that.

20

21 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

22

23 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Pappas.

24

25 MR. PAPPAS: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Mr.
26 Smith. We have done this in the past. The Federal
27 Subsistence Program has sent folks before, it's been
28 awhile, it's depending on funding, but if you put in an
29 official request for it, it will be duly noted and it
30 will be elevated.

31

32 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

33

34 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. Thank you.

35

36 Mr. Roczicka.

37

38 MR. ROCZICKA: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
39 And I would go ahead and make that formal motion and
40 recommendation that if funding is available that we do
41 have a representative there and I would specifically
42 recommend that Mr. Smith do that.

43

44 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes, a motion, Mr.
45 Roczicka.

46

47 MR. ROCZICKA: The motion is to request
48 the Office of Subsistence Management, if they have
49 available funding to have a representative from
50 this.....

1 MR. ALOYSIUS: Talk closer to the
2 microphone I can't hear you.
3
4 MR. ROCZICKA: To have a representative
5 from this Council attend the North Pacific Council
6 meeting in April regarding our concerns on bycatch and
7 incorporated into that is the recommendation that Mr.
8 Smith be appointed to do that.
9
10 CHAIRMAN WILDE: You heard the motion,
11 do I hear a second to the motion.
12
13 MR. ANDREW: Second.
14
15 MR. ULAK: Second.
16
17 MR. CHARLES: Second.
18
19 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Seconded by Mr. James
20 Charles. Any further discussion.
21
22 (No comments)
23
24 MR. ULAK: Question.
25
26 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Question's called for.
27 All in favor signify by saying aye.
28
29 IN UNISON: Aye.
30
31 CHAIRMAN WILDE: All opposed, same
32 sign.
33
34 (No opposing votes)
35
36
37 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Motion's carried.
38
39 Go ahead, Mr. Rivard.
40
41 MR. RIVARD: Mr. Chair. You could also
42 have -- your Council could also submit your written
43 comments to the North Pacific Fisheries Management
44 Council before their meeting so we could have the
45 Council coordinator write that letter and get it
46 submitted, it's submitted via email, so it could be
47 done, just in case there's not funding to send
48 somebody, at a minimum you've got some comments from
49 your Council going to their Council.
50

1 Thank you.
2
3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay, thank you, Mr.
4 Rivard.
5
6 Do you have that Mr. Bob.
7
8 MR. LARSON: Prior to us ending the
9 meeting today, I will revisit this topic and review
10 Council's actions and if it's the will of the Council
11 to write a letter to the North Pacific Fisheries
12 Management Council then I think it's appropriate to
13 have a motion and some content provided to me at that
14 point.
15
16 CHAIRMAN WILDE: You heard the request,
17 Council, is there any outstanding motion or a motion
18 that would apply to the request by our coordinator
19 here.
20
21 (No comments)
22
23 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Could you restate that
24 and make sure it's -- that everyone understands.
25
26 MR. LARSON: Yes, Mr. Chair. I just
27 want to be clear that if it's the intent of the Council
28 to write a letter commenting on those issues that will
29 be discussed by the North Pacific Fisheries Management
30 Council at their meeting in April, that I would
31 appreciate, first of all a motion, that clearly defines
32 what the Council would like to do, and second of all we
33 need to have some content. Exactly what is the
34 Council's concerns and then if those two things are
35 present I'll write it up.
36
37 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman.
38
39 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Aloysius.
40
41 MR. ALOYSIUS: Are we on the annual
42 report yet?
43
44 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes.
45
46 MR. ALOYSIUS: Because it seems like
47 we're wandering way off to somewhere else.
48
49 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Well, we were
50 discussing the annual report and the content of the

1 annual report, if there's any additions to be put in
2 there, and I think that it was at your request to be
3 placed on the annual report.

4

5 MR. ALOYSIUS: The action that is being
6 presented right now is for 2016, we are discussing the
7 annual report for 2015.

8

9 MR. LARSON: Yes, Mr. Chair. Bob is
10 absolutely correct. So the motion on the floor is
11 whether or not we need to amend and finally approve
12 2015 annual report. If it's the will of the Council
13 that in addition to that there's going to be some
14 subsequent action then that's where I was reminding the
15 Council that it would require a different motion. We
16 need to deal with this first motion first, which is the
17 annual report, after that then we could have a
18 subsequent motion. But let's deal with the annual
19 report first.

20

21 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. Any further
22 additions to be on the annual report.

23

24 Mr. Dale.

25

26 MR. SMITH: Mr. Chair. Just for
27 clarification, yes, this is the discussion of the 2015
28 annual report. And my understanding was that in 2015
29 there was discussion on halibut bycatch as well that's
30 why I had brought it up to be included in the 2015
31 annual report.

32

33 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Ulak.

34

35 Thank you, Mr. Smith.

36

37 MR. ULAK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
38 I'd like to do a motion to approve RAC YK Delta approve
39 that report.

40

41 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Approve the annual
42 report.

43

44 MR. ULAK: Yeah.

45

46 CHAIRMAN WILDE: A motion's been made
47 by Mr. Ulak to approve the annual report for 2015.

48

49 Mr. Roczicka.

50

1 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chair. Would that
2 include the verifying language that I read into the
3 record earlier and I can give a copy to our Staff.

4
5 MR. ULAK: Yes.

6
7 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Motion's been made to
8 approve the annual report for 2015. Do I hear a
9 second.

10
11 MR. BILL: Second.

12
13 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Seconded by whom.

14
15 Mr. Bill.

16
17 Any further discussion.

18
19 Mr. Andrew.

20
21 MR. ANDREW: Mr. Chairman. I'd like to
22 make one addition before they approve it.

23
24 Last summer, summer of 2015 we went
25 through a fisheries disaster, and I believe it should
26 be in there too. Because a lot of our people on the
27 Kuskokwim, even on the coastal area did not meet their
28 subsistence needs catching salmon. And by the time
29 they allowed us to fish, the peak of the runs were over
30 and we were caught on the rainy season, they couldn't
31 dry well, the coho season was nice but it was raining
32 most of the time, though.

