

1 NORTHWEST ARCTIC FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE  
2 REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

3  
4 PUBLIC MEETING

5  
6 Egan Convention Center  
7 Anchorage, Alaska  
8 March 10, 2016  
9 1:30 p.m.

10  
11  
12 COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

13  
14  
15 Enoch Shiedt, Chairman  
16 Percy Ballot  
17 Verne Cleveland  
18 Louie Commack  
19 Michael Kramer  
20 Hannah Loon  
21 Enoch Mitchell  
22 Calvin Moto  
23 Raymond Stoney

24  
25  
26  
27 Regional Council Coordinator, Zach Stevenson  
28

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P R O C E E D I N G S

(Anchorage, Alaska - 3/10/2016)

(On record)

CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Okay. Afternoon. I'll call this meeting to order. March 10, 2016 at 1:30 p.m. And to the radio land out there in teleconference, you could call 1-888-638-8165. You entered a code number when it's asked 900609. And if you're on the teleconference out there I would like to see -- like to hear that you put your phone on mute so we won't hear any background.

So welcome all to the Northwest Arctic Federal Advisory Board meeting. And I would like the Secretary to call roll call, please.

MS. LOON: Raymond Stoney.

MR. STONEY: Here.

MS. LOON: Austin Swan.

(No response)

MS. LOON: Hannah Loon, present.

Michael Kramer.

(No response)

MS. LOON: Percy Ballot.

MR. BALLOT: Here.

MS. LOON: Verne Cleveland.

MR. CLEVELAND: (In Native).

MS. LOON: Louie Commack, Jr.

MR. COMMACK: (In Native).

MS. LOON: Enoch Shiedt, Sr.

CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Here.

MS. LOON: Enoch.....

1 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Mike is here.  
2  
3 MS. LOON: Okay. Mike's here.  
4  
5 Enoch Mitchell.  
6  
7 (No response)  
8  
9 MS. LOON: Calvin Moto, Sr.  
10  
11 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Calvin Moto say -- he  
12 told me he might be a little bit late, so he's on his  
13 way. He's our elder, we have our youth and our elder  
14 here.  
15  
16 Thank you, Secretary. And back to the  
17 agenda.  
18  
19 We'll ask the invocation to be  
20 presented by Hannah.  
21  
22 (Invocation)  
23  
24 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Thank you, Zach.  
25 Okay. Back to the agenda here. And thanks, Hannah,  
26 for invocation.  
27  
28 Call to order been called for by the  
29 Chair. We'd like the Council to introduce themselves.  
30 I'll start with Enoch.  
31  
32 MR. MITCHELL: Enoch Mitchell, Noatak  
33 Community Advisory Chair.  
34  
35 MR. CLEVELAND: Verne Cleveland,  
36 Noorvik.  
37  
38 MR. COMMACK: Louie Commack, Ambler.  
39  
40 MR. KRAMER: Mike Kramer, Kotzebue.  
41  
42 MS. LOON: (In Native). I am Hannah  
43 Loon. I'm from Selawik. Thank you.  
44  
45 MR. STONEY: Raymond Stoney, I'm from  
46 Kiana.  
47  
48 MR. BALLOT: Percy Ballot from  
49 Buckland, home of the Western Arctic Caribou Herd.  
50

1 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Okay. Thank you.  
2 Enoch Shiedt, Attamuk. Northwest Arctic from Kotzebue,  
3 Chair for this fine Board I have here with me.

4  
5 Adopt and review agenda. I got one  
6 change. I was requested that someone wanted to come in  
7 right under public comments due to they have to leave  
8 for another meeting. And I can't remember who it --  
9 that was you. Yeah. Okay. Thank you. Hannah. Okay.  
10 That was Hannah. Going to move on our agenda, right  
11 under -- right ahead of public. And we are -- old  
12 business.

13  
14 I'm sorry.

15  
16 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: (Indiscernible -  
17 away from microphone).....

18  
19 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Yes. Okay. Thanks.  
20 Okay. Thank you. Yeah.

21  
22 We're just making minor changes to the  
23 agenda. So it's there for your review and adoption.

24  
25 MR. COMMACK: Mr. Chairman.

26  
27 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Mr. Commack.

28  
29 MR. COMMACK: I move to approve the  
30 agenda as presented.

31  
32 MS. LOON: Mr. Chairman, I have  
33 something to add for the agenda. I would like to add  
34 the number of service that Percy Ballot did for as a  
35 RAC, committing more than 20 plus years to be added  
36 someplace down here.

37  
38 Thank you.

39  
40 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: There was a request  
41 to put -- to recognize Percy. He's been here with us  
42 for over 25 years. Anywhere I can put it -- you can  
43 think of where I could put it now, exact please.

44  
45 MR. BALLOT: Mr. Chairman, you can do  
46 that in due time. Take care of business.

47  
48 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Okay. We will do  
49 that. And we know you -- you hear from Hannah. You'll  
50 be recognized.

1 Zach, you had your hand up?

2

3 MR. STEVENSON: Thank you, Mr. Chair.  
4 I also had a request from the Fisheries Resource  
5 Management Program, FRMP, Jennifer Hyer [sic] who's  
6 interested in providing an update to the -- pardon me,  
7 Karen Hyer, who's interested in providing an update to  
8 the RAC with the opportunity to establish a  
9 subcommittee for informing research needs, subsistence  
10 fisheries research needs in particular. That would be  
11 -- she will be coming by approximately 2:00 p.m. this  
12 afternoon.

13

14 Thank you.

15

16 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: So which category we  
17 would put her under the agency reports or is she with  
18 agency, may I ask you that.

19

20 MR. STEVENSON: Thank you, Mr. Chair.  
21 That would be under item 11, new business.

22

23 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Her name again?

24

25 MR. STEVENSON: Karen Hyer, Mr. Chair.

26

27 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Everyone is looking  
28 for the ending. Go ahead, Carl.

29

30 MR. JOHNSON: Thank you, Mr. Chair.  
31 Carl Johnson for the record. You'll also note that I  
32 handed out two pieces of paper to all of you. One is a  
33 letter that is drafted by the Southeast Council. If  
34 you recall from the closing remarks of the joint  
35 session they indicated a desire to have a letter that's  
36 a joint message from all of the Councils on some common  
37 themes of concern and that it would be presented to you  
38 at your meeting. So that's the letter they were  
39 referring to.

40

41 In addition the Yukon Delta Kuskokwim  
42 Council adopted a motion that they would like presented  
43 to all of the Councils regarding the Refuge's proposed  
44 rule. It's at your discretion of course, Mr. Chair,  
45 whether or not that's of interest to this Council, but  
46 they asked that it be disseminated to all of the  
47 Councils for them to consider at their meetings.

48

49 So those are two items that I would  
50 suggest would be best placed at the end of what is your

1 current list of new business items.

2

3 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Yeah, Carl, Zach.  
4 For your information you know I like to have -- liked  
5 it ahead of time. I know this was just given to you  
6 probably as of this afternoon. So if I could take a  
7 quick look at it between my notes I will see and if you  
8 think it fall into what category we'll put it in there  
9 while we're still on the agenda before its final  
10 approval for amendments.

11

12 So it -- where would you think it would  
13 fit into?

14

15 MR. JOHNSON: Mr. Chair, that would  
16 definitely be a new business item and I would just  
17 simply put those two at the end of your current list of  
18 new business items.

19

20 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: So the name of the  
21 SRC?

22

23 MR. JOHNSON: We'll call one of them  
24 Southeast Council letter and the other one we'll call  
25 YK-Delta motion.

26

27 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Southeast motion.

28

29 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: 11?

30

31 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Yeah, under 11 now  
32 there'll -- there are D, E, we'll add E and F on new  
33 business. E will be -- okay. And they will be  
34 under.....

35

36 MR. BALLOT: Mr. Chairman.

37

38 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Yes.

39

40 MR. BALLOT: I move to add an amendment  
41 to the motion to include the issue.

42

43 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Okay.

44

45 MR. BALLOT: You need.....

46

47 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Before we get a  
48 second I would like to ask is there anything else you  
49 guys want to make some changes into that way we don't  
50 have to revisit the agenda. Before it was seconded,

1 Hannah, hang on. Is there anybody else that would like  
2 to make amendments to the agenda?

3

4 MS. LOON: Mr. Chairman, I need  
5 clarity. Is Karen Hyer D someplace or first on the --  
6 above the A?

7

8 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Oh, okay. Karen will  
9 be under new business, E, Karen Hyer and that Southeast  
10 Council letter will be F under new business.

11

12 MS. LOON: And how about the YK Delta  
13 motion?

14

15 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Which YK.....

16

17 MR. STEVENSON: Mr. Chair.

18

19 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Yeah, go ahead, Zach.

20

21 MR. STEVENSON: On item number 11,  
22 responding to Hannah Loon's question, presently that's  
23 covered under new business, item B, identified priority  
24 information needs for FRMP. Karen is with OSM  
25 Fisheries.

26

27 Thank you.

28

29 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Okay. Thank you.  
30 With that, Hannah, you get it?

31

32 MS. LOON: Yes.

33

34 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Okay. I would like  
35 to hear a motion on agenda as amended with changes into  
36 it. I'd like to hear the second.

37

38 Percy.

39

40 MR. BALLOT: So moved.

41

42 MS. LOON: Seconded.

43

44 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Okay. Thank you.

45 Thank you all.

46

47 Okay. It's back to elections, back to  
48 elections of officers on our agenda under 6 starting  
49 with the Chair.

50

1 MS. LOON: Mr. Chairman, I would like  
2 to nominate Raymond Stoney because he is from Kiana and  
3 we have lots of Kotzebue representatives in our RAC  
4 meeting. Just wanted to honor and respect a humble,  
5 quiet man.

6  
7 Thank you.

8  
9 MR. MOTO: Second the motion.

10  
11 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Okay. Anyone else?

12  
13 (No comments)

14  
15 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: If not, I need  
16 unanimous for Raymond to be the new Chair.

17  
18 MR. COMMACK: I ask for unanimous  
19 consent.

20  
21 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Thank you. All in  
22 favor signify by saying aye.

23  
24 IN UNISON: Aye.

25  
26 CHAIRMAN SHIEDT: Boy, I'll be off the  
27 hot seat. So, Raymond, you're going to be the new  
28 Chair. And go ahead, you could take over now, it's for  
29 the Vice Chair.

30  
31 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you.

32  
33 MR. BALLOT: Mr. Chairman, I nominate  
34 Enoch Shiedt, Vice Chair.

35  
36 MR. COMMACK: Second.

37  
38 MR. BALLOT: Mr. Chair, a request for  
39 unanimous consent.

40  
41 MS. LOON: Second.

42  
43 MR. SHIEDT: Go ahead, Raymond, you're  
44 the Chair now, take the seat.

45  
46 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you. So now we  
47 go down to the Secretary. Need a nomination for a  
48 secretary.

49  
50 MR. BALLOT: I nominate Hannah Loon and

1 ask for unanimous consent.

2

3 MR. SHIEDT: I'll second that.

4

5 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. Now we're down  
6 to -- okay. We've got the Chair, Vice Chair and the  
7 Secretary.

8

9 So next on the agenda is number 7,  
10 review and approve the minutes from the last October  
11 meeting in Selawik. Take a few minutes, go through the  
12 procedure and go through the minutes.

13

14 MS. LOON: Correction, Mr. Chairman.  
15 Buckland. (In Native).

16

17 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Huh?

18

19 MS. LOON: Buckland. (In Native).....

20

21 CHAIRMAN STONEY: We are.....

22

23 MR. BALLOT: Mr. Chairman.

24

25 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Percy.

26

27 MR. BALLOT: Move to approve the  
28 minutes of October 5 and 6 in Buckland, Alaska for  
29 Northwest Arctic Alaska Subsistence Regional Advisory  
30 Council.

31

32 MR. SHIEDT: Go ahead, Zach.

33

34 MR. STEVENSON: Thank you, Attamuk.  
35 For those that are calling in on the phone would you  
36 please as I mentioned before hit star six to mute your  
37 phone if you're not speaking.

38

39 Thank you.

40

41 MR. BALLOT: And that is my motion, Mr.  
42 Chairman.

43

44 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yeah.

45

46 MR. MITCHELL: Mr. Chair. Mr. Chair.

47

48 MR. BALLOT: And I want to add a  
49 comment that I really appreciate you guys coming up to  
50 Buckland and I see a lot of folks there and I think we

1 had kids there and it was enjoyable, it was a good  
2 meeting. Hope we'll be -- next place will be in  
3 Selawik.

4

5 MR. SHIEDT: I would like to approve  
6 the minutes as written. I reviewed them at home  
7 already so it was to me they were well typed out, they  
8 were well done.

9

10 CHAIRMAN STONEY: What is that?

11

12 MR. SHIEDT: No, on the minutes that --  
13 when we had our meeting at Buckland.

14

15 MR. MITCHELL: Mr. Chair. Mr. Chair.  
16 Mr. Chair.

17

18 MR. SHIEDT: Oh, I -- excuse me,  
19 Raymond, I hate to take over, but right now someone's  
20 on the teleconference, you got a lot of static. It  
21 would be nice if you put it on mute, please. Everyone  
22 hit their mute that's on the radio.

23

24 MR. STEVENSON: Everyone on the  
25 telephone please hit star six to mute your call, we're  
26 getting a lot of disturbance and can't hear the  
27 meeting.

28

29 Thank you.

30

31 MR. MITCHELL: Mr. Chair.

32

33 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Go ahead.

34

35 MR. MITCHELL: Go ahead now? Mr.  
36 Chair, before we approve I remember something on the  
37 previous meeting minutes I'd like to make a  
38 clarification on my report.

39

40 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Go ahead.

41

42 MR. MITCHELL: Okay. I'll make a  
43 clarification then. On the last report on the minutes  
44 it probably was misunderstood at our last meet --  
45 October meeting in Buckland. And I'd like to change  
46 the wording on hunters from the community were  
47 successful. On those what I wanted you to put down so  
48 I want to change it to hunters from the -- hunters from  
49 the community were somewhat successful compared to  
50 recent years. So that's a clarification I want to make

1 on that -- my wording on the -- my report because I  
2 mean somewhat successful because of the facts of my own  
3 -- my own record and my assessment for the -- this past  
4 -- last year. My fact states that out of 44 boats that  
5 -- hunting from the Village of Noatak, 21 boats got  
6 caribou and only two boats got their quota of five and  
7 the rest averaged three. And that was for the fall  
8 season hunt and that was not normal. And because there  
9 was a price of 10.99 a gallon of gas on average and a  
10 long distance you had to travel to get to where the  
11 caribou was crossing caused families to pool their  
12 money together in order to reach the caribou. And 23  
13 up here in boats spend over \$800 on gas only for that  
14 one day and we're not successful.

15  
16 That's why I want to make that  
17 clarification which is -- and that's why I put somewhat  
18 successful on the clarification.

19  
20 Thank you.

21  
22 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you. Anything  
23 else on the minutes?

24  
25 (No comments)

26  
27 CHAIRMAN STONEY: I know you went  
28 through the minutes in just a few minutes so if there's  
29 any questions or anything that has to be changed in the  
30 minutes you may do so.

31  
32 (No comments)

33  
34 CHAIRMAN STONEY: If none do I hear a  
35 motion to approve the minutes of Buckland meeting.

36  
37 MR. BALLOT: That was my motion a while  
38 ago, Mr. Chairman. I moved to approve.....

39  
40 MR. SHIEDT: Yeah, I think it was  
41 seconded already. I will pull my second if you want --  
42 wanted to rewrite it up, Enoch, I'll pull mine then and  
43 we'll second it again later.

44  
45 MR. BALLOT: Call for the question.

46  
47 CHAIRMAN STONEY: The question's been  
48 called. All in favor say aye.

49  
50 IN UNISON: Aye.

1 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Minutes passed.  
2 Okay. We're moving along on number 8. We -- Council  
3 members, your report on your villages.

4  
5 Calvin. Go ahead.

6  
7 MR. MOTO: Good afternoon. For those  
8 of you who wonder my name is Calvin Motor from Deering,  
9 Alaska. I've been on the RAC for -- this is my --  
10 working on my fourteenth year now.

11  
12 We had kind of an unusual winter, the  
13 hunters weren't able to go out and get caribou until  
14 what, December, because it froze and everything, but we  
15 never had any snow for a long time. Then in January we  
16 got some snow, a couple days later it rained and we  
17 flooded, the -- got floods in Deering. And then the  
18 ground froze. So our people were wondering I wonder if  
19 the caribou are being able to eat something or if the  
20 ground froze bad where they can't forage, you know.  
21 You know, we don't just worry about getting food on the  
22 table, we worry about the animals we hunt, you know,  
23 it's how we are.

24  
25 So anyway I want to thank Percy for the  
26 nice week and stuff we had in Buckland and I want to  
27 applaud Enoch for all the work he did as the Chairman  
28 of the -- I mean, Enoch, all right.

29  
30 MR. SHIEDT: Attamuk.

31  
32 MR. MOTO: And I want to thank you,  
33 Attamuk, you did a good job and we give him a round of  
34 applause.

35  
36 (Applause)

37  
38 MR. MOTO: You know, we are a diverse  
39 group, each one come from a different village, but we  
40 have the same principle, the need for the resource.  
41 This is how we are, our working together. The need for  
42 the resource. Remember that. And not only us, but the  
43 whole other group, they have to remember the need for  
44 the resource.

45  
46 And I want to thank you for -- there  
47 wasn't very much to report for Deering, but the fact  
48 that we've been finding some animals with some kind of  
49 sickness and stuff like that.

50

1 I want to thank you for giving me this  
2 opportunity to say something. I think I said enough  
3 the last two or three days.

4  
5 Thank you.

6  
7 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you, Calvin.

8  
9 We'll go on to Mr. Ballot.

10  
11 MR. BALLOT: Okay. Mr. Chairman,  
12 congratulations and I thank Attamuk also for his  
13 chairmanship for the last year.

14  
15 And I'm going to take this time to say  
16 hi to my mom, Bonito Ballot. She raised me up to be a  
17 hunter and a leader and stuff like that and recognize  
18 James Moto who told me one day 20 years ago you got to  
19 go to this meeting and it's about your hunting, you  
20 need to learn this stuff. And so I've been here for as  
21 long as he told me to be and it's been a long time. So  
22 I want to recognize him, he's in heaven somewhere, but  
23 I just thought -- I always remember that people, they  
24 teach you things and they give you things and you give  
25 the glory to them. And then you got kids coming up and  
26 I'm real glad that we had a lot of kids in Buckland at  
27 that last meeting.

28  
29 Hunting's been good this year. It's  
30 okay for Buckland and we're getting wolves and moose  
31 now, but that's all I got to -- but we had people in  
32 (indiscernible) the other day hunting all the way up in  
33 our area. So, you know, it's the wintering grounds of  
34 the Western Arctic Caribou Herd, there's a lot up there  
35 as long as we share and hunt, it's all right.

36  
37 Thank you.

38  
39 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you, Buckland.  
40 It's been very honored to meet you guys over at  
41 Buckland last fall and thank you very much. And (in  
42 Native) because you got a good name now.

43  
44 MS. LOON: (In Native). Thank you,  
45 Percy for hosting a good meeting at -- with -- working  
46 with your Tribal Council to host our meeting in  
47 Buckland. And thank you, Attamuk. You have it in your  
48 heart to care for the people. And it's still going I  
49 know.

50

1                               We have a lake freeze-up in Selawik,  
2 extremely warm weather, we have a good caribou season  
3 now, but in the falltime for those that work together  
4 and hunt together (in Native) working together, pooling  
5 their gas and shells and boat together, in falltime  
6 they did get some, but those of us we waited and got  
7 caribou after it freeze up. And the (in Native) or  
8 what do you call them in English, broadnose whitefish  
9 that we get from Fish River were very late. We used to  
10 get them in September when they have a big run off. We  
11 don't get them like that, like before, like in the past  
12 where we'd have racks of whitefish with roe intact in  
13 side their stomachs. And we have a real good fishing  
14 after it froze, setting nets under the ice we were able  
15 to have lots of whitefish at Thanksgiving and caribou  
16 soup at Thanksgiving.

