

NORTH SLOPE FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE
REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

PUBLIC MEETING

VOLUME I

Point Hope, Alaska
October 23, 2019
9:00 a.m.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Gordon Brower, Chair
William Hopson
Martha Itta
Wanda T. Kippi
Steve Oomittuk
Edward Rexford

Regional Council Coordinator, Eva Patton

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

2

3 (Point Hope, Alaska - 10/23/2019)

4

5 (On record)

6

7 CHAIRMAN BROWER: With that, Madam
8 Coordinator, I'm going to ask our host, Steve, to do
9 the invocation, we'll call the meeting to order and
10 then we'll ask the mayor of the community for welcoming
11 remarks for the North Slope region's RAC.

12

13 Steve, if you want to start us off with
14 an invocation this morning.

15

16 MR. OOMITTUK: Thank you for all coming
17 and Madam Mayor's going to say a few words after the
18 invocation. And I think we all grew up with the Lord's
19 Prayer.

20

21 (Invocation)

22

23 IN UNISON: Amen.

24

25 MR. OOMITTUK: Welcome to Point Hope,
26 Tikigaq. And Daisy is the acting mayor. They had an
27 election and they're waiting on the results of the
28 runoff with the -- thank you and welcome to Point Hope.
29 She's going to say a few things.

30

31 MS. SAGE: Good morning. (In Native).
32 Welcome to Tikigaq each and every one of you. My name
33 is Daisy Sage, I'm acting mayor for this week. I
34 didn't realize I was going to say something this
35 morning, but I'd like to welcome each of you to Point
36 Hope and hope your meeting goes well. If you need
37 anything don't hesitate to ask.

38

39 Thank you.

40

41 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Madam
42 Mayor. It's always good to see you, Daisy.

43

44 MS. SAGE: (Indiscernible - away from
45 microphone).....

46

47 CHAIRMAN BROWER: With that I'll call
48 the meeting to order and -- what's the time, I don't
49 have a clock in the.....

50

1 MS. PATTON: 9:16.

2
3 CHAIRMAN BROWER: It's 9:16 a.m., I'm
4 going to call the meeting to order and so that we can
5 get going. I'm going to ask the Secretary, Wanda
6 Kippi, to do the roll call to establish our quorum.

7
8 MS. KIPPI: Good morning. Thank you,
9 Mr. Chair. Good morning to everybody.

10
11 We'll start with Gordon Brower,
12 Utqiagvik.

13
14 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I'm here.

15
16 MS. KIPPI: Wanda Kippi, Atqasuk.
17 Here.

18
19 Steve Oomittuk, Point Hope.

20
21 MR. OOMITTUK: Here.

22
23 MS. KIPPI: Edward Rexford, Sr.,
24 Kaktovik.

25
26 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council, we
27 were anticipating Edward Rexford wasn't able to fly to
28 Point Hope. He was planning to be on teleconference so
29 I'll check in with him by text in a moment here.

30
31 Thank you.

32
33 MS. KIPPI: Martha Itta, Nuiqsut.

34
35 MS. ITTA: Here.

36
37 MS. KIPPI: William C. Hopson,
38 Utqiagvik.

39
40 MR. HOPSON: Here.

41
42 MS. KIPPI: Mr. Chair, I believe we
43 have a quorum.

44
45 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Wanda.
46 With that I'm going to also welcome everybody to the
47 North Slope Regional Advisory Council meeting. And
48 maybe those that are online, if they could introduce
49 themselves real quick. And maybe we'll start from
50

1 Anchorage maybe.

2

3 DR. REAM: Yes, good morning, Mr. Chair
4 and members of the Council. This is Joshua Ream, I'm
5 the assistant coordinator for the region for the
6 National Park Service located in Anchorage, Alaska.

7

8 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Welcome, Joshua.

9

10 MR. JOLY: Hello, this is Kyle Joly.
11 I'm with the National Park Service, Gates of the Arctic
12 National Park and Preserve.

13

14 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Good morning. What
15 was your first name again?

16

17 (No response)

18

19 MR. PERRY: Hi, my name is Phillip
20 Perry. I work with Fish and Game, I'm down here in
21 Bethel.

22

23 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Good morning, Fish
24 and Game.

25

26 MS. NIGRO: Hi, this is Debbie Nigro, I
27 work for the Bureau of Land Management out of
28 Fairbanks.

29

30 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Morning, Debbie.

31

32 MS. OKADA: Good morning. This is
33 Marcy Okada, the subsistence coordinator for Gates of
34 the Arctic National Park and Preserve calling from
35 Fairbanks.

36

37 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Morning, Marcy.

38

39 MR. GONZALEZ: Good morning. This is
40 Daniel Gonzalez with the Subsistence Division of the
41 Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

42

43 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Good morning, Fish
44 and Game.

45

46 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair, if I may. Just
47 a quick request to the folks on teleconference so we
48 can eliminate the background noise and help everyone to
49 hear, if you could please mute your phones. You can

50

1 either hit the mute button or you can star six on your
2 telephone. And that helps greatly for background
3 noise. We also request that if you have an incoming
4 call you disconnect and pick up otherwise we get put on
5 hold.

6
7 Thank you very much.

8
9 And we'll continue with introductions
10 on teleconference.

11
12 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Madam
13 Coordinator. Yeah, don't put us on hold because we'll
14 start to dance around here with the music.

15
16 Anybody else online that need to
17 introduce themself before we go to the floor.

18
19 (No comments)

20
21 CHAIRMAN BROWER: We'll go ahead and go
22 to the floor here in Point Hope. And if you could come
23 up to the mic and introduce yourself.

24
25 MR. LIND: Thank you, Mr. Chair, board
26 members. (In Native). My name is Orville Lind, Native
27 liaison from the Office of Subsistence Management.
28 It's an honor to be here.

29
30 Quyanaq.

31
32 CHAIRMAN BROWER: (In Native), Orville.

33
34 MS. PETRIVELLI: Good morning. I'm Pat
35 Petrivelli and I'm with the Bureau Of Indian Affairs
36 and I work out of Anchorage.

37
38 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Pat. It's
39 good to see you again.

40
41 MR. MATHEWS: Vince Mathews, Refuge
42 subsistence coordinator for Arctic, Kanuti and Yukon
43 Flats, based in Fairbanks.

44
45 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Vince.

46
47 MS. HYER: Good morning, Mr. Chairman
48 and Council members. My name is Karen Hyer and I'm a
49 fish biologist with the Office of Subsistence

50

1 Management.

2

3 CHAIRMAN BROWER: All right. Morning,
4 Karen.

5

6 MR. EVANS: Good morning, Mr. Chair,
7 members of the Council. My name's Tom Evans, I'm a
8 wildlife biologist for the North Slope, South Central
9 and the Kodiak Aleutians RACs.

10

11 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Morning, Tom.

12

13 MR. BERENDZEN: Good morning. This is
14 Steve Berendzen, Refuge manager at Arctic National
15 Wildlife Refuge.

16

17 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Morning, Steve.

18

19 MR. SCANLON: Good morning. Brendan
20 Scanlon, I am the Department of Fish and Game area
21 fisheries biologist for Northwest and North Slope.

22

23 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Good morning,
24 Brendan, right?

25

26 MS. BEHR: Good morning. My name is
27 April Behr, I'm a fisheries biologist with Fish and
28 Game in Fairbanks.

29

30 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Morning, April.

31

32 MR. RISDAHL: Good morning, Mr.
33 Chairman, members of the Council. My name is Greg
34 Risdahl, I am the subsistence division lead for
35 fisheries.

36

37 Thank you.

38

39 CHAIRMAN BROWER: And your name was
40 Craig?

41

42 MR. RISDAHL: Greg Risdahl.

43

44 CHAIRMAN BROWER: All right, Greg.
45 Good morning.

46

47 Anybody else this morning? I know we
48 had ADF&G folks here like Carmen and.....

49

50

1 MS. LENART: Hello, Mr. Chair. This is
2 Beth Lenart with Fish and Game in Fairbanks.

3
4 CHAIRMAN BROWER: All right, Beth, we
5 almost forgot you.

6
7 MS. LENART: Well, it's a new phone and
8 I was trying to figure out how to make it work.

9
10 CHAIRMAN BROWER: All right. I think
11 that concludes our introductions and welcome. And I
12 will entertain a -- the agenda.

13
14 MR. OOMITTUK: Can I say any.....

15
16 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yes. I'm going to
17 ask our host here at his request in Point Hope. Steve.

18
19 MR. OOMITTUK: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
20 Welcome to Point Hope. My name's Steve Oomittuk, I was
21 born and raised here. Throughout the next few days
22 we'll be doing some tours for you and a little history
23 of Point Hope. Point Hope is considered one of the
24 oldest continuous habitants on North America. We have
25 a lot of old sites here and historical sites, monuments
26 that are just a mile away. There's the graveyards, the
27 old townsite by the airport. So we'll be doing a few
28 tours for our guests here. Sometimes on our breaks
29 after the meeting we'll be here a couple days. So
30 usually takes about an hour, hour and a half.

31
32 So this is the (in Native), the city
33 offices, a lot of -- we've been whaling here for over
34 2,500 years. And we have a (in Native) site that
35 existed over 3,500 to 6,500 years, there's about 600
36 sod houses over in that area. At our old townsite we
37 have about 50, 60 sod houses left that are not eroded.
38 The erosion is growing at a fast pace, but there's some
39 old sites there.

40
41 Behind where you guys are staying is
42 the (in Native), that's where we hold the whaling fish
43 ground in. To the east is the (in Native) whaling
44 site, fish ground. So they're in walking distance so
45 if anybody wants to -- you know, they're open to the
46 public, you can take pictures and the whale bones, the
47 jaw bones of the whale, whenever they catch a whale
48 they bring the jaw bones back to shore and those are
49 what you see, the -- the bone piles. I don't know if
50

1 you guys seen them when you guys came in yesterday by
2 the hotel. Our graveyards are made of jaw bones, our
3 sod houses are made of whale jaw bones. It takes --
4 two bones is one whale so the -- you
5 know, there's a lot of whales caught there.

6
7 So but we will be doing tours the next
8 few days and a lot of history, a lot of our culture is
9 still somewhat intact because everything revolves
10 around the whale.

11
12 So but I welcome you and I hope you
13 enjoy your stay. And we try to get everybody that
14 wants to have a tour and see if we can all fit in
15 there.

16
17 All right. Welcome.

18
19 CHAIRMAN BROWER: (In Native), Steve.
20 And, you know, I came here on a elder/youth conference
21 in 2010 and Steve was one of the tour guides and talked
22 about the community. And he just has an in depth and a
23 way of transmitting the history and culture here that's
24 -- I think he should have his own -- his own heritage
25 center here because of these things.

26
27 And I see we have one person that
28 hasn't introduced herself and we went through a round
29 of introductions and we'd like everyone to introduce
30 themselves.

31
32 MS. DAGGETT: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I
33 apologize that I missed the round of introductions. My
34 name is Carmen Daggett. I'm the area biologist for the
35 North Slope. And my Inupiaq name is Sikanik.

36
37 Good day.

38
39 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Okay. Can you say
40 your Inupiaq name again?

41
42 MS. DAGGETT: Sikanik.

43
44 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Sikanik?

45
46 MS. DAGGETT: Uh-huh.

47
48 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Aw. (In Native)

49
50

1 (Laughter)

2

3 CHAIRMAN BROWER: All right. Well, at
4 this time, thank you, Steve, for your welcoming remarks
5 and introductions as well. I'm going to entertain from
6 the -- what's the wish of the Council on the agenda?

7

8 MR. HOPSON: Mr. Chairman.

9

10 CHAIRMAN BROWER: William, Utqiagvik.

11

12 MR. HOPSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
13 I've had time to review this as if the other Council
14 members don't have any additions or anything I would
15 like to make a motion to adopt the agenda.

16

17 CHAIRMAN BROWER: There's a motion on
18 the floor to adopt the agenda.

19

20 MR. OOMITTUK: Second.

21

22 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council, if
23 I may. So we did have a discussion.....

24

25 CHAIRMAN BROWER: It's been seconded.
26 Go ahead, Eva, under discussion.

27

28 MS. PATTON: We did have a discussion
29 last night with many of our Council members on a couple
30 additions to the agenda. And just a little bit of
31 order, how things will come up for the flow for the
32 Council's deliberation on proposals. First thing this
33 morning I want to let everybody know we do have public
34 and tribal comment on nonagenda items and that takes
35 place in the morning on both days. So both today and
36 tomorrow morning. I know in meeting with the tribal
37 director, there's a lot going on in Point Hope, we're
38 one of many engagements here. So we do have that
39 opportunity both today and tomorrow morning.

40

41 Orville Lind who is the Native liaison
42 for OSM was going to address the Council on tribal
43 engagement opportunities with OSM. And as a reminder
44 both for the Council and the communities, that there's
45 always that opportunity to call the office directly to
46 request tribal consultation. So Orville thought that
47 might be a good opportunity first thing in the morning
48 to highlight that.

49

50

1 Did want to note on page 2 of your
2 agenda that prior to the Council reviewing and
3 discussing wildlife proposals, we try to provide the
4 Council with all the relevant wildlife updates so that
5 you have that information prior to making
6 recommendations on the proposal. So you have the
7 latest information. And we do have both Federal and
8 State biologists here and on teleconference as well.
9 Beth Lenart is on teleconference to provide information
10 on the Central Arctic and Porcupine herd. And Steve
11 Berendzen is here.

12
13 CHAIRMAN BROWER: If there are things
14 that we should be jotting down in between things I
15 think that should be appropriate so that we can have
16 those longer discussions.....

17
18 MS. PATTON: Sure.

19
20 CHAIRMAN BROWER:that you're
21 talking about.

22
23 And also while we're under discussion,
24 right, we're under discussion I'd like to insert
25 somewhere that I would like to have a little talk from
26 ADF&G representatives about the levels of management
27 schemes from the current management style to when
28 things start to get concerning, to tier I, tier II,
29 tier III, what all of those mean and when those kind of
30 things happen. I see we have ADF&G representatives and
31 I think that's a little bit misunderstood by a lot of
32 people because we have proposals that are from ADF&G
33 and some of them are going to be -- I saw one for 156
34 West for moose which is pretty close to my cabin,
35 that's NPR-A, Federal land, but yet it's an ADF&G
36 proposal. I'd like to know a little bit more about the
37 schemes of State management, what is a tier I, what is
38 a tier II, what is a tier III and the liberal
39 management scheme that's currently in play for all
40 residents and because the State does manage it for all
41 residents. So.....