33
34 CHAIRMAN WILDE: And you wanted that
35 included in our annual report for 2015?

36
37 MR. ANDREW: Yes, Mr. Chairman, thank
38 you.

39
40 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Is that in the form of
41 a motion.

42
43 MR. ANDREW: I believe you need to deal
44 with that other motion, yeah, it'll be in the form of a
45 motion.

46
47 CHAIRMAN WILDE: The motion is.

48
49 MR. ANDREW: The motion is to include
50 the salmon fishery disaster we went through last

1 summer, summer of 2015 for the Lower Kuskokwim, I
2 believe it's for the whole river because we had
3 complaints on the whole river, even on the Yukon side,
4 because they opened it up so late we were at the very
5 tail end of the runs.

6

7 Thank you.

8

9 MR. ROCZICKA: The motion is to approve
10 this and he's amending it.

11

12 CHAIRMAN WILDE: And that -- yeah,
13 okay, the motion was to approve the annual report as
14 written with the additions -- with the additions that
15 you're going to be -- any further discussions on the
16 annual report.

17

18 Mr. Rivard.

19

20 MR. RIVARD: Mr. Chair. I just want to
21 clarify what goes into an annual report and what
22 doesn't. If it's an issue that can be addressed
23 through the regulatory process it does not need to be
24 included in an annual report. I think what John has
25 just brought up is -- it's a fisheries management
26 issue, it's also maybe a regulatory issue, so I'm not
27 sure it necessarily needs to go into your annual
28 report. It could be addressed in other ways. So if
29 you're trying -- if it's just to alert the Board that
30 there was -- people didn't meet their subsistence needs
31 in 2015 for fish, you could include that, I guess, it's
32 -- but also an annual report is what action are you
33 requesting the Board to do and I didn't hear an action
34 in that last one. What do you want the Board to do
35 about this particular issue. That's what your annual
36 report usually does. You're asking for something to
37 happen from the Board.

38

39 Thank you.

40

41 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Andrew.

42

43 MR. ANDREW: Yeah, I'll go with his
44 recommendation. Thank you. Because he said it could
45 be addressed in other ways, is that doable?

46

47 MR. RIVARD: Well, there was reasons
48 for why there were regulatory restrictions last year on
49 the Kuskokwim, and that's discussed throughout the
50 season and it's done through the in-season manager and

1 you'll have a chance tomorrow to talk about that again,
2 about what you might like to see happen this coming
3 fishing season. So if it's just an information item to
4 the Board for your annual report, I think you should
5 just spell that out. Because, again, usually what
6 these annual reports do, is, you bring up an issue and
7 you're requesting the Board to do something about it
8 and I didn't hear what you want the Board to do about
9 what happened last year.

10

Does that make sense, John?

11

12

MR. ANDREW: Yes.

13

14

15

16

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MR. ALOYSIUS: Talk in your mic.

MR. LARSON: Thank you. Those additions of paragraph two referenced by Greg Roczicka. And in addition there would be an item, we'll call it item four, that would be a continuing concern, not only with salmon, but halibut because there is a nexus with the Federal Program, because we have jurisdiction within three miles of the shore, and we're looking forward to working with the National Marine Fisheries

1 Service -- or the North Pacific Fisheries Management
2 Council in the future -- I'll make it look good.

3

4 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay.

5

6 MR. LARSON: And the other issue is
7 with the lack of chinook salmon and the difficulties
8 caused, it's not clear to me whether it's the will of
9 the Board to include that in your annual report or not
10 so I would appreciate some clarification.

11

12 I would also like to say that it's not
13 clear whether Eva -- I think Eva will be the Council
14 coordinator from now on, Eva Patton, which is the very
15 last sentence but I'll make sure that that is accurate.

16

17 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay, thank you.

18

19 And you heard the additions to this
20 annual report and the motion and a second was made to
21 accept the annual report with additions, do I hear.....

22

23 MR. ALOYSIUS: Question.

24

25 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Question's been called
26 for -- go ahead.

27

28 MR. LARSON: Mr. Chair. Do we or do we
29 not include the issues with salmon fishing and the
30 affect on subsistence as a new item, that was my
31 question, is it included or do we not include it?

32

33 (Pause)

34

35 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Rivard.

36

37 MR. RIVARD: Well, here's what I heard.
38 You made your motion and seconded it and then John
39 spoke up with another issue, but there was no friendly
40 amendment or anything so right now that is not
41 included. If you want to make it, you'd have to make
42 it as a friendly amendment to add that, per Robert's
43 Rules.

44

45 Okay.

46

47 Because you had already made a motion
48 and you were getting ready to vote and then John spoke
49 up.

50

1 Thank you.
2
3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Mr. Rivard.
4 Question's been called for. All in favor of the motion
5 signify by saying aye.
6
7 IN UNISON: Aye.
8
9 CHAIRMAN WILDE: All opposed, same
10 sign.
11
12 (No opposing votes)
13
14 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Motion's carried.
15
16 What's next.
17
18 I got a little confused with all this
19 discussion by a few people here.
20
21 MR. ROCZICKA: Can we take five.
22
23 CHAIRMAN WILDE: We'll take a five
24 minute break and then we'll get back to Board non-rural
25 policy timeline.
26
27 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman.
28
29 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes.
30
31 MR. ALOYSIUS: When are we going to
32 break and.....
33
34 CHAIRMAN WILDE: We're breaking right
35 now, Mr. Bob.
36
37 MR. ALOYSIUS: No, for the day.
38
39 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Oh.
40
41 MR. ABRAHAM: Before you guys take a
42 break. This is something to think about, about our
43 Refuges.
44
45 You guys probably got approached by
46 somebody about predator control, these are Refuges, out
47 our back door, our yards, we don't want nobody to start
48 shooting in our backyard, those are predator control
49 people. We were approached in Bristol Bay already
50 about predator control, I don't go for that as a RAC

1 member and as a Bristol Bay member.