17

18                               And that is my report, Mr. Chairman.

19

20                               (In Native).

21

22                               CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you. We all  
23 know now that everywhere that the winter has been very  
24 different compared to the last 25 years. Like there  
25 was a report from Selawik last week, it said the ice  
26 usually be about like four feet, now it's almost like  
27 two feet to one -- one and a half feet. So it's very,  
28 very difficult, you know, to travel to anywhere.

29

30                               Attamuk.

31

32                               MR. SHIEDT: Good afternoon. Since our  
33 Buckland meeting first we had a lot of caribou, well  
34 over 100,000 cross right through town. And I tell you  
35 one thing Kotzebue, northwest Alaska, I always call it  
36 the gifted area. It is truly gifted when with a camera  
37 that you could have a complete supper, there's fish  
38 under the camera, one snap, caribou and seals right  
39 there, right in front of town. I mean, you don't have  
40 to go far to get it. And it was -- yet it was so scary  
41 that so many caribou, the ice was thin and it was open  
42 right in front of town. We were worried they were  
43 going to fall in and they were all careful. Well, they  
44 didn't. And when the time for tomcod come around like  
45 I say due to global warming and stuff our tomcod this  
46 year was plentiful and were they big tomcods, I mean,  
47 these are twice what we used to have in size when I as  
48 growing up. And we at Kotzebue are seeing so many  
49 wolves that they're seeing them across the bay, up the  
50 Noatak River, all over. And these are the predators

1 that take our caribou a lot, not only caribou, they do  
2 take moose. And we get a lot of wolves and there's a  
3 lot of young ones that I could hear them from my camp  
4 hollering. That I'll tell you right now I haven't been  
5 to camp yet due to so many meetings, that seven wolves  
6 was caught right in -- less than half a mile from my  
7 cabin. That's how bad we have in numbers in wolves.

8

9 And the other one is our ocean this  
10 year is going to be scary again. It's not even  
11 freezing up out there, it's open as of now. It should  
12 have been thick. And it's going to be scary.  
13 Hopefully if we have our spring hunt for seals that  
14 we'll be able to get something, last year we hardly get  
15 any due to the ice was so thin. And our river is not  
16 as thick as it used to be. Like Raymond said in  
17 Selawik it was thin and that was -- I was told even at  
18 Noatak and yet it freeze and yet it get well over a  
19 foot in less than three weeks. That's unusual, but it  
20 stay at that -- when we measured it stayed at that for  
21 a long time until right after Christmas it finally got  
22 thicker. We still ice fishing for -- we're still ice  
23 fishing for sheefish, yet our sheefish is so fat and so  
24 huge that few times, 10 inch auger hole is too small,  
25 you can't pull it through. You have to wait until they  
26 start breathing and when they breathe, when they  
27 expand, you yank an inch at a time, you inch it up, but  
28 it'll take a while. I mean, that's all -- that's why I  
29 was stressing it's getting scary for our resources due  
30 to global warming. They're getting so fat, they're  
31 getting so big that I'm getting scared as I watch.

32

33 Everybody know I'm one of the guys that  
34 live off the land heavy and I'm proud to say I'm a  
35 craver for in-season, when the season is coming my body  
36 crave to eat it and I'm proud to say it. I'll tell you  
37 right now my stomach is full because I had a sandwich  
38 and a soup, but it's not Native food. By 4:30, 5:00 I  
39 will be still full, yet my body's hungry because for  
40 not eating the Native food.

41

42 Thank you.

43

44 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you, Attamuk.

45 Mike.

46

47 MR. KRAMER: Hello, everybody. This is  
48 Mike Kramer. My report is, you know, pretty much what  
49 Attamuk said about Kotzebue area, I am from the same  
50 place. You know, there's been a lot of animals taken

1 within our area. Last fall we had caribou walking  
2 right in front of town, right through town. You know,  
3 they -- and there were seals in the water. My brother  
4 did a pretty good short, little film on it and it ended  
5 up on KTUU. I noticed a lot of people have harvested a  
6 lot of animals, lots of healthy animals.

7  
8 And the last couple weeks when I was at  
9 home I noticed a lot of caribou are starting to move  
10 through, they're migrating early. And then I just  
11 heard from a friend of mine the other day that a couple  
12 of whales already passed Point Hope. Everything's  
13 coming early, the ice is thinner, global warming's  
14 hitting us.

15  
16 You know, the predators are still out  
17 of control and people are trying to take control of the  
18 predators. You know, I got my hat off to a couple  
19 people in Buckland who do such a well job to not only  
20 be able to support their family with furs and funds and  
21 being able to help, you know, take care of the predator  
22 problem especially where our caribou herd winters down  
23 there in the Buckland area.

24  
25 Other than that I've seen, you know,  
26 very good harvest within our area other than the ice is  
27 thinner. I can't wait until this coming winter, I just  
28 got a brand new snowmachine that's sitting there in  
29 Kotzebue and I can't even see it or touch it until I  
30 get home. But until then, you know, it -- I think our  
31 region is doing very well other than our caribou herd,  
32 sheep population, you know, we got to monitor those.  
33 We've got to take very good care of what we have and to  
34 be able to ensure that my kids, my grandkids, can still  
35 be able to harvest, you know, harvest the animals that  
36 we subsist on, our subsistence resources and be able to  
37 take care of those animals. That is our job. We're  
38 here to conserve for the future. We're here to  
39 conserve for future populations to be able to thrive  
40 and survive and be harvested by our younger  
41 generations. That's the key to us being here today and  
42 that's why I would like to see eventually within the  
43 next five to 10 years that we have some younger Board  
44 members. I'm still the youngest one on this Board and  
45 I've learned so much from these guys over the past five  
46 to 10 years, man, they taught me to be tough, Attamuk,  
47 and all these guys, Percy, Raymond, you know, these  
48 guys that I've served with for so many years.

49  
50 And that's all I have, that's my report

1 for today.

2

3 Thank you all.

4

5 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you, Mike.

6 Louie.

7

8 MR. COMMACK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

9 Thank you, Attamuk, for years of service. Good luck,

10 Raymond, Percy, thank you for all the years of

11 service.

12

13 I do have a brief report regarding  
14 Upper Kobuk. We had a successful fall hunting this  
15 season, caribou, bear, fish, berry picking, under the  
16 ice fishing. But it was reported that one village,  
17 Kobuk, did not harvest enough caribou this fall for  
18 some -- whatever reason. So I just wanted to mention  
19 that. The -- also there was no caribou in the Upper  
20 Kobuk this winter. So people are waiting for the  
21 spring migration and hopefully that'll be next month.

22

23 I -- I'm grateful I was appointed by  
24 the Secretary of Interior to serve on this Commission,  
25 that was this winter. So I look forward to working  
26 with you all.

27

28 Thank you very much.

29

30 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you, Louie.

31 Verne.

32

33 MR. CLEVELAND: Thank you. My name's  
34 Verne Cleveland from Noorvik. Caribou migration was  
35 late, they're getting later and later every year. To  
36 what I don't know, maybe climate change or it's been  
37 warm, very warm at home. I just burnt two drums of  
38 heating fuel since last fall. I'm still burning the  
39 second drum now, but it's been warm. And I don't know,  
40 we can't do anything about it. The ice's been thin.  
41 We lost two guys because of the ice was thin, they  
42 thought it was thick, but it wasn't. And we got to  
43 train -- teach our people that the -- there's a climate  
44 change going on. And people that are living in our  
45 area they notice, they notice that, that the weather is  
46 changing big time because there's no snow like we had  
47 before. And it's been warm, the ice is not thick  
48 enough and we had abundance of caribou. I think over  
49 there -- maybe right by Kotzebue you got maybe the  
50 Teshekpuk Herd, they were behind -- a couple years ago

1 the Teshekpuk Herd was right behind Noorvik and they  
2 stayed there all year and they were very healthy. I  
3 asked Jim Dau, he said they were the Teshekpuk Herd,  
4 they were right behind Noorvik. They didn't go  
5 anywhere else, they just went right back -- went back  
6 north from there, but they were very healthy. And also  
7 this fall the caribou was -- boy, they were very  
8 healthy. We had abundance of caribou and moose, bear,  
9 fish.

10 And thanks, Attamuk, for service as a  
11 Chair for the Working Group. And good luck, Mr.  
12 Stoney. And I'll be -- I got his cell phone number so  
13 I can call him because he's a -- he's been a Chairman  
14 for the Western Arctic Caribou Herd Working Group. If  
15 I have any questions I'm going to -- be calling Mr.  
16 Stoney.

17  
18 Thank you very much.

19  
20 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you. Enoch.

21  
22 MR. MITCHELL: Thank you. I'd like to  
23 thank Attamuk too for good meetings and also liked to  
24 welcome the new officers for this challenging to be on  
25 RAC and to serve your people and to make the right  
26 decisions for them.

27  
28 We just heard the -- Verne say that our  
29 caribou is pretty healthy. That's good. When they're  
30 healthy they're happy because I'd rather see a happy  
31 caribou and my (indiscernible - background noise) happy  
32 caribou.

33  
34 I did a brief report of my  
35 qualifications to share our concerns that we had.  
36 (Indiscernible) couple of things ANILCA Title VIII was  
37 written to prevent the very thing that is happening  
38 with ANILCA today. After the Alaska Constitution  
39 states that our fish and wildlife are resources to be  
40 manage to the maximum benefit for rural Alaskans. but  
41 according to the Alaska State report and the Federal  
42 reports their hunters were very successful this year,  
43 they all got their caribou. And Noatak like I said out  
44 of 44 boats 21 was successful and 23 was not, zero.  
45 Half of the boats, less than half the boats were  
46 successful. And each boat -- each boat had multiple  
47 families in that boat hunting. And for their part we  
48 focus on -- for their part we focus on the wellness,  
49 the wellness of our people, the wellness of our elders,  
50 the wellness of our youth. And the main diet for our

1 people is caribou. And the health of our caribou  
2 directly impacts the wellness of our people.

3  
4 Our people have been adapted to caribou  
5 for time immemorial, and our genes -- our people, yeah,  
6 have been adapted to the caribou. And our genes are  
7 hardwired for this rich meat. When they have it our  
8 body begins to -- begin to crave for it, like Attamuk  
9 say, he gets hungry even though his stomach is full  
10 from eating store bought food, you know. So our body  
11 begins to crave for it. I know that and so does any  
12 Native that has adapted to his or her own environment.  
13 I can eat store bought food until my stomach is full  
14 and I still am not satisfied. And (indiscernible) and  
15 halfway through my work I would say (in Native) so that  
16 means I would get weak. You cannot get no more energy  
17 because my body is adapted to Inupiaq food which is  
18 rich in protein that my body needs. I read an article  
19 where the Canadians did a study and they found that it  
20 takes six hamburgers and 56 hot dogs to equal the same  
21 amount of protein we get out of two servings of  
22 caribou. And I can sit down and eat two servings of  
23 caribou at one meal and get my protein I need for the  
24 day. But I can't sit down and six hamburgers and 56  
25 hot dogs at one sitting to get the same protein I was  
26 adapted to, that I was raised up with. So that study  
27 really wake me up. Wow, you know, now I really  
28 understand why I have to say (in Native), I got to eat  
29 my Inupiaq food every day so I won't say (in Native).  
30 My body's hardwired for that rich meat. So each one of  
31 us are, we're adapt and we were raise up in the  
32 (indiscernible), we hunt that caribou and we like it.

33  
34 In 2008 the (indiscernible) Council  
35 signed a resolution for two people to address this  
36 issue with the overpopulation of transporters that  
37 we're having with too much transporters in our river,  
38 there's too much transporter activity.

39  
40 I've testified before the Board of Game  
41 many times, many years. Now concerning this very  
42 issue, 10 plus years now our Council wrote a resolution  
43 and I talked to the Board of Game, I talk, talk and I'm  
44 running out of words now. And this issue, this very  
45 issue, is getting pretty popular in our region.  
46 Because it's -- I've been talking for it for 10 plus  
47 years, maybe it's getting popular all over the State,  
48 everybody knows the problem, but it's still there. So  
49 someplace along the line we got to start listening to  
50 our people, start moving forward for the people. Like

1 Harry Brower stated, he thinks there's communication  
2 problems, like the communications is behind. And  
3 everything is moving fast these days. Times change and  
4 everything.

5  
6 Now in reality when we think about it,  
7 this very issue, transporter, too much crowding, in  
8 reality they created this problem and then this problem  
9 arise and now they come out with this which helps us,  
10 but, you know, it's a community report, caribou  
11 migration, subsistence hunting and user group conflicts  
12 in Northwest Alaska. And wrote down by two University  
13 of Alaska, National Park Service, you know. Now all  
14 this is -- this is - they do the study, it's called a  
15 study. Yes. And it's good, it is good for us, but in  
16 reality, you know, when you see this paper, in reality  
17 they created this problem and now they want to study  
18 it. I mean, determine create a problem and then go pay  
19 money to study that problem they created. It don't  
20 make sense to me (indiscernible). But I would like to  
21 determine what's in here because these are -- these are  
22 very good. That's what people say in here so that's  
23 here, what these people say in this study compared to  
24 what I have to say.

25  
26 A lot, no meat, now we got to go to the  
27 store and buy it. Wait until the people around here  
28 don't have steady jobs. We work and have to get what  
29 we can get. We like the fat from the caribou, that's  
30 the crime, you know, tastes good. Do we hurt a lot  
31 when we don't have it -- have that. We live with it  
32 and we raise up with it. We share with it and the  
33 elders and everybody when we don't have it you hurt a  
34 lot of people around here.

35  
36 Another one is (indiscernible) people  
37 here is caribou. We know how and when to hunt, there's  
38 lot of local information passed on from elders to  
39 youth.

40  
41 That's enough. This is hard. I'm  
42 concerned for the wellness of our people and the people  
43 is concerned for our caribou because it's the wellness  
44 of our children and our future generations. And I hope  
45 that everything will get better.

46  
47 (In Native).

48  
49 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you, Enoch.  
50 That's a situation where we went through for quite some

1 time just like you said.

2

3 And thank you for all you guys' report.

4

5 Just like myself, you know, I've been  
6 -- I've been with the RAC since it form in 1994 and  
7 evidently from all that time that I was in with the RAC  
8 that it come to a point where I learn a lot from a lot  
9 of people around the State. For myself, you know, that  
10 being this old and being with the RAC for 20 years I  
11 think it's -- I see it now that we need a new  
12 generations in here like you guys are, you know, like  
13 all of you to have an opportunity to say something to  
14 our leaders from the RAC.

15

16 Attamuk, I want to thank you for so  
17 much what you have done for us in the last three  
18 decades. It's been a great help to all of us in  
19 Northwest Alaska, I know we owe you a big thank, you  
20 know, to work for us in the last one decade. So thank  
21 you from all of you and then I will continue on being  
22 with the group since my time has come to end.

23

24 Thank you very much.

25

26 MR. SHIEDT: Yeah, Raymond, I'd say  
27 thanks, now I'm not a Chairman I could complain more  
28 and you got to listen to me. It make it a lot easier  
29 for me to have my two cents heard without saying maybe  
30 I don't have to say this as a Chair, now I could say it  
31 the way I want to, you don't hear or what they want to  
32 hear because I'll fight for my people.

33

34 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you, Attamuk.  
35 Now we're down to the Chairman's report. I don't have  
36 much.....

37

38 MR. MOTO: Mr. Chair.

39

40 CHAIRMAN STONEY: .....but I could.....

41

42 MR. MOTO: We forgot to acknowledge the  
43 Buckland students being in our meeting. I didn't see  
44 it in the minutes because we got -- we got some good  
45 info for some of the students there. You know, they --  
46 we always say kids are -- don't -- aren't interested in  
47 our culture, but these kids show that they were  
48 interested in their culture. I didn't see it in the  
49 minutes, I think it should be put in the minutes.

50

1 Thank you.

2

3 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you, Calvin.  
4 So I'll give my report, very brief here because, you  
5 know, there's a lot of situation that is happening in  
6 the last six months. In the last six months we had  
7 seen the reports from all the land managers about the  
8 population of this Northwest Arctic Caribou Herd. They  
9 told us from 490,000 we are down to 230,000. And  
10 evidently that we are 270,000 caribou. Where did they  
11 go, if they were seen going somewhere they would be  
12 seen by somebody. I asked the question half a dozen  
13 times what happened to our herd, what's happening to  
14 it. Evidently the answer is still negative, we don't  
15 know. How did you count them. When you get the counts  
16 and report to us you gave us up to 230,000 after you  
17 said you had 490,000 10 years ago. That's a very scary  
18 thing. Now like I said that the changes has been  
19 changed in the last six months on the State and the  
20 Federal. There's some talks -- it continuously talks  
21 about the closure of non -- of none of all non-  
22 residents won't be able to hunt if the situation  
23 passes. So now only for your information I can go that  
24 far, but until we find something officially that our  
25 caribou herd is really declining that's when we say  
26 well, let's make the decisions and put in a closure. I  
27 know you have a lot of questions about it, all the  
28 people around the State has asked me for the size of  
29 this herd because that was the largest caribou herd in  
30 Alaska so we don't know what's going -- what's going to  
31 happen.

32

33 Do we have any reports from agencies  
34 about the population or what they're going to do next  
35 on counting system, anybody from the State or Federal?

36

37 MR. JOHNSON: Mr. Chair.

38

39 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yes, you may.

40

41 MR. JOHNSON: Mr. Chair, Carl Johnson.  
42 Tomorrow morning at 8:30 there's an entire session,  
43 three and a half hour session in the large room  
44 dedicated to the status of the Western Arctic and  
45 Teshekpuk Caribou Herds. So you'll have both State and  
46 Federal biologists and managers involved in that  
47 discussion.

48

49 Mr. Chair. Thank you.

50

1 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. So we got our  
2 report done, now we come to the public comment.

3  
4 Zach.

5  
6 MR. STEVENSON: Mr. Chair, thank you.  
7 I believe that we overlooked item four which was  
8 welcome and introductions from our audience.

9  
10 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yes.

11  
12 MR. JOHNSON: And then so in that case,  
13 Mr. Chair, if we could invite everybody in the room to  
14 introduce themselves and then everybody -- after we're  
15 done in the room we'll ask people on the telephone.  
16 You can enter star six to unmute or unmute your phone  
17 manually and then say who you are and where you're from  
18 on the phone, but we'll start first with people in the  
19 room.

20  
21 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. Go ahead,  
22 we'll start -- let's do it different. Sorry, Raymond,  
23 but let's start over a little bit different, let's  
24 start from the back -- side from the back, work  
25 forward.

26  
27 Okay. Introduce yourself.

28  
29 MR. FROST: Hi, I'm Bert Frost, I'm the  
30 Regional Director for the National Park Service. I  
31 serve as the Park Service representative on the Federal  
32 Subsistence Board.

33  
34 MS. MCBURNEY: Good afternoon. I'm  
35 Mary McBurney, I'm the Subsistence Program Lead for the  
36 National Park Service and the National Park Service  
37 representative on the Interagency Staff Committee.

38  
39 MR. SHARP: Good afternoon. I'm Dan  
40 Sharp, I serve on the Interagency Staff Committee for  
41 Bureau of Land Management.

42  
43 MS. ROBINSON: My name is Hilary  
44 Robinson, I'm a Wildlife Biologist. I live in  
45 Kotzebue, and I work for the Western Arctic National  
46 Parklands.

47  
48 MR. ATKINSON: Good afternoon. My  
49 name's Ken Atkinson and I'm with the National Park  
50 Service Bering LandBridge Parklands stationed in Nome.

1 MR. DeWITT: Good afternoon. My name's  
2 Neil DeWitt. I'm here representing myself as a member  
3 of the public, but I am on the Anchorage AC and I hold  
4 the Chair on the Arctic National or the Western Arctic  
5 Caribou Herd Working Group.

6  
7 MR. H. BROWER: Good afternoon. My  
8 name's Harry Brower, I'm Chair of the North Slope  
9 Regional Advisory Council.

10  
11 MR. NELSON: Jeff Nelson, NANA  
12 Corporation.

13  
14 MR. MAGDANZ: Hi, Jim Magdanz with  
15 University of Alaska, retired from Fish and Game  
16 Subsistence, Subsistence Division.