42
43 MS. PATTON: So, Mr. Chair and
44 Council.....

45
46 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I need to find a spot
47 to insert that somewhere.

48
49 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council, we
50

1 did have added to the agenda as we had talked last
2 night, it was an omission from the draft agenda here.
3 After the Council deliberates on all the Federal
4 subsistence proposals, you'll see under -- after
5 Statewide proposals, right before 11(b), we have Board
6 of Game proposals. And Carmen Daggett is here and we
7 have staff online as well.

8
9 CHAIRMAN BROWER: So do we need to make
10 a letter, an (e) for that or is it during that portion?

11
12 MS. PATTON: We're going to -- we're
13 going to insert it between the -- after the Statewide
14 proposals for the Federal Subsistence Program and
15 before 11(b).

16
17 CHAIRMAN BROWER: 11(b)?

18
19 MS. PATTON: Yeah. So after we take up
20 the Federal Subsistence proposals, we have an overview
21 on the Board of Game proposals for the Council. And
22 that is optional for the Council, if there are some
23 proposals the Council would like to take up and make
24 recommendations on, then the Council may do so. So we
25 do have that after all the Federal Subsistence
26 proposals. And I'm guessing likely that will probably
27 fall at the end of the day today. We do have Carmen
28 with us just here today and she was prepared to provide
29 an overview of the regional Board of Game proposals
30 that would be relevant to the North Slope Council.

31
32 CHAIRMAN BROWER: And the stuff that
33 you're -- that we talked a little bit about last night,
34 are there areas that we need to insert little asterisks
35 where those are going to come in to talk, more
36 dialogue. Because I -- the only thing I have so far is
37 the asterisks for a State systems presentation and then
38 you said other things, but I don't know where to put
39 that stuff in the agenda.

40
41 MS. PATTON: So the first one was
42 Orville Lind, our Native liaison, was offering an
43 overview of the tribal engagement. And he felt it
44 would be good to do that when we have the public and
45 tribal comments. So that is at number 9 there on the
46 agenda.

47
48 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Orville Lind. Okay.

1 MS. PATTON: And that's the OSM tribal
2 consultation, the Federal Subsistence Program tribal
3 consultation process.

4
5 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Okay. I got that
6 down. Okay. I'll put a little.....

7
8 MS. PATTON: And then the next one is
9 an overview of the Board of Game proposals that are
10 relevant to the North Slope RAC region and that will
11 occur after the Federal Subsistence proposals.
12 And the last.....

13
14 CHAIRMAN BROWER: What number is that?

15
16 MS. PATTON:the last Federal
17 Subsistence proposal you'll see under 11. Statewide
18 proposals, WP 20-08, is the last of the Federal
19 Subsistence proposals.

20
21 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Okay.

22
23 MS. PATTON: And prior to (b), 2020
24 Fisheries Resource Monitoring Program.

25
26 CHAIRMAN BROWER: And who's going to do
27 that?

28
29 MS. PATTON: The Board of Game
30 proposals, Carmen Daggett is here and she was prepared
31 to provide an overview for the Council.

32
33 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Board of Game. And
34 those are some of the things we read about last
35 night.....

36
37 MS. PATTON: Yes.

38
39 CHAIRMAN BROWER:in a little bit
40 more detail.

41
42 MS. PATTON: Uh-huh.

43
44 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yeah, Steve, we did
45 take a little bit of time last night to try to help
46 streamline and hear a little bit more about what Board
47 of Game proposals are and there's some other ones from
48 guides and things. I kind of read some of those, like
49 from Arrowhead Outfitters or something like that.
50

1 MS. PATTON: And, Mr. Chair and
2 Council, those were the two primary additions to the
3 Council. I just wanted the Council to be aware that
4 before we take up the Federal Subsistence proposals we
5 do provide relevant wildlife updates so you have the
6 latest information. Also part of the proposal analyses
7 that Tom Evans will be presenting on the Federal
8 Subsistence proposals provides that overview too.
9 But.....

10
11 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Okay. Here -- here's
12 another one that we did touch on last night and about
13 updates to caribou. It -- that's on the agenda, but
14 the concern that we have is having information that's
15 up to date. And also there should be -- every year the
16 animation of the collared radio to show -- because
17 there's been some turnover in these Councils, to look
18 at the large scale movement of these terrestrial
19 animals so you can discern a little bit more about what
20 herds are doing and what -- which herds they are. I
21 want to see that as a talking point somewhere in here
22 as well. And that might be an ADF&G thing. And I
23 think those are very good information and we should
24 demand them at every -- annually to look at these
25 things.

26
27 So I don't know exactly where to put
28 that. Is that the same as where the State systems and
29 the Board of Game proposals, in that area?

30
31 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council,
32 we'll have some updates prior to deliberation on the
33 Federal Subsistence proposals. We do also have ADF&G
34 under the agency reports. So there's opportunity.....

35
36 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Okay. Let's put it
37 under the agency reports under 12, ADF&G, Fish and
38 Game, Wildlife Conservation Division, to add that
39 dialogue of these monitoring. I think it's an
40 important aspect for the Council because it's come up
41 on more than one Council meeting about what herds and
42 the hunting pressure on which herds and communities'
43 concerns about those things. And I think having better
44 understanding for communities on the herds that grace
45 the communities is important.

46
47 Anything else you want to -- that we
48 needed to add and highlight in the agenda?

49
50

1 MS. PATTON: Those were the only
2 specific additions to the agenda.....

3
4 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Uh-huh.

5
6 MS. PATTON:and there'll be more
7 discussion on some of the details we had talked about
8 last night when we have that dialogue with the -- with
9 the agency representatives during agency reports which
10 will likely come tomorrow on the agenda.

11
12 Thank you.

13
14 CHAIRMAN BROWER: And what's the wish
15 of the Council on the amendments to the agenda?

16
17 MS. ITTA: Do we need to make a motion
18 to amend the agenda first?

19
20 Mr. Chair, I'd like to make a motion to
21 approve the agenda with the amendments.

22
23 CHAIRMAN BROWER: There's a motion on
24 the floor to.....

25
26 MR. OOMITTUK: Second.

27
28 CHAIRMAN BROWER:amend it --
29 amend the agenda. Seconded by Point Hope, Steve.
30 What's the wish of the Council on the amendments?

31
32 MS. KIPPI: Question.

33
34 MR. OOMITTUK: Call for question.

35
36 CHAIRMAN BROWER: The question's been
37 called for on amending the agenda. All those approving
38 signify by saying aye.

39
40 IN UNISON: Aye.

41
42 CHAIRMAN BROWER: All those opposed
43 same sign.

44
45 (No opposing votes)

46
47 CHAIRMAN BROWER: We're back on the
48 main agenda.

49
50

1 MS. ITTA: I call for question for
2 approval of the agenda with the amendments.

3
4 CHAIRMAN BROWER: The question's been
5 called for the agenda as amended. So what's the wish
6 of the council? All those.....

7
8 MS. KIPPI: Second.

9
10 CHAIRMAN BROWER:approving the
11 agenda as amended signify by saying aye.

12
13 IN UNISON: Aye.

14
15 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Opposed same sign.

16
17 (No opposing votes)

18
19 CHAIRMAN BROWER: All right. We have
20 an approved agenda with amendments. So with that we'll
21 go to the agenda item which is review and approval of
22 previous minutes.

23
24 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council, you
25 will find your previous meeting minutes in your meeting
26 books on page 5. Do you want to take a moment to
27 quickly re-review that. If you had found any errors or
28 edits needed then this is the time to make those
29 corrections and then approve the minutes with the
30 corrections.

31
32 Thank you.

33
34 MS. ITTA: Mr. Chair, I'd like to make
35 a motion to approve the meeting minutes.

36
37 CHAIRMAN BROWER: There's a motion on
38 the floor by Nuiqsut representative, Martha to approve
39 the minutes, the previous minutes, dated April 3 and 4,
40 2019.

41
42 MR. HOPSON: Mr. Chairman, I second the
43 motion.

44
45 CHAIRMAN BROWER: All right. Motion
46 been seconded. Any discussion?

47
48 MR. OOMITTUK: Question.

49
50

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Question's been
2 called for on the minutes. All those in favor of
3 approving the minutes signify by saying aye.

4
5 IN UNISON: Aye.

6
7 CHAIRMAN BROWER: All those opposed
8 same sign.

9
10 (No opposing votes)

11
12 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Hearing none, the
13 minutes pass.

14
15 MS. PATTON: Thank you, Mr. Chair and
16 Council.

17
18 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Reports. At this
19 time I'm going to go through each community to get the
20 Council members' reports before -- and I may -- we'll
21 start with our host about your communities.

22
23 MR. OOMITTUK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
24 Steve Oomittuk, for the record, Point Hope. Again I
25 welcome you.

26
27 You know, the last few years it's been
28 so different, you know, it's ongoing. You know, the
29 migration of the animals have really been noticed, the
30 changes, the freeze ups, early springs. Migration of
31 the ducks, you know, aren't the same. The prevailing
32 winds aren't the same. You know, we depend on certain
33 winds that bring certain animals, the currents, the
34 freeze ups. The caribou is just finally going through.
35 We got a lot of caribou this year, you know, just
36 throughout the fall and just recently a big herd just
37 went through and finally made it through Kotzebue,
38 Kivalina and Kotzebue. It a little bigger. And we
39 have abundance of caribou the last few years.

40
41 Whaling season was good although we --
42 it was early. The ice isn't as thick as it used to be
43 still. And just -- one of the first times I seen so
44 many seals, I counted over 200 just right outside my
45 window on top of the ice. And we mainly hunt on the
46 south side and all the currents going through there and
47 from the Point and towards Lisburne. And the abundance
48 of seals that were on the ice in early April and May.
49 It was towards -- more towards in May, right around
50

1 May, right before the ice broke off. But we never see
2 any what we can (in Native), seals on top of the ice.
3 It just covered the -- all the way from the Point,
4 seven miles down the coast there was hundreds and
5 hundreds of them. You could just see them just
6 straight down right here there was -- I counted over
7 150 right outside. I never seen that before, you know,
8 and then it -- they went down further for another seven
9 miles. It was all flat ice. They were getting their
10 suntan.
11

12 But, you know, the patterns in the
13 weather, you know, changes the migration routes of some
14 of the animals. Our prevailing winds are from the
15 south and southeast most of the time. We very rarely
16 get -- we haven't really gotten a northwest wind,
17 that's the wind that we don't like to have because it
18 erodes our north side, you know, and we get swells up
19 pretty high. We're losing a lot of our land on the
20 north side towards the Point. And when we do our tour
21 we'll see that. Our ice cellars where we store our
22 food, whales, seal, fish and walrus, oogruks, those ice
23 cellars have been there for hundreds of years, probably
24 thousands. You could see the structure of them,
25 they're made of whale jaw bones. Right now the borough
26 -- we think the borough is putting the sandbags up over
27 in that area to help stop the erosion.
28

29 But other than that it's been a very
30 good hunting season for seals. Not too many walruses.
31 I've seen walruses and I just saw some just the other
32 day, but not like it used to be. But in the last two
33 years the caribou have been staying a lot longer and
34 they're still catching them right now. And the
35 migration of the Western Arctic caribou herd already --
36 like I said our weather is going in circles. We get
37 winter, we get summer, we get -- it rains in January,
38 in rains in February. You know, seem like the sun is
39 up higher than normal. And, I mean, it sets around
40 8:00 o'clock in the evening when it should be setting
41 by 5:00 o'clock about this time of the year or even
42 earlier than that. It's -- seem like it's still -- you
43 know, you notice the -- you notice when you look in the
44 star, you know, that's how you travel, you know,
45 nighttime you -- you know where the stars are. And the
46 -- it seem like the stars aren't in the same place
47 where they used to be. And I notice that even from my
48 house. You know, I -- I've always looked at the stars
49 from my window over the last 40, 50 years and now I
50

1 can't -- I've had the Big Dipper a certain place, these
2 three stars a certain place, they're -- they're not
3 there anymore, you know, you can -- it's like the world
4 has shifted.

5
6 It's -- you know -- you know we've
7 always depending on the animals and the migration and
8 we live the cycle of life. You know, Point Hope is one
9 of the oldest, continuous habitants on the Americas.
10 The food -- the abundance that is there. The migration
11 of the animals that come to us, that have fed us,
12 clothed us and sheltered us since time immemorial. And
13 we see that change. We've been noticing that for the
14 last 10, 15 years.. And now we really noticeable in
15 the last few years because we lived this cycle of life
16 that has been passed to us from generations to
17 generations. And we're always -- we're ready for these
18 animals because we only have a few months to gather our
19 food before winter and, you know, to survive the
20 Arctic. The temperatures are warming up. Like I say
21 it's raining in January and February when it be the
22 coldest time of the year. The ocean is taking longer
23 to freeze up. You know we celebrate the born of the
24 ice by bringing out the whale's tail usually by late
25 September, first of October we get a slush ice that
26 connects to the land and we bring the whales' tails out
27 from the ice. Now it's happening right before
28 December, late November, right -- right around
29 Thanksgiving time.

30
31 Which, you know, but the -- we had a
32 good year, an abundance of fish in the rivers. And,
33 you know, the rivers aren't freezing up when they
34 normally do. But other than that it's -- you know,
35 we're -- we're still seeing -- we're still catching our
36 food. But belugas in the last couple years we haven't
37 gotten our belugas like we used to in the springtime.
38 We don't see them as much. They're -- like they're not
39 in the same currents, the current seems to be warmer
40 and the belugas always come first. We're not -- we're
41 not getting as many belugas in the springtime like we
42 used to. And, you know, that's very noticeable in the
43 last two years.