2

3 The Refuges are the animals Refuges
4 too, the same land so they can do whatever they want
5 to. The Refuge, or the nature we cannot control, we
6 cannot alter it, because the nature take care of
7 itself. There's a lot of examples.

8

9 Like caribou. If the wolves chasing
10 them, only the weak dies, the strong survives. In our
11 Refuges only the strong survive.

12

13 So keep this in mind when somebody
14 talks to you about the predator control. And I urge
15 you guys to fight back because these are your lands,
16 these are you -- you people control, and you have the
17 manager to work for you.

18

19 Any questions about Refuge, you got
20 some Staff people in your Refuge managers, biologists,
21 fisheries, anything, they have all the information you
22 need, and you are the people that enjoy the Refuges.

23

24 Thank you.

25

26 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Mr.
27 Abraham. We're having a five minute break, let's go do
28 one thing at a time.

29

30 (Off record)

31

32 (On record)

33

34 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Call the meeting to
35 order. Let's get back down to business. We're going
36 to be meeting here until 12:30 so we've got some work
37 to do and let's continue on with what we got.

38

39 At this time I'd like to make sure that
40 this was placed on the record, the motion that was
41 adopted by the Yukon Kuskokwim Delta Subsistence
42 Regional Advisory Council is as follows:

43

44 Develop a joint statement with the
45 other Federal Subsistence Regional Advisory Councils
46 with similar concerns of opposition to the US Fish and
47 Wildlife Service proposed rule for predator management
48 on Refuges that includes a request that the Federal
49 Subsistence Board advocate on behalf of the Councils
50 for withdrawal of the proposed rule.

1 And that's already been voted -- made a
2 motion seconded and voted, I just wanted to read that.

3
4 MR. LARSON: Mr. Chair. For your
5 information that motion has been distributed to the
6 other Councils.

7
8 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes.

9
10 MR. LARSON: So I do not know whether
11 the Councils that are meeting concurrently with this
12 Council have acted on it at this point but at least
13 they are aware of it.

14
15 CHAIRMAN WILDE: I know at least one,
16 Western -- Eastern Interior has worked on it. So now
17 let's continue on with our agenda.

18
19 The next item on our agenda is to
20 approve -- I'm sorry Item D, Board non-rural policy
21 timeline, has anybody got that, it's a supplemental in
22 the book. If anybody's going to comment on this.
23 Pippa, I know you've got something to say about it.

24
25 MS. KENNER: I believe it is an
26 information item in your Council books and the
27 information that we would give you is the information
28 that's in your Council book.

29
30 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay.

31
32 MR. LARSON: One item that's not in
33 your Council book is a graphic that's available, I
34 believe it's -- it's around anyway, and this graphic is
35 a visual presentation of when and where the Council
36 will be asked to comment on non-rural determinations.
37 It's a real nice presentation that brings all this kind
38 of into focus in a very graphic way. So this is
39 available and I can make sure that you have it if you
40 don't have it already.

41
42 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Go ahead, Mr.
43 Roczicka.

44
45 MR. ROCZICKA: Yes, just to clarify,
46 and I haven't seen that one yet but that just reflects
47 what Chairman Towarak told us yesterday that as far as
48 any communities potentially being nominated to being
49 non-rural, they would have to come within the RACs or,
50 you know, from within the region.

1 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay.

2

3 MR. LARSON: Mr. Chair, if I could.
4 The Board is going to work on the non-rural
5 determination policy this summer. Next fall you'll be
6 looking at the draft policy and the Board will adopt
7 the draft policy as their final policy during the
8 winter of 2017. I think that's the highlights of
9 what's here.

10

11 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. Any questions
12 on the non-rural policy timeline.

13

14

15 (No comments)

16

17 CHAIRMAN WILDE: There being none,
18 thank you. We'll go on down with our agenda.

19

20 Letter for joint Council and that's Mr.
21 Mush -- Mr. Mush.

22

23 MR. MASCHMANN: I'm Gerald Maschmann
24 with the US Fish and Wildlife Service out of Fairbanks.
25 I'm the assistant Federal in-season manager on the
26 Yukon and I assist Fred Bue, most of you know who Fred
27 is.

28

29 As you know tomorrow there's going to
30 be a Yukon breakout session and myself and the State
31 managers are going to give you the pre-season outlook
32 for 2016 as well as also answer any questions you might
33 have. And I actually have some questions I want to
34 present to the Yukon members of your Council, not to
35 discuss today, but to think about for tomorrow. And so
36 I'm going to hand out a list of questions and then just
37 briefly go over those questions and then let you guys
38 think about them today and tonight. I'll be around all
39 afternoon if you want to talk about them this
40 afternoon. I introduced Sabrina Garcia over here in
41 the green, she's the assistant State area manager for
42 the Yukon, she'll be around this afternoon also if you
43 want to catch us in between.

44

45 So I'm going to hand out some questions
46 and then just go over them briefly.

47

48

49

50

MR. MASCHMANN: And these are Yukon so

1 if you're not interested in Yukon then you don't have
2 to.....

3

4 (Pause)

5

6 MR. MASCHMANN: So the managers, again,
7 we'd like to ask you, the RAC members, to think about
8 the following topics prior to our Yukon River breakout
9 session tomorrow.

10

11 And although the managers have a number
12 of tools to flexibly manage Yukon River salmon, we're
13 really limited to managing based on time, area and
14 gear. And so if the 2016 chinook salmon run is poor,
15 as we've had in the last few years and conservation
16 efforts are needed, we're asking you to think about
17 fishing near your village, and how can managers best
18 provide fishing opportunities on chum salmon and other
19 species, such as whitefish and pike while conserving
20 chinook salmon utilizing time, area, and gear.