17  
18 MR. SCANLON: Brendan Scanlon, I'm a  
19 Fishery Biologist for Alaska Department of Fish and  
20 Game.

21  
22 MS. MAAS: Good afternoon. I'm Lisa  
23 Maas, I'm a Wildlife Biologist with the Office of  
24 Subsistence Management.

25  
26 MS. ATKINSON: Good afternoon. I'm  
27 Hannah Atkinson. I work in Kotzebue as a Cultural  
28 Resource Specialist for the National Park Service and I  
29 help the SRCs for Kobuk Valley National Park and Cape  
30 Krusenstern National Monument.

31  
32 MS. GEORGETTE: Hello, I'm Susan  
33 Georgette, I'm the Refuge Manager for Selawik National  
34 Refuge.

35  
36 MS. SWEENEY: Good afternoon. I'm  
37 Brittany Sweeney, the Outreach Specialist for Selawik  
38 Wildlife Refuge in Kotzebue.

39  
40 MS. NELSON: Good afternoon. My name's  
41 Lucy Nelson, I'm with the Northwest Arctic Borough,  
42 Kotzebue.

43  
44 MR. G. BROWER: Good afternoon. Gordon  
45 Brower from the North Slope Regional Advisory Council  
46 from the North Slope. I'm from Barrow and my hunting  
47 area is the.....

48  
49 MR. SAVOK: Patrick Savok, Director of  
50 Government Affairs for the Northwest Arctic Borough,

1 also a local hunter of Kotzebue.

2

3 MS. HYER: Hi, I'm Karen Hyer with the  
4 Office of Subsistence Management.

5

6 MS. HYER: Karen Hyer and I'm the  
7 Fisheries Biologist with North Slope and Northwest  
8 Arctic.

9

10 MR. NELSON: Good afternoon. I'm Jeff  
11 Nelson with NANA Regional Corporation, Land Manager,  
12 here to learn more.

13

14 MR. CRAWFORD: Good afternoon. I'm  
15 Drew Crawford, Federal Subsistence Liaison with the  
16 Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

17

18 MR. RICHARDS: Good afternoon. Phil  
19 Richards, Kotzebue, Northwest Arctic Borough, Mayor.

20

21 MR. McKEE: Chris McKee, I'm a Wildlife  
22 Division Chief for the Office of Subsistence  
23 Management.

24

25 MR. JOHNSON: And then, Mr. Chair, I'm  
26 Carl Johnson, the Council Coordination Division Chief,  
27 Office of Subsistence Management.

28

29 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Did we miss anybody?

30

31 MR. STEVENSON: (In Native) Mr. Chair.  
32 My name is Zach Stevenson with OSM, Office of  
33 Subsistence Management.

34

35 (In Native).

36

37 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Did we miss anybody  
38 else?

39

40 (No comments)

41

42 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Telephone?

43

44 SHANE: Oh, I'm Shane.

45

46 MS. JOHNSON: Martha Johnson with the  
47 National Park Service in Kotzebue.

48

49 MS. LOON: Excuse me, Mr. Chairman.  
50 Starting from Lucy Nelson.

1 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: (Indiscernible -  
2 away from microphone).....  
3  
4 CHAIRMAN STONEY: That's everybody,  
5 huh?  
6  
7 (No comments)  
8  
9 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yeah.  
10  
11 MR. KRAMER: This is Lance Kramer with  
12 NANA in Kotzebue.  
13  
14 CHAIRMAN STONEY: We don't want to miss  
15 anybody now.  
16  
17 (No comments)  
18  
19 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. We must have  
20 got to everybody. You had something about your note  
21 here, what is this?  
22  
23 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: (Indiscernible -  
24 away from microphone).....  
25  
26 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. Okay. We're  
27 down now to public and Tribal comments. We start with  
28 the public, if you have any comments and, Gretta, you  
29 may.  
30  
31 MR. STEVENSON: Mr. Chair, if it's  
32 possible given our time and Karen's availability, I  
33 think she had some information for the RAC on the  
34 fisheries research opportunity.  
35  
36 MS. HYER: Hello, Mr. Chairman, Council  
37 members. I'm going to ask you to turn to page 225 in  
38 your book.  
39  
40 So the Office of Subsistence Management  
41 has announced the call for proposals for changes to  
42 Federal fish and shellfish regulations. The call is  
43 currently open and it is closing April 1st. So if  
44 there are any regulatory proposals that you wish  
45 developed as a RAC I can help with that, if there are  
46 individual proposals you want to submit, you need to  
47 know that the deadline is April 1st. And this will  
48 change the proposals for the regulatory year April,  
49 2017 through 2019.  
50

1                   So are there any regulatory issues in  
2 Northwest Arctic that you want addressed?

3  
4                   MR. SHIEDT: Are you calling for as  
5 proposals -- you know, I -- you know, I want to  
6 study.....

7  
8                   MS. HYER: Right. This is.....

9  
10                  MR. SHIEDT: .....trout.

11  
12                  MS. HYER: Right. We're going to do  
13 that next, that's for the monitoring, this is for  
14 regulatory changes to the regulations. So I'm asking  
15 first if there are any changes to the Federal  
16 Subsistence Fishery regulations that the Council as a  
17 whole wants to recommend, if there are not, we can move  
18 on to the other.

19  
20                  MR. MITCHELL: Mr. Chair.

21  
22                  CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yeah. Enoch.

23  
24                  MR. MITCHELL: I was wondering about  
25 the proposal that Kotzebue proposed rod and reel that I  
26 took to -- before the Board of Fish and that one passed  
27 before the Board of Fish. I'm kind of wondering if  
28 that has to be along with Federal side too because  
29 there's some -- might be Federal waters for the fishing  
30 rod too.

31  
32                  MS. HYER: Okay.

33  
34                  CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yeah, could I answer  
35 that? Enoch, that was done under the State of Alaska,  
36 AC Kotzebue. That was done in the State of Alaska, AC  
37 Kotzebue.

38  
39                  MR. MITCHELL: Yeah.

40  
41                  CHAIRMAN STONEY: But if you want to  
42 come up with a proposal for the Federal you would put  
43 one in there, you know, on our cycle proposal time. It  
44 could be accepted and see. I know what you're saying.

45  
46                  Go ahead, Hannah.

47  
48                  MS. LOON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
49 Somebody from our other previous RAC meetings requested  
50 for something similar like this. And should or should

1 we run out of resources we depend on a lot of slough  
2 whitefish an pike in Selawik. And we have abundance of  
3 those black seashells, I forget what they call them,  
4 that they used to eat a long time ago. And that was --  
5 I addressed that one in the other RAC meetings.

6

7 Thank you.

8

9 MS. HYER: Okay. I think we're talking  
10 about two things here, Hannah. I think you're talking  
11 about the clams I think, right, and Enoch was talking  
12 about a regulatory proposal. And you're talking about  
13 a State regulatory proposal and you were wondering  
14 about aligning State and Federal regulations, correct?

15

16 So the sport fish -- the rod and reel  
17 proposal was for where in Northwest Alaska?

18

19 MR. MITCHELL: Yes.

20

21 MS. HYER: What area was it?

22

23 MR. MITCHELL: Unit 23.

24

25 MS. HYER: Unit 23. So that is  
26 something that I can look at. I'm not -- I'm not  
27 familiar with exactly -- because that was a State  
28 proposal, but I can look that up.

29

30 Is that something that you would  
31 propose as a Council or you just want me to work with  
32 Enoch individually?

33

34 MR. SHIEDT: Okay. Could I explain a  
35 little bit about that?

36

37 MS. HYER: Uh-huh.

38

39 MR. SHIEDT: That was a proposal put  
40 together by the -- from people from Kotzebue and Noatak  
41 to -- able to rod and reel not under sport hunting.  
42 Because Northwest Alaska, we get some whitefish heavily  
43 when we try to put net just for our food for the day.  
44 And we will overharvest when we're -- that's why we're  
45 trying to make rod and reel legal with not sport  
46 hunting because we just want to rod and reel just for  
47 the food for the afternoon, not for tomorrow or next  
48 day because we're out there and we don't want to waste  
49 them. That's what Enoch was talking about. And -- but  
50 we -- and but legally we can't fish because it's under

1 sport regulation. We want to change it individually  
2 where we could harvest just for food with rod and reel.  
3 Rod and reel is considered sport fishing.

4

5 MS. HYER: Right. Mr. Chairman and  
6 Council members. So what we need to look up is if you  
7 can harvest with rod and reel under Federal Subsistence  
8 regulations and I can go get the regulation book and  
9 look. Because that would align both State and Federal.  
10 And that's your question?

11

12 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Attamuk -- I mean,  
13 Enoch.

14

15 MR. MITCHELL: So it is allowable  
16 already on the Federal side because on the proposal I  
17 testified before the Board of Game was that -- to make  
18 rod and reel a subsistence tool, like our rifle, like  
19 the boat, like our parka, like, you know, like our gun.  
20 We used these to subsist. And then they were saying  
21 that subsist -- that rod and reel is for sport. No, we  
22 don't do sport fishing, we don't cast and release, we  
23 cast and keep. So we use that rod and reel as a  
24 subsistence tool. So that's what the proposal was, to  
25 make rod and reel a subsistence tool, a part of our  
26 subsistence tool for -- yeah.

27

28 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Mr. Richards, you got  
29 something? Yeah, I'll let him.

30

31 MR. RICHARDS: Mr. Chairman, Mr. Enoch,  
32 thank you. I congratulate you for your appointment  
33 and, Attamuk, for your years of service. The rest of  
34 the Council, thank you for taking the bold step and  
35 moving forward and being a part of our region and  
36 standing up for our people. It's very critical that we  
37 document the meetings today and any other future  
38 meetings because we need to bring that message back and  
39 we here at the Northwest Arctic Borough are here to do  
40 that, to bring the message that we're hearing today to  
41 the people in our region, how it is going to impact by  
42 the testimony both you give and the testimony that both  
43 the State and Federal give testimony here today. We at  
44 the Borough are committed to bringing the message home  
45 to our people and our region.

46

47 I'm very excited to be here. As you  
48 see there's only so many of you, but you look behind me  
49 you have a whole plethora of people from the Lower 48  
50 and State of Alaska that are here to make sure that

1 they cross their I's and dot their T's. Or cross --  
2 yeah, dot -- cross their T's and dot their I's. But  
3 anyway, it's very serious what's happening here today  
4 and it's very concerning because I listened to the  
5 dialogue these last few days and it's very disturbing  
6 to me. But I am very honored to have come here for  
7 public testimony. I would appreciate if you allowed  
8 public testimony to be heard before your Federal  
9 agencies do give their testimony so that the questions  
10 that you bring before them will be -- you know, so that  
11 our people in our region have the opportunity to share  
12 their piece before the rest of the Committee behind me  
13 actually says their piece.

14

15 So I do appreciate and I do commend  
16 each and every one of you for being on this Board.

17

18 Thank you for the opportunity to speak.

19

20 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you. Calvin.

21

22 MR. MOTO: I appreciate the fact that  
23 you're giving us time to get proposed, but April 1,  
24 1916 [sic], if we -- we should have had notice on our  
25 last meeting we had in Buckland about this proposed  
26 changes. Right now we -- if we do a proposal we'd have  
27 to rush it and maybe we'd leave something out that we  
28 really needed to put in the proposal. This is  
29 something that a lot of these big companies, Federals,  
30 are doing to us. They give us just a short time to try  
31 to draft a proposal when they don't let us know where  
32 we have to draft a proposal for.

33

34 Thank you.

35

36 MR. RICHARDS: With that, Mr. Chairman,  
37 thank you, I'll be excused.

38

39 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Do you want to  
40 continue

41

42 MS. HYER: Mr. Chairman, Council  
43 members. I just wanted to circle around and confirm  
44 that rod and reel is a method that you can use in the  
45 north. So the Federal Subsistence regulations already  
46 match what the State has done.

47

48 MR. MITCHELL: Thank you.

49

50 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chair.

1 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yes, you may.

2

3 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chair, (in Native).  
4 I'm going to say in English, but I can also speak in  
5 Inupiaq quite well.

6

7 So I just wanted to give you a little  
8 bit of information. I'm -- my name's Gordon Brower,  
9 I'm from Barrow. I fish and hunt in (in Native). And  
10 I wanted to make aware of a few things that I think  
11 this RAC should be aware of. In November we had our  
12 meeting in Anaktuvuk Pass and issues surrounding  
13 caribou needs. But as you know Anaktuvuk is kind of  
14 cradled between State, Park Service lands, so they are  
15 in a little bit more harder situation. But there was  
16 questioning of the wildlife biologists that do counts,  
17 population estimates and -- for the past decade and  
18 that caused some alarm to the North Slope that the  
19 population is in 50 percent decline right now. From a  
20 big number to a low number including the Teshekpuk Herd  
21 is about 50 percent. I asked question -- I like to ask  
22 questions when the -- somebody's saying your caribou  
23 are getting small, it's starting to be a -- probably a  
24 conservation concern, that we need to start doing  
25 things proactively maybe from community level. And I  
26 think some of these things we've done, we've put  
27 proposals in in our region to change bag limits from 10  
28 I think to five. We changed bull hunt, you know, when  
29 it's -- when it's rut we don't like to hunt the bulls  
30 because they're rutted. So we use that as well and say  
31 from October 10 to December 6 do a conversation measure  
32 of no bulls. So I think those were good things to try  
33 to do.

34

35 The part about trying to help Anaktuvuk  
36 was alarming to me because they're cradled on State  
37 land. So our Board, Regional Advisory Council, is  
38 working to make proposal to affect the State Board of  
39 Game to look at how they calculate the herd. They put  
40 the Western Arctic Herd and the Teshekpuk Herd together  
41 and calculate a harvestable surplus between the two  
42 herds calling it one herd. And then they get a  
43 estimate for the amount necessary for subsistence. I  
44 asked the question why they did that, because it was a  
45 trend occurred already, 10 years of documentation that  
46 the caribou herd is drastically declining, but why did  
47 you put the two herds together and say it's one herd so  
48 you can have a bigger ANS. I asked the biologist,  
49 State biologist, and it's in the minutes, if you -- if  
50 you calculate the harvestable surplus of the Western

1 Arctic Herd independently from the Teshekpuk Herd, both  
2 ANS would not support non-resident hunt. It's a --  
3 that's a big statement even on State land. Even on  
4 State land. And I thought that was alarming because  
5 they combining two herds to make a larger harvestable  
6 surplus. When there's a lot of caribou everybody  
7 should have a piece of the pie, when it's little you  
8 need to do conservation measure. And I think it's time  
9 for some of these Board and I think we're starting it  
10 from the North Slope too, to try to affect State Board  
11 of Game on some of these population estimates because  
12 they're playing them, it's in my books.

13

14                   So I just wanted to bring that out. I  
15 applaud the Northwest Arctic Borough because I think  
16 you've done the right thing in your proposal and I  
17 think that kind of consideration, the North Slope  
18 Council I think needs to look at that because we're  
19 already doing conservation measures in the North Slope,  
20 we're already saying you can't get 10 a day, now you're  
21 going to get five a day and restrict bulls, restrict  
22 cow/calf pairs and things like that. So we're doing  
23 those kind of things. I thought that was worth  
24 mentioning.

25

26                   (In Native).

27

28                   CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you. I've got  
29 a question for you that you said something like that  
30 it's the same situation like Northwest for five caribou  
31 a day also on the North Slope.

32

33                   MR. G. BROWER: Yeah, Mr. Chair, Gordon  
34 Brower for the record. I don't know what your bag  
35 limits are, I just know what we've been working on on  
36 the North Slope. There's a little bit different that  
37 the State proposed and we argue a little bit and then  
38 we had our way a little bit and they said maybe the  
39 bulls shouldn't be hunt all the way to January. And I  
40 said -- the North Slope region said the bulls get -- go  
41 to eat again about December 5. (In Native). So we  
42 thought it was -- you don't need to do that all the way  
43 to January. I think December 5 was a good cutoff.

44

45                   So we're proposing those things and I  
46 think they're in the works. And if I misstate  
47 anything, my Chairman is here in the audience and he  
48 can straighten me out anytime.

49

50                   Thank you.

1 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Do we got any  
2 questions form the Council.

3

4 MR. SHIEDT: Mr. Chair.

5

6 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Attamuk.

7

8 MR. SHIEDT: Yeah. Thank you, Gordon,  
9 very important information. Yes, you're right. The  
10 State is using both herds yet they report that  
11 Teshekpuk Herd, we know they're a different herd  
12 completely, with the Western Arctic Caribou Herd, yes,  
13 you are right. They state and they add them together  
14 so it won't get scary where the numbers to them they're  
15 high, yet individually they are not. We understand  
16 that. That's why we came up with the proposal at  
17 Buckland. And I understand that we is worried about it  
18 because people are -- some people are saying we're  
19 going to push the problem somewhere else. We are not  
20 pushing the problem, we're taking conservation early  
21 because under ANILCA we Natives come first then anybody  
22 else and people are trying to change it. And I thank  
23 you for that report. And this is done -- that this  
24 have to be done. And for your information if we did  
25 not take this and if the caribou keep declining the  
26 Western Arctic Caribou Herd will have to take these  
27 steps and the State and the Park Service. They will  
28 have to and it will affect everyone. And what we're  
29 planning to do, if we take the reduction now hopefully  
30 the numbers increase a lot faster now than when they're  
31 too low. When you stop at a higher number, increase --  
32 chances of increasing are greater, but if they are too  
33 low it'll take longer for them to get up here. The  
34 goal is here and if we waited too long it'll take  
35 longer to get to this goal. That was the idea and I  
36 thank the Council what they come up with in Buckland.

37

38 Thank you, Gordon.

39

40 MR. JOHNSON: Point of order, Mr.

41 Chair.

42

43 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any further

44 questions.

45

46 MR. JOHNSON: Point of order, Mr.

47 Chair.

48

49 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yes.

50

1 MR. JOHNSON: The Chair had recognized  
2 Karen Hyer for her presentation on the fisheries  
3 regulations proposals and then the priority information  
4 needs. So we're off the agenda at this point. I'll  
5 also note that there's a three and a half hour program  
6 tomorrow for the Council, all the Councils who are  
7 concerned about the caribou to have a very lengthy  
8 discussion at that time. And the Council has a busy  
9 agenda it has to get through here today.

10

11 Mr. Chair. Thank you.

12

13 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you. Anybody  
14 else?

15

16 MS. LOON: Karen Hyer.

17

18 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Huh?

19

20 MS. LOON: Karen Hyer.

21

22 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay.

23

24 MS. HYER: Mr. Chairman, Council  
25 members. Next we're going to talk about the Fisheries  
26 Resource Monitoring Program and that is the program  
27 where we have proposals, we entertain proposals that  
28 come in to actually do research and monitoring in your  
29 area.

30

31 But before we talk about that Brendan  
32 Scanlon is here and he's one of the researchers doing  
33 work in your area. And I'm going to have him present  
34 some of his work.

35

36 MR. SCANLON: Mr. Chairman, members of  
37 the Board, just real quick. Brendan Scanlon once  
38 again, Department of Fish and Game, Fairbanks.

39

40 Before I get started maybe -- I just  
41 want to jump back a little bit to the Board of Fish  
42 action that happened a couple months ago in Fairbanks  
43 regarding rod and reel subsistence in open water. That  
44 proposal did pass for Northwest. There's a couple  
45 differences though with the -- compared to the Federal  
46 regs. The State reg that passed from the Board of Fish  
47 applies to all State residents, there's no rural  
48 priority to it. So anyone in the State -- resident of  
49 the State of Alaska can come up to the Kotzebue Sound  
50 area and fish without a fishing license. Also the way

1 the proposal was written and adopted by the Board, hook  
2 and line subsistence users in open water still must  
3 adhere to the daily sport fish bag and possession  
4 limits. Those limits are pretty liberal already so  
5 hopefully it's not a problem. But just want you to be  
6 aware that the limits of 10 sheefish per day in the  
7 lower rivers and 10 trout a day still apply to  
8 subsistence fishers using rod and reel in open waters.  
9 And I can talk some more about that later if you'd  
10 like, but.....

11

Thank you.