44
45 The amount of traffic that we see in
46 our waters, it's even getting more. We -- you know,
47 it's weird to see a barge going through and just a
48 month ago, you know, you're talking late September. A
49 barge going through and they're usually all heading
50

1 back by August, you know, there was a barge going up.

2
3 But there was a lot of concerns of the
4 sport hunters for many years that are getting dropped
5 off by -- in front of the caribou herd over towards,
6 you know, on Federal lands above Noatak area and down
7 the Kelly River. And, you know, the changing of the
8 migration patterns of the Western Arctic caribou herd,
9 especially when the population drop by more than half
10 to 182,000. Where we still haven't figured out -- I
11 know we're waiting on the report of what the population
12 of the Western Arctic caribou is at right now, you
13 know, there's an abundance of females and calves, but
14 we never got an accurate count yet of what exactly is
15 the population of the Western Arctic caribou.

16
17 Other than that I thank you.

18
19 CHAIRMAN BROWER: All right. Thank
20 you, Tikigaq. Thank you, Steve.

21
22 Any questions from anybody for our host
23 and his observations and the community's report?

24
25 MR. HOPSON: Mr. Chairman.

26
27 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Go ahead, William.

28
29 MR. HOPSON: I have a question for
30 Steve. Last summer we had sick bearded seals in Barrow
31 and almost half of them. I know I seen them and did
32 you see any sick bearded seals when they were bringing
33 them in?

34
35 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

36
37 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Did you get that,
38 Steve?

39
40 MR. OOMITTUK: Yeah. Thank you. And,
41 you know, we collect eggs from the cliffs from Cape
42 Thomson, Cape Lisburne. You know, we have 300 birds
43 that nest at Cape Thomson and 600,000 at Cape Lisburne.
44 And they were early this year, usually we get them by
45 first of July. This year we were getting them in the
46 middle part of June and they're like two, three weeks
47 earlier than normal. We usually have ice, you know,
48 out there and the ice broke off late May. And usually
49 our ice stays around until the later part of June. But

50

1 all the ice on the -- up to the shore by late May.

2
3 And there's -- you know, when you live
4 in a place all your life you see all these changes. I
5 have a view, I'm on the beachfront and have been
6 looking at the ocean for over 40 years from my window
7 upstairs, you know. And the prevailing winds, the --
8 you know, we're getting an abundance of snow this --
9 last couple years the snow in the wintertime has
10 covered up the house, the roads, you've having 12, 14
11 feet of snow. Snowplows all around the town, almost
12 covering all these houses on this side. The public
13 works hasn't been able to keep up with it because our
14 prevailing winds in the winter have changed and now our
15 snowdrifts are coming from the south when they usually
16 come from the north and that's why we have that snow
17 fence. You know, the snow fence was built, all the
18 houses on the north side would get covered up to the
19 roof and we used to have to go dig out people when I
20 was the fire chief or, you know, search and rescue
21 after a strong storm for two, three days. We would
22 have to go dig out some people's houses on the north
23 side. And all you could see is the top of their stove
24 pipes. And we used to have to dig tunnels to their
25 doors, you know, and now we're starting to see -- you
26 know, like I said the prevailing winds are very
27 noticeable now.

28
29 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yes. Steve, one of
30 the questions I think William asked was Barrow reported
31 some oogruks and some stuff that were sickly and
32 wondering if there was any incidents of those kinds of
33 observations from Tikigaq as well.

34
35 I think that was one of your questions.

36
37 MR. HOPSON: Yes, Mr. Chair.

38
39 MR. OOMITTUK: Yes, I -- sorry about
40 that. I -- yes, there was a few of them that looked
41 sickly and there was some small seals that looked
42 deformed or their skin was off. I think they were
43 reported to the subsistence -- North Slope Borough
44 subsistence worker that works where -- I'm trying to
45 think of his name, Michael Tozorak who works where -- I
46 think he took some pictures. And but they -- they were
47 a few. There was a bunch of dead seabirds washed up on
48 the beach, murre, over towards Kivalina and also over
49 here towards Point Hope. And, you know, I saw some
50

1 reports that they were starved or the food source
2 wasn't there for them or I don't know, but there was an
3 abundance of seabirds that -- from the cliffs, from the
4 Cape Thomson area. I haven't heard much towards Cape
5 Lisburne.

6
7 Thank you.

8
9 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Any further questions
10 for Steve on his report from Tikigaq.

11
12 (No comments)

13
14 CHAIRMAN BROWER: With that I'm going
15 to go to Atqasuk, to Wanda.

16
17 MS. KIPPI: Thank you, Mr. Chair. As
18 we all have fast melting spring. The -- although we
19 had a good hunting season for geese, everybody caught
20 an abundance of geese which was very good.

21
22 And there was a lot of caribou in our
23 area, in my camping grounds, which was good to see.
24 While the river was very, very high for the first time
25 in August actually in a long time. And there's caribou
26 all over, big herds and small herds, they were just all
27 over the area at my camping grounds in August, end of
28 August, until first part of September -- no, middle of
29 September. And then end of September there was a
30 muskox that had scared all the caribou which slowed our
31 hunting down for caribou. They had to go farther and
32 farther south, maybe like 20, 30 miles past (in Native)
33 Creek to go hunt for caribou. And just a few of them
34 went that far, a few hunters went that far to go hunt
35 caribou.

36
37 And I think there was a wolf around the
38 area or wolves around the area too. I don't know if it
39 was before or after the muskox, but they said they
40 heard wolves while they were cutting up the caribou and
41 it wasn't very far.

42
43 And the fish -- oh, there was one
44 report about a caribou that had bite scars on the thigh
45 and the upper leg. I lost my note and I was looking
46 for it and I misplaced it. And the -- around the liver
47 there was green, all around the liver of the caribou.
48 That was the only report I heard about our caribou.

1 And the fish as usual starts late
2 because the freeze up is so late. And the fishing I
3 guess they say it's good, but what I remembered when we
4 first started fishing, the first freeze up would be in
5 September and we'd be fishing one right after the
6 other. And it's like catching only 15 to 20 grayling a
7 day and putting out late -- later nets after it freezes
8 thick enough to get on top of the ice to put out nets
9 for humpback and broad whitefish. So it's getting
10 later and later. But in the end there's -- they just
11 put out nets like last week after it got thick enough
12 and they're starting to catch some humpback and broad
13 whitefish. They're catching -- I don't know, I just
14 seen a few posts that a few people had posted in our
15 community. And I guess they're doing good with --
16 starting with a few. And the burbot too, they're --
17 they weren't biting when we first started fishing. So
18 and I think they're finally starting to bite after a
19 week or so since the river has to end up.

20
21 There was actually no bears. I didn't
22 see a bear actually last -- this summer in my area or
23 springtime. I think they were all caught somewhere
24 around Nuiqsut and -- which I was happy about. I was
25 so happy that they catch them and that I didn't see
26 one. So he did -- they did pretty good catching bears
27 in Nuiqsut so I'm pretty happy with that because I
28 didn't get to see them. So I'm usually at camp all by
29 myself so I don't like to see the bears when I'm out
30 there by myself. But it's good to see them when they
31 come, but I'd rather not because they're some -- mostly
32 hungry most of the time.

33
34 But that's -- I think that's all I
35 have, if anybody has -- have any questions.

36
37 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

38
39 CHAIRMAN BROWER: (In Native), Wanda,
40 (in Native). It's good to hear from Atqasuk.

41
42 Any questions for our Councilwoman from
43 Atqasuk on her report?

44
45 MS. DAGGETT: Mr. Chair.

46
47 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Carmen.

48
49 MS. DAGGETT: Hey, Wanda. I was
50

1 curious about the caribou that you were talking about.
2 So it sounds like a hunter caught that caribou?

3
4 MS. KIPPI: Yes.

5
6 MS. DAGGETT: And did they -- did they
7 talk to anybody else about taking a look at it,
8 like.....

9
10 MS. KIPPI: No.

11
12 MS. DAGGETT:someone from the
13 Borough?

14
15 MS. KIPPI: I just heard from the --
16 from a second, you know, from somebody else that had.

17
18 MS. DAGGETT: I see.

19
20 MS. KIPPI: Yeah.

21
22 MS. DAGGETT: Okay. It's good when we
23 get reports like that, it's good to hear that sort of
24 thing.

25
26 MS. KIPPI: Uh-huh.

27
28 MS. DAGGETT: And I think it's always
29 good to encourage people to try to contact the Borough
30 or the State to take a closer look at those animals to
31 see what's wrong with them, we like to keep a good
32 track of the sort of diseases that people are seeing.
33 And that one sounds like maybe it might had gotten in a
34 scuffle with another animals or something.....

35
36 MS. KIPPI: Uh-huh.

37
38 MS. DAGGETT:if it had scars on
39 it. But.....

40
41 MS. KIPPI: A meat eater.

42
43 MS. DAGGETT: Perhaps, yes. So but in
44 general we try to encourage that sort of communication.

45
46 MS. KIPPI: Yeah, I've been -- every
47 time somebody reports or talks to me about animals that
48 they see out there are scarred up or anything that they
49 see that's not normal, I try to tell them to start
50

1 reporting it so we could have it logged and stuff.....

2

3 MS. DAGGETT: Uh-huh.

4

5 MS. KIPPI:for Fish and Wildlife,
6 especially for bears so that -- so they can have it on
7 record.

8

9 MS. DAGGETT: Okay.

10

11 MS. KIPPI: Yeah.

12

13 MS. DAGGETT: All right. Thank you for
14 doing that. That's really fantastic.

15

16 MS. KIPPI: Thank you.

17

18 MS. DAGGETT: We really appreciate
19 your.....

20

21 MS. KIPPI: Oh, and that reminded me of
22 one more. There was a fisherman that fished a -- I
23 think it was a grayling, I can't recall if it was a
24 grayling or a -- that -- there was a big cut on the --
25 above the tail near the -- near the -- above the belly
26 past where it goes down lower towards the tail, there
27 was a big cut. I don't know how deep, I never got to
28 see it. They just told me there was a big cut on one
29 of the fish that they caught. They didn't know what it
30 was from which was weird.

31

32 Okay. Thank you.

33

34 (In Native)

35

36 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Carmen, I do have a
37 question for you. Last year I did report a caribou
38 that was given to me by my nephews, but we had to take
39 him to the Wildlife Department because there were live
40 worms inside the red meat. Very odd, I never seen it
41 that way and it kind of -- but we don't hear anything
42 back about these once you take a sample like that. And
43 I think it's important to try to find a way to give
44 feedback, what are we encountering, what are these kind
45 of things and so that we're more aware of what it is.
46 And they were these little like black looking inside
47 the meat and they were alive on a harvested caribou.
48 This was outside of Barrow.

49

50

1 Anyway I just think it's important to
2 pro -- once a resident, subsistence foods have been
3 provided to biologists and say, hey, something's wrong
4 with our food can -- and give a sample of it, it would
5 be important to provide the public with some feedback
6 as to what did we encounter, how can a caribou be
7 infested like that with something. I don't even know
8 what it was.
9

10 MS. DAGGETT: Thank you for that
11 comment, Gordon, and thank you for providing those
12 samples. So the -- as you are well aware the Borough
13 has a wildlife veterinarian and I'm sure she took a
14 look at it. I would encourage you to follow-up with
15 them because they -- I was unaware of this sample. I'm
16 not sure what happened with it. It's kind of separate
17 when it gets taken over to them, they kind of.....
18

19 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yeah. The only thing
20 I'm saying is I don't think they have a responsibility
21 to report to me personally, I think they have a wider
22 audience because I'm not the only one hunting caribou,
23 there's probably a couple thousand people. And if
24 they're encountering these things and what it is and if
25 it's something that we shouldn't consume if you see
26 this, there should be some sort of health statement
27 about it. You know, I didn't know I had that in my --
28 it was like the next day my nephew said you know that
29 meat I gave you, there's something wrong with it, take
30 it away from your other meat, there's something alive
31 inside the meat, in the red meat itself. Because we
32 freeze it and (in Native), you know, we eat it raw.
33 And what if my muscles started contracting that stuff
34 inside my muscles just like the caribou.
35

36 So I'm just -- I think there should be
37 a different approach, not to report to the individual,
38 but to report if it's a concerning to a wider audience,
39 you know. Maybe a talk show even on KBRW or something.
40

41 MS. DAGGETT: That's a very interesting
42 idea to do a talk show on KBRW and maybe that's
43 something that we could co-op with the Borough Wildlife
44 Department to have a discussion about that.
45

46 There is some information, some general
47 information, that's available for things like worms and
48 other things that can be found in game meat. And we
49 have little booklets at Fish and Game that I hand out
50

1 when I go to communities and we also have information
2 on the Fish and Game website about different things
3 that can be found in game meat that people should know
4 about. And so when I go out to communities I often
5 share that information with people. And most of the
6 time, you know, people are really interested to know
7 about those sorts of things. And I'd really encourage
8 any hunter even ahead of time to -- before they go out
9 to know those sorts of things. Most of the time those
10 things aren't transferrable to people and there are a
11 few of them that are of concern and it's worth it to
12 know that before you go out even what to look for. So
13 I would really encourage people to seek out those
14 materials and I'll actively continue to distribute
15 those materials regarding game meat concerns.

16
17 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Carmen. I
18 thought it was important since Wanda had reported
19 something about maybe a.....

20
21 MS. DAGGETT: Yeah.

22
23 CHAIRMAN BROWER:you know, a
24 sickly caribou that had been mauled by wolves and had a
25 green liver. It sounds kind of concerning to me.

26
27 MS. DAGGETT: It's absolutely
28 understandable.

29
30 CHAIRMAN BROWER: But I think it's kind
31 of common when there's predators out there that do that
32 to animals and it's pretty common.

33
34 MS. DAGGETT: Yeah, they get injured
35 just like we do and then end up with infections just
36 like we get.

37
38 Thank you.

39
40 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yeah, any other
41 questions for Atqasuk Council member on her report.

42
43 (No comments)

44
45 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Hearing none we'll go
46 to Nuiqsut, Councilwoman Martha Itta.