21

22 If the 2016 chinook salmon run comes in
23 similar to 2015, which was better than expected, again,
24 thinking about fishing in your village, how can
25 managers or should managers provide some fishing
26 opportunity on chinook salmon if there is a potential
27 for a small surplus available for subsistence harvest,
28 again, utilizing the time, area and gear. So if it's
29 going to be poor, how can we best provide fishing
30 opportunities on other species, but if it's a little
31 better and there's a potential chinook salmon
32 available, again, how can we best provide that
33 opportunity in your area.

34

35 And then, in general, the managers want
36 to know how fishermen are just feeling in general in
37 your area. How did they feel about the chinook salmon
38 run, how do they feel about the conservation efforts
39 that we have taken the last few seasons. And how did
40 they feel with communication with the managers.

41

42 Again, nothing to -- no feedback is
43 needed for me today but just think about that today and
44 tonight and bring your answers to the Yukon breakout
45 session tomorrow.

46

47 So appreciate it.

48

49 Thank you.

50

1 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any questions for
2 Mr.....
3
4 MR. MASCHMANN: Maschmann.
5
6 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Maschmann. I've got
7 to learn to pronounce that.
8
9 (Laughter)
10
11 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chair.
12
13 MR. ALOYSIUS: Thank you. Will there
14 be anything like this for the Kuskokwim River breakout?
15 Anybody?
16
17 MR. RIVARD: Yes. Tomorrow morning at
18 8:30 there's going to be a Kuskokwim River salmon
19 session and then in the afternoon is the Yukon.
20
21 MR. ALOYSIUS: I know but is there
22 anything like this paper.
23
24 MR. RIVARD: Oh, I don't believe so.
25
26 MR. BORN: No, there is not. We're
27 going to have a short presentation.
28
29 MR. RIVARD: Can you come up here.
30
31 MR. BORN: This is Ray Born from Yukon
32 Delta National Wildlife Refuge. We do not have a pre-
33 season forecast for Kuskokwim River at this point in
34 time so the questions are similar, of course, but we
35 don't have any prepared in advance.
36
37 Thank you, Mr. Chair.
38
39 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you. Are there
40 any questions for Mr. Maschmann. Got it.
41
42 (Laughter)
43
44 (No comments)
45
46
47 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. We are down to
48 Item 13. Just for your information -- oh, I'm sorry
49 are we supposed to do this. This letter to the Federal
50 Subsistence Board, joint letter, is anybody going to

1 speak to this.

2

3

Go ahead.

4

5

MR. LARSON: Mr. Chair. Yesterday during our joint Council meeting there was a proposal made from the Southeast Council that seemed to be well accepted and the will of the Council members that were present at that joint Council meeting that we make an effort to capture some issues that were shared by all of the Councils and put those in a form of a letter, the content of the letter would be signed by the Chairs of all 10 Councils. After the meeting concluded yesterday I drafted a letter that you see before you, I apologize, I think there's a couple of copies of this letter less than there are Council members, but it is a draft letter that is being reviewed by all 10 Councils. I think that it captures seven items that are common themes that were expressed by the Council members during the joint Council session.

21

22

If the Council would like to sign this letter to the Federal Subsistence Board then this is your opportunity to approve that action. So it would require a motion to approve and sign this letter along with the other 9 Councils.

27

28

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Did everybody get a letter. Just in case you didn't get a letter we'll go ahead and read this. Do you want to go ahead and read this please.

32

33

MR. LARSON: Mr. Chairman. The content

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The 10 Federal Subsistence Regional Advisory Councils appreciated the opportunity to meet in Anchorage for a joint session on March 7th and 8th 2016. The meeting was extremely informative and the Council members were unanimous in finding value in hearing summary reports from each Council.

While there are numerous concerns that are specific to each region, it was very enlightening to hear that there were several subsistence concerns that were common to all regions.

1 The Councils would like to inform the
2 Federal Subsistence Board of the issues
3 that resonated with each of the
4 Councils. Although many of these
5 issues have been brought up previously
6 by individual Councils in their annual
7 reports we would like to take this
8 opportunity to jointly bring these
9 requests to the Board as a collective
10 voice.

11
12 1. We request the Board seek an
13 increase in funding to meet the
14 requirements of operating as a Regional
15 Advisory Council. Reduced Program
16 funding has made it difficult for us to
17 do our business. One example is our
18 inability to regularly meet in the
19 rural communities we are appointed to
20 represent. We are currently restricted
21 to hub communities with only
22 occasionally opportunities to meet in
23 non-hub communities.

24
25 MR. PAPPAS: Mr. Chair. Robert, could
26 you please slow down just a little bit and a little bit
27 closer to the microphone please.

28
29 MR. ALOYSIUS: Pull it to you it would
30 be easier.

31
32 (Laughter)

33
34 MR. LARSON: Thank you, Bob.

35
36 No. 2. We request the Board seek an
37 increase in funding for conducting fish
38 and wildlife population assessments and
39 monitoring. The data collected in
40 these projects are essential for us to
41 continue to make recommendations on
42 managing these resources appropriately.
43 Increasing funding for a wildlife
44 resource monitoring program was
45 identified as an issue of concern
46 during the Secretary Review that has
47 not yet been acted upon due to lack of
48 funding.

49
50 No. 3. We request the Board seek to

1 find an avenue for having a designated
2 subsistence seat on the North Pacific
3 Fisheries Management Council. The
4 representative for such a seat should
5 have experience on the Regional
6 Advisory Council. The Councils have
7 expressed this recently to the Board,
8 asking the Board for the request to the
9 Secretary of Commerce. The response,
10 however, did not address the underlying
11 concern.