12

13

14

So thank you for your time, sorry about  
15 the mix up on the agenda. I'm going to make this real  
16 quick. I'm going to talk about three projects that are  
17 -- that we've been doing in conjunction with the Park  
18 Service and Fish and Wildlife Service, these are all  
19 funded through the FRMP program. The first one is one  
20 that's already completed, the other two are ones that  
21 we have put in proposals for, look like we'll get  
22 funded and we'll start this summer.

23

24

25

The first one had to do with Dolly  
26 Varden on the Noatak River. What we were looking for  
27 in this project was the overwintering locations and the  
28 timing of their out migration into Hatham Inlet in the  
29 spring after ice went out. The idea was if we can get  
30 this information and if there was a location below the  
31 overwintering area in the winter where we could run a  
32 sonar, we would get a really good count of the  
33 abundance of fish leaving the Noatak River for -- right  
34 now we don't have much information on.

35

36

So just a background on trout. This is  
37 not new to most of you, but our best information  
38 suggests that about 30,000 fish a year are harvested  
39 between the residents of Kivalina and Noatak. And  
40 these are mixed stock fisheries so the fish that are  
41 caught in the Kivalina River or excuse me, in the Wulik  
42 River and the Noatak River come from multiple systems,  
43 they don't necessarily overwinter in rivers that they  
44 were born in. The harvest exceeds that of all other  
45 fish species combined in Kotzebue Sound.

46

So we've been trying to do some work on  
47 trout up there for a long time and because what we  
48 think we know, that there's about 100,000 to 200,000  
49 catchable Dolly Varden in Northwest Alaska rivers, we  
50

1 know they always spawn in their natal stream so fish  
2 born in the Noatak or the Kelly will go back there to  
3 spawn. But they can overwinter in other streams, some  
4 very far away including Russia.

5  
6 And there's almost no Dolly Varden  
7 found in the freshwaters between Point Hope and Barrow,  
8 it's a little bit of fish desert, there's not much  
9 habitat, a lot of those streams are small and they dry  
10 up completely in the wintertime.

11  
12 Few things we don't know, there's a  
13 bunch of those, but where the summer feeding areas are  
14 once they begin to make their annual migration to the  
15 sea they feed almost entirely in the ocean in the  
16 summer. We don't know what their summer migration  
17 patterns are, if summer feeding occurs in oil and gas  
18 lease areas and what is the stream of origin for much  
19 of the overwintering population. So for example the  
20 fish that are harvested in Noatak and Kivalina, where  
21 are those fish originally from.

22  
23 So a little background on the Noatak.  
24 It's a very large river and has the largest spawning  
25 population that we can measure. It's a much larger  
26 spawning population than occurs in the Wulik however  
27 over in the Wulik around Kivalina it's a much smaller  
28 river and we're able to right before freeze up count  
29 the fish from helicopter, the water's crystal clear,  
30 it's real shallow and in some years we count over  
31 100,000 fish. And we believe these are undercounts,  
32 they come in the river even after the ice has started  
33 to form and we're not able to count anymore so these  
34 are minimum estimates that we have. The Noatak is the  
35 much larger river, it's not even close, there's several  
36 tributaries of the Noatak that are larger than the  
37 Wulik and there's really no way to count fish from  
38 helicopter right before freeze up. And so with this  
39 project we were hoping to use our combination of radio  
40 tags and sonar equipment to count the out migration of  
41 fish into spring.

42  
43 So like I said in the Wulik when count  
44 conditions are good they're great and there's very  
45 little else to worry about the count, most of the chum  
46 salmon are already dead, there's just little piles of  
47 grayling and whitefish here and there. But this -- I  
48 took this picture hanging out of a chopper, that's  
49 about 4,000 fish right there. But of course the Noatak  
50 is -- it just doesn't make sense to do it.

1                   So over three years we went out to the  
2 rivers, different events, different times of year to  
3 put tags out, we did some beach seining in the lower  
4 river in 2012 and 2013 near the Aggi and we rented  
5 Enoch Shiedt's cabin and we really appreciated that.  
6 We did some hook and line near spawning areas on the  
7 Kelly, the Kugururok and the Nimiuktuk. And we went  
8 out with several school groups in March of 2014, we  
9 caught fish through the eyes and deployed radio tags  
10 then.

11  
12                   So we put out a 166 radio tags over  
13 these events. The radio tags are about as big as my  
14 pinkie and have an antenna that comes out. We've radio  
15 tagged fish for a long time, we're pretty good at it  
16 and survival is pretty high. We also had two tracking  
17 stations set up on the lower river so we could track  
18 direction and time of movement of each individual fish.  
19 These tracking stations were set up low in the canyon  
20 down by the mouth of Nap Creek where the old sonar site  
21 was. And we also had several tracking flights in the  
22 spring to look for movement down stream.

23  
24                   So these are our tagging locations. We  
25 tagged up as high as the Nimiuktuk and as low as the  
26 mouth of the Aggi. So this is what we found for  
27 overwintering locations and it's spread out over a long  
28 distance. There's a few fish up by the mouth of the  
29 Nakolik River between the Kug and the Nimiuktuk. But  
30 the majority of them are between the Ely and the mouth  
31 of the Kug and the village of Noatak is perfectly  
32 situated to take advantage of those fish in the  
33 wintertime. However the river is so large below the  
34 overwintering areas that sonar would not work at this  
35 time, that the DIDSONs we used, we -- you can use two  
36 of them and shoot them at each other and they can cover  
37 about 250 feet of river, we really couldn't find a good  
38 spot that was less than 400. However as the sonar  
39 technology catches up we will already have done the  
40 background work of timing about migration and  
41 overwintering locations.

42  
43                   So results were that overwintering fish  
44 were spread far and wide between the Kug and the Aggi.  
45 Of the 72 fish located in the winter of 2014 66 left  
46 the Noatak in about a three day period late May and  
47 early June. The river's like I said just too wide  
48 right now for the technology we have to use the sonar  
49 effectively. And we were over on the Wulik River doing  
50 some sonar work there and we found 16 of our Noatak

1 tags over there. Just thought that would be  
2 interesting.

3

4 So that's all I have for that, I could  
5 just keep moving on or if anybody has any questions?

6

7 MR. SHIEDT: I have a question. You  
8 said you did surveys at Wulik River, did you ever try  
9 to go to Kivalina River to see because I know Kivalina  
10 River have trout, big time, big ones too. And it's  
11 shallow, just as bad as Wulik?

12

13 MR. SCANLON: Yes, Mr. Shiedt, we did.  
14 I was only able to do one flight over there, it was the  
15 same day that we did a count on the Wulik and we didn't  
16 see very many at all, we saw some spawners way up high  
17 in the drainage and the rest of the river had very  
18 little fish. And to me it looked like the river  
19 started to change, looked like it had slowed down and  
20 started to get a little turbid, it wasn't as clear and  
21 as fast as the Wulik was. And I didn't see any thaw  
22 slumps or anything would explain why, but we saw almost  
23 nothing in the Kivalina River that one time.

24

25 MR. SHIEDT: Thank you.

26

27 MR. BALLOT: Mr. Chairman.

28

29 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Percy.

30

31 MR. BALLOT: Buckland area we got a lot  
32 trout too. I'm just wondering if there any of those  
33 fish that ever went that way from.....

34

35 MR. SCANLON: That's actually a great  
36 question. We know almost nothing about the Buckland  
37 River. I could fly only one little like four day float  
38 trip report that BLM did back in the '70s and I've  
39 never been there nor has my predecessor, but 2012 we  
40 had put out some satellite tags on the back of some of  
41 the large trout in the Wulik River and one of those  
42 fish was caught at the Village of Buckland in a  
43 gillnet. That -- that's the first evidence that I have  
44 that fish from Buckland can go up to the Wulik and  
45 back. I'd love to get down to the Buckland River and  
46 do some fish work. It's -- as least as far as this  
47 program's concerned there's not much for Federal land  
48 right around the Buckland so it's kind of hard to get  
49 that Federal nexus to get FRMP money to do work there,  
50 but I'd love to be able to figure that out somehow and

1 do some work on the Buckland.

2

3 MR. BALLOT: We got BLM lands up there,  
4 up the river.

5

6 MR. SCANLON: Yeah. Best I could tell  
7 from maps it just looks like little parcels, it's  
8 unclear to me whether that qualifies, but it's  
9 something I can look into, I'd really like to get down  
10 there.

11

12 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any further questions  
13 from the Council?

14

15 MS. LOON: Mr. Chairman.

16

17 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yeah.

18

19 MS. LOON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
20 Really good report. Very good. It's really good to  
21 know that the fish are healthy. Do you do any blood  
22 samples to see if there are any chemicals in them and  
23 my other question is do they go out into the ocean,  
24 feed and go back to their spawning area?

25

26 Thank you.

27

28 MR. SCANLON: Thank you. Yeah, that's  
29 a good question. We do have a monitoring program with  
30 the Red Dog Mine on the Wulik River. It's mostly done  
31 by a different division, but I help out and we do  
32 pretty extensive water quality monitoring, you know,  
33 the big, giant tailings pond at the mine, is it at the  
34 headwaters of the Ikalukrok which dumps into the Wulik  
35 right sample in the middle of where they overwinter.  
36 So we're -- we take it very seriously, we monitor  
37 pretty strictly. And we also collect up to 20 fish a  
38 year and we do metals analysis of the tissues so we  
39 take chunks of flesh, we take gills, liver, kidney,  
40 reproductive organs, we also age those fish. And to my  
41 knowledge there hasn't been any levels of any of the  
42 elements we look for that were unsafe to eat.

43

44 CHAIRMAN STONEY: I've got a question  
45 for you on these fish. I know that some do have some  
46 satellites, you know, attached to them. How far do  
47 they go, I mean, how far do they land?

48

49 MR. SCANLON: That's a great question.  
50 That's a project that we did over on the Wulik, Red Dog

1 helped fund that as well as the -- it used to be  
2 (indiscernible), it's Bureau of Ocean Energy now. So  
3 we put out 52, Enoch's familiar with them, he caught  
4 one and he gave me an earful. They look terrible  
5 because they're really big and they have an antenna  
6 that go on the back. But what we were able to find is  
7 the important feeding areas on the Russian Chukchi Sea  
8 where they would go almost immediately, several of them  
9 did, when they -- from when they left the Wulik River  
10 it was about 400 miles away and it was where a Siberian  
11 coastal current came down and brought cold water and it  
12 met the warm current that came up through the Bering  
13 Strait and there's a lot of mixing that goes on right  
14 there when the warm and cold water currents collide.  
15 There's a lot of plankton growth and it's a very  
16 popular spot for bowhead whales to go also. We found  
17 one of these fish got there in five days so it traveled  
18 about 70 kilometers a day from when it left the mouth  
19 of the Wulik. And if you think about the swimming  
20 speed of a fish is about one body length per second,  
21 this fish swam almost continuously in a straight line  
22 until it got to where it wanted to go and then dove for  
23 about 22 hours a day up to 50 meters from the surface  
24 and would rest on top for a couple hours a day.

25

26 So we got a lot of information from  
27 these tags. We had one that popped up in a lagoon in  
28 Siberia in a river called the Amgwema and we don't know  
29 anything about that river, there's some reindeer  
30 herders on it, there's only one small village and  
31 Russian fish literature is pretty sparse. But we're  
32 all done with that project, we only tagged 52, but we  
33 learned a whole lot. And I have another presentation  
34 sometime I could show you on that.

35

36 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Attamuk.

37

38 MR. SHIEDT: Yeah, for your information  
39 the satellite, the one he talk about almost fit in my  
40 hand and looked terrible. And I complained to him that  
41 it's too big, I think it should not be put into a  
42 trout. And my wife had to rescue that satellite  
43 because I was going go (in Native) and I put it my boat  
44 and I wanted to see that trout go to Espenberg, about  
45 40 miles away and I wanted to go toward that way that  
46 trout they will be think it's going all over just to  
47 put -- you know what I'm saying, I wanted to point  
48 (indiscernible) it was too big.

49

50 Also for your information when we were

1 fishers, '70s and '80s, we did tagging at the hatchery  
2 at Noatak and our trout was going all the way to  
3 Russia, Unalakleet and few other places due to the --  
4 what, the high seas were a certain temp, we know they  
5 -- we find out that they go out there from the report  
6 that was done on the hatchery days. And I -- I'll tell  
7 you thank you, we feel better now that we see a lot of  
8 trout at the Wulik River because it's one of the  
9 resources we take heavily.

10

11 And I thank you and -- thank you.

12

13 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Calvin.

14

15 MR. MOTO: I was wondering, you know,  
16 they're -- was acknowledging the fact that our herring  
17 come up from -- up toward Russia and we were wondering  
18 if they ever did any monitoring of them because we  
19 getting less, is it because of all the cruise ship  
20 travel or what, you know, there's a lot of -- there's a  
21 lot of activity on the Bering, Chukchi Sea and we were  
22 wondering what -- what our herring are getting. We  
23 used to racks and racks of the herring at one time.  
24 And also in the spring when the ice breakup we get  
25 trout. We don't know where it's taken from, but we get  
26 them every spring right about -- just about breakup  
27 time. I wonder if there is any way you could monitor  
28 some of that or is it -- would it have to be funded by  
29 some outfit.

30

31 Thank you.

32

33 MR. SCANLON: Thank you, Mr. Moto. I  
34 don't know much about herring. The work that the  
35 Department has done, I think the furthest north that  
36 they have any kind of monitoring is southern Norton  
37 Sound at Unalakleet, they -- for a lot of years they  
38 wanted to have a bait fishery down there for them. And  
39 I guess the problem with the herring at least in terms  
40 of harvest and research is that by the time the  
41 Southcentral and Southeast and the Togiak herring  
42 commercial fisheries are over there's really no market  
43 anymore. So because they all occur before they begin  
44 spawning in Norton Sound and Kotzebue Sound. But from  
45 -- they did some aerial surveys where they look for  
46 clouds of milt, you know, they'll just -- you know,  
47 they spawn close to shore and I'm sure you've seen it,  
48 but there's big white clouds and it appears at least in  
49 southern Norton Sound at the bottom half that herring  
50 is really large, but I don't know -- have any

1 information on the Kotzebue area.

2

3 MR. MOTO: That's the Kotzebue Sound  
4 area, you know, we have -- we -- it was proved that  
5 they were different from the ones that come from St.  
6 Matthew or wherever and this is something that we -- I  
7 think should be looked into because some people really  
8 rely some on herring, especially from different -- like  
9 some people come up and get herring every spring.

10

11 Thank you.

12

13 MR. SCANLON: I think I can mention  
14 that to Commercial Fish Division Office in Nome.

15

16 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Go ahead, Mike.

17

18 MR. KRAMER: Yeah, Mike Kramer here. I  
19 had some questions. I know that, you know, over the  
20 years we've been talking about a lot of beaver dams and  
21 beaver lodges, you know, starting to move northward and  
22 I know that they're starting to go into the North  
23 Slope. Has any of these beaver lodges, beaver dams,  
24 you know, affected any of the trout spawning areas?  
25 And then I know -- the other question I had was I know  
26 at time in Noatak that the people in Noatak can walk  
27 across the river all the way to the other side with  
28 knee boots on, you know, the lowering of the river, you  
29 know, has that have any affect -- has it had any affect  
30 on spawning area, their ability to get to the spawning  
31 areas and to be able to successfully spawn?

32

33 MR. SCANLON: Thanks, Mike. I don't  
34 have much information on beavers, but it's a pretty  
35 common refrain that there seems to be a lot more beaver  
36 around. We don't do any like beaver control or  
37 anything like that with -- at least in our division.  
38 But I think there's no limit on beavers, they taste  
39 pretty good and their pelts are great so go have at  
40 them if people want to trap them, but a juvenile fish I  
41 know for the most part can go right through a beaver  
42 dam, there's enough holes underwater that they can just  
43 squirt in and out. And I'm not aware of any problems  
44 with beaver dams in the trout spawning areas on the  
45 Noatak, but they -- I haven't actually been on very  
46 many spawning areas from the air in quite a long time.  
47 They spawn all the way up the Avan, the Cutler, the  
48 Nimiuktuk and I haven't seen anything, but it's  
49 something I could stay aware of.

50

1                   So I got just a couple -- sorry. I got  
2 a couple more slides of future projects if there's no  
3 more questions.

4  
5                   CHAIRMAN STONEY: Council.

6  
7                   MS. LOON: Go ahead.

8  
9                   MR. SCANLON: Thank you. So we have  
10 two projects that hopefully will be funded through the  
11 OSM FRMP Program that we're going to start this summer.  
12 The first one I'll talk about is another trout project.  
13 This one will go on on the Kobuk River and it's got to  
14 do with getting genetic baseline of the populations  
15 that spawn in the tributaries of the Kobuk because for  
16 right now we don't have any information on the spawning  
17 stocks. We do have a little bit on the Squirrel and  
18 the Kiana, but nothing else. So like I mentioned  
19 earlier the fish that are harvested in Noatak and  
20 Kivalina primarily are mixed stock, they're not just  
21 (indiscernible) or a Noatak fish. And for some of  
22 these drainages we have genetic information so we can  
23 pinpoint where some of this harvest comes from, we  
24 don't have any information on the Kobuk except for the  
25 Squirrel. And so what we'd like to do is collect fin  
26 clips from juveniles and spawning fish in three  
27 tributaries near Ambler and add this to the data base  
28 we have of stock ID for Dolly Varden and in the future  
29 that can help us learn of the harvest where those fish  
30 originally came from.

31  
32                   And so this will entail -- we're going  
33 to go up three rivers that we know they spawn in, the  
34 Hunt, the Salmon and Tutsuksuk near Ambler, we're going  
35 to collect fin clips from spawners and juveniles, send  
36 these to the gene conservation lab in Anchorage and  
37 hopefully that will help us understand better the stock  
38 makeup of harvested fish.

39  
40                   Here's what we know right now. This is  
41 a -- these are -- this is genetic data from fish that  
42 were sampled in the falltime subsistence fishery in  
43 Kivalina. It's kind of hard to read, but in all three  
44 of these years about 75 percent of the harvest came  
45 from Norton Sound stream -- I'm sorry, Kotzebue Sound  
46 populations, primarily the Noatak, the Kivalina and the  
47 Wulik Rivers. About 15 to 20 percent came from Norton  
48 Sound streams including the Unalakleet and Pilgrim and  
49 Kuzitrin. There's a small component of fish from  
50 Togiak which is south of the Kuskokwim River which is

1 pretty amazing and at least two of those years there  
2 were fish from the Anadeer River in Russia that showed  
3 up in the sample and those fish spawned about a  
4 thousand miles from Kivalina. So what's not on here is  
5 that there's 15 to 30 percent of the samples we could  
6 not identify their stream of origin. So that's what  
7 we're trying to get at with this project.

8  
9 A couple things about this project,  
10 it's really cheap, we get a lot of bang for our buck on  
11 it. It's only about 20,000 bucks. And we plan on  
12 getting a student through the Alaska Native Science and  
13 Engineering Program to help out and instead of just  
14 walking through the creek with us with dipnets and  
15 minnow traps, they're going to have the opportunity to  
16 spend time in the gene lab in Anchorage learning lab  
17 techniques and how to analyze gene data. So this is  
18 kind of an unique opportunity for a student who wants  
19 to learn more about the some of the work we do.

20  
21 And I could answer questions about this  
22 one or just move on to sheefish.

23  
24 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any questions before  
25 we take a break?

26  
27 (No comments)

28  
29 CHAIRMAN STONEY: There's no further  
30 questions, continue on.

31  
32 MR. SCANLON: Thank you. So the second  
33 project we hope to get started this summer through the  
34 FRMP is estimating the abundance of sheefish out-  
35 migrating from their spawning areas on the Kobuk using  
36 the DIDSON sonar. There's a project like this already  
37 going on on the Selawik and it works out really well.  
38 So we do a radio tagging project we did OSM several  
39 years ago, we have good information on spawning  
40 locations and timing also on timing frequency.  
41 Sheefish don't spawn every year necessarily when they  
42 become sexually mature, but we don't have a good handle  
43 on abundance so that's what we're trying to get at with  
44 this project.