47
48 MS. ITTA: Good morning. Thank you,
49 Mr. Chair. I'd like to make a statement, voice

50

1 concerns in regards to -- not only on behalf of
2 Nuiqsut, but also Anaktuvuk Pass who does not have
3 representation here. I was asked by an Anaktuvuk
4 representative and subsistence hunter to bring that up.
5 They really need a representative for Anaktuvuk. So I
6 want to say some statements on behalf of them and voice
7 their concern which is related to the caribou migration
8 and, you know, them not being able to catch caribou in
9 their area, having to come to my village through
10 charter to go hunting for caribou to bring back home to
11 feed their families. And that's once concern that I
12 have, the migration of the caribou. And then we're
13 catching more sick caribou, the meat is green now and
14 they're having more bugs and worms in them is what I'm
15 hearing and seeing from my subsistence hunters.

16
17 We're getting a lot more sick fish.
18 And that's another thing that I wanted to voice is, you
19 know, our fish are getting more and more sick fish and
20 they're being -- they're being sent to the Fish and
21 Game, the Borough, but we're not really -- we haven't
22 really got a report on what is really happening with
23 the fish.

24
25 The other thing I wanted to voice is
26 the contamination, the cleanup process. There needs to
27 be a lot of cleaning in our area, there's so many
28 contaminants in our lands, our rivers, our lakes,
29 something really -- I mean, the Federal government,
30 whoever's responsible, they really need to start
31 cleaning our land up. There's a lot of debris from
32 companies, oil companies, contractors that are out on
33 our land, there's a lot of styrofoam, there's a lot of
34 debris left by industry, a lot of duck ponds that are
35 being found by residents and they're not being
36 compensated for picking those up and they have no
37 direction on where to bring those or who's responsible
38 for those.

39
40 The other big concern I have is the
41 Willow project is now being looked into and possibly go
42 up within the next two, three years if permitted. And
43 I just wanted to voice to the other villages, you know,
44 they're going to be going to your backyards such as
45 Atqasuk -- toward Atqasuk and Barrow. And I just
46 wanted to make sure that they're aware of that and
47 that, you know, what -- whatever comes with these
48 projects like depletion of your subsistence areas, you
49 know, that's -- that's all going to happen once these
50

1 projects go up. And for them to get as much
2 information as they can, as they go more to the west
3 side.

4
5 I don't know if this is appropriate to
6 bring up, but since we're only dealing with like -- I
7 don't think we deal with the mammal issues, but our
8 whaling season, we're having a hard time this year. We
9 -- for the first time in many years we had gotten a
10 quota of six and we were only able to harvest three
11 whales due to a lot of traffic out in the ocean is what
12 I was told by our whalers. There's a lot of vessel
13 traffic out there, shipping vessels right near the
14 island. They had to travel further and further away
15 from the island to be able to see and harvest these
16 three whales which is really concerning. Being a
17 village who really depend on the whales, we're going to
18 be hurting this winter for our whale meat and our
19 muktuk which is really scary.

20
21 Other than that I think the biggest
22 issue is getting these contaminated lands, lakes and
23 waters cleaned up, to keep -- you know, save the --
24 what we have left of our subsistence areas and our fish
25 and caribou.

26
27 Thank you.

28
29 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you
30 Councilwoman Itta from Nuiqsut.

31
32 Any questions from anybody concerning
33 Nuiqsut's report?

34
35 MS. DAGGETT: Mr. Chair.

36
37 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Carmen.

38
39 MS. DAGGETT: Good morning, Martha. I
40 just wanted to see if you had anymore information or if
41 you could put me in touch with people who are seeing
42 these sick caribou. I'm really interested to know more
43 about that in particular and to keep close track of
44 that. So any additional information that you can give
45 me on that would be really helpful.

46
47 MS. ITTA: Okay. Thank you.

48
49 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Carmen.

50

1 It's always so helpful when, you know, the biologists,
2 you know, hear the concerns of communities and react to
3 them. It's -- yeah, just like what happened about the
4 caribou, I give them samples and you don't really hear
5 back. Like does it just -- or do they just eat the
6 food or something we give them and it turned out good.

7

8 (Laughter)

9

10 CHAIRMAN BROWER: But it would be
11 important to give feedback to communities when they're
12 reporting these kind of things. And that's I think
13 just my concern about these things.

14

15 And a question maybe to Martha, I know
16 the fishing is just getting started. I see (in Native)
17 season is just starting, but hearing a little bit about
18 some fish that are frozen into the first layer of ice,
19 have you heard about that?

20

21 MS. ITTA: Yes, I have. I did hear
22 subsistence hunters say that they saw dead fish on --
23 you know, right on top of the ice, they could see it
24 from there.

25

26 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yeah.

27

28 MS. ITTA: I just also wanted to add
29 the weather is changing drastically. Our winter season
30 is later just like here in Point Hope. That's really
31 concerning given that, you know, the community depends
32 on the ice road and everybody else depends on the ice
33 road. So we're having winter later in the year. It
34 finally froze up there and they're finally setting nets
35 for (in Native).

36

37 So, yes, Gordon, I did hear reports of
38 that.

39

40 CHAIRMAN BROWER: And just to follow-up
41 and I don't want to dominate asking questions, but GMT-
42 2, GMT-2 development, these new oilfields that are
43 connected. You can drive from Nuiqsut through the
44 Kuukpik Spur Road.....

45

46 MS. ITTA: Yes.

47

48 CHAIRMAN BROWER:and then go into
49 Alpine and now to GM -- CD-5, GMT-1, GMT-2.....

50

1 MS. ITTA: Yes.

2

3 CHAIRMAN BROWER:and the way the
4 North Slope Borough has conditioned those types of
5 rezones, it's very different than Prudhoe Bay.

6

7 MS. ITTA: Yeah.

8

9 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Prudhoe Bay you
10 practically have to have an armed guard around you to
11 even go through because it's so secure. And maybe if
12 you could describe a little bit more if -- how they're
13 -- we're conditioning the use to be able to -- because
14 I heard like from Ely for the first time tuttu mother
15 and they're on the road and he could -- he.....

16

17 MS. ITTA: Yeah.

18

19 CHAIRMAN BROWER:almost run into
20 the tuttus with a car. And then me and him went for a
21 ride to -- I wanted to go see what it was like to GMT-1
22 from Nuiqsut and sure enough, you know, we were seeing
23 tuttus. But I see a lot of local hunters using the
24 roads and if that is helping to -- if you make
25 conditions say, hey, subsistence can use these roads to
26 help have access instead of the old way where they're
27 saying oh, you can't be in these areas or if you're
28 going to try to be in these areas you have to use a (in
29 Native) or something like that.

30

31 MS. ITTA: That's really complicated
32 because of the restrictions during construction and the
33 restrictions in place because you can't shoot toward a
34 pipeline, you can't, you know, hunt in those areas
35 toward the pipeline. So we're kind of restricted. I
36 mean, the road is a big help, it -- it's helpful to the
37 community. And there are sometimes where the caribou
38 doesn't cross because of the height of the road or the --
39 you know, just a lot of infrastructure and traffic.
40 Traffic is a really big problem on the road because
41 they're doing construction for all these projects. It
42 was, you know, CD-5, GMT-1, now GMT-2. Now they're
43 going further west looking into Willow so it's going to
44 be, you know, how many years of construction that we're
45 being restricted to.

46

47 The abundance is there, it's the
48 ability that's the issue, the ability to be able to get
49 our harvest due to the traffic, due to the

50

1 infrastructure and the deflecting of the caribou. It's
2 -- you know, the road is a really big help, but we're
3 also being restricted with all the infrastructure
4 because we don't want to go to jail, you know, we're
5 just trying to harvest our food.

6
7 And, you know, we don't know if we're
8 going to hit that pipeline. You know, we're told that
9 we're -- we can go hunting, it's there for us, but
10 we're afraid to because we don't want to shoot that
11 pipeline.

12
13 CHAIRMAN BROWER: (In Native), Martha.
14 I think it's important to hear these things because
15 they're -- it's still subsistence, but we're dealing
16 with development in these areas because they find so
17 much oil in these areas. There's -- and it's -- and
18 the development mode is there. Andbut we're trying to
19 find a way to balance and how we can do some of these
20 things. It's almost like in Barrow because you got a
21 16 mile pipeline from Barrow to the gasfields. But,
22 you know, we're real careful, we can use those roads,
23 but you can't shoot towards the wellheads or towards
24 the pipeline because it's got natural gas in those kind
25 of things. But it -- like you said it helps because
26 you can go way over there with your (in Native) and
27 drive over that way and do some subsistence.

28
29 I just see some of your hunters posting
30 quite a bit in these areas and the other villages like
31 Anaktuvuk flying into Nuiqsut to help them because the
32 caribou concentrations around Nuiqsut was so good. And
33 they were not coming by Anaktuvuk. I'm glad you voiced
34 the concern from Anaktuvuk in these areas.

35
36 Any other questions for Nuiqsut?

37
38 MS. KIPPI: Mr. Chair.

39
40 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Go ahead, Wanda, from
41 Atqasuk.

42
43 MS. KIPPI: I just wanted to add to her
44 the development that's moving on, it might move on down
45 to near our area. I sure hate to see that because I
46 don't want the same thing to happen to our community
47 because they're hurting now and I sure don't want to
48 see it in our village. Because we live off of the
49 caribou and the fish and the birds and it's going to
50

1 hurt -- well, it's going to hurt all of the villages,
2 wherever we hunt, it's going to hurt wherever
3 development starts especially for the oil. And I just
4 don't want to see that in our community either.

5
6 So I just want to bring that up and I
7 know Nuiqsut and AKP are hurting and I feel for them.

8
9 Thank you.

10
11 CHAIRMAN BROWER: (In Native), Wanda
12 from Atqasuk.

13
14 Any other questions for Nuiqsut's
15 report.

16
17 (No comments)

18
19 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I do have one about
20 -- you were talking about duck ponds. And by the way a
21 duck pond is an oil catcher, they usually go underneath
22 cars and they get -- quite frequently get blown away
23 from industrial operations. Because the Borough
24 stipulates them, the State stipulates them, BLM
25 stipulates, say, hey, if you're going to be in these
26 wild areas where subsistence is mixed you're not going
27 to spill oil or anything even from cars. So they got
28 to put these duck ponds under cars, if you're going to
29 park them more than five minutes shove one under the
30 car. If your car is a leaker it's going to leak into a
31 duck pond. Because you can get fined for that and it's
32 a way to try to keep the lands more clean.

33
34 So I thought that was important
35 because, you know, you might think there's a duck pond
36 in Anchorage, I like to go to the duck pond and go grow
37 throw crackers and whatnot and look at the duck ponds.
38 It's not that kind of a thing. The duck pond is an oil
39 catcher.

40
41 And the other thing was the clean lands
42 issue. I know there's a lot of legacy fields from the
43 1940s when the Navy was exploring heavily and some of
44 that contamination is still out there, namely on the
45 Colville River at Umiat. It would be important for us
46 to get the Corps of Engineers to provide some feedback.
47 I know when we go to the RAB meetings and they have the
48 -- Restoration Advisory Board meetings, there's some
49 information there. But there's been attempts by the
50

1 Corps of Engineers working with DOT, they were at one
2 time going to build a road from Galbraith all the way
3 to Umiat because the cost of cleanup for Umiat was 999
4 million bucks. That much contamination and that much
5 buried junk at Umiat. And it was all starting to be
6 caught up from the Colville River when it's soupy, when
7 it breaks up, overtops that old landfill, now eroding
8 it. And to my understanding there's weasels, there's
9 ammunition, there's these PCBs from power things and
10 all that.

11
12 I have listened to folks that worked
13 there in the 1950s that are kind of elderly today
14 saying they -- that place was a ready place to launch
15 an attack to Russia and had enough ammunition and
16 things there to protect the United States at one point.
17 There was a big military build up in the '50s from the
18 cold war and, but they buried everything right next to
19 the river. And now debris is common on the Colville
20 River. And like I said the Corps of Engineers
21 estimated it was going to be 900 million bucks to dig
22 it up even -- that's how come they said that was to dig
23 it up and fly it out, here it all out and dig it up,
24 \$900 million to do it. And it was \$400 million to make
25 a road from Galbraith to Umiat and then dig it up and
26 truck it out. So 50 percent less with a 100 mile road
27 from Galbraith to Umiat, that's how much junk is over
28 there and how much debris.

29
30 And I think it's important because
31 people sometimes get afraid, why do we have fish mold
32 in Colville River fisheries, like the (in Native) is
33 kind of sickly. You're seeing fish inside the ice
34 right now, you can go to Nuiqsut where they're starting
35 to put nets under the ice, there's fish belly up,
36 frozen on the first ice already and they're seeing
37 that. These are concerning. Especially there was a
38 big concern about tittaaq, the burbot that you --
39 because we love to eat the liver, right, it's really
40 good. And those bottomfeeders that might be feeding on
41 some of this PCBs and there was a scare like that and
42 then I -- the -- I think ADF&G, the Borough took
43 samples and -- to try and appease the concern about the
44 fish and the big landfill that was starting to expose.
45 And I think we need to have -- it's been quiet for like
46 three or four years again, now what's going on in these
47 areas that we have major concerns on and they should be
48 -- because we're subsistence fish and wildlife, we got
49 fish monitoring proposals and we're put a proposal to
50

1 monitor (in Native), why is it getting moldy and sickly
2 in Colville River and the Ikpikpuk it's not, they're
3 only what, 60, 50 miles apart, Colville, Ikpikpuk.
4 There's healthy fish in the Ikpikpuk and as much as
5 Colville River and, you know, what's the difference,
6 why are they sick over there and they're not sick in
7 the Ikpikpuk.

8
9 So those kind of questions that need to
10 be hammered to the biologists, to the land managers.
11 You know, the Colville River is what, one of America's
12 wild and scenic rivers now, right, is it, is it
13 categorized as that or is it a nomination that it's
14 wild and scenic, but it's got all this contamination
15 and a dump right in the middle of it that's exposing,
16 you know. Those are the kinds of concerns I think the
17 community of Nuiqsut and when we hear debris coming
18 down, guess what, the Borough on its own dime goes to
19 look at what the Federal government did and take --
20 tries to monitor where the drums are, where the debris
21 that coming out. That should be a Federal
22 responsibility. And it's important to talk about it
23 his way and really do something to cleanup these types
24 of situations.