12
13 No. 4. We request the Board develop a
14 program that will allow each of the 10
15 Councils a mechanism to engage youth in
16 the subsistence regulatory process.
17 This would be in line with the
18 Secretary of Interior's implementation
19 of a play, learn, serve and work
20 program oriented towards developing
21 youth programs. The Secretary
22 specifically created a position in
23 Alaska to facilitate implementation of
24 that program.

25
26 No. 5. We request the Board engage in
27 formal rulemaking that includes in
28 giving deference to the Councils, not
29 only in taking of fish and wildlife,
30 but also for other regulatory issues
31 affecting subsistence users in our
32 regions. While this is currently the
33 policy of the Board there is no
34 assurance that the future Board would
35 implement policy unless it is clear in
36 regulation.

37
38 No. 6. The identification of priority
39 information needs is the basis for
40 soliciting fisheries projects for the
41 Fisheries Resource Monitoring Program.
42 The Councils appreciate recent efforts
43 to make the development of these
44 priorities more accessible and
45 successful. The Councils request the
46 Board continue to support the
47 provisions of adequate technical
48 support that will enable us to make
49 meaningful recommendations.
50

1 No. 7. Bringing all the Councils
2 together allows the effective sharing
3 of information between Council members
4 and allows the Councils to identify
5 common concerns for big picture issues.
6 The Councils request the Board engage
7 the Office of Subsistence Management to
8 allow the periodic planning of another
9 joint Council meeting. It is the
10 recommendation of the Councils that
11 such sessions occur at least once every
12 five years.
13

14 In summary, we feel the joint Council
15 meeting was very successful and will
16 enable Council members the experiences
17 and training necessary for us to be
18 more effective and productive members
19 of our Councils. We have made new
20 friends and established contacts within
21 the greater subsistence management
22 community that will allow us to
23 communicate more effectively among
24 ourselves and with the Staff.
25

26 Thank you for making this opportunity
27 available to us.
28

29 Sincerely, Council Chairs.
30

31 CHAIRMAN WILDE: You've heard the
32 letter as written, what is the wish of the Board --
33 Council.
34

35 Mr. Rivard.
36

37 MR. RIVARD: May I make one suggestion
38 because what I heard in Item No. 2 is actually two
39 different items. An increase in the Fisheries
40 Monitoring Program and then actually funding a wildlife
41 monitoring program, those are two separate items.
42

43 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Do you want those two
44 separated.
45

46 MR. LARSON: Mr. Chair. I'm reviewing
47 the -- let me just read no. 2 again, and I don't think
48 that these are separate items. I think that it's
49 pretty clear.
50

1 No. 2. We request the Board seek an
2 increase in funding for conducting fish
3 and wildlife population assessments and
4 monitoring. The data collected in
5 these projects are essential for us to
6 continue to make recommendations on
7 managing these resources appropriately.
8 Increasing funding for a wildlife
9 resource monitoring program was
10 identified as an issue of concern
11 during the Secretary Review that has
12 not yet been acted upon due to lack of
13 funding.

14
15 So that's one issue.

16
17 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. What is the
18 wish of the Council.

19
20 Mr. Aloysius.

21
22 MR. ALOYSIUS: I would like to have a
23 copy of that.

24
25 CHAIRMAN WILDE: I thought.....

26
27 MR. ALOYSIUS: Because there's some
28 wording in there that really bugs the heck out of me.

29
30 (Pause)

31
32 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. Mr. Robert
33 Aloysius, you have the floor. Do you have any problems
34 with that letter.

35
36 MR. ALOYSIUS: No, I said I'd like to
37 read it so I could look at it because there's something
38 in there that struck me and I didn't like the wording.

39
40 (Pause)

41
42 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Go ahead, Mr.
43 Roczicka.

44
45 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman. Just for
46 discussion I'd move to approve the letter.

47
48 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Motion's been made to
49 approve the letter as written.

50

1 MR. ANDREW: Second.
2
3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Motion was made by Mr.
4 Roczicka, seconded by Mr. Andrew. Any further
5 discussion.
6
7 MR. ROCZICKA: Give Bob a chance to
8 read it.
9
10 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Bob.
11
12 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chair. There was
13 something in here that said would like to and I don't
14 like that phrase, would like to, and I'm trying to
15 remember where I heard it, because it's very ambiguous.
16 If you want to say something you say it in the
17 positive. It says something about the Council would
18 like to.
19
20 MR. ROCZICKA: Bob, the second
21 paragraph at the beginning it says the Councils would
22 like to inform the Federal Subsistence Board, is that
23 what you heard.
24
25 MR. ALOYSIUS: What?
26
27 MR. ROCZICKA: The second paragraph.
28
29 MR. ALOYSIUS: Which one?
30
31 MR. ROCZICKA: Second paragraph.
32
33 MR. ALOYSIUS: Second paragraph. Oh,
34 yeah, the Councils would like to inform, that is pretty
35 wishy-washy. There's got to be a better way than would
36 like to, because would like to to me means that, well,
37 I don't -- I would like to but I really don't want to.
38
39 (Laughter)
40
41 MR. ALOYSIUS: So anything to make that
42 sentence more powerful than that would be helpful to
43 me.
44
45 Thank you.
46
47 MR. SMITH: Mr. Chairman.
48
49 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Go ahead, Mr. Smith.
50

1 MR. SMITH: Mr. Chair. So this is a
2 draft letter drafted by all the 10 RACs, and our
3 comments will be incorporated to one letter to submit
4 to the Board, Federal Subsistence Board, is that what
5 we're doing.

6
7 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr -- go ahead.

8
9 MR. LARSON: Mr. Chair. Yes, at the
10 end of the meeting yesterday I was directed to write
11 this letter and the idea would be that the content of
12 this letter would be approved by each of the Councils.
13 The letter will undergo some additional review. It
14 hasn't had any chance for review after what I wrote.
15 There's going to be some wordsmithing issues that are
16 going to need to be addressed, including issues like,
17 would like to and wishes and, you know, but those are
18 really just wordsmithing, it doesn't really affect the
19 content, I would expect there's a variety of those kind
20 of issues going to show up. But the point is that the
21 content of the letter would need to be approved now and
22 then once we get it finalized then it would be brought
23 back for Lester's signature as well as the rest of the
24 other 9 Councils.