45  
46 So this the map of the spawning  
47 locations, they're all above the Village of Kobuk,  
48 mostly concentrated near the Pah and the Maniilaq and  
49 what we'd like to do is use a DIDSON sonar unit to  
50 count them as they move back out in late September,

1 early October. The nice thing about this project is  
2 it's really clean, there's really nothing else that's  
3 large moving downstream at that time of year so we will  
4 feel confident that the count will be just sheefish,  
5 but we'll also do some beach seining just to be sure.  
6 And we hope to run this for four years and have either  
7 a local hire or our students help out.

8  
9 And that's all I've got. Thank you  
10 very much.

11  
12 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any questions?

13  
14 (No comments)

15  
16 CHAIRMAN STONEY: If not, let's take a  
17 10 minute break.

18  
19 (Off record)

20  
21 (On record)

22  
23 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Everyone please be  
24 seated. Okay. We may begin now you say, what item  
25 now, where on your.....

26  
27 MR. STEVENSON: Thank you, Mr. Chair.  
28 We're now going to continue with item 11B on our  
29 agenda, identifying priority information needs for FRMP  
30 with OSM Fisheries.

31  
32 (In Native).

33  
34 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. Who's going to  
35 do it now?

36  
37 MS. HYER: Mr. Chairman, Council  
38 members. For the record it's Karen Hyer with OSM. We  
39 are beginning the process of developing the priority  
40 information needs for the 2018 Fisheries Resource  
41 Monitoring Program. What Brendan showed you today is  
42 work that he has done with money that the State has  
43 used that was granted to him through the Monitoring  
44 Program. And so we go to the Councils and ask them  
45 what their priorities are for research and monitoring  
46 in their region and those priorities are the scope of  
47 the call so they shape the call that we have and then  
48 it lets investigators know what kinds of studies we'll  
49 fund. And so we develop that list with you and then  
50 we're hoping to finalize that list in November. And

1 because that list usually involves a lot of  
2 conversation and because there's not much time on the  
3 agenda now I would recommend forming a subcommittee on  
4 the record and then I can work with that subcommittee,  
5 the other biologists and land managers, so we can  
6 develop a really good list to present to the RAC in the  
7 fall.

8

9                   And so I would ask that we develop that  
10 subcommittee on the record and then we can work via  
11 teleconference with whoever's interested and gain all  
12 your input and really refine the list for the November  
13 RAC meeting. And then that list will be used to shape  
14 -- will be used to shape the call and it will let  
15 investigators know what are the priorities in your  
16 region. And we are forming a working group, not a  
17 subcommittee. Thank you for that clarification, Carl.  
18 So if it -- if it's agreeable to the RAC I would like  
19 to form a working group that I can continue to work  
20 with through the spring and summer and fall to develop  
21 these priority information needs.

22

23                   CHAIRMAN STONEY: You may.

24

25                   MR. STEVENSON: Mr. Chair, I just  
26 wanted to clarify in that on Monday morning several of  
27 the RAC members had an opportunity to meet over  
28 breakfast, there was an interest in going over the  
29 agenda on Monday morning. And at that meeting I had  
30 the opportunity to speak with former Chairman Shiedt  
31 about the opportunity as Ms. Hyer just mentioned to  
32 establish a working group that could help to guide the  
33 research opportunities on subsistence fisheries. And  
34 one of the points that was discussed was how this is an  
35 opportunity for RAC members to share traditional  
36 knowledge that can be used to guide research to benefit  
37 subsistence use in fisheries.

38

39                   (In Native).

40

41                   MR. SHIEDT: If you're going to  
42 take.....

43

44                   CHAIRMAN STONEY: Attamuk.

45

46                   MR. SHIEDT: .....volunteers I'll  
47 volunteer to be part of your team.

48

49                   MS. HYER: I appreciate that Enoch. I  
50 think first we need a motion to have the working group

1 and then everybody can volunteer.  
2  
3 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yeah, go ahead.  
4  
5 MS. LOON: I make a motion to select  
6 Enoch Shiedt, Attamuk, for the -- Enoch Shiedt for  
7 subcommittee for OSM fisheries proposal.  
8  
9 MR. STEVENSON: Working group?  
10  
11 MS. LOON: Working group.  
12  
13 MR. STEVENSON: (In Native).  
14  
15 MR. BALLOT: Second the motion.  
16  
17 MR. SHIEDT: I think you need to  
18 clarify that it's a motion to start a working group for  
19 the fisheries, to clarify for the minutes.  
20  
21 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Enoch, go ahead.  
22  
23 MR. MITCHELL: I make a motion.  
24  
25 MR. SHIEDT: I'll second it.  
26  
27 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any further  
28 discussion?  
29  
30 (No comments)  
31  
32 CHAIRMAN STONEY: All in favor signify  
33 by saying aye.  
34  
35 IN UNISON: Aye.  
36  
37 CHAIRMAN STONEY: It passed. Okay.  
38 Yeah. Is that it?  
39  
40 MS. HYER: Mr. Chairman, now that the  
41 working group has been established who wants to work  
42 with me to develop these priority information needs, I  
43 have one volunteer, I'd like more, I'd like everybody  
44 that wants to work with me.  
45  
46 MR. SHIEDT: Enoch Mitchell.  
47  
48 MR. MOTO: When would -- when would you  
49 meet?  
50

1 MS. HYER: We'll meet via telephone and  
2 we'll probably meet several times and we'll probably  
3 have several different discussions about what we can  
4 do. And one discussion we should have is if we can  
5 have a project in the Deering/Buckland area, I need to  
6 do some research on that.

7  
8 MR. SHIEDT: How many you got now?

9  
10 MS. HYER: One.

11  
12 CHAIRMAN STONEY: We have two. I would  
13 like Mike Kramer to be part of the team.

14  
15 MR. SHIEDT: Super team.

16  
17 CHAIRMAN STONEY: You agree, Cal?

18  
19 MR. MOTO: I'm interested as to -- I've  
20 been involved in fisheries for quite a while. I was on  
21 the -- charter member of the Bering Sea Fish  
22 Association and I was -- so I feel maybe that I might  
23 be able to contribute something I hope.

24  
25 CHAIRMAN STONEY: You want to, huh?  
26 Okay. Calvin.

27  
28 Go ahead.

29  
30 MS. HYER: Okay. Mr. Chairman, I think  
31 we've got a good start. I thank you for your time.

32  
33 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Is it done now?  
34 Okay. Now what's next Zach.

35  
36 MR. STEVENSON: (In Native), Mr. Chair.  
37 We are now on agenda item -- we're going back. Thank  
38 you. We're going back to agenda item 10, old business,  
39 item A. The Refuges' proposed rule on hunting update.  
40 And -- thank you. We have Susan Georgette with the  
41 Selawik Refuge.

42  
43 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Susan.

44  
45 MS. GEORGETTE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman  
46 and Council members. My name is Susan Georgette, I'm  
47 the Refuge Manager at Selawik Refuge in Kotzebue with  
48 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. And this is very  
49 quick, this is an update on what's called a proposed  
50 Refuge rule. And this is the proposal that would

1 prohibit most predator control on Alaska's National  
2 Wildlife Refuges.

3

4                   The reason for this is that Fish and  
5 Wildlife Service is required to manage its lands for  
6 what is called natural diversity and biological  
7 integrity. And so that means that Fish and Wildlife  
8 Service sees what it needs to do as not favoring one  
9 animal over another animal. This proposal also has  
10 five other parts to -- that I've mentioned to the  
11 Council before, five different ways of hunting that  
12 would be prohibited. And this is hunting or taking  
13 bear cubs or sows with cubs, taking bears using traps  
14 or snares, same day airborne hunting of bears, taking  
15 wolves during the denning season and taking brown bears  
16 over bait. So those things in our unit and unit 23 are  
17 all prohibited right now and the Refuge has never  
18 allowed predator control on its lands anyway. So it's  
19 not a change really from what is now, but it's being  
20 put into regulations so it's clear to everybody what  
21 the rules are. It would only apply to the Refuges so  
22 in our region that would be Selawik National Wildlife  
23 Refuge. It does not apply to subsistence hunting so it  
24 doesn't -- there's nothing about it that means we don't  
25 fully support people hunting predators for subsistence,  
26 it's predator control activities.

27

28                   We've talked with the RAC about this  
29 for the last couple years I think at every session. We  
30 had a public hearing in Kotzebue at the end of January  
31 about this. We had four people testify including  
32 someone from NANA, Maniilaq and the Native Village of  
33 Kotzebue. The public comment period is still open on  
34 this, it's open until April 7th. And so if you have  
35 any comments about it please submit them. And is there  
36 something in their book that has the instructions about  
37 submitting it? I think our office said that OSM was  
38 given that for their booklets?

39

40                   MR. CLEVELAND: Yeah.

41

42                   MS. GEORGETTE: So you can submit  
43 comments online. Okay. So that's all I have is just  
44 an update on that, that the comment deadline is open to  
45 April 7th and that we've talked about it quite a few  
46 times and had a public hearing about it. And this is  
47 statewide so all the RACs are considering this.

48

49                   That's all I have. Thank you.

50

1 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yes, you may.  
2  
3 MR. JOHNSON: And for the Council's  
4 information the materials related to this can be found  
5 on page 210 which is in the main body of your meeting  
6 book in the binder.  
7  
8 Thank you, Mr. Chair.  
9  
10 MS. GEORGETTE: Thank you, Carl.  
11  
12 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Enoch.  
13  
14 MR. MITCHELL: When do you think you'll  
15 get the environmental assessment done?  
16  
17 MS. GEORGETTE: There's one -- there's  
18 a draft you can -- that's available now. I'm not sure  
19 whether it's put in the booklets.  
20  
21 MR. MITCHELL: I don't see it. Could I  
22 give you my email, could you.....  
23  
24 MS. GEORGETTE: Oh, you bet. I can  
25 contact Zach for that.  
26  
27 MR. MITCHELL: Thank you.  
28  
29 MR. STEVENSON: Mr. Chair.  
30  
31 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yes, you may.  
32  
33 MR. STEVENSON: I will make certain  
34 that all of our RAC members receive those materials  
35 provided through Selawik Refuge.  
36  
37 (In Native).  
38  
39 MS. GEORGETTE: Certainly. Thank you.  
40  
41 CHAIRMAN STONEY: That's it?  
42  
43 MS. GEORGETTE: That's it. Thank you.  
44  
45 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you. Next item  
46 on the agenda.  
47  
48 MR. STEVENSON: (In Native), Mr. Chair.  
49 Next on the agenda is item 10B, National Park Service  
50 proposed rule on subsistence collections featured on

1 page 218 of your binder. I believe that we have Mary  
2 McBurney with the National Park Service to address it  
3 -- oh, pardon me, Mary or Mr. Frost?

4

5 Thank you, Mr. Frost.

6

7 MR. FROST: Good afternoon, Mr.  
8 Chairman and Council members. It's good to see you  
9 again, I don't know if you remember I was up in  
10 Buckland, spent a little bit of quality time with you  
11 guys, it was nice to get up there and spend that time  
12 with you.

13

14 I'm here today to -- just to remind you  
15 I'm the Regional Director for the National Park Service  
16 and I serve as the Park Service representative to the  
17 Federal Subsistence Board. Well, I'm here today to  
18 talk about this proposed rule that the Park Service has  
19 out right now. It's composed of three different  
20 pieces. The first piece would allow qualified  
21 subsistence users to collect and use non-edible fish  
22 and wildlife parts and plants, materials to create  
23 handicraft for use in barter or sale. The second  
24 piece is to clarify that collecting or possessing  
25 living wildlife is generally prohibited. And the third  
26 piece is to limit the types of bait that may be used to  
27 take bears for subsistence uses. I'll go into a little  
28 bit of detail for -- into each one of those.

29

30 So this first part, the use of plants  
31 and non-edible animal parts. This activity is  
32 currently prohibited by a Service wide rule that's  
33 applied across all units of the National Park Service  
34 throughout the country. And this is an Alaska specific  
35 rule that would -- that would allow this activity. So  
36 it would allow NPS qualified, local rural residents to  
37 keep -- to collect and use plant materials and non-  
38 edible animal parts to make and sell handicrafts by  
39 adding -- let me back up. To collect and use plant  
40 materials and non-edible animal parts to make and sell  
41 handicrafts by adding definitions of animal parts. So  
42 we're going to define what animal parts are, define  
43 what a handicraft article is and then by amending the  
44 current definition for customary trade so it's  
45 consistent.

46

47 So the definition of animal parts is --  
48 will include things such as antlers, horns, bones,  
49 teeth, claws, hooves, skin, hide, fur, hair, feathers  
50 and quills that come from animals that have been

1 lawfully hunted or trapped, parts that have been  
2 naturally shed or discarded or those that remain on the  
3 landscape due to natural mortality of an animal. The  
4 definition of a handicraft article is the same  
5 definition that is currently in the Federal Subsistence  
6 Program regulations. So we didn't want to redefine  
7 what that definition is, we wanted to make it  
8 consistent. So this would clarify that the handicraft  
9 must result from the alteration or skilful manipulation  
10 of the shape and appearance of natural materials to  
11 create something of greater monetary or aesthetic  
12 value.

13

14                   And then the third piece is amending  
15 the current definition of customary trade. And  
16 currently in Gates of the Arctic National Park and  
17 Preserve and Kobuk Valley National Park plant materials  
18 can already be collected for handicraft items and so  
19 this is a broadening of that authority to not only  
20 allow plant material, but also to include these non-  
21 edible animal parts. So this would allow the sale of  
22 handicraft articles to support personal and family  
23 needs in all Park units and it would -- but it would --  
24 but the one prohibition is it could not constitute a  
25 significant commercial enterprise. So we don't want --  
26 you know, we want to allow this activity for the local  
27 subsistence users to utilize these materials, but we  
28 don't want it to be a commercial enterprise. And so  
29 there's that one restriction on it. Users would be  
30 required to have a Federal Subsistence Board customary  
31 and traditional use determination for the animal  
32 species, which parts that would be collected and that  
33 determination must be specific to an area where that  
34 collection would occur.

35

36                   And then finally users would also be  
37 required to have a written authorization from  
38 superintendents to collect these materials. The sale  
39 of raw, unworked materials or parts would be  
40 prohibited, but superintendents would have the  
41 authority to identify specific areas open to collection  
42 activities, set collection -- set conditions and limits  
43 or other restrictions to protect resources and values.  
44 We want to make this written authorization as easy as  
45 possible, we don't want this to be a burden. And so it  
46 could be anything from an individual permit, it could  
47 be that, or it could be an area-wide authorization, it  
48 could be, you know, for residents' own communities, it  
49 could be an annual authorization, it could be a  
50 specific geographic location and these could be done

1 through the annual compendia process so that it's  
2 always updated, but it's not something -- the  
3 authorization is done so that if you're out and about  
4 and you run across an antler that you want to collect  
5 you don't have to worry about well, do I have the  
6 authorization or not, it's sort of done in advance so  
7 that won't be an issue.

8  
9                   The second part of the rule is dealing  
10 with this collection of live wildlife. And this -- we  
11 feel that there's already a prohibition, that the Park  
12 Service has rules in place that already prohibit the  
13 collection of live wildlife. But it's not clear when  
14 it comes to the take of raptor chicks in the use of  
15 falcon -- for falconry. And so oftentimes we get  
16 individuals who come to the Park headquarters and they  
17 have a permit either from the State or from the Fish  
18 and Wildlife Service and say that they have this  
19 authorization to collect a chick to be used in  
20 falconry, to be raised up in their aviary and then to  
21 be used for falconry. And we feel that that's already  
22 prohibited through our regulations, but it's not really  
23 clear so this is just sort of articulating this that  
24 any collection of and what we're saying is living  
25 wildlife and/or eggs are prohibited. Now this doesn't  
26 prohibit the use of falcons to hunt with so if a person  
27 is a falconer and they want to hunt with falcons that  
28 activity is still allowed. This is just clarifying  
29 that someone that want to go collect a chick out of a  
30 nest or an egg out of a nest, that activity is not  
31 permitted.

32  
33                   The third piece is that -- is the use  
34 for -- is a definition of bait for taking bears under  
35 the Federal subsistence regulation. This would limit  
36 the types of bait to be -- that would be allowed to  
37 take black and brown bears for subsistence use. Baits  
38 would be limited to parts of legally taken Native fish  
39 or wildlife that are not required to be salvaged or the  
40 remains of Native fish and wildlife that died of  
41 natural causes. You know, the purpose of this is to  
42 prohibit the use of food items such as dog food,  
43 grease, bread or popcorn, doughnuts, as bait for taking  
44 bears. You know, this is consistent with other NPS  
45 regulations that prohibit the feeding of wildlife and  
46 it also, you know, is consistent with the NPS legal and  
47 policy framework that calls for managing wildlife for  
48 natural processes. And finally it avoids the efforts  
49 that the Park Service has to avoid habituating wildlife  
50 to unnatural food items such as -- well, unnatural food

1 sources such as human and commercial food sources.

2

3                   This rule was published in -- this  
4 proposed rule, let me make that very clear, this is  
5 only a proposed rule, it's -- nothing's been finalized,  
6 no decisions have been made. It was published in -- on  
7 January 13th and it's -- the comment period's open for  
8 90 days. It will close on April 12th so there's still  
9 about five weeks left for people to make comments if  
10 they want.

11

12                   So with that I will close and take  
13 questions.

14

15                   CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any questions from  
16 the Council?

17

18                   Yeah, go ahead.

19

20                   MS. LOON: Yes. Thank you for giving  
21 us that report. Just for your information we always  
22 leave what we hunted before, we always leave the --  
23 everything in there except take the skin and the meat.  
24 We don't care for the rest because those horns are  
25 always -- always direct us to a place where an  
26 individual say that's a place where we could get  
27 berries. They're indicators of time and distance and  
28 where things could be found. Are you trying to protect  
29 us from looters?

30

31                   Thank you.

32

33                   MR. FROST: That's not the intent of  
34 the rule, but if that's a benefit that's great.

35

36                   CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any further questions  
37 from the Council?

38

39                   (No comments)

40

41                   CHAIRMAN STONEY: If none, thank you.

42

43                   MR. FROST: Thank you. Good seeing you  
44 all again.

45

46                   CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yeah. Go ahead.

47

48                   MR. STEVENSON: (In Native), Mr. Chair.  
49 Is there any action that the Board would like to take  
50 on this matter?

1 CHAIRMAN STONEY: On what he just said,  
2 on the three items, are those action items?

3  
4 MR. STEVENSON: Yes, specifically the  
5 Park Service proposed rule on subsistence collections.

6  
7 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yeah.

8  
9 MR. COMMACK: Yeah, Mr. Chairman, I  
10 make a motion that we accept proposed rules, the three  
11 items, right, the antlers, the bear baiting and what's  
12 the other one, taking of.....

13  
14 MR. STEVENSON: Mr. Frost. Through the  
15 Chair the question was whether the Board would like to  
16 take any action, in this case either supporting or  
17 opposing the Park Service's proposal on subsistence  
18 collection and the question was to clarify again on the  
19 three items that were under consideration?

20  
21 MR. FROST: So it's the -- make sure I  
22 get my language right. It's the -- to allow qualified  
23 subsistence users to collect and use non-edible fish  
24 and wildlife parts and plant materials to create  
25 handicrafts for use, barter or sale, to clarify that  
26 collecting and possessing living wildlife is generally  
27 prohibited and the third one is to limit the type of  
28 baits that may be used to take bears for subsistence  
29 uses, so the prohibition of human foods and dog food  
30 for baiting purposes.

31  
32 MR. COMMACK: Mr. Chairman, my motion  
33 would be to approve what he just listed, my motion.

34  
35 MR. SHIEDT: I'll second it.

36  
37 CHAIRMAN STONEY: That's your motion,  
38 Louie? Okay. Is it seconded?

39  
40 MR. SHIEDT: Yes.

41  
42 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Oh. Thank you. Is  
43 there any further discussions on this motion?

44  
45 (No comments)

46  
47 CHAIRMAN STONEY: If none, signify by  
48 saying aye.

49  
50 IN UNISON: Aye.