25
26 I'm sorry, Martha, I tend to -- I hear
27 these from the Borough too, from the village and their
28 concerns and I just want to make sure some of these
29 folks they have ears and they have the ability to talk
30 to Federal agencies that they're not represented here
31 like NOAA for whales, like Corps of Engineers for
32 contaminated rivers from legacy fields and things like
33 that.

34
35 With that I'll kind of shut up and let
36 the general folks be able to dominate the dialogue. I
37 just have it in me for our own lands. I've been
38 subsistence for all my life, I grew up living off the
39 land. And we don't want to have -- to be sick from our
40 own lands and our foods to be question. We want them
41 to be healthy.

42
43 Any other questions for Nuiqsut on her
44 report.

45
46 (No comments)

47
48 MS. ITTA: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

49
50

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: (In Native), Martha.
2 I'm going to go to Utqiagvik, to William.

3
4 Mr. Hopson.

5
6 MR. HOPSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
7 I'll have a short report.

8
9 Basically not quite the same, but
10 things are happening the same way. In Barrow we're
11 catching fish, but not as much as we used to because we
12 can't get to the -- our fish camps when it's supposed
13 to normally be fishing time for us. And those have
14 come and gone, those are no longer like what they used
15 to be. That gives us that much -- specifically in the
16 summertime that gives us that much less time to dry the
17 fish that we are accustomed to all our lives. And when
18 we dry fish, you know, you dry them, you get two or 300
19 pounds of dry fish and you put those in the cellar,
20 those are for wintertime use. Those you need to
21 consider are no longer in the cellar for feasts or our
22 subsistence hunters. The same with caribou, the
23 bearded seal. We dry a lot of meat, caribou, fish,
24 seal meat, to put away for winter use. And because of
25 so much rain your dry fish molds before it dries and
26 you end up throwing it away. Remember that was for the
27 wintertime use that we did not store and that's less
28 food for the community and that's taking a big impact
29 on everyone.

30
31 The other one, I know they reported on
32 it, we've had sick bearded seals. Right now in Barrow
33 we have no ice that's close to Barrow and the whales
34 normally should have migrated last week of August. To
35 this day, October 23, there has been no wells sighted
36 yet. And that is hurting the community.

37
38 One thing I know we touched a little
39 bit on is real time science. And I would like to see a
40 real time science report by everyone that has got to do
41 with the wildlife, you know, because you come to us and
42 you're reporting two year old data. And in two years
43 things have changed. So that was one of my concerns.

44
45 And I do have another thing I want to
46 speak about, but I'll wait until we reach item nine on
47 the agenda.

48
49 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

50

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: (In Native), Mr.
2 Hopson from Utqiagvik. Any questions for William?

3
4 (No comments)

5
6
7 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, William.
8 And, you know, we did have a -- we had another member,
9 but he just recently passed away, Tad Reich. He was --
10 I was reading in the minutes of -- he was anticipating
11 to make a good report and he had been recently
12 appointed last year and it was in our spring meeting
13 and he was excited to be on the Council. And I think
14 just a -- I mean, I'd like to do maybe just a moment of
15 silence for Tad. He was a, you know, upstanding
16 whaling captain and had a big heart for his community,
17 to feed people. And he was also one grade less than me
18 so we interacted quite a bit in high school. And we
19 always wanted to be like all the super great whaling
20 captains, you know, like Ivik and Semion and those guys
21 that I always liked. I remember hearing some of these
22 oldtimers say the bigger whale they got the more food
23 they feed people. They didn't mess with the little
24 whales back then, they liked to get the big ones. And
25 they were --there was a lot of us grew up in the '70s
26 like that watching these legendary hunters and we
27 wanted to be like them and feed our people.

28
29 So I remember Tad very well and maybe
30 because he's not able to do his report I'd like to do a
31 moment of silence for Tad. And I think that's good.
32 Maybe we can just stand up one minute in honor of his
33 service.

34
35 (Moment of silence)

36
37 CHAIRMAN BROWER: (In Native). I think
38 it's important to recognize people that serve because I
39 happen to think this Council is a very important
40 Council. I've seen the work going in front of the
41 Federal Subsistence Board with regulatory changes. We
42 know when the big drastic caribou decline was going on
43 and ADF&G and OSM was all talking about making all
44 kinds of new rules and regulations to govern us, this
45 Council said, hey, we can do the same thing. We can
46 make our own conservative laws. So what did we do, we
47 developed -- we said oh, we don't like to hunt the
48 bulls from here to here, they stink and we'll make that
49 into a law. And it was conservative management because
50

1 it was traditional. We don't -- you know, we don't
2 like to get (in Native) tuttus anyway. You know, so
3 that became a conservative law, it was traditional
4 anyway. And other things like that, before the ADF&G
5 and others said we got to live by their rules, we try
6 to make our -- to protect our own people with laws.

7
8 This body can advise the Federal
9 Subsistence Board and our weight is heavy when we
10 decide to try to do things for the betterment of our
11 people. And they're refer quite a bit to the Regional
12 Advisory Council.

13
14 Besides we got Gates of the Arctic, we
15 got ANWR and other folks that we can beat up around
16 here, you know.

17
18 MS. ITTA: Mr. Chair.

19
20 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yeah, go ahead,
21 Martha.

22
23 MS. ITTA: I'd like to thank you for
24 doing a moment of silence for Tad on behalf of our vice
25 president of Native Village of Nuiqsut. That was his
26 brother and I'm pretty sure he'd be really thankful for
27 recognizing him. And it was really good to serve with
28 Tad and work with him.

29
30 Thank you for that.

31
32 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Well, thank you,
33 Martha. So I would have called upon Tad now to make
34 his report so I think it's just appropriate we did a
35 moment of silence for Tad. I can tell all kinds of
36 stories about Tad because we kind of grew up together
37 as kids.

38
39 But with that, did I miss any
40 communities. I know if -- Eddie Rexford, are you on
41 line from Kaktovik?

42
43 (No comments)

44
45 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I'm not sure if the
46 representative from Kaktovik, I know -- I think he
47 wanted to go home from AFN, he'd been gone too long and
48 wasn't going to make his way to Tikigaq and was going
49 to chime in by phone.

50

1 Did you get any response from our
2 Kaktovik representative?
3

4 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council, I
5 did talk to Edward yesterday afternoon, evening and he
6 confirmed he would be on today. I tried texting a
7 little bit ago, but maybe I'll just try to quietly make
8 a phone call to his phone in the tribal office.
9

10 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yeah. Do we have any
11 representatives from Point Lay? I mean, you don't have
12 to be a Council member, but I think there was a request
13 for a teleconference line for -- to listen in from
14 Point Lay.
15

16 As you know we don't have a current
17 member from Point Lay and we have vacancies on the
18 Regional Council. There don't have to be a member from
19 every community, if you have a interest to be on the
20 Council you can -- you can send in your nomination and
21 your willingness to serve. And by the way you get a
22 nice letter from the Secretary of the Interior as an
23 appointment because there's a vetting process. And the
24 Secretary of the Interior of the United States will
25 appoint to the Council here. And it's I think a pretty
26 prestigious group of people to represent the entire
27 North Slope on subsistence issues is very important.
28

29 We also -- maybe if there's any
30 representatives from Wainwright. I know Bob Shears
31 lived in Wainwright, he moved to Barrow and he
32 continued as a representative on the -- either
33 Wainwright or Barrow, but he's since then moved out of
34 state. So there is that vacancy as well.
35

36 So we have also a vacancy for Anaktuvuk
37 Pass. And thank you, Martha, for voicing some of the
38 concerns from Anaktuvuk.
39

40 And so with that maybe I'm going to go
41 ahead and do my own little report as a -- you know,
42 I've been a Council member and -- since 1998. So it's
43 been quite a few years sitting on the Council and I've
44 learned a lot over the years. And sometimes it's
45 important to be able to be assertive and not be shy.
46 Because I look at the rules and the responsibilities,
47 we should be having the ears of the Federal government
48 and the Federal Subsistence Board. So it's important.
49
50

1 One of the concerns I would like to
2 bring in, you know, I'm a whaling captain myself. I
3 got a -- my crew got a whale this spring in May and all
4 spring most of all the whales were caught at Nuvuk.
5 Because the open water situation was -- early on you
6 already had 50 miles of open water off of Barrow. I
7 mean, that's a lot of open water. It used to be in the
8 past '70 and '80s, you know, we'd (in Native) maybe
9 about a mile and two miles, that kind of thing. But
10 the open water season, spring open water was -- I don't
11 know if it was -- there was so much water that the
12 whales had so much room to move, but they only come
13 close by Nuvuk as it bottleneck over that way to the
14 east. And most of the spring whales were caught over
15 that way. Until motorboat season started because we --
16 Barrow has, you know, there's a lot of young guys that
17 want to go out there in a motorboat right now, you
18 know, and go get them. And there's a lot of us that
19 are a little bit older and say no way, man, you're
20 going to chase your whale like your grandfather did in
21 a skin boat and go after it and do it that way.
22 There's a lot of traditionalists and we like to do that
23 and we want to make sure our young folks become
24 traditionalists.

25
26 As much as we want to, but we're going
27 to have to start to think. If we're going to have
28 another season like that with 50 miles of open water
29 early in April, we got to do something different about
30 catching these because once you go into the later
31 season, it's true about you have to gauge your ice and
32 the size of whale you're going to catch because you
33 ain't going to be able to pull it up on four foot ice
34 if you've got a 50 foot whale. It just -- it breaks
35 through so you have to figure out as those whales pass
36 by in different sizes early on, start passing by, until
37 the big ones and the young ones come through.

38
39 So that's one concern is -- and it's
40 important because we had that concern in the spring.
41 Now come fall nobody's sighting any whales. And it's
42 -- Kaktovik got whales, Nuiqsut got whales at Cross
43 Island. From Cross Island to Utqiagvik something's the
44 matter. There's a -- something deflecting up to 20,00
45 whales that should normally by Nuvuk you can go three
46 miles and you're going to see all this (in Native)
47 everywhere and you're going to harvest these whales
48 close by. Boaters are going 20, 30 miles and they're
49 not seeing these things. And my son just got off of a
50

1 boat and text me last night, he said we got back, we
2 saw -- but they saw a minke whale, they recognized a
3 different kind of a whale, they saw a minke whale and a
4 gray whale. Yeah, you guys should have got the minke,
5 I want to taste it. But they didn't, they're just
6 saying they're not seeing any bowhead whales.

7
8 So it's an important question to ask,
9 another missing Federal government here should be NOAA
10 that manages bowhead whale. It just -- but this is a
11 subsistence forum, bowhead is a subsistence food. We
12 should be having them do overflights and say what's
13 going on, is there seismic ships out there, three miles
14 and out doing something. This reminds me of 1989.
15 1989 Barrow is catching whales 40 miles. Forty miles.
16 By the time we tow them back they're stinkers. It's
17 wanton waste. What was happening, industrial seismic
18 operations that we didn't know was deflecting whales
19 way, way off. Are we having that kind of thing going
20 again. We need to ask NOAA and any other Federal
21 government.

22
23 I've also heard that there was going to
24 be five cruise ships coming through the Northwest
25 Passage. And any of those kind of things are
26 interfering with whaling. And it's important because
27 you got a lot of people in Barrow, lot of people.
28 There's what, five -- 5,000 people there. And it's the
29 biggest populated village on the Slope. And, you know,
30 it's important. Not everybody even in Barrow has jobs,
31 you know, more than -- probably more than 50 percent of
32 the population depends entirely on subsistence
33 resources. And we need to ask these questions and I
34 always request that somebody from NOAA should be dialed
35 in, listening to the concern.

36
37 And I've made my own calls to British
38 Petroleum, to ENI, to Exxon, but are you guys doing out
39 there, is there anything going on that you're
40 deflecting whales out there. And try to get some
41 response back from industrial operators. What's going
42 on, why is Barrow -- the whales are not there. They've
43 been there for 100 years, all the time by Nuvuk, right
44 there. We're not seeing them. It's alarming. The
45 town is going to the beach to go pray about our food
46 because Thanksgiving is coming, Christmas is coming, a
47 lot of people depending on these resources. And I
48 can't emphasize it enough. And I don't want it to go
49 in one ear and out the other, you know.

50

1 Orville, you're a liaison, you should
2 be on the phone to NOAA and say, hey, what the heck's
3 going on out here. And, you know, did the earth shift
4 or something, what's going on, you know. It should be
5 important for Federal agencies to hear because this is
6 a Federally protected hunt, it's managed by NOAA. And
7 we have an indigenous right for these resources.
8

9 The other concern I wanted to bring up
10 is I had to get my whaling crew and say, hey, pull
11 everything out of the cellar, the entire whale is at
12 risk in my cellar. First time in my life it's -- I
13 said pull all of the muktuk and the (in Native) out (in
14 Native). My cellar is not holding, you know, the
15 minute temperature change in the cellar, little change,
16 maybe three degrees, four degrees, is enough to change
17 from (in Native) into mush. And before it ruined it I
18 said everybody go out here, we need to pull everything
19 out and try to -- and do our best for the community. I
20 think there was another report from the (in Native)
21 that it's caving in from the top. And these cellars,
22 some of them are hundred years old, more than a hundred
23 years old. Our old cellar is a hand me down and been
24 in place, you know. My mom told me it was from their
25 side of the family and that was handed over to us to
26 keep and take care of.
27

28 And then our upper cellar, we have two
29 of them, I keep one for our whale and the other supper
30 cellar for (in Native), for our personal use, our (in
31 Native). That upper cellar had a foot of water in it
32 from all the rain. So there's changes going on that's
33 affecting our ability to have food security. I know
34 Point Hope's going through it and I think it -- it's
35 starting to affect a lot of different areas. And I
36 thought it wasn't going to affect us for a long time,
37 but by golly I had to get my entire crew to go and (in
38 Native) everything and get it out of the cellar. And
39 that was just like three days ago before I came here.
40 But it was real good eating, I tested it, it's really
41 good (in Native). From the cellar is the best I think.
42

43 Fishing. Last year if you look at the
44 minutes I only made 25 sacks last year. Before those
45 years in the -- through the '70s in Ikpikpuk I made --
46 with my folks, my folks always tell us about starvation
47 times, how you -- some of these lands can support
48 entire communities and don't forget it. Don't forget
49 how to do these things in these lands. But when the
50

1 weather and the temperature is such that if you harvest
2 that much and the weather is not conducive to keeping
3 it in good state because in Ikpiukuk there's old
4 pictures you see them making shelters out of ice blocks
5 that they harvest from lakes and river and make
6 warehouses out of ice. And fill them all the way up
7 with fish. (In Native) area was like that, (in Native)
8 is like that, (in Native) is like that, (in Native) is
9 like that. All of these areas where all the lakes that
10 have whitefish all come out all at once and come in
11 Ikpiukuk and spawn. And that is the best food source,
12 capable of feeding 10,000 people in these areas.