25
26 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any other questions or
27 discussion on the letter as written.

28
29
30 (No comments)

31
32 CHAIRMAN WILDE: There was a motion and
33 a second.

34
35 (No comments)

36
37 CHAIRMAN WILDE: There being no other
38 discussion -- are there any further discussion.

39
40 (No comments)

41
42 MR. SMITH: Question.

43
44 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Question called for.
45 All in favor signify by saying aye.

46
47 IN UNISON: Aye.

48
49 CHAIRMAN WILDE: All opposed, same
50 sign.

1 (No opposing votes)
2
3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Motion's carried.
4 Thank you Mr. Bob.
5
6 Let's continue on down, we have 15
7 minutes. Future meeting dates. Confirm the date and
8 location of fall 2016 on Page 223. Do we have a -- I
9 don't have the book so I need somebody to look up those
10 dates and we also need to select a winter date meeting.
11 And at the back of your you have a calendar right there
12 that's available to you.
13
14 MR. LARSON: Confirm next fall and the
15 winter of 2017.
16
17 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. The fall
18 meeting that we planned was in Bethel on October 12th
19 and 13th, that's on a Wednesday and a Thursday. Are
20 those dates still okay with the Council.
21
22 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman.
23
24 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes, Mr. Aloysius.
25
26 MR. ALOYSIUS: I move that we have our
27 fall 2016 meeting in Bethel on October 12 and 13, 2016.
28
29 CHAIRMAN WILDE: We have a motion on
30 the floor, do I hear a second.
31
32 MR. CHARLES: Second.
33
34 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Seconded by Mr.
35 Charles.
36
37 Any further discussion.
38
39 (No comments)
40
41 MR. BILL: Question.
42
43 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Question's called for.
44
45 All in favor signify by saying aye.
46
47 IN UNISON: Aye.
48
49 CHAIRMAN WILDE: All opposed, same
50 sign.

1 (No opposing votes)
2
3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: The motion's carried
4 then. And the winter Regional Advisory Council
5 meeting, we need to select a date for our winter
6 Council meeting. Mr. Roczicka.
7
8 MR. ROCZICKA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
9 Just to throw out a tentative, move for February 15 and
10 16 and the major purpose of that is generally the first
11 week of March is taken up with State regulatory
12 meetings.
13
14 CHAIRMAN WILDE: So is that in the form
15 of a motion.
16
17 MR. ROCZICKA: Yes. I would move for
18 February 15 and 16.
19
20 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Motion's been made to
21 have a winter meeting on February 15 and 16.
22
23 MR. PETERS: Second.
24
25 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Seconded by Mr.
26 Peters. Any further discussion.
27
28 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chair.
29
30 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes, Mr. Smith.
31
32 MR. ALOYSIUS: Where at?
33
34 MR. SMITH: Mr. Chair. In Bethel or
35 where at?
36
37 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah, in Bethel.
38
39 MR. SMITH: Okay.
40
41 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Question, Mr.
42 Aloysius.
43
44 MR. ALOYSIUS: Where at?
45
46 CHAIRMAN WILDE: In Bethel, the hub.
47 Any further discussion.
48
49 (No comments)
50

1 MR. ANDREW: Call for the question.
2
3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Question's called for.
4 All in favor say aye.
5
6 IN UNISON: Aye.
7
8 CHAIRMAN WILDE: All opposed, same
9 sign.
10
11 (No opposing votes)
12
13 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Motion's carried.
14
15 MR. LARSON: What date was that.
16
17 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Motion was 15th and
18 16th of February.
19
20 Okay. Before we go into our closing
21 comments our coordinator has a couple announcements.
22
23 MR. LARSON: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
24 First and most important I think that everybody knows
25 Eva Patton. But Eva will be your Council coordinator
26 during the foreseeable future, so, in fact, that annual
27 report letter is correct. So Eva will be there.
28
29 I would like to make note of two
30 breakout sessions that have been alluded to earlier
31 during this Council session. At 8:30 tomorrow morning
32 there's the Kuskokwim River salmon report and
33 discussion, so that's going to be one that's important
34 to this Council. The other is the Yukon River salmon
35 report and discussion. That's a separate breakout
36 session and that'll be at 1:30. If you look at the
37 board as you come down the main entrance those rooms
38 will be identified at that point.
39
40 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you. I guess we
41 all know who this young lady is.
42
43 MS. PATTON: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I
44 just wanted to note the Council is welcome to go to
45 both of those sessions. The Kuskokwim is the first
46 half of the day and the Yukon River salmon session is
47 the second half of the day. But what we would like for
48 sure is that there's representation from the Kuskokwim
49 communities at the Kuskokwim session. It's an
50 opportunity for both YK Delta and Western Interior

1 Councils to meet together for a review of the Kuskokwim
2 salmon management updates on research and monitoring
3 projects. And then the second half of the session is
4 opportunity for dialogue between the Council members
5 and communities and dialogue with managers in terms of
6 management strategies and feedback. So that's the
7 Kuskokwim session in the morning.

8

9 And then the Yukon session in the
10 afternoon is all three Councils on the Yukon River, so
11 Eastern Interior, Western Interior and YK Delta
12 Councils. And similarly we'll have Tanana Chiefs
13 Conference and in-season managers, Yukon River Drainage
14 Fisheries Association and research and monitoring
15 updates. And, again, the second half of the meeting is
16 that opportunity for sharing between Council members
17 and communities and recommendations on management.

18

19 So I hope to see you all there
20 tomorrow. I'll be at those sessions facilitating that.

21

22 So, thank you.

23

24 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Eva.