1 MR. MOTO: I was waiting for that, you  
2 know, when you talk about take the -- not be able to  
3 take some of the -- for trade and all that. We --  
4 right now the way it stands if we get a musk ox we have  
5 to cut the horns out, but, you know, if I was a non-  
6 Native I'd be able to use that as a trophy. And but  
7 also on the -- lot of things that we should -- we have  
8 to have some kind of design on it before we could trade  
9 it, you know. And this is where we get in a lot of  
10 trouble because I know that when the sports and the  
11 hunters hunt they get to keep what -- they could sell  
12 it or they could do whatever they want with it, you  
13 know, but we can't. We have to have some kind of --  
14 something on the ivory or something on the -- whatever  
15 we want to try to trade for.

16  
17 Thank you.

18  
19 MR. STEVENSON: Can I make a comment?

20  
21 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Go ahead.

22  
23 MR. FROST: That's a great point and  
24 that's something that has been brought to our attention  
25 as -- going through this process that currently if  
26 someone were to gather something and they didn't make  
27 some design or alter it in some way and they just gave  
28 it to somebody else, that is not prohibited, but --  
29 that is prohibited, it's not allowed under the current  
30 process. And so we need to think about that and  
31 probably in my opinion that we need to address that so  
32 that if -- you know, if young people are going out and  
33 they're collecting materials for elders that can't go  
34 out and the elders are the artists then they should be  
35 able to give those things to the artist that can't go  
36 out and collect them. So that's something we're going  
37 to look at and address in the final rule.

38  
39 MR. MOTO: Okay. Call for question.

40  
41 IN UNISON: Aye.

42  
43 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Opposed?

44  
45 (No opposing votes)

46  
47 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Motion passes. Thank  
48 you, sir.

49  
50 MR. FROST: Thank you.

1 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yes, go ahead.  
2  
3 MR. STEVENSON: (In Native), Mr. Chair.  
4 If the Council wishes I will be happy to prepare a  
5 letter for the Board's review in support of the Park  
6 Service's proposed rule on subsistence collections.  
7  
8 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yeah, Hannah.  
9  
10 MS. LOON: Mr. Chairman, can we move  
11 on?  
12  
13 Thank you.  
14  
15 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Go ahead.  
16  
17 MR. STEVENSON: Mr. Chair, thank you.  
18 Next on the agenda is item 10C, Board non-rural policy  
19 timeline. And to address that issue is Mr. Carl  
20 Johnson with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Office of  
21 Subsistence Management. You'll see a supplemental  
22 handout on the right side of your binder in the back is  
23 a sheet of paper with a blue stripe in the center at  
24 the top, reads -- the title, Draft Policy Timeline for  
25 Non-Rural Determinations.  
26  
27 (In Native).  
28  
29 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Carl Johnson.  
30  
31 MR. JOHNSON: Well, thank you, Mr.  
32 Chair. Just wanted to briefly highlight what is on  
33 this timeline. Essentially this purpose is to just let  
34 you know. As you recall last year you all expressed  
35 your opinions on a proposed regulation that would go  
36 into the Secretarial regulations about rural  
37 determinations. This timeline here is the result of  
38 that. The Board at its January work session was  
39 briefed on this and approved to go ahead to let the  
40 Councils know that a draft policy is going to be  
41 created. It'll be available for your review in the  
42 fall at your fall Regional Advisory Council meeting in  
43 Selawik. And there you'll get to see what the policy  
44 -- what the draft policy looks like. And the policy  
45 would contain information like how people will submit  
46 proposals to make non-rural -- to change a community  
47 from rural to non-rural or the other way around, how  
48 those proposals would be analyzed and what the process  
49 would be. So this proposal really would just deal with  
50 the process on how the Board will make determinations

1 on what communities are rural or non-rural. So this is  
2 just to let you know what you can expect to see at your  
3 fall meeting.

4

5 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

6

7 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you. Any  
8 questions of the gentleman?

9

10 (No comments)

11

12 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Zach. Go ahead.

13

14 MR. STEVENSON: (In Native), Mr. Chair.

15 We're now at item 11C on new business, approval of the  
16 fiscal year 2015 annual report featured on page 223 of  
17 your binder. That update will be provided by Mr. Carl  
18 Johnson of Fish and Wildlife Service Office of  
19 Subsistence Management.

20

21 (In Native).

22

23 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yes, you may.

24

25 MR. JOHNSON: Thank you, Mr. Chair. If  
26 the Council may recall you actually at your fall  
27 meeting ended up not identifying any items for an  
28 annual report. So I just wanted to remind the Council  
29 that it did not present items for an annual report so  
30 that's why this page number here only just kind of  
31 refers to the general briefing on what's contained in  
32 the annual report. So this is just to confirm that at  
33 this time the Council does not wish to present an  
34 annual report to the Board.

35

36 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

37

38 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any questions from  
39 the Council?

40

41 (No comments)

42

43 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Anything else from  
44 you guys?

45

46 MR. STEVENSON: (In Native), Mr. Chair.

47 Next on the agenda is item 11D, Cape Krusenstern and  
48 Kobuk Valley SRC appointments featured -- oh, I should  
49 say to be -- with an update to be provided by Hannah  
50 Atkinson with National Park Service.

1 (In Native).  
2  
3 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yes, you may.  
4  
5 MS. ATKINSON: Thank you, Mr. Chair.  
6 Good afternoon, members. I'm Hannah Atkinson with the  
7 National Park Service in Kotzebue. I work with the  
8 Subsistence Resource Commissions. We have the Kobuk  
9 Valley National Park and Cape Krusenstern National  
10 Monument and I'm here to address the appointments and  
11 reappointments. And I appreciate you all hearing this  
12 topic this afternoon. It has some urgency about it  
13 since we've had some people resign in our February  
14 meeting so filling these vacancies will be really  
15 important to the SRC doing the work that we do.  
16  
17 So I'll start with Kobuk Valley  
18 National Park Subsistence Resource Commission. And  
19 first I'd like to suggest the reappointment of Louie  
20 Commack to the SRC. Louie became the Chair of the SRC  
21 in 2014 and his experience in leading the SRC meetings  
22 as well as his perspective as a resident of Ambler is  
23 really critical to the SRC. So perhaps the members can  
24 act on that first and then I'll move on to the other  
25 vacancies, if that works.  
26  
27 MR. SHIEDT: Do you need this is motion  
28 form appoint Louie or from this RAC Board to be.....  
29  
30 MS. ATKINSON: Yeah.  
31  
32 MR. SHIEDT: .....for Kobuk.....  
33  
34 MS. ATKINSON: Yeah.  
35  
36 MR. SHIEDT: .....SRC.  
37  
38 MS. ATKINSON: Motion to reappoint  
39 Louie Commack for the Kobuk Valley SRC would be in  
40 order.  
41  
42 MR. BALLOT: Mr. Chair, I move for  
43 appointing Louie Commack to SRC for Kobuk.  
44  
45 MR. KRAMER: Second.  
46  
47 CHAIRMAN STONEY: With that on a  
48 nomination like that I just appoint him?  
49  
50 MS. ATKINSON: It's a reappointment.

1 He's been on the SRC for a while now and he's  
2 reappointed or.....  
3  
4 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay.  
5  
6 MS. ATKINSON: .....we're hoping he'll  
7 be reappointed.  
8  
9 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay.  
10  
11 MR. SHIEDT: Moved and seconded.  
12  
13 CHAIRMAN STONEY: So we need a second  
14 on the.....  
15  
16 MR. SHIEDT: Question.  
17  
18 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Question's been  
19 called for. All in favor of adopting nomination  
20 signify by saying aye.  
21  
22 IN UNISON: Aye.  
23  
24 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Opposed.  
25  
26 (No opposing votes)  
27  
28 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you.  
29  
30 MS. ATKINSON: And moving on we have  
31 two vacancies for the RAC to fill for the Kobuk Valley  
32 SRC. John Goodwin is no longer eligible so that leaves  
33 a vacancy and Elmer Ward has resigned from his  
34 appointment. And we have three eligible applicants  
35 which I was just going to give a brief summary about  
36 and then we can fill those vacancies.  
37  
38 Karmen Monigold is a member of the  
39 Kotzebue Sound Advisory Committee and after reviewing  
40 her application our staff feels that she would be a  
41 strong asset to the Kobuk Valley SRC because she  
42 practices a wide range of subsistence activities. She  
43 received a good recommendation from Pete Schaeffer, the  
44 long time Chair of the Cape Krusenstern SRC and she  
45 will represent Kotzebue on the Kobuk Valley SRC. She's  
46 the only applicant from Kotzebue that we received for  
47 the Kobuk Valley SRC and we do not have any current  
48 members from Kotzebue on the Kobuk Valley SRC.  
49  
50 And then the other two applicants are

1 both from Kobuk. There's Murphy Custer and Rosa Horna.  
2 Both are new members of the Upper Kobuk Advisory  
3 Committee. Murphy Custer does subsistence activities  
4 upriver from Kobuk and south of Kobuk between Kobuk and  
5 Selawik hot springs. And Rosa Horna does a wide range  
6 of subsistence activities including gathering of plant  
7 materials for arts and crafts. She goes to Onion  
8 Portage to hunt and owns an allotment in the National  
9 Parklands. And for those reason our staff feels that  
10 Rosa is a good applicant. Because of her knowledge of  
11 subsistence inside and outside of the Park boundary and  
12 this is confirmed by all of Rosa's references.

13

14 So we need a motion to fill two seats,  
15 there's two vacancies and we have three applicants. So  
16 if someone wants to make a motion to who they would  
17 like to.....

18

19 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Hannah.

20

21 MS. LOON: I make a motion to adopt --  
22 to select Murphy Custer and Rosa Horna for representing  
23 Kobuk Valley.

24

25 MR. CLEVELAND: I've got a question for  
26 Hannah.

27

28 CHAIRMAN STONEY: That's your second?

29

30 MR. CLEVELAND: I got a question for  
31 Hannah.

32

33 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay.

34

35 MR. CLEVELAND: I put a little  
36 application with Clarence Summers too on this.

37

38 MS. ATKINSON: The application for the  
39 SRC? Yeah, we received an application from you for the  
40 Cape Krusenstern SRC and it's been forward to the  
41 Secretary of the Interior and we will hear back from  
42 the Secretary of the Interior within the next couple  
43 months about if you've been selected.

44

45 MR. CLEVELAND: So they'll have to go  
46 through this for this process?

47

48 MS. ATKINSON: Yeah, the SRCs have  
49 three appointing sources, there's three seats that are  
50 filled by the Secretary of the Interior, three seats

1 that are filled by the RAC and then there are three  
2 seats filled by the Governor. And so when we get  
3 applications we send them on to the appointing sources  
4 that we feel are appropriate. And there's some  
5 requirements for the RAC appointments, for the RAC  
6 appointments you have to be on an Advisory Committee.  
7 But, yeah, we're working with all the appointing  
8 sources right now so we've got applications into the  
9 Secretary of the Interior as well as the applications  
10 I'm presenting today. And also working with the  
11 Governor's Office.

12

13 MR. CLEVELAND: Thank you. I thought  
14 you lost my application.

15

16 CHAIRMAN STONEY: That's a second made  
17 by the gentleman.

18

19 MR. SHIEDT: Second.

20

21 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any further  
22 discussions on these two nominations.

23

24 MR. MOTO: Call for question.

25

26 CHAIRMAN STONEY: The question's been  
27 called for. All in favor of supporting these  
28 nominations signify by saying aye.

29

30 MR. JOHNSON: Point of parliamentary  
31 procedure. Point of parliamentary procedure.

32

33 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Oh, further  
34 discussions?

35

36 MR. JOHNSON: Yes, Mr. Chair. There  
37 was some Council members who indicated they wish to  
38 have debate on this.

39

40 Mr. Kramer.

41

42 MR. KRAMER: Yeah. I wish to choose  
43 Karmen Monigold because two from one village, you know,  
44 we need to be able to spread the knowledge out in the  
45 -- you know, to different places. I think that one  
46 person from Kotzebue and then the -- who was the other  
47 two, you said Rosa Horna and.....

48

49 MS. ATKINSON: Karen Monigold is from  
50 Kotzebue, Murphy Custer and Rosa Horna are both from

1 Kobuk.

2

3 MR. KRAMER: Okay. I make a motion for  
4 Rosa Horna and Karmen Monigold.

5

6 MR. CLEVELAND: Second.

7

8 CHAIRMAN STONEY: That's a motion and a  
9 second. Any further discussions on the appointments?

10

11 MR. JOHNSON: Mr. Chair.

12

13 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yes.

14

15 MR. JOHNSON: Another parliamentary  
16 issue. So you had an original motion by Ms. Loon for  
17 two appointees which had not yet been resolved by a  
18 vote and then you had Mr. Kramer who had a separate  
19 motion which technically could be an amendment, an  
20 unfriendly amendment, to Ms. Loon's original motion.  
21 So that's kind of where we're at. We need to resolve  
22 the -- either determine whether or not it's an  
23 amendment or resolve the first motion.

24

25 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

26

27 MS. LOON: Ms. Atkinson, what is the  
28 range of the Kobuk Valley?

29

30 MS. ATKINSON: So the Kobuk Valley  
31 National Park is kind of on the river, it's between  
32 Coal Mine and Onion Portage. And so when I've been  
33 talking with applicants I've been asking -- you know,  
34 we do appreciate people on our Commissions having  
35 subsistence activities within the National Park so I've  
36 been asking all of the applicants if they do  
37 subsistence activities within the National Parks  
38 between Onion Portage and Coal Mine. And, you know, it  
39 goes north of the river and south of the river as well,  
40 but a lot of people talk about it in terms of traveling  
41 on the river. So that kind of explains -- if that  
42 answers your question about the range, yeah.

43

44 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yeah, go ahead.

45

46 MS. LOON: If this is within the Kobuk  
47 Valley -- oh, I'm sorry.

48

49 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Go ahead.

50

1 MS. LOON: If this is in the Kobuk  
2 Valley, Murphy and Rosa are Federally recognized people  
3 living in within the Kobuk Valley. And Kobuk Valley is  
4 Interior. They know the sand dunes and they know the  
5 traditional ecology very, very. I feel they're using  
6 their Inupiaq thought and culture, they would be a  
7 great asset to the Kobuk Valley in which the reside and  
8 that is within their range. And I'm sorry, but Ms.  
9 Monigold, is only a Kotzebue resident.

10

Thank you very much.

11

12

CHAIRMAN STONEY: Calvin.

13

14

15

16

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Mr. Chair.

MR. KRAMER: Mr. Chairman. Mr.  
Chairman. Ms. Loon have not withdrawn her motion, it's  
still alive. We have a technicality here.

CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yeah.

1 MS. LOON: (In Native) Onion Portage  
2 (in Native). In translating, these people are (in  
3 Native), that's their name, (in Native) and they will  
4 always be (in Native). And their hunting range from  
5 where you were telling us their range, they have used  
6 between upriver and below the river, both ways, they  
7 could interchange. So the real name for Kobuk is (in  
8 Native), that's their place.

9

10 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Attamuk.

11

12 MR. SHIEDT: I just -- maybe you need  
13 to clarify why Karen was name was put in there and what  
14 the boundaries of our -- we know where Rosa and Murphy  
15 coming from. I think that's a confusion they're having  
16 here is they want to represent -- get a representative  
17 from Upper Kobuk, yet there's one from Kotzebue area  
18 and yet Kobuk drains to Kotzebue. I think you need to  
19 clarify how these people were chosen and to explain  
20 better, that way they could understand it. They're not  
21 understanding, they're getting confused here.

22

23 MR. ATKINSON: Mr. Chair.

24

25 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Enoch.

26

27 MS. ATKINSON: Okay.

28

29 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Just a minute.

30 Enoch.

31

32 MR. MITCHELL: I mean, how many seats  
33 you got open you say.....

34

35 MS. ATKINSON: So.....

36

37 MR. MITCHELL: .....for this one?

38

39 MS. ATKINSON: .....in all for the  
40 Kobuk Valley SRC?

41

42 MR. MITCHELL: Yeah.

43

44 MS. ATKINSON: So the Kobuk Valley SRC  
45 we have four seats open and two of them are appointed  
46 or three of them are appointed by the RAC. Louie has  
47 been reappointed to one of them so we're trying to  
48 settle two seats right now, two seats that are open and  
49 we have three applicants.

50

1 MR. MITCHELL: Okay. You said that  
2 these applicants -- they subsist on these lands, that  
3 qualified them, right?

4  
5 MS. ATKINSON: Mr. Chair, to clarify  
6 about what qualifies someone for applying, we take  
7 applicants from everyone in the resident zone  
8 communities and all the villages in the NANA region are  
9 in -- are resident zone communities. So anyone from  
10 the NANA region can apply.

11  
12 To talk a little bit more about the  
13 SRCs and how NPS staff, how we look at applications.  
14 We have heard a lot that representation from the upper  
15 river villages is very important, from Kobuk and  
16 Shungnak and so we have asked a lot of people in Kobuk  
17 and Shungnak if they're interested in the seats and  
18 received a lot of applicants and interest from people  
19 in Kobuk. As I said we do try and -- we see a lot of  
20 value in having subsistence hunters who do their  
21 subsistence activities in the National Parklands. And  
22 one thing with the applicants that our staff noticed in  
23 the review of our applications, and I have applications  
24 here and we can, I don't know, maybe I can show them to  
25 people here if they're -- if they're interested in  
26 looking at the applications I have them. But in the  
27 application review we -- the NPS staff -- Murphy Custer  
28 does his subsistence activities upriver from Kobuk  
29 Valley National Park and south of Kobuk Valley National  
30 Park and near the area by Selawik hot springs where as  
31 Rosa Horna has an allotment in the Parklands and does  
32 subsistence activities at Onion Portage. So -- and  
33 Karmen Monigold also has -- she -- and her references  
34 confirm that she does subsistence activities within the  
35 National Parklands going upriver into the Kobuk to hunt  
36 caribou.

37  
38 MR. MOTO: To straighten this out what  
39 I like to do is according to Robert's Rules of -- we  
40 have to go through parliamentary procedures. So I what  
41 I will do is I will rescind my proposal and act -- we  
42 could act -- so therefore we could act on Hannah's  
43 proposal if we want.

44  
45 Thank you.

46  
47 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you, Cal.

48  
49 MR. MOTO: Do I hear a second on that,  
50 second my.....

1 MR. COMMACK: Mr. Chairman was there a  
2 second on her motion, was there a second on the motion?  
3 If there's no second then it died.

4  
5 MR. JOHNSON: Well, there was  
6 originally a second on the motion. But did I hear that  
7 Calvin just rescinded his second?

8  
9 MR. MOTO: That's what (indiscernible -  
10 away from microphone).....

11  
12 MS. LOON: Mr. Chairman, this is  
13 Hannah. I'm getting confused now.

14  
15 MR. BALLOT: Mr. Chairman, we got three  
16 names.....

17  
18 MR. KRAMER: Okay. Why don't we go  
19 ahead and just vote on Hannah's motion and then we'll  
20 go to the second if need be. I meant the second motion  
21 that I put in.

22  
23 MR. SHIEDT: Carl, Raymond. Maybe.....

24  
25 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yeah.

26  
27 MR. SHIEDT: .....what we need to do to  
28 make better understanding that let's vote the best two  
29 out of three and whoever's off the top two, you know,  
30 get the seat. We're having a big confusion here. One  
31 is from Upper Kobuk and one is from Kotzebue. Two are  
32 from Upper Kobuk and one is from Kotzebue. So I think  
33 we need to elect and that way we get the top two to  
34 make it easier on everybody.

35  
36 MR. JOHNSON: Mr. Chair.

37  
38 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yes, you may.

39  
40 MR. JOHNSON: I've got a quick  
41 suggestion, Mr. Chair. Each one of you have one of  
42 these, write down two names of the people who you want  
43 to have on and then I would suggest that both motion  
44 proponents who currently have motions on the table  
45 withdraw their motions and then somebody move to  
46 appoint by secret ballot and then that would be the  
47 process if somebody seconds that, then we vote by  
48 secret ballot.