13
14 But more than half of my catch last
15 year, 25 sacks, it sounds kind of a lot, but it's not
16 when we're used to getting 100 sacks. Because a
17 hundred sacks will feed Barrow and we would be able to --
18 we used to take five sacks and go see Selvik or some
19 other whaling captain, oh, we're short (in Native) for
20 our boat, we'll give you three sacks (in Native), we'll
21 get two (in Native) for our boats. We -- it's trading.
22 You trade with villages and then do these things and
23 we're used to doing that. But it's affecting your
24 ability to do some of these things that were
25 traditional.

26
27 And the weather was so good in the
28 '70s, '80s and early part of the '90s that our nets are
29 under the ice September 15, September 18 we got nets
30 under the ice and all the fish you get are flash frozen
31 and you sack them and warehouse them and then haul them
32 to the community in December and November. All of the
33 fish I hauled back last year, most of them were (in
34 Native). I mean, they're good, elders like to eat (in
35 Native), you know, it's a little bit stink fish. (In
36 Native) and also (in Native). It's important to note
37 these changes because my intent wasn't to make stink
38 fish, it was to make (in Native) and ready to eat. And
39 the elders love (in Native) and (in Native), I love to
40 eat it myself, it's good. But most people think it
41 stinks, but it's still good food.

42
43 But if you can't preserve that much
44 fish, if you can't preserve a hundred sacks from the
45 weather you're not going to -- you're not going to get
46 that much because you're not going to stink every fish
47 you get because people love to have the caviar because
48 that's a choice food when it's fresh.

49
50

1 I'm sorry I'm so long-winded in these
2 -- some of these things, but we need to convey these
3 changes. And there's a person like Karen back there,
4 that's a Fisheries Resource Monitoring Program, right,
5 what needs to be studied, why can't I be able to
6 preserve my fish, why is Nuiqsut's fish belly up in the
7 ice and getting frozen and dead in the river or what's
8 going on. In the adjacent drainages from Ikpikpuk to
9 Colville River, they're practically the same. The
10 Colville has whitefish and salmon and (in Native).
11 Ikpikpuk has whitefish, it has (in Native), it has
12 salmon too. But we're not seeing those types of
13 sicknesses in the Ikpikpuk. So there's got to be
14 something localized that might be an issue here that
15 needs to be studied and monitored.
16

17 I'm just saying I wasn't able to go do
18 not even 25 sacks for fishing because it didn't freeze.
19 The weather was -- even if you tried to go put nets,
20 the (in Native) and the slush would tear up your nets
21 at that time of the year, if it doesn't solidify. I'm
22 just saying these are big issues and there's not that
23 many people that fish like me for community size
24 fishing. And Douglas has passed away. I don't know
25 who else. There was Stubby from Pennigue family, he
26 used to fish for the community, he's had a heart
27 attack. I don't know who's doing it in their family.
28 Because all of these food resources go to Thanksgiving,
29 they go to Christmas, they make their way all the way
30 up to (in Native) and to feed families.
31

32 So these are very important things.
33 Just by talking about it there should be enough
34 information conveyed to some of those that need to
35 design studies and does it mean that I have to design
36 the study and give it to you. Is it just -- is this
37 just a forum for OSM to say yeah, yeah, you're long-
38 winded talkers, yeah, yeah, yeah, yadi, yadi, yada. Is
39 that what's going on here. You're our biologists,
40 you're our resources, you're supposed to protect,
41 probably a Federal trust responsibility for indigenous
42 rights like BIA, you know. It's important and we have
43 to be long-winded and we have to be able to say what's
44 wrong. Maybe Orville has to solicit to put a big solar
45 powered freezer strategically located where these major
46 fisheries have to preserve fish so they don't go bad.
47 Who knows.
48

49 But in the '70s when the caribou went
50

1 down to three left is what I thought, there's three
2 caribou left on the face of the planet, we're going to
3 give everybody beef, right, remember that, who
4 remembers that. Was it 1976 everybody got like a chunk
5 of beef and said you guys can't hunt caribou no more.
6 And that was going to feed your family for the next
7 full winter. So if you're not going to feed us like
8 you tried to do in the '70s you need to help us.
9 That's -- I think these are important things or has the
10 Federal government divorced from its indigenous people.
11

12 I just like to say these things and
13 hammer them in. Maybe it's the director of OSM needs
14 to be here. Who's the director, anybody? Is somebody
15 the director around here?
16

17 MR. RISDAHL: Mr. Chairman, for the
18 record Greg Risdahl, the Office of Subsistence
19 Management, Fish Division leader. I guess I would be
20 the de facto leader from OSM today. Currently we do
21 not have an assistant regional director at OSM yet
22 although the position has been advertised and closed
23 and I do know that they are planning interviews. Tom
24 Doolittle is the deputy assistant regional director and
25 he's essentially been acting for at least -- well, it's
26 been over a year, closer to two years actually when
27 Gene Peltola left. So that position will be
28 interviewed for fairly soon and there are, let's see,
29 two public members, two regular board members and I
30 believe Mike Reardon is also on the committee. So it's
31 Rhonda Pitka, Tony Christianson, Craig Siekaniec, Dave
32 Schmid and Mike Reardon that I know of that will be on
33 the committee to interview the candidates for that
34 position.
35

36 CHAIRMAN BROWER: And just maybe a
37 follow-up. And thank you for being the de facto one
38 right now, right, yeah. But it's important. You know
39 what, when big rezones happen for the Borough,
40 sometimes the North Slope Borough, head of the Borough
41 government goes to these public hearings to hear
42 communities. I think director of OSM should come once
43 in a while and hear what communities are because can we
44 trust OSM, ADF&G to even convey our concerns correctly
45 in a manner that would address some of the concerns
46 about some of the issues and struggles we're having,
47 enough to say, hey, maybe we should provide everybody
48 with a cow just like in 1976 and provide food. Barrow
49 has not even caught a fall whale. Are we going to --
50

1 are we getting to that point. And these are
2 concerning. You're going to go home and you're going
3 to go McDonald's and by the way I went to McDonald's
4 last week, man, and I felt like I was going to a
5 gourmet restaurant. It was only five bucks, but it was
6 really good. You have those options and you have those
7 things to do. It's important to recognize that maybe
8 in villages they're probably 70 percent or greater
9 depend on subsistence resources to harvest for
10 communities' needs.

11

12 Go ahead.

13

14 MR. RISDAHL: Mr. Chairman, members of
15 the Council. Actually so Tom Doolittle, I know he's
16 going to five of the Council meetings this fall and is
17 probably about as many as he could fit into his
18 schedule plus some of the Council meetings are
19 overlapping. But we do have a lead member at each -- a
20 leadership team member at each Council as well as
21 biologists and anthropologists at several as well. I'm
22 taking extensive notes and I know we're -- we have
23 transcripts so we will definitely take all your
24 comments and your ideas back with us and we will act on
25 them.

26

27 CHAIRMAN BROWER: That's good because,
28 you know, you're hearing from Nuiqsut, you're hearing
29 from Atqasuk, from Barrow, you're hearing from Tikigaq.
30 And I think all of us have a fair bit of concerns and
31 there should be some willingness for Federal government
32 to do something. They used to be pretty proactive a
33 long time ago. And just saying, you know, there's
34 absolutely no fall whale caught in Barrow right now.
35 No whales to be seen and that's alarming. It's very
36 alarming. Somebody from NOAA should have been dialed
37 in and hear some of the Council members about what's
38 going on, where are all these bowheads turned right now
39 because whaling captains are boating out there and
40 they're going extensive long reach. If they -- for
41 goodness if they got a whale that was 45 miles out of
42 Barrow and try to tow that in, it's going to go bad on
43 them anyway. It's -- or you have to seek that thing in
44 the open ocean and open it so it won't get rancid on
45 the meat.

46

47 So those are the really big concerns.

48

49 MR. RISDAHL: Mr. Chairman, members of

50

1 the Council. Next year is a Fisheries cycle and there
2 will be Fisheries Resource Monitoring proposals coming
3 up again. And as you guys probably all recall as a
4 Council here your -- one of your jobs is to come up
5 with the priority information needs. So you guys can
6 work on -- work that out. And then from that
7 investigators, research scientists and such put forth
8 proposals to study some of those kinds of things. So
9 what you guys find the most important and you pass that
10 on to OSM and to the folks that are interested in doing
11 research and have those resources then would act on
12 those information needs.

13
14 CHAIRMAN BROWER: All right. Thank
15 you.

16
17 And what was your name again, Greg?

18
19 MR. RISDAHL: Yes, Mr. Brower, my name
20 is Greg Risdahl.....

21
22 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Uh-huh.

23
24 MR. RISDAHL:Fisheries
25 Subsistence Division lead.

26
27 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yeah. And acting
28 director for OSM?

29
30 MR. RISDAHL: Not today. Tom -- well,
31 Tom is. I believe -- I think he flew back to Anchorage
32 late last night. He was at a Council meeting and had
33 to fly to Bethel for another meeting that they were
34 discussing basically how the Kuskokwim River fisheries
35 went this last year and their plans for the next year.

36
37 CHAIRMAN BROWER: All right. Thank
38 you. And thank you for coming up when we said who is
39 OSM director anyway. Because it's important I think
40 once in a while for their -- your leadership to come
41 and visit especially when we're doing a village meeting
42 because 90 percent of these meetings are in Barrow and
43 we've been wanting to do these in every village so that
44 you can hear directly from villages on subsistence
45 issues.

46
47 MR. RISDAHL: Well, thank you very much
48 for welcoming me as well. And I really wanted to get
49 up here because this is one of the places that I had
50

1 not been. And I've only been in OSM about the last
2 year and a half, but I was an analyst for the Wildlife
3 Division about 12 years ago, closer to 15 years ago
4 because I've been a wildlife Refuge manager for the
5 last 12 years. And then I took this position about a
6 year and a half ago. So I'm trying to get around to as
7 many of the Council meetings that I can, especially in
8 those places that I have not been to yet.

9

10 So thank you very much for having me.

11

12 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Just one follow-up
13 question. How do they select a director of OSM, is it
14 a department employee that's from Colorado or from some
15 other place or can they select an indigenous person
16 that has pretty more intimate knowledge about
17 subsistence, of local subsistence, indigenous
18 knowledge?

19

20 MR. RISDAHL: Mr. Chairman, so the
21 process to select the Federal Subsistence ARD assistant
22 or assistant regional director for OSM has changed a
23 bit over the years. But right now as I was mentioning
24 earlier the process -- it goes through the normal
25 process. So a position is announced and in this case
26 it was announced as both a Fish and Wildlife
27 administrator and an anthropology, culture
28 anthropologist. And it was sent out as a merit
29 promotion as well as a public position. So essentially
30 you could get people from any government agency or the
31 general public to apply for the position.

32

33 Unfortunately the -- when it was first
34 advertised and this has been like -- I'm going to say
35 eight or nine months ago, the cert, the selection of
36 the most highly qualified candidates was made, they had
37 a very low number of candidates that made that list,
38 there were actually three people and so they cancelled
39 the list and they re-advertised it. And I won't go
40 into all the details, but that was open for a short
41 time and they had a CERT list again. Again there were
42 very few candidates on that list. I do know that there
43 was an indigenous person on the first list and then
44 they had to wait 90 days to re-advertise the position
45 again because they essentially made the required
46 qualifications back to what it was the first time. And
47 that position, the application period was supposed to
48 close September 4th, but because again they didn't have
49 enough -- very many candidates, they wanted a larger

50

1 pool of candidates, they extended that application
2 period to September 19th. And I know that they just
3 sent out referrals about two weeks ago for individuals
4 that they are going to interview.
5

6 And I only know two of those people
7 that they're going to interview because we visit, but I
8 don't know who else is on that list or who'll be
9 interviewed, that will be forthcoming.
10

11 CHAIRMAN BROWER: We're just thankful
12 you can step up and pretend to be acting at this point.
13 So that's good.
14

15 MR. RISDAHL: Thank you. Thank you. I
16 do like to do that. Thank you much.
17

18 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair.
19

20 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Well.....
21

22 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council, we
23 do have Edward Rexford on teleconference now. And.....
24

25 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Oh, yeah.
26

27 MS. PATTON:he's ready to provide
28 his report for the Council.
29

30 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yeah, good morning,
31 Eddie. I'll recognize you to go ahead and do your
32 community's report.
33

34 Eddie, you on?
35

36 MR. REXFORD: Yes, I am. Okay. Good
37 morning.
38

39 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yeah, we were on
40 Council members' reports for their own community and
41 we'll (in Native) with you.
42

43 Yeah, go ahead.
44

45 MR. REXFORD: Okay. Yeah, for Kaktovik
46 we had a successful whaling season and caribou season.
47 And fishing we had a lot of salmon of all kinds. And
48 the only thing we're working on right now is the moose
49 issue. I know been working at the Refuge to try to
50

1 increase the quota and hunt anywhere in the Refuge and
2 the season, the time of the year of the hunt. So right
3 now it's open for our moose, we just got to give out
4 the permits at the Native village. And I guess the
5 moose already in rut so that was a bad timing to --
6 we'll have to pick better timing for next year so we'll
7 be able to hunt before they go in rut.

8
9 So other than that everybody been
10 harvesting and all the animals, we didn't see any
11 changes, just a lot of salmon showing.