25

26 Closing comments.

27

28 Mr. -- oh, Ms. Pippa.

29

30 MS. KENNER: Thank you. Real briefly,
31 Mr. Chair, this is Pippa Kenner with OSM.

32

33 For those leaving early and at the end
34 of the meeting, please take your receiver and just
35 leave it on your chair or on your table so that we can
36 pick them up, please don't walk away with them but if
37 you do we'll be collecting them all week.

38

39 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Pippa.

40

41 Mr. Bob Aloysius, you have any closing
42 comments.

43

44 MR. ALOYSIUS: (In Yup'ik)

45

46 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Is that it?

47

48 MR. ALOYSIUS: No.

49

50 (Laughter)

1 MR. ALOYSIUS: This has been a very,
2 very outstanding two days, yesterday and the day
3 before. Because it reinforced a lot of questions -- I
4 mean it answered a lot of questions that I know all of
5 us had about what are these other guys doing, how are
6 they doing it. Are they succeeding or are they not
7 getting whatever they want, is it the same thing I've
8 heard here over the last 12 years. I hear it from the
9 regions, yesterday and the day before. And I'm glad
10 that somebody finally listened to us because I've been
11 asking for this for the last 12 years, an All RACs
12 meeting and make sure that we understand each other and
13 help each other.

14

15 And the other thing that's not so good
16 is, we didn't get anything in the mail and so it
17 created a lot of confusion for me, especially --
18 because I like to get information beforehand. I won't
19 say any more about that.

20

21 Guyana.

22

23 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Bob.

24

25 Mr. Charles, do you have any closing
26 comments.

27

28 MR. CHARLES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

29

30 I learned something when I went to that
31 Board of Fish meeting in Fairbanks, maybe this RAC
32 would send a representative over there to make the
33 report of what was going on at the meeting, what we
34 wanted done, because they represent fisheries there or
35 here in Anchorage or other places, even game. If we
36 start sending somebody to that or the Chairman, or
37 somebody, to that meeting that would help because the
38 State is -- State regulations or rules are important
39 for us too.

40

41 Thank you.

42

43 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Mr.

44 Charles.

45

46 Mr. Brown, do you have any closing
47 comments.

48

49 MR. BROWN: (In Yup'ik)

50

1 TRANSLATOR: And my -- what my village
2 wants, how I'm going to report about the traditional
3 fishing with net, is anybody listening here to me. So
4 she's [sic] talking about that and he's also thanking
5 you all and there are others here that have come to
6 listen because this how we should work and talk about
7 the issues that are affecting us so thank you very
8 much.

9
10 MR. BROWN: Quyana, Mr. Chair.

11
12 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Mr. Brown.

13
14 Mr. Peters, do you have any closing
15 comments.

16
17 MR. PETERS: Thank you, Mr. Chair. You
18 know what I -- you know coming from the Yukon I would
19 like to work with the Yukon people on what's coming up
20 and keep, you know, I'd like to thank the Board, you
21 know, on what changes would be coming up and what --
22 what's going to really affect us and I would like to
23 work with the Yukon people and -- because, you know,
24 with the Kuskokwim and the coastal people I think all
25 of us working together, you know, to all come of this
26 is -- you know, I would like to see everybody work
27 together and try to move forward on some of these --
28 what's being brought up to us because I know for a fact
29 there's some elders and some youths that can't make it
30 to the meetings but we're their voice and I know
31 there's a lot of stuff that was being presented to us
32 and, you know, that's -- I'll have to do some reading.

33
34 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

35
36 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Mr. Peters.

37
38 Ms. Cleveland, do you have any closing
39 comments.

40
41 MS. CLEVELAND: I am just glad I'm able
42 to attend these meetings. And I'm glad my cousin John
43 is here from the beginning. The meetings are really
44 imperative and informative and I have learned something
45 to bring up to my people. And John and I will help
46 each other to bring some of the stuff and answer their
47 questions in our home at Quinhagak.

48
49 Quyana.

50

1 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Quyana.

2

3 Mr. Ulak.

4

5 MR. ULAK: Quyana, Mr. Chairman. I
6 want to thank the present RAC members here (In Yup'ik)
7 and I want to thank the Staff, Pippa and the rest of
8 the group here that are here.

9

10 One big subject I hear often is high
11 seas fisheries. I think somebody needs to bring that
12 out, maybe can start from me. I've heard this from my
13 in-law that high seas fisheries continuing every year.
14 He stated that one -- the salmon stock will no longer
15 be there if that high sea fishery continues every year.
16 I think they need to take a break. Someone's got to --
17 someone's got to say something about this.

18

19 But I appreciate your time with me,
20 with the members here. I'm enjoying it. I'm still
21 learning.

22

23 Quyana, Mr. Chairman.

24

25 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Mr. Ulak.

26

27 Mr. Bill.

28

29 MR. BILL: (In Yup'ik)

30

31 INTERPRETER: What I'm thinking what
32 the Nunivak member here mentioned.

33

34 MR. BILL: It's not -- the high catch
35 of halibut is not the only thing that worries the
36 coastal people, it's also the chinook, king salmon
37 bycatch, those are the areas that worries the rivers
38 of Alaska -- the biggest rivers in Alaska, Yukon and
39 Kuskokwim. They need to move those fisheries someplace
40 else. Back in 1995 when I attended the North Pacific
41 Fisheries Management they were going to move the
42 fishermen from that whole area where they are now
43 because of the -- because the fishermen are taking the
44 food for sea -- what do you call those, sea lions, or
45 whatever, I forgot the name. And I asked them, which
46 -- I wonder which one of the areas is the best -- the
47 most use that you can help out, the life of the Native
48 people in western coast of Alaska or in the big rivers
49 or the lives of the steller sea lion. Nobody answered
50 that.