49  
50 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

1 MR. MOTO: Mr. Chair.  
2  
3 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yes, go ahead.  
4 Calvin, you got your light on.  
5  
6 MR. MOTO: So I need to move the motion  
7 that we vote by secret ballot.  
8  
9 MR. JOHNSON: Mr. Chair, I think in  
10 order to get rid of the original motions the original  
11 movents, that would be Hannah and Mike, need to rescind  
12 their motions with the concurrent of their seconds.  
13  
14 Thank you, Mr. Chair.  
15  
16 MR. KRAMER: Remove my motion.  
17  
18 CHAIRMAN STONEY: So we have to vote  
19 then.....  
20  
21 MR. MOTO: Second.  
22  
23 CHAIRMAN STONEY: .....take a vote?  
24  
25 MR. JOHNSON: A vote would not be  
26 required if the people who seconded the original  
27 motions concurred with the withdrawals of the motion.  
28  
29 MR. MOTO: Second.  
30  
31 MR. SHIEDT: Okay.  
32  
33 MR. MOTO: So what are the names?  
34  
35 MS. ATKINSON: The applicants that we  
36 have are Karmen Monigold, Murphy Custer and Rosa Horna.  
37  
38 MR. MOTO: Is Hannah going to rescind  
39 her motion?  
40  
41 MR. JOHNSON: That is correct, Mr.  
42 Chair, we still need to have Hannah rescind her  
43 original motion with concurrence of her second and then  
44 we need to have somebody to move to vote by secret  
45 ballot.  
46  
47 Thank you, Mr. Chair.  
48  
49 MS. LOON: I rescind my motion.  
50

1 MR. MOTO: Second.  
2  
3 MR. COMMACK: Motion to do it by secret  
4 ballot.  
5  
6 MR. MOTO: Second.  
7  
8 MS. ATKINSON: There's Murphy Custer --  
9 Murphy Custer, Rosa Horna and Karmen Monigold.  
10  
11 MR. MOTO: Who's Custer -- which  
12 Custer?  
13  
14 MR. SHIEDT: That's the last name,  
15 Custer and Rose.  
16  
17 (Laughter)  
18  
19 MS. ATKINSON: I don't think I should  
20 pick them up.  
21  
22 (Laughter)  
23  
24 MS. ATKINSON: While the secret ballots  
25 are being counted, I appreciate all of your patience.  
26 We do have one more seat to be filled by the RAC for  
27 which we have one applicant. For the Cape Krusenstern  
28 SRC we have one vacancy to be filled by the RAC, Virgil  
29 Adams has resigned from his position on the SRC and the  
30 eligible applicant that we have is Cyrus Harris and  
31 he's a member of the Kotzebue Sound Advisory Committee.  
32 And we do have other vacancies on the Cape Krusenstern  
33 SRC, we have three other vacancies. But as I was  
34 talking about the other appointing sources, those three  
35 vacancies are being filled by the other appointing  
36 sources.  
37  
38 MR. BALLOT: Mr. Chair, I move to  
39 appoint Cyrus Harris to the Cape Krusenstern.....  
40  
41 MS. ATKINSON: Cape Krusenstern SRC.  
42  
43 MR. BALLOT: Yeah.  
44  
45 MS. LOON: Seconded.  
46  
47 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Moved by Mr. Ballot,  
48 seconded by Hannah.  
49  
50 MR. BALLOT: Question.

1 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Question's been  
2 called.  
3  
4 MR. SHIEDT: Yeah, I got a question.  
5 What did you say you -- there's three other seats that  
6 are open and so who's going to appoint the other three?  
7  
8 MS. ATKINSON: There's one Governor's  
9 appointment that is open and then there are two  
10 Secretary of the Interior seats that are open. And so  
11 the National Park Service has collected applicants --  
12 applications from the interested people and we're  
13 working with the appointing sources to fill those  
14 seats.  
15  
16 MR. SHIEDT: Okay. Thank you.  
17  
18 REPORTER: You need to turn your  
19 microphone on.  
20  
21 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Oh, okay. Sorry.  
22 The second has been made. All in favor of approving  
23 the appointment signify by saying aye.  
24  
25 IN UNISON: Aye.  
26  
27 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Opposed.  
28  
29 (No opposing vote)  
30  
31 CHAIRMAN STONEY: You got your vote  
32 then.  
33  
34 Yeah, go ahead.  
35  
36 MR. STEVENSON: (In Native), Mr. Chair.  
37 The results of the vote are that Rose Custer received  
38 six votes, Henry Horna received six votes and Karmen  
39 Monigold received three votes. So Mr. Custer and Ms.  
40 Horna both received a tie at six votes. They're both  
41 the two leading seats.  
42  
43 Thank you.  
44  
45 MR. COMMACK: Do we have to approve the  
46 two selections?  
47  
48 CHAIRMAN STONEY: We'll need a motion.  
49  
50 MR. COMMACK: Yeah.

1 MS. HANNAH: I make a motion.....  
2  
3 MR. JOHNSON: Mr. Chair, by conducting  
4 the ballot the end result of the vote is your  
5 appointment.....  
6  
7 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yeah.  
8  
9 MR. JOHNSON: .....and that's it.  
10  
11 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yeah.  
12  
13 MS. LOON: We don't need to make a  
14 motion.  
15  
16 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Oh.  
17  
18 MS. ATKINSON: Thank you all for your  
19 time.  
20  
21 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you, Hannah.  
22  
23 (In Native).  
24  
25 MR. STEVENSON: Thank you, Mr. Chair.  
26 We're at item 12, agency reports.  
27  
28 MR. JOHNSON: Pardon us, Mr. Chair. If  
29 you recall when you were adopting your agenda you added  
30 items E and F under new business. E is the Southeast  
31 Council letter, the all Council letter written by the  
32 Southeast Council and then F was the YK Delta RAC's  
33 motion.  
34  
35 So I will just cover briefly the  
36 subject of the Southeast Council letter. If you recall  
37 at the end of the joint session the Southeast Council  
38 during their closing remarks expressed the desire to  
39 issue a joint statement letter signed by the Chairs of  
40 all 10 Councils identifying common issues of concern to  
41 all of the regions. And for the purposes of this  
42 letter you don't have to agree with the exact wording  
43 here at this session, you just need to agree to the  
44 general subject on each of these points.  
45  
46 The first one is generally request the  
47 -- and this was the handout that everybody should have,  
48 we put on your table. I'm just going to go over  
49 briefly the -- each of the points. The first one is to  
50 ask that the Board seek increased funding so that the

1 Councils can conduct their business particularly with  
2 regard to meeting in more remote locations. The second  
3 point was to increase funding for fish and wildlife  
4 assessment and monitoring and how important it is to  
5 have good scientific information when you make your  
6 recommendations. The third was to ask the Board to  
7 pursue whatever steps are necessary to get a designated  
8 subsistence user seek on the North Pacific Fishery  
9 Management Council. The fourth point was to have the  
10 Board assist the 10 Councils in engaging in some sort  
11 of youth outreach.

12

13                   And if whoever just signed on to the  
14 teleconference, would you please enter star six to mute  
15 your phone, we can hear a lot of background noise.

16

17                   Thank you.

18

19                   And then next, the fifth item is  
20 requesting the Board to engage in formal rulemaking so  
21 that it's actually put into regulations that the Board  
22 has to give deference to Regional Advisory Councils on  
23 their recommendations. Right now it's a policy that's  
24 in place, it's a practice, but it's not specifically in  
25 regulation or statute. Six, the item number 6 that's  
26 on this letter has actually been rescinded because it  
27 was an issue of concern to just one Council and the  
28 point of this was to have -- identify issues that were  
29 of concern to all of the Councils so we'll skip to what  
30 is currently item number 7. And that is an endorsement  
31 of having more periodic meetings like this where we  
32 have all 10 Councils together for a meeting. And the  
33 suggestion was that such meetings should occur at least  
34 every five years.

35

36                   So what we need from the Council is an  
37 expression of support for these themes and I suggest  
38 that if you do support them that somebody should move  
39 so, but if there are other specific issues that are of  
40 concern to your region that are unique to Northwest  
41 Arctic then you could put them on a separate letter,  
42 but this one is designed for a joint voice that is  
43 issues of concern to all regions.

44

45                   Thank you, Mr. Chair.

46

47                   CHAIRMAN STONEY: This letter, what you  
48 need a support or nominations or what?

49

50                   MR. JOHNSON: This would be a letter to

1 support the issues and themes identified in this  
2 letter. So a motion to support and then staff would  
3 work on finalizing the letter and getting it prepared  
4 for your signature, Mr. Chair, after this meeting.

5  
6 Thank you.

7  
8 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. Any discussion  
9 before we vote, Council?

10  
11 MR. SHIEDT: So.....

12  
13 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Attamuk.

14  
15 MR. SHIEDT: Yeah, you having -- did  
16 you hear anything from the other Councils how they go  
17 about this supporting or nay?

18  
19 MR. JOHNSON: This is being presented  
20 to all the other Councils so what I will do is after  
21 this meeting I will get together with my staff and  
22 confer with them to make sure that all of the Councils  
23 agreed on all of these points. I know that some of the  
24 Councils are adding additional issues in a separate  
25 letter that's unique to their region, but as far as  
26 these main themes are here so far as I know other  
27 Councils have supported them.

28  
29 MR. SHIEDT: Do we have to adopt this  
30 today because, you know, it's -- I just saw this  
31 letter. It is new and I need to brick it into what  
32 little I have up there and I could understand it  
33 better. Do we need to do this now or can we table it  
34 until our next meeting or would be better to adopt it  
35 now, we can amendments to it later.

36  
37 MR. JOHNSON: Through the Chair. You  
38 don't have to adopt the specific language in this  
39 letter. I think it's helpful if you agree with the key  
40 themes, that you express that you support those.  
41 Otherwise if you wanted to look at this more closely  
42 you could table this until tomorrow after you complete  
43 your joint session with the North Slope Council.  
44 However given that Wildlife Special Action 16-01 is on  
45 that agenda, that could take some time and I don't know  
46 how much time you would have left to address this. And  
47 I do know that all the Councils want to issue this  
48 letter sooner than after your fall meetings.

49  
50 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

1 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Go ahead, Mike.  
2  
3 MR. KRAMER: I make a motion to support  
4 with modification according to our needs.  
5  
6 MS. LOON: Seconded.  
7  
8 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Motion by Mike,  
9 second by Hannah. Any further discussions?  
10  
11 MR. COMMACK: You said you're going to  
12 draft the letter and then we get to see it before it  
13 gets sent out?  
14  
15 MR. JOHNSON: Through the Chair. So  
16 the way correspondence normally works is the Council  
17 has a discussion on the record, they agree to the  
18 general opinions or concerns or issues that are to be  
19 expressed, then after the meeting your Council  
20 Coordinator drafts that letter, it undergoes a review  
21 and then the Chair reviews it to make sure that it  
22 expresses the will of the Council and then the Chair  
23 signs it. But in order for it to be reviewed again by  
24 the Council as a whole you would have to wait until  
25 your next meeting.  
26  
27 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Question's been  
28 called for. All in favor of supporting this letter  
29 signify by saying aye.  
30  
31 IN UNISON: Aye.  
32  
33 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Opposed.  
34  
35 (No opposing votes)  
36  
37 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. Supported.  
38  
39 MR. JOHNSON: Mr. Chair.  
40  
41 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Yes, you may.  
42  
43 MR. JOHNSON: And, Mr. Chair, I'll just  
44 quickly go to now what we added as item 11F on your  
45 agenda. And that is the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta  
46 Subsistence Regional Advisory Council at its meeting on  
47 Wednesday adopted a motion and asked that it be shared  
48 with the other Councils to see if they wish to express  
49 either support or opposition or neutrality to it. And  
50 I will read it. Quote. Develop a joint statement with

1 the other Federal Subsistence Regional Advisory  
2 Councils with similar concerns of opposition to the  
3 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's proposed rule for  
4 predator management on Refuges that includes a request  
5 that the Federal Subsistence Board advocate on behalf  
6 of the Councils for withdrawal of the proposed rule.  
7 And that's the end of that motion that was passed by  
8 the Yukon Delta Council. So they only ask that we  
9 present it to you and it's at the Council's discretion  
10 as to whether or not they wish to take any action on  
11 it.

12

13 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

14

15 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Anything else on  
16 that?

17

18 Enoch.

19

20 MR. MITCHELL: I've got a question for  
21 Hannah. Didn't we -- or, no, Susan. Didn't we --  
22 didn't we motion to your predator management on your  
23 Refuge, you had one up?

24

25 MS. GEORGETTE: Thank you. This is  
26 Susan Georgette with Selawik Refuge. The letter that  
27 Carl is reading is about that predator control policy  
28 that I talked about earlier. And I don't think the  
29 Council's taken a position on it at any of the  
30 meetings. We've talked about it at least four or five  
31 meetings, but as far as I know the Council hasn't taken  
32 a position on it.

33

34 MR. MITCHELL: So there was no motion  
35 made on your predator?

36

37 MS. GEORGETTE: Yeah, that's right.  
38 There was no motion on that.

39

40 MR. MITCHELL: Okay. Thank you.

41

42 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Anything else?

43

44 MR. STEVENSON: No, Mr. Chair. With  
45 your permission we have item number 12 on the agenda,  
46 12A, which is the subsistence caribou household harvest  
47 and sharing patterns update from Jim Magdanz with the  
48 University of Alaska Fairbanks.

49

50 MR. MAGDANZ: Mr. Chairman, thank you.

1 My name is Jim Magdanz, I'm currently a graduate  
2 student at the University of Alaska in Fairbanks. I'm  
3 retired from the Department of Fish and Game, Division  
4 of Subsistence where I worked for 30 years in the Nome  
5 and Kotzebue offices.

6  
7 The Division provided me with some  
8 information from our harvest surveys from 1998 to 2013  
9 on caribou harvest by communities in the range of the  
10 Western Arctic Herd. I've provided you with two  
11 handouts that summarize the data and the presentation  
12 slides I have today. The handbook is front and back of  
13 a single page with some colored bars on it and the  
14 presentation has the title that we have here.

15  
16 Just briefly by way of background there  
17 are proposals to impose harvest limits on households in  
18 the range -- well, in GMU 22 right now, but potentially  
19 in other parts of the Western Arctic Caribou range.  
20 And these changes or these proposals should they be  
21 adopted could have some really important changes in how  
22 people are able to harvest caribou within our  
23 regulations. What I try to do here is explore how  
24 harvest occur and help us understand who would be  
25 impacted by these changes and what changes might be  
26 appropriate.

27  
28 The data that I'm going to show you  
29 comes from 37 different communities in the range of the  
30 herd. We've interviewed 3,500 households over this  
31 time and then I have one sharing example. In the  
32 interest of time I'm going to move fairly quickly here  
33 and then if there's anyone wants me to stop, feel free.

34  
35 The community harvest estimates are  
36 expanded for cases where we don't interview every  
37 household so if we interview half the households we  
38 take our reported harvest times two to account for  
39 unsurveyed households and this way we get an estimate  
40 of the total harvest. And we can compare the harvests  
41 from year to year.

42  
43 This is the handout that I was  
44 mentioning. On the left on one side of the paper that  
45 you have is the average harvest in each of the 37  
46 communities where we've done surveys and it lists how  
47 many surveys we've done in those communities in the  
48 left column, the population of those communities, the  
49 first year that they were surveyed and the most recent  
50 year they were surveyed. And then over there with the

1 red bar and the number, that is the total harvest that  
2 we estimate for that community, average of all of the  
3 surveys basically. On the right -- very right side the  
4 blue bar is the harvest per person in those  
5 communities. It's basically the total harvest divided  
6 by the number of people living in the community.

7  
8 At the top are the three regional  
9 centers so you can see that the harvest in Kotzebue and  
10 Nome account for by far the most of any single  
11 community in the range, they're about a third of the  
12 total harvest, all together about 2,000 caribou in each  
13 of those communities, about half a caribou per person  
14 in those communities or one caribou for every two  
15 people. Nome has not been -- the caribou haven't been  
16 as accessible to people in Nome and our -- the years  
17 that we did surveys in Nome were not big harvest years,  
18 in some years you would see more caribou harvested than  
19 our estimate here of 92. So that one is a little low.  
20 Below those communities, those three regional centers,  
21 are all the other -- the 34 other communities where  
22 we've conducted surveys. And I've sorted those in  
23 order of the per person average harvest. So the  
24 communities where people take the most caribou per  
25 person are at the top and in this case Deering is one  
26 of those. But because Deering is a small community  
27 their total harvest is only about 270 caribou on  
28 average. So as you look down you'll see that the GMU  
29 23 northwest communities tend to fall into the top of  
30 this list because caribou are important in GMU 23,  
31 they're accessible. Toward the bottom of the list are  
32 communities on the periphery of the range.

33  
34 Now on the back side of that sheet  
35 there are two graphs and I've put them in one box, but  
36 it's really two graphs. And at the bottom there I have  
37 some blue circles and those represent our estimates of  
38 the per person harvest in one community in one year.  
39 So I've drawn those three lines there to illustrate  
40 that we surveyed Shungnak three different times and  
41 I've drawn the line from Shungnak down to point to the  
42 three data points in the graph that are Shungnak data  
43 points. I could do that for any of the bars on the  
44 left, I could connect the points on the graph on the  
45 right with those. And the dashed line across there is  
46 the trend in harvest which is drawn mathematically from  
47 those points. It's an attempt to draw a line through  
48 all of those points that comes as close as possible to  
49 all of them. It's what statisticians use to identify  
50 changes, is the harvest going up, is the harvest going

1 down. And what we see from the survey data over this  
2 time is there's no statistical change in harvest. Now  
3 there may be some things going on that we haven't  
4 picked up in surveys because we don't survey every  
5 community every year, but that harvest in the region  
6 has stayed about the same over this period, it's about  
7 13,000 caribou per year in the range of the herd.

8

9 Up at the top the red boxes are numbers  
10 -- should be familiar to you. Those are the population  
11 estimates of the Western Arctic Herd which peaked in  
12 2003, about 490,000 and most recently two years ago was  
13 235,000. We think it's about 200,000 now. I think  
14 you'll hear more tomorrow about -- from Lincoln Perrett  
15 about our estimates of the population now. But the  
16 thing to notice is the herd is trending downward, but  
17 the harvest is not changing. So at least at the  
18 current levels of the herd there have been enough  
19 caribou available for people to generally get what they  
20 need, recognizing that Noatak might not in some years.

21

22 Mr. Chair.

23

24 MR. CLEVELAND: Yeah, each of the  
25 harvest is going -- is about level, but the caribou  
26 count is going down?

27

28 MR. MAGDANZ: That is correct.

29

30 MR. CLEVELAND: And how about the  
31 hunters, they're going up, they're coming or unchanged?

32

33 MR. MAGDANZ: I didn't count the number  
34 of hunters so I don't know that, but I would expect  
35 that the hunters -- the population of people has been  
36 going up slightly, I would expect that that's also true  
37 of the hunters. Now this is just for hunters in the  
38 region. And, Enoch, when you raised your hand I  
39 thought you were going to say, but this isn't true for  
40 Noatak and this is not -- any one village will have a  
41 different experience with caribou. Noatak has had some  
42 rough years, Anaktuvuk is having a rough year right now  
43 because the caribou didn't come by on Anaktuvuk just  
44 like they haven't come by Noatak. So but on the other  
45 hand there are other communities like Deering that have  
46 had more access to caribou so they've had better luck  
47 with caribou than Anaktuvuk and Noatak have had, but  
48 this looks at the whole picture.

49

50 There's another look at that same

1 thing, a little bigger. Just in the interests of being  
2 perfectly clear there are two data points up on the  
3 right. For example Deering we saw had a really high  
4 harvest per person and these are per person. They  
5 happen to be really close, the caribou are right behind  
6 Deering the year we did our last survey there. So  
7 those communities have an influence on our trend that  
8 suggest if I use those two to draw the trend line that  
9 it would be increasing. But if I take just those two  
10 data points out of the 137 data points in this graph  
11 the line flat is perfectly flat. So it's what you call  
12 an outlier or a highly influential point. And I don't  
13 think that with those in there they tell the right  
14 story. Briefly the trends in different areas are  
15 different. GMU 23 is a flatline.