12 I guess that's it.

13
14 CHAIRMAN BROWER: (In Native), Eddie.
15 Any questions for Councilman from Kaktovik?

16
17 (No comments)

18
19 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I got a question and
20 it's probably going to also be partly to the Refuge
21 manager over there. Seems to me that we deliberated
22 and talked about in our last spring meeting I think it
23 was or our winter meeting about the concerns about
24 Kaktovik and their moose is always at question. For
25 many years they've been limited to only like one or two
26 moose for the community and then there's a little
27 population trend increase. And then now they got to go
28 way far, practically only in the wintertime to reach
29 these areas. And one of their concerns, why do we got
30 to go that far when the moose -- we should be able to
31 get them when they're good and harvestable and edible.
32 And I thought we were trending toward that to be able
33 to look at Kaktovik's needs and so they don't encounter
34 and say all right, we agree with you. Oh, by the way
35 they're stinkers now, they're -- now they got to wait
36 again.

37
38 It seems like we had this conversation
39 already that we were going to do something better for
40 Kaktovik and take incidental moose that may have been
41 much closer than rather than having to say they're way
42 up here and I forgot the river drainage issue, if it
43 was Huluhulu or some other river that seemed to be
44 trending in population. But now they got some
45 ability.....

46
47 MR. REXFORD: Yeah. Yeah.

48
49 CHAIRMAN BROWER:and some tags,

50

1 but now it's rut season.
2

3 Anyway, Eddie, I though I would -- I
4 just remembered having that dialogue about the expanded
5 season and the location. Just you're already
6 restricted in ANWR, you can't even use Hondas or
7 anything on the Noonah and if you want to go out there
8 you got to use dog team or some other or be on foot.
9 And that's how restrictive the Refuge areas seem to be
10 anyway.
11

12 MR. REXFORD: Yeah, you're right, Mr.
13 Chairman. This is Eddie again. As you guys recall we
14 did try to increase the quota to five and hunt anywhere
15 in the Refuge and a longer season, different part of
16 the year. They didn't increase the moose season to
17 five like we agreed to, the Refuge manager say -- said
18 three is going to be for the quota again. And it'll be
19 from October to April I believe. So, yeah, we're kind
20 of wondering if a different time of the year, maybe the
21 other -- the other -- April to -- April, May, June,
22 July, August, September to October. That would work
23 out a lot better, but we'll see what the Refuge manager
24 say for next year and ifhe don't want to change their--
25 how we want it, maybe we'll have to take that
26 authority back from the Refuge manager and have the
27 Subsistence Board decide for us like they originally
28 had.
29

30 That's -- quyanag.
31

32 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yeah, Steve -- is
33 that Steve Berendzen from the Refuge. It may be you
34 can.....
35

36 MR. BERENDZEN: Yeah.
37

38 CHAIRMAN BROWER:see where.....
39

40 MR. BERENDZEN: Yeah.
41

42 CHAIRMAN BROWER: It seems like we were
43 trending and we were going to do something so that a
44 real harvest could try to occur for Kaktovik in this --
45 in this area.
46

47 MR. BERENDZEN: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
48 Steve Berendzen for the record, Refuge manager, Arctic
49 Refuge.
50

1 Yes. In follow-up to that we have been
2 discussing expanding the moose harvest opportunities
3 with Kaktovik and what we came up with were some
4 proposed changes. We didn't -- we were not able to
5 have a public hearing or get those discussed and come
6 up with a public hearing which was required until early
7 October. So we -- from that time, about the earliest
8 that I could propose a season starting was October 20th
9 so that's what we did. The season has been extended
10 from October 20th through April 30th and the
11 opportunities for harvest include all of 26C and the
12 26B remainder that we discussed last year. And they
13 can take bull moose out of any -- that entire area,
14 three bull moose. We also issued 10 permits so 10
15 people have permits with a quota of three, three bull
16 moose.

17
18 And we can talk more about expanding
19 that season, but again we -- we were working on that
20 and only had the public hearing earlier this month.

21
22 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

23
24 CHAIRMAN BROWER: And maybe just to
25 follow-up on this. If I recall the dialogue was at
26 anytime where it was advantageous, that it could be
27 five miles outside of Kaktovik or a little ways down
28 the coast so that it wasn't so burdensome to -- you
29 practically had to be pooling resources to go to the
30 areas to harvest this moose when there could be more
31 localized opportunity. And this question that Eddie
32 has raised about the period of time that it's open is
33 now and we're saying you can only get a bull moose, no
34 calves, no cow or not even just a cow. But the timing
35 and then the limited to -- the bull and which is
36 warranted because of the population size, but now when--
37 I don't like to hunt rutted caribou, bull ones. In
38 fact I've always been told quit hunting the bulls, hunt
39 the females at this point for caribou because they're
40 fat too and they're good eating.

41
42 And it just seemed -- it's just another
43 burden in the timing and still the location issue. I
44 mean, can they hunt if it's local and close now or do
45 they still have to go that 70 and 90 miles to go and
46 get that moose?

47
48 MR. BERENDZEN: They can -- Mr. Chair,
49 they can hunt local and close. They can hunt any area
50

1 in 26C or 26B remainder.

2

3 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yeah. Just seems
4 it's the timing issue now, that's -- I just heard that
5 that's -- I don't think they're going to try to harvest
6 something that's in rut right now.

7

8 MR. BERENDZEN: Mr. Chair, actually
9 most moose are out of the rut now and generally it's
10 September, the month of September, the latter part of
11 September, but generally by the end of September or
12 early October they are out of the rut. But it may be
13 different there.

14

15 As far as timing of the moose hunt, we
16 didn't -- we were discussing it late enough that we
17 didn't have an opportunity to open it earlier in the
18 year. But what our biologists have said is that they
19 would prefer not to have moose harvest during the
20 calving season to be disrupting, you know, or impacting
21 moose, potentially cows with calves. But so we would --
22 we recognize that, we haven't discussed it more
23 specifically. We expect to have those discussions, but
24 I don't know that we would open it for a full year
25 round season.

26

27 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Maybe just a follow-
28 up question. And just reading between the lines from
29 Eddie's statement about maybe is it time to return the
30 authority back to the -- to recommend from the Regional
31 Council to the Federal Subsistence Board and take it
32 away from the Refuge manger. And tell me that dynamic
33 a little bit. Even you would still have a say in
34 harvestability to the moose to the Federal Subsistence
35 Board. Is there -- is that dynamic there, in the past
36 we elected to try to simplify things and give the
37 Refuge manager the ability to work with Kaktovik to see
38 if that would simplify rulemaking on harvesting moose
39 and other resources from the Refuge.

40

41 MR. BERENDZEN: Mr. Chair, I'm not the
42 -- fully aware of all of the requirements in making
43 changes like that so I'm not the right person to be
44 answering that question. We can look into it, we can
45 get the answers on that, but at this point I really
46 don't know how that process would work.

47

48 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yeah, it's just a
49 question I heard Eddie raise, it's a -- his concern

50

1 there. I'm not sure if that's going to be a
2 recommendation to do that or -- but it just sounds like
3 there's some concerns there.

4

5 And we got the acting OSM director.

6

7 MR. REXFORD: Yeah.

8

9 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yeah, go ahead,
10 Eddie.

11

12 MR. REXFORD: Yeah. I believe right
13 now they have it open October to maybe May. And maybe
14 if it was the other half of the year, April, May, June,
15 July, August, September, that would be before the rut,
16 maybe those months would work out better, the other
17 half of the year instead of from October to May. That
18 might have been a better idea, but, yeah, maybe we
19 could shoot for that for next season.

20

21 CHAIRMAN BROWER: (In Native),
22 Councilman Rexford. With that I got Greg, raised his
23 hand to cough up and say something.

24

25 MR. RISDAHL: Thank you, Mr. Chairman,
26 members of the Council. Just to clarify how the
27 regulations process works. So the Federal Subsistence
28 Board gave the Refuge manager the ability to change
29 seasons, harvest dates, those kinds of things, but it
30 -- ultimately the regulation adoption process is up to
31 the Board. I mean, they give this -- we do -- we do it
32 on an annual basis, we write these delegation of
33 authority letters to the in-season managers to as you
34 say simplify the regulation making process, to make it
35 more responsive to current conditions as things are
36 happening on the ground. You get a lot of information
37 from the Refuge, from the State.

38

39 But ultimately the Federal Subsistence
40 Board is the regulating body. So they could say, you
41 know what, we're going to do something different or the
42 Refuge or the Regional Advisory Council, yourselves, or
43 even any member of the public can submit a proposal to
44 change a regulation. And that would go through the
45 process where the Regional Advisory Councils would
46 review that and the Office of Subsistence Management
47 would analyze it and give their suggestions or their
48 thoughts on it and give that information to you guys.
49 And you'd review that and then pass that -- you'd make

50

1 some sort of a judgment, we support or we support with
2 modifications or we reject and then that would go
3 eventually to the Federal Subsistence Board.

4
5 So it's still up to the Board, that is
6 the regulating body, to make these changes in
7 regulations. But to simplify it and make it easier,
8 make it more responsive to the needs of the local
9 people, they hand that authority over to the in-season
10 managers.

11
12 So that's how that works.

13
14 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yeah, thank you,
15 Greg. And it sounds like there's a fair bit of
16 homework to do with the community and it sounds like
17 Eddie's recommending parts of July, August, maybe that
18 might be more advantageous for incidental local take
19 that -- I'm just trying to read between the lines in
20 changing those seasons.

21
22 It seems like the season right now that
23 you're working on, that you've developed, is October to
24 April and when it needs to probably be amended and
25 you're not willing to say there shouldn't be a open
26 year round season based on some certain things. But,
27 you know, I think we hunt caribou year round, you know,
28 but those are -- you know, Kaktovik is pretty isolated
29 area, they've -- their -- moose is a very limited
30 resource and it's sometimes they request for funerals
31 and stuff to have food like that available and they
32 would go out to get some of that stuff as a special
33 request, out of season hunt, special action to do some
34 of that stuff.

35
36 I'm just saying I think we need to be
37 accommodating in these areas and they already have it
38 tough over there. I'd hate to have those kind of
39 regulatory rules overlain by very populated areas on
40 the North Slope. You know, it's heavily regulated over
41 there.

42
43 MR. BERENDZEN: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
44 And I will certainly consult with Mr. Rexford on this
45 and we're very open to discuss it further.

46
47 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Are there any other
48 questions for the Kaktovik member?

49
50

1 MR. OOMITTUK: Mr. Chair.

2
3 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Steve from Tikigaq.

4
5 MR. OOMITTUK: Thank you, Mr. Chair and
6 Edward for your comments and bringing out some of these
7 issues.

8
9 You know, time after time, you know,
10 we've been always told where we can hunt, how much we
11 can hunt, when we can hunt. You know, here we are,
12 Federally recognized tribes, we're a home rule borough,
13 we have a North Slope Borough Wildlife Department and
14 time after time these regulations come before us when
15 we're recognized as subsistence hunters. And, you
16 know, we hunt to survive, the food source has, you
17 know, kept us going time after time. You know, without
18 the food source that comes at certain times of the year
19 so we can be ready for winter to store our food so we
20 can live on through the winter and not go hungry. You
21 know, it was taught to us by our parents, our
22 grandparents, you know, before the Borough was formed,
23 before we had all this technology, before we had all
24 this funds, this money that -- you know, we was totally
25 subsistence hunters. We were not a cash economy place.

26
27
28 But time and time after that, you know,
29 we've always been told, you know, and like what Gordon
30 was saying, I think it's time to go on our own selves,
31 we know our land, we know the animals, we know when
32 they're coming. We want the animals to survive too,
33 we're not going to overhunt them, you know, we want the
34 populations to come up. But it's time that we govern
35 our own people. I mean, we're a Federally recognized
36 tribes in each of our communities, we have a government
37 to government relationship, we're an Advisory Council
38 appointed by the United States Secretary and, you know,
39 we have certain restrictions as the North Slope
40 Subsistence Regional Advisory Council, you know.

41
42 We have no jurisdiction in the ocean,
43 you know, we can make some concerns, but we have
44 certain restrictions as a Council. But, you know, we
45 can voice our concerns, but then, you know, we have so
46 many different advisory councils and, you know, you
47 have the Beluga Commission, you have the AWC, you have
48 the Walrus Commission, the Polar Bear Commission that
49 deals with all these issues regarding our oceans. Here
50

1 we are an Advisory Council for the North Slope
2 Subsistence Regional Council, but, you know, we live --
3 most of us live -- depend on the ocean. The ocean is
4 our garden. We want to ensure its safety.

5
6 Even though we bring out these concerns
7 about the -- you know, the traffic that's coming more
8 through the Northwest Passage, international waters
9 where we have no jurisdiction, no say so on the ships
10 of -- we don't even know what they're doing. We don't
11 even know what they're dumping into our ocean. The
12 Arctic Ocean isn't that deep, the pollutants that are
13 being put in there, you know, the migration routes of
14 the animals that we see, the current changes, the
15 climate changes.

16
17 You know we have these concerns. You
18 know we want to continue our way of life and we want
19 our younger generation to continue what we -- what we
20 were taught to live, to live off the land and the sea,
21 you know to provide.

22
23 Whaling captains, you know, are very
24 honorable people, they feed the people, they gather.
25 You know, when they catch a whale it's not for
26 themselves, it's for the whole community. When they go
27 out hunting, fishing, they feed the whole community
28 during Thanksgiving and Christmas.

29
30 But when animals are not caught it's
31 hard, you know. There's two times in my life when
32 Point Hope didn't catch a whale. You know, and those
33 were the two worst times that I've ever had, you know.
34 And you could see it within the people, you know. It
35 was in 1990 and 2005 when Point Hope didn't catch a
36 whale. You know, it was ice conditions, weather, you
37 know, there was certain other things.

38
39 But, you know, even though we are an
40 Advisory Council and, you know, we make these records
41 and then proposals come up to us and time and time
42 after we're regulated, where we can hunt, what we can
43 hunt, how much. And like I said I think it's time for
44 us, we have that solemn rights as tribal governments,
45 as a home rule borough, it's time to regulate our own
46 way of hunting, of subsistence, because we're the ones
47 that live here. We're the ones that are going to
48 always be here.

1 Thank you.

2

3 CHAIRMAN BROWER: (In Native), Steve.
4 Any other questions for Kaktovik?

5

6 (No comments)

7

8 CHAIRMAN BROWER: And anybody's welcome
9 to address the Council too. I mean, there's also
10 tribal consultation and every morning we're going to
11 take in the, you know, concerns and comments from
12 residents. It's important. I think the Council trying
13 to visit communities is important so we can hear
14 directly from affected communities in their region and
15 learn about their issues in subsistence and other
16 things.

17

18 With that if there's no further
19 questions for Kaktovik and I think I.....

20

21 MR. HOPSON: Mr. Chair.

22

23 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Is that William?

24

25 MR. HOPSON: Yes.

26

27 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I'm going to
28 recognize Mr. Hopson from Utqiagvik. Go ahead.

29

30 MR. HOPSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
31 I thought you were done. I was going to ask you to
32 call for a five minute break before we get to item
33 nine, eight and nine.

34

35 MS. KIPPI: Mr. Chair.

36

37 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yeah, go ahead,
38 Wanda.

39

40 MS. KIPPI: I wanted to add to my
41 Council report if that's okay before we're done with
42 this.

43

44 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yeah, (in Native), go
45 ahead.

46

47 MS. KIPPI: I just -- it caught some of
48 the things that I remembered.

49

50

1 During the summer the berries, the
2 salmonberries were good, they were good picking, but
3 near the end of August they were -- the weather was
4 changing and it was getting colder and they started,
5 you know, freezing and getting white. And there was no
6 blueberries and no blackberries. There was some
7 cranberries, people picked cranberries, but I got only
8 a quart, a little over a quart of cranberries this year
9 and that was -- that's rare. I usually pick quite a
10 bit.

11
12 And add to the fish, I forgot to
13 mention that there was one pike that was caught in a
14 net from a fisherman. And they didn't know what to do
15 with it. So -- and some humpback salmon, there was a
16 lot of humpback salmon caught on a net -- on the same
17 net and they were giving them away. And so I said I
18 better go grab that pike and some salmon. And I did go
19 grab that pike and that was the first time I ever tried
20 pike.

21
22 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Was it good?

23
24 MS. KIPPI: It was good.

25
26 (Laughter)

27
28 MS. KIPPI: I sure enjoyed it. And I
29 still have some of it. It's such a big fish, almost
30 like tittaaaliq sizes. And it could feed quite a bit,
31 it could last a few servings. And I was just wondering
32 how come. And there's another one from a hunter in
33 Barrow, a hunter, a whaler, there was some salmon, I
34 think silver salmon on the Cake Eater Creek over there
35 that I heard of just recently too.

36
37 Did you hear about that?

38
39 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I saw people looking
40 at something.

41
42 MS. KIPPI: Yeah. So it was actually
43 one of the -- one of the Cake Eater guys that live over
44 there. They -- they were looking at salmon in that
45 creek which they've never had ever heard of any salmon
46 there in that area. So that.....

47
48 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yeah, that Kuparuk
49 goes up that way and then it's from (in Native) and (in
50

1 Native) has (in Native) and (in Native in there. But
2 it goes through all that (in Native) and that's
3 unusual, you know.
4

5 MS. KIPPI: Yeah. So I thought I'd
6 mention that because that's unusual to have pike in our
7 area and humpback salmon is getting more common in our
8 area which is awkward to see.
9

10 But I just wanted to add that to the
11 report.
12

13 Thank you.
14

15 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Wanda.
16 And I think that would.....
17

18 MR. OOMITTUK: There's some other
19 community members here and I don't know, they might
20 want to say something.
21

22 CHAIRMAN BROWER: (In Native). And our
23 host from Tikigaq, Steve, if there are community
24 members here (in Native), we welcome you and -- to the
25 mic. This is your community and you've got area
26 biologists, you have people from OSM, from Office of
27 Subsistence Management, there's Orville, he's a
28 subsistence liaison. And we had some introductions
29 this morning, there's folks like Karen Hyer, does
30 Fisheries Resource Monitoring, could suggest studies
31 and things like that or nominate areas of concerns for
32 studies and things like that. And in the past there's
33 been quite a bit of referrals like from Anaktuvuk to
34 study dolly varden around Anaktuvuk and Kaktovik and
35 other areas like that.
36

37 Mr. Kinnieveauk, come on down to the
38 mic.
39

40 MR. KINNIEVEAUK: Yes, real quick. We
41 have muskox here in our area, transplanted I believe.
42 We want to start hunting them. They're on the way. My
43 tribe there made one time, but that was in another
44 village. It's really good meat. I don't know how we
45 can start hunting them. Change of diet would be good.
46 And there's a lot of them, they're growing, that
47 population is growing. If they could help us out in
48 opening that game for us, you know, I don't know if
49 it's through a lottery or tickets or whatever, but I
50

1 never seen, you know, where to go to get one. We just
2 bypass them. But I've tried the meat, it's real good.
3 Hopefully they can open it up for our village.

4
5 Thank you.

6
7 CHAIRMAN BROWER: (In Native). And we
8 have Carmen from ADF&G. And I think ADF&G did an
9 emergency opener in Atkasuk to harvest muskox in that
10 area because of displacement of caribou and other
11 things like that.

12
13 But that is a great question. I often
14 wonder because our Ikpihpuk area has muskox and
15 sometimes they're just in the way, you know. And they
16 don't even like to run away, they just bluff you, you
17 know.

18
19 MS. DAGGETT: Thank you for your
20 comments, Mr. Chair. So unit 23, if the muskox are in
21 unit 23 there actually is a season in unit 23 for
22 muskox. And there's a tier II permit that people can
23 apply for. And they need to talk to the Kotzebue Fish
24 and Game office about getting those tier II permits.
25 And so in the tier II permit system people would apply
26 and then they would be given a certain number of points
27 from that application. And then their names go into a
28 hat and then the permit is kind of drawn based on that
29 point system.

30
31 So there is a hunt that exists for
32 those muskox that are in unit 23 and not in 26A under
33 23 regulations. I just want to be clear about that.
34 There's separate regulations between unit 23 and 26A.
35 So you would want to make sure that if you were going
36 to hunt muskox you would want to go Singoalik River and
37 south instead of north of the Singoalik. I just want
38 to be clear about that.

39
40 And so that's how unit 23 muskox hunt
41 stuff works.

42
43 You're correct that there was a muskox
44 hunt that was open in 26A for a brief period of time.
45 It was opened under regulations that were meant to
46 address the concerns about disruption of caribou
47 movement and that season was open for two muskox and it
48 closed on the 18th. We issued one permit under that
49 hunt and there were no muskox that were actually
50

1 harvested under that hunt. It did take a while for
2 that hunt to come to fruition as Wanda pointed out.
3 It's been a while since that hunt has been open and so
4 it took some time to get through the process of that,
5 but hopefully we'll become more efficient if it is
6 necessary.

7

8 Thank you.

9

10 CHAIRMAN BROWER: And I got a question.
11 And I think it's important. You know, we hear moose
12 issues in ANWR for Kaktovik. And they're so restricted
13 they can only hunt three of them. And some of the
14 concerns about -- I was told one time from an area
15 biologist that the moose was transient, it always -- no
16 matter if you kill them all off they're going to come
17 back again from the south side and that's how they were
18 moving. And I was told that from a biologist, that it
19 fluctuates in these areas because the moose go in and
20 out. And then there's populations that they talk about
21 and then they try to regulate those.

22

23 So is there actual census on muskox
24 that go on to discern when it's time. I mean, I'm
25 hearing that there's interest in communities. And
26 besides muskox was here in 1700s, they were decimated
27 from commercial whalers because it was really good
28 eating. And I had some, it's really good, you know,
29 it's good eating. And my dad said he knew a guy when
30 he was in the reindeer herding, an old, old man said he
31 was one of the ones that was alive, that he thinks he
32 was the last one to catch a muskox and he was an old
33 man. And said he was one of the last people to get
34 muskox on the North Slope over here before they were
35 extinct and then re-transplanted I think in the '60s
36 either from Greenland or somewhere else.

37

38 So talk about that for a minute. Seems
39 like there's an interest here and then there should be
40 some trends to try to address these kinds of things
41 because they do become nuisance sometimes. Because
42 sometimes they're belligerent. We've encountered them
43 at Ikpihpuk and we had requested a emergency hunt for
44 them too, but it took so long, so long for a response.
45 Then when we finally got the permission to shoot these,
46 about the next day they took off. It took like three
47 weeks to get the permission to do it. But it just --
48 you know, I don't know, it just -- it's cumbersome,
49 laborious, that should be looked at in a different way

50

1 probably.

2
3 MS. DAGGETT: So to address your
4 question on census information, muskox census
5 information. So last spring I did a survey in the
6 Wainwright, Atkasuk, Point Lay kind of triangle trying
7 to see if there were muskox out there. Usually we like
8 to do muskox surveys in the spring before the snow
9 really starts to melt because it makes them more
10 obvious on the landscape, they're easier to detect. So
11 I did a survey during that time period. Unfortunately
12 the landscape last spring, I'm sure you all remember,
13 was a bit windblown in the springtime. And so it was
14 rather difficult to do that survey. And so after a day
15 of looking at the landscape it was difficult to be able
16 to even tell if anything was there.

17
18 So what is happening in addition to
19 that attempt at evaluating muskox in this part of the
20 country is we are doing a census in this coming spring
21 actually that will include the Cape Thomson muskox
22 population and up into the North Slope. So we will be
23 working again this spring to try to evaluate the muskox
24 population in this region. And so that's your answer
25 to that question.

26
27 I think that as far as your comment on
28 the process right now for hunting muskox in this region
29 that, you know, we could go to the drawing board and
30 try to come up with something that would work. The
31 problem right now is that the muskox population at
32 least on the western portion and most of 26A is very
33 low. When we go out on the landscape there's actually
34 not a lot around. And we want to make sure, just like
35 any population, that we have a sustainable population
36 that we're going to take animals out of. And that's
37 always at the forefront of the discussion when we talk
38 about opening a hunt. So I think it will be valuable
39 to get this census information this spring and
40 hopefully we can look at that and see how many muskox
41 we have in this region, particularly on the western
42 side. I think we have a better idea of how many muskox
43 are on the eastern side. The majority of the muskox
44 that are on the eastern portion of 26A, there's not a
45 lot of them first of all and second of all there's more
46 -- there's a larger group of muskox that are kind of
47 gathered in 26B and they're kind of conglomerating
48 there more so than they are on the eastern side of 26A.

1 And so it seems like that we have a lot
2 to learn about muskox in 26A and we'll continue to look
3 at that. And in the process I would like to talk with
4 individuals about ideas that they would like to have
5 for muskox hunts. Right now the hunt that's on the
6 books, we would need to get a certain population number
7 to be able to open a hunt. And your comment about only
8 being able to take a few is to get at the point of
9 trying to maintain a sustainable population. So we
10 want to provide some opportunity for hunters in some
11 way and it may not be able to be a lot of animals
12 because we want to maintain that sustainable
13 population. But it is reasonable to request some level
14 of opportunity.

15
16 And so that's my comments on muskox.

17
18 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yeah, thank you,
19 Carmen. It sounds like there's an interest and there
20 -- I frankly think there should be visits to every
21 community, you know, periodically to talk about, you
22 know, subsistence issues like these. Because it just
23 seems like from what I'm hearing a little bit that they
24 don't even know who to go to, who do you talk to on
25 these issues. And when the resources are out there and
26 being able to legitimately harvest these things. I
27 think that's just a -- there's an interest and I -- you
28 said there is -- 23 has a hunt and just work out the
29 details, maybe a quota for the community, for here. I
30 don't know what scheme it is for 23 because 23 is cross
31 boundaries over to parts of -- outside of the North
32 Slope Borough as well.

33
34 MS. DAGGETT: So, you know, this --
35 there's a limited amount of muskox that are able to be
36 taken under the unit 23 hunt and I think it's -- I'm
37 not going to comment on the number, but I'm pretty sure
38 it's less than 10. So that's definitely something to
39 keep in mind and, you know, it's something that needs
40 to be discussed with the unit 23 biologists.

41
42 CHAIRMAN BROWER: And just one other
43 thing real quick. Is that 10 limited to Federally-
44 qualified users or State tier hunt or what is it
45 because it seems like you're not going to go to a
46 resident hunt on here, are you?

47
48 MS. DAGGETT: It.....

49
50

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Because the State
2 scheme on resident hunt meaning -- that means if it's
3 on State land it's a resident hunt, somebody from
4 Fairbanks can go get it, somebody from Anchorage can go
5 it and it seems to me that this can't be a resident
6 hunt, this has to be some sort of a tier hunt level for
7 community subsistence or cultural need.
8

9 MS. DAGGETT: So the unit 23 hunt as I
10 said before is a tier II sub -- it's a tier II resident
11 hunt. And when you go through the tier II process and
12 you fill out that application they ask you things like
13 how much do you pay for gas, how much is your cost of
14 living, those sorts of things. And then you are
15 assigned a certain number of -- also what your level of
16 the resource -- what your level of use of the resource
17 is and that type of thing. There's several questions
18 that help assign people points based on those types of
19 questions and then the names are put in the hat and
20 drawn off of that. So that's how the tier II muskox
21 hunt has been working in unit 23. So that's what is
22 available there.
23

24 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Well, it's
25 interesting because, you know, there's always this
26 State versus Federal side of things and I've seen this
27 proposal to make a resident hunt of moose on 156 west
28 in Federal public land and that's close to my cabin
29 when we're already struggling for even local people to
30 get that moose. And there's a proposal by ADF&G to
31 make a resident hunt. And I really frown upon saying
32 resident hunt on Federal public land when the Federal
33 public land says you must provide a rural subsistence
34 priority. Meaning you better be a rural community
35 member to hunt that moose, not an urban, Fairbanks or
36 Anchorage.
37

38 And so you got to be careful how you
39 submit your proposals. Are you proposing even -- I'm
40 sorry, I'm mixing apples and oranges because I just saw
41 one to try to convert or convince on Federal public
42 land to make a resident hunt of this very limited,
43 scarce moose