1 (In Yup'ik)
2
3 If this area -- if this group could put
4 their -- could join the fight against the bycatch,
5 you're nothing but Native people here, the users of the
6 salmon.
7
8 (In Yup'ik)
9
10 TRANSLATOR: So the bycatch is what we
11 eat. They -- they discard into the ocean, we want that
12 fish. So I'm adding to what the other member from
13 Nunivak had mentioned.
14
15 MR. BILL: Like I said, somebody else
16 -- whenever I talk with some of the people, they look
17 the other way.
18
19 (In Yup'ik)
20
21 The US Fish and Wildlife could help us
22 fight and help us in going against the bycatchers. My
23 god they're right there, 20 miles off the coast area in
24 Kuskokwim Bay, 10 companies -- 9 companies, they'll be
25 coming back in April and fishing for everything,
26 they're bad because the bycatch is halibut and halibut
27 and sea mammal, our food. They're in our pantry, we
28 need to do something about it, together. You can't
29 look away from it.
30
31 I can't think of more but it's okay,
32 I'll do it again sometime.
33
34 Quyana.
35
36 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Mr. Bill.
37 Turn off your mic please.
38
39 Ms. Johnson, do you have any closing
40 comments.
41
42 MS. JOHNSON: No comments.
43
44 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. Mr. Roczicka.
45
46 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman.
47
48 Yeah, just echoing what everybody else
49 has said. This has been a real positive experience and
50 I hope we can continue it on a regular basis. I was

1 especially impressed by Lt. Governor Mallott's
2 statements yesterday and the problems -- the main
3 problem that we have in the management realm is the
4 whole dual management issue and I know it's going to be
5 another one of them long hard struggles but this
6 Administration is moving to try to address that is real
7 encouraging. And I would hope that if that's going to
8 be part of the transcripts, I'd like to get a copy of
9 that. Yesterday's, of the joint session will be
10 transcribed as well, Tina.

11
12 REPORTER: (Nods affirmatively)

13
14 MR. ROCZICKA: Good.

15
16 And, echoing also what James had said
17 about having our presence or representative at the
18 State Board meetings and that's one thing, if we could
19 put it on, or maybe for Eva, or for Staff in the
20 future, whenever there are either a State Board of
21 Fisheries or the State Board of Game has -- in the
22 regulatory cycle, has issues that affect our region
23 there should be an AYK region for the fisheries and
24 Region 3 and Region 5 for game, those proposals should
25 be on our agenda. We shouldn't have to go and request
26 it to happen. And we've actually, from the State side,
27 for the Advisory Committees, the Federal proposals are
28 being put on the agenda on a regular basis now so I'd
29 like to see that for the future. That would be just an
30 automatic agenda item when those are in cycle.

31
32 Anyway, I appreciate everybody and
33 Staff again, you guys do a great job.

34
35 Thank you.

36
37 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Mr.

38 Roczicka.

39
40 Mr. Smith.

41
42 MR. SMITH: Thank you, Mr. Chair. It's
43 been an eye-opener for me to see all the different RACs
44 and their concerns and they're similar to ours. It's
45 good to hear the representatives voicing their concerns
46 from each of the areas.

47
48 So for me, you know, as everybody heard
49 around Nunivak, the biggest concerns that we have is
50 the halibut bycatch issue and how it's affecting our

1 subsistence halibut fishery.

2

3 And also the reindeer and muskox issue.

4

5 And I know that we have particular
6 issues on the island that are not really on the
7 mainland issues but the people from the community, I am
8 their voice so I bring up their issues and it's good to
9 hear that the Staff is able to work on those and to
10 work with the Council here. I appreciate that.

11

12 Thank you.

13

14 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

15

16 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Mr. Smith.

17

18 Mr. Andrew.

19

20 MR. ANDREW: Thank you, Mr. Chairman
21 and members of the Council, Staff. And we thank those
22 responsible for putting this together. It's the first
23 time we ever see our fellow subsistence harvesters,
24 hunters, fishers, trappers, from all over the state and
25 it's probably my first time staying at the Captain Hook
26 too.

27

28 (Laughter)

29

30 MR. ANDREW: Captain Cook's hotel
31 there. I used to feel sorry because I used to -- but I
32 used to feel left out and it's too pricey for me to
33 enter that door, I felt pretty much at home now after
34 seeing the people from all over the area.

35

36 And it's very likely -- we always say,
37 it's very, very important to have a voice on this
38 Council, even with the State side and -- but the only
39 problem I see when I travel over here is not having
40 enough rural village participants. I feel in the
41 background, from the tundra and the coastal area, my
42 area, I'd like to hear their concerns. Usually I have
43 a group of people to help out when we have it in Bethel
44 because Bethel's nearby. You can go down by boat,
45 airplane or fourwheels to attend the meeting if they
46 can, but to have it over here is a bit pricey for them
47 to come over here and then go back.

48

49 I thank you all for being here.

50

1 Quyana.
2
3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Mr. Andrew.
4
5 And I would like to thank our Staff for
6 all the help. You've made our job a lot easier. If I
7 had to do this by myself, I'd still be plugging trying
8 to get through some of this. And I really appreciate
9 the help that you give us, to help us make our
10 decisions on some of these things that are really
11 necessary for our way of life.
12
13 And with that, the Chair will now
14 entertain a motion to adjourn.
15
16 MR. ULAK: So moved.
17
18 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Motion's been moved to
19 adjourn the meeting by Mr. Ulak.
20
21 MS. CLEVELAND: Second.
22
23 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Seconded by Ms.
24 Cleveland. All in favor of the motion signify by
25 saying aye.
26
27 IN UNISON: Aye.
28
29 CHAIRMAN WILDE: All opposed, same
30 sign.
31
32 (No opposing votes)
33
34 MR. ROCZICKA: That's the fastest
35 meeting we've ever had.
36
37 (Laughter)
38
39 CHAIRMAN WILDE: The meeting's
40 adjourned.
41
42 (Off record)
43
44 (END OF PROCEEDINGS)