16

17 The take home message here from this  
18 part of my presentation is that people in the range of  
19 the herd have been meeting their needs with about  
20 13,000 caribou annually even though they could have  
21 harvested more if they had needed them. This level of  
22 harvest appears to have been steady for 25 years, but  
23 there are regional differences. And looking forward we  
24 may not have 13,000 caribou to harvest if the herd  
25 continue to decline.

26

27 So now I'm going to drill down into the  
28 data that we use to generate those estimate. We're  
29 going to look at household level harvests in 22, 23 and  
30 26. These are 25 communities in the range of the herd.  
31 I've left out 21 and 24, those two GMUs do not take  
32 very many Western Arctic Caribou so restrictions on  
33 their harvest wouldn't really have much affect on the  
34 overall take. So for these three units, 22, 23 and 26,  
35 the harvest on average are 3.6 caribou per household.  
36 The Seward Peninsula GMU 22, the caribou are not so  
37 available there so harvests are generally below  
38 average. The highest in the eastern or southern Norton  
39 Sound area would be Koyuk and Shaktoolik and those  
40 communities which have pretty good access to caribou.  
41 In GMU 23 you guys know this as well as anyone, the  
42 Kobuk River communities, Noorvik to Kobuk and the  
43 Seward Peninsula communities which would be Buckland  
44 and Deering and I've lumped Selawik in this group too  
45 as sort of the northeast part of GMU 23. Those are the  
46 two high harvesting areas, almost twice the average  
47 there, and the North Slope, those western North Slope  
48 villages like Wainwright and Point Hope, they have good  
49 access to the caribou in the summertime and their  
50 harvests are fairly high too.

1                                   When you look at how many caribou  
2 households kill in the raw data about half of the  
3 households we survey report killing no caribou at all.  
4 And that's just how it is out there, there are elders,  
5 there are teachers, there are young couples with young  
6 children, there are people that just don't get out  
7 maybe because they're working, but about half of the  
8 households kill no caribou at all. About 30 percent  
9 kill one to five, about 13 kill six to 10 caribou a  
10 year, but I want to draw your attention to the very  
11 top, the households that killed 21 or more caribou and  
12 the households that killed 16 to 20 caribou. There  
13 aren't very many of those. If you had a house -- a  
14 village of 100 households there would only be four of  
15 those households in those two categories, two in the  
16 top category, two in the next category. But those 4  
17 percent of households account for 31 percent of the  
18 total harvest, 19 percent of the caribou are taken by  
19 the 2 percent of households that kill 21 or more and 12  
20 percent are taken by the households that kill 16 to 20.  
21 Here I've put both of those together and I've drawn a  
22 bracket down there at the bottom around those last two  
23 groups, the super households we call them, that account  
24 for a large amount of the caribou. If it were a pie it  
25 would look like this, that 4 percent of the households  
26 kill about a third of the caribou. And so if you want  
27 to reduce caribou harvests these households that take a  
28 lot of caribou are the ones that will be affected first  
29 by any permits that you impose at the household level.  
30 And this is being proposed for unit 22 right now.

31  
32                                   The last part of this is an example of  
33 cooperation. Sometimes people see these high household  
34 harvest numbers and they're concerned, what does  
35 anybody need 30 caribou for. And you -- I don't have  
36 to explain this to you, but I do have to explain it to  
37 other groups and at Board of Game meetings. It has to  
38 do with sharing. You know that I've done a lot of work  
39 in northwest Alaska on sharing networks. So I want to  
40 show you how that works with caribou as fine a level of  
41 detail as I can. This data come from Wainwright. In  
42 surveys of northwest Alaska I've asked who got your  
43 caribou, but I haven't asked how much caribou they got  
44 for your household. In Wainwright we asked people not  
45 only who got the caribou your household used, but how  
46 much did they get. It was a really detailed survey,  
47 this is one page that asked people for the people  
48 living in your household who killed the caribou that  
49 your household used last year and how many did this  
50 person kill for your household. So we got the harvest

living in other households harvested caribou that  
3 your household used and how much was the share that  
4 your household got from these cooperative harvests. We  
5 also asked about sharing, who shared caribou with your  
6 household and how much, did anyone trade caribou with  
7 your household, did anyone in your household get a  
8 share of caribou because you provided ammunition or  
9 gasoline or labor to someone else who was hunting. So  
10 we have all these different flows of caribou into the  
11 households. And if you look at a single household it  
12 looks like this, where household three reported to us  
13 that they caught -- they got a total in flow of caribou  
14 of 40 caribou from eight different people and the eight  
15 people here represented by the red circles, the size  
16 represents how many caribou they got.

17  
18                   If you look at this from the hunters'  
19 perspective, here we have one person in Wainwright, he  
20 happens to be the very first person that we -- in our  
21 household list. He got 34 caribou for 21 different  
22 households. And we didn't get that from him, we got  
23 that from the 21 households. When we asked, you know,  
24 each of these households who gave you -- who got  
25 caribou for your household they named this person. So  
26 this person is a huge provider of caribou.

27  
28                   And that explains why those high  
29 harvesting households, super households are so  
30 important in this caribou harvesting system. You can  
31 put this together for two households, you'll notice  
32 that some of these people produce caribou for more than  
33 one household, person three house -- person one in  
34 household three down at the bottom, that big circle, he  
35 was providing caribou to both of these households. And  
36 when you put it all together that's just caribou for  
37 Wainwright. The people are the red circles, the blue  
38 dots or the blue squares are the households and the one  
39 -- the households and the people that were most tightly  
40 connected by this caribou system are in the center.  
41 But the point here is the caribou tie these communities  
42 together. And the super hunters, the super households  
43 that produce so many caribou for so many other  
44 households are really impacted by the regulations, the  
45 whole sharing system is potentially affected by  
46 regulations. If you were to impose a four caribou bag  
47 limit which is the average harvest, and I've seen the  
48 Board of Fish do this, they'll say well, what should  
49 the harvest limit be, well, we'll just make it the  
50 average. If you do that to this system you will cut

1 the harvest by 60 percent. In fact you can have a  
2 caribou limit of 25 caribou per year and you'll only  
3 reduce the total harvest by about 10 percent based on  
4 what households have reported to us in the past. So if  
5 you're in a situation where, you know, you have people  
6 testifying before you about what the affects of  
7 different levels of limits might be we can tell you  
8 based on the past harvests what affect it would have on  
9 bulls or cows if you reduce the harvest to a certain  
10 level.

11

12                   So just a few closing notes.  
13 Subsistence is a specialized economy, there's this idea  
14 that, you know, subsistence is simple, but you guys  
15 know that it is not simple, that people have a very  
16 complex group, social relations and skills, of  
17 activities that they conduct in order to provide for  
18 their families and themselves. And that one feature of  
19 that are these super households and super hunters that  
20 specialize in the production and distribution of  
21 caribou and for other foods. This is not unique to  
22 subsistence. All economies specialize in one way or  
23 another and in fact the distribution of caribou harvest  
24 that we see is really similar to distributions of  
25 factory production and other economic systems. And I  
26 think a community is most productive and most food  
27 secure if the most capable people harvest and process  
28 each kind of food.

29

30                   As caribou decline we would expect  
31 communities would kill fewer caribou, but so far we  
32 don't see that happening. And maybe it is and we  
33 haven't picked it up on our surveys, but one reason is  
34 that people adapt. These super hunters are really  
35 skilled and they'll travel long distances to get  
36 caribou. And I know in Noatak when they were in such  
37 bad shape a couple years ago we did a survey up there  
38 and there were several people in Noatak that went all  
39 the way down to Buckland and harvested caribou down at  
40 Buckland and brought them back to Noatak. So those are  
41 the kinds of things that people do to accommodate their  
42 community's needs even when caribou are in decline. If  
43 harvest reductions are needed understanding the role of  
44 these super hunters is really essential and I think you  
45 guys understand that, but if you find yourself in a  
46 situation where you have to defend your actions to  
47 other people, to the other bodies, if this information  
48 is useful to you, you know, I'm available to help you  
49 make the case should you need to defend your system.

50

1                               So, Mr. Chairman, that concludes my  
2 presentation.  
3  
4                               Thank you. And I'll be glad to answer  
5 any questions.  
6  
7                               CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you, Jim.  
8 Anybody got questions for Jim?  
9  
10                              Attamuk.  
11  
12                              MR. SHIEDT: Yeah. I say that --  
13 that's a good survey, Jim, and you're right, Eskimos --  
14 I always say that we don't know no mileage, we got out  
15 when we want to eat and when we go out and we go get  
16 it. And it's true from the beginning of time. Because  
17 when I was -- at 1955 I used to watch dog teams go by  
18 even from Chismure (ph), all the way heading toward  
19 Point Lay with dog team to go harvest caribou. And for  
20 your information since way back they've been traveling  
21 long distance just to feed their family.  
22  
23                              Good survey. I like it.  
24  
25                              MR. MAGDANZ: Thank you.  
26  
27                              CHAIRMAN STONEY: Mike.  
28  
29                              MR. KRAMER: Yeah, will this  
30 presentation be done tomorrow at the joint meeting or  
31 with caribou?  
32  
33                              MR. MAGDANZ: I have given this to the  
34 three RACs that are in the range of the herd so I did  
35 North Slope, I did Eastern Interior and I'm doing you  
36 today. I've already committed to attend a North  
37 Slope/Northwest Arctic Borough joint meeting on caribou  
38 ecology in Fairbanks that was set up several months  
39 ago. And I told them that I would participate in that,  
40 Henry Huntington's group, Noah Nayler will be there,  
41 some other people, Harry Brower. So I had a conflict  
42 and so I worked with the staff here at OSM so that I  
43 could show this to each one of you. But so  
44 unfortunately I won't be with you tomorrow. Lincoln  
45 Perrett is familiar with this so you could ask him some  
46 about that too.  
47  
48                              CHAIRMAN STONEY: Hannah.  
49  
50                              MS. LOON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

1 Thank you, Jim, for all this good information. I was  
2 wondering if those super harvesters are working or just  
3 playing subsistence.

4

5 MR. MAGDANZ: It's both. Some of them  
6 are people that do not work and they are hunters for  
7 their families and maybe they live with their mom and  
8 dad or maybe they live next door in the old house and  
9 their job is to hunt. But there are other of them who  
10 are very efficient and do have employment and as a  
11 result they have money to buy gasoline and good  
12 snowmachines and a nice slid and they can go a long  
13 ways. So we see both, both sides of that.

14

15 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Enoch.

16

17 MR. MITCHELL: Yeah. I wait too long,  
18 I forgot my question. Bummer. Well, I'll think again.

19

20 Are these super hunters, are they all  
21 from the village?

22

23 MR. MAGDANZ: Yes.

24

25 MR. MITCHELL: And on your -- on your  
26 thing that -- that's the first thing they're going to  
27 start taking those off to keep the caribou count up. I  
28 think maybe we should take the outside hunters out  
29 before we even look at the super hunters. Because  
30 these super hunters are feeding a lot of people. And I  
31 think these super hunters get gas -- they got boat and  
32 motor and they're hunting for people who don't have  
33 boat and motor and their families are providing gas. I  
34 see that happening in our vehicle and they're helping  
35 people.

36

37 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any further questions  
38 for Jim?

39

40 (No comments)

41

42 CHAIRMAN STONEY: If none, are you done  
43 now, Jim?

44

45 MR. MAGDANZ: Yes, Mr. Chair. Thank  
46 you very much for your time, it's a pleasure working  
47 with you.

48

49 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you. Okay.  
50 Then we're where?

1  
2 MR. STEVENSON: (In Native), Mr. Chair.  
3 That brings us to item 13 and I wanted to point out  
4 that the joint session with the North Slope Subsistence  
5 Regional Advisory Council will take place tomorrow,  
6 Friday, March 11th at 1:30 p.m. And on the agenda is  
7 the traditional use of snowmachines for hunting as well  
8 as Special Action 16-01, closure of caribou hunt in  
9 unit 23 to non-Federally-qualified users. And I wanted  
10 to point out that that discussion will also be open for  
11 teleconference. The teleconference number, 877-638-  
12 8165, the passcode, 9060609.

13  
14 Also, Mr. Chair, the next item on the  
15 agenda with your permission is item number 14, future  
16 meeting dates. Confirming the date and location of the  
17 fall 2016 meeting on page 235. And my notes show that  
18 from the previous minutes that the date of the fall  
19 2016 meeting was scheduled for October 5th and 6th,  
20 2016 in Selawik. And I -- I'm asking you to confirm  
21 that, Mr. Chair.

22  
23 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Do you want to  
24 continue on or.....

25  
26 MR. STEVENSON: Pardon, Mr Chair. To  
27 clarify I'm wanting to confirm the fall 2016 Board  
28 meeting date of October 5th and 6th in Selawik.

29  
30 MR. SHIEDT: Okay. Yeah, for your  
31 information you're asking -- sorry, for your  
32 information. Yes, we at Buckland confirmed these  
33 dates, October 5 and 6 for our meeting at Selawik.  
34 Okay?

35  
36 CHAIR STONEY: Yes.

37  
38 MR. SHIEDT: I'll answer that for you.

39  
40 CHAIRMAN STONEY: That's a motion?

41  
42 MR. SHIEDT: No, we confirmed these  
43 dates.....

44  
45 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay.

46  
47 MR. SHIEDT: .....in Buckland.

48  
49 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. Yeah, good.

50

1 MR. JOHNSON: And, Mr. Chair, and for  
2 the benefit of Attamuk, we always this as a practice  
3 because something may have changed in Selawik since the  
4 last meeting so this is just our way of making sure  
5 that that's still okay with the Council and with the  
6 community. So that's why we always do this.

7  
8 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

9  
10 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Thank you. Are we  
11 done now?

12  
13 MR. SHIEDT: No, I think we need to  
14 confirm these dates.

15  
16 MR. STEVENSON: The second item.....

17  
18 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Go ahead.

19  
20 MR. STEVENSON: The second item, Mr.  
21 Chair, under item 14 was selecting the date and  
22 location for the winter 2017 meeting. We have  
23 presently the dates of February 21st through the 24th  
24 available or the dates of February 27th through March  
25 3rd or in March, March 13th through the 16th. The only  
26 time that we don't have available is February 14th  
27 through the 17th or March 6th through the 8th. Pardon  
28 me, March 6th through the 8th is available.

29  
30 Again we're looking at the dates of --  
31 we're looking to confirm a date for the spring 2017  
32 Board meeting. The dates that we have available are --  
33 the only dates that are not available for the  
34 springtime are February 8th and 9th or March 6th, 7th  
35 and 8th.

36  
37 MR. SHIEDT: You said March 6, 7, 8 is  
38 not available?

39  
40 MR. STEVENSON: We could actually -- we  
41 have -- I'm looking at our schedule now and I've just  
42 learned that we can do -- we have one of the RACs going  
43 with that time and we can do two RACs maximum so we  
44 could do our RAC meeting that time as well, March 6th,  
45 7th and 8th, that is acceptable.

46  
47 MR. SHIEDT: So where are we going to  
48 have this meeting at, here or in Kotzebue?

49  
50 MR. JOHNSON: Well, you would have it

1 back in your region. You probably won't be back to  
2 Anchorage for a little while for a meeting.

3  
4 MR. SHIEDT: Okay. I'm just trying to  
5 find which location because Raymond was looking for it.

6  
7 MR. JOHNSON: Somewhere back in your  
8 region.

9  
10 MR. SHIEDT: Okay.

11  
12 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Hannah.

13  
14 MS. LOON: It's always been in our own  
15 understanding among us, not in any contract or anything  
16 like that, we would have one in Kotzebue and the next  
17 fall we'll be in a village.

18  
19 Thank you.

20  
21 But we'll have one in Selawik.

22  
23 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay.

24  
25 MR. STEVENSON: Yes, Mr. Chair, and to  
26 confirm the point raised by Hannah, the fall meeting  
27 will be -- in October will be in Selawik.

28  
29 (In Native).

30  
31 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay.

32  
33 MR. SHIEDT: No, Hannah, we haven't  
34 picked the dates yet for Kotzebue. You're asking for  
35 the dates for our meeting in Kotzebue.

36  
37 Raymond, I'm going to say could we have  
38 one in March 1 and 2. March 1 and 2 is going to be  
39 only two day meeting again because there are times from  
40 the past we requested maybe two and a half days because  
41 when we have -- when we're debating sometimes we take  
42 longer than we should. And maybe you could either go  
43 home Thursday night or Friday morning.

44  
45 What I'm saying because we need to --  
46 because I'm in a stage where I'm ready to give up  
47 because we start talking and we start debating and we  
48 have to start rushing through things. Because our  
49 resources are so important that if we keep rushing  
50 we're getting to be where we're really nowhere and we

1 need to finish what we're doing. And we need to give  
2 you a chance. I need you need to go home to have a  
3 family and least Friday or earlier. That's why I like  
4 to have my meetings mid week and if there's a delay for  
5 weather you still have chance to go home early. So  
6 it's up to the rest of the Council to pick. I'm just  
7 going to suggest maybe we have one March 1 and 2, I  
8 don't know if the rest is going to approve it. If you  
9 like -- you -- rest of the Council want different dates  
10 it's now to say so.

11  
12 MR. CLEVELAND: And, Zach, what dates  
13 you said was available?

14  
15 MR. STEVENSON: The only dates that are  
16 not available in February and March are the 14th and  
17 the 15th. Everything else is open during that time  
18 frame. Pardon me, the week of February 13th to the  
19 17th is not available, but everything else is open.

20  
21 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Hannah.

22  
23 MS. LOON: I make a motion that next  
24 Regional Advisory Council meet on March 1 and 2.  
25 Travel on the 28th and go home late for the staff on  
26 Friday, Friday evening jet.

27  
28 CHAIRMAN STONEY: That's a motion?

29  
30 MS. LOON: Yeah.

31  
32 MR. SHIEDT: If it's going to go in a  
33 motion I will second it. But it's not really -- we  
34 just need to pick the dates.

35  
36 MR. CLEVELAND: Question.

37  
38 CHAIRMAN STONEY: We got a second on  
39 this one?

40  
41 MS. LOON: Question called for.

42  
43 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. Any further  
44 discussion on the dates for the next meeting, March  
45 1.....

46  
47 MR. SHIEDT: 1 and 2, to give the staff  
48 time to go home on Friday.

49  
50 CHAIRMAN STONEY: Any further

1 discussion?

2

3

(No comments)

4

5

MR. BALLOT: Question.

6

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CHAIRMAN STONEY: Question's been called. All in favor of the meeting dates signify by saying aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.

CHAIRMAN STONEY: Passes.

MR. STEVENSON: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

That brings us to item 15 on the agenda, closing comments.

CHAIRMAN STONEY: Public comments?

MR. COMMACK: I got a comment. It's on Mr. Ward's -- in Kobuk, his resignation. I would recommend that we send him a letter, Hannah, send him a thank you letter for all the years he put into Kobuk River Valley Subsistence Resource Commission, about 30 years. Mr. Ward. And maybe we could afford a plaque, he deserves one.

Thank you, Mr. Chair.

MS. LOON: How about for Pete Schaeffer.

MR. SHIEDT: For -- he's the State.

MS. LOON: Okay.

MR. SHIEDT: So tomorrow I'm not going to be here for the meeting. I'll call in just to make you smile, Carl, I'll be here.

MR. STEVENSON: At 1:30 tomorrow is the meeting for our group. And I believe I'll confirm that in just a moment, it's in the main ball -- right here. Same location. Tomorrow.

CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay. 1:30.

MR. STEVENSON: Okay.

1                   CHAIRMAN STONEY: I will see you guys  
2 tomorrow at 1:30.

3  
4                   MR. STEVENSON: And do not forget the  
5 caribou presentation.

6  
7                   CHAIRMAN STONEY: Okay.

8  
9                   MS. LOON: I make a motion to adjourn.

10  
11                  CHAIRMAN STONEY: Motion made to  
12 adjourn. We're adjourned at exactly 5:31.

13  
14                  Thank you very much, everybody.

15  
16                  (Off record)

17  
18                  (END OF PROCEEDINGS)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

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

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

THAT the foregoing pages numbered 02 through 91 contain a full, true and correct Transcript of the NORTHWEST ARCTIC FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING, taken electronically on the 10th day of March at Anchorage, Alaska;

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

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

DATED at Anchorage, Alaska, this 4th day of April 2016.

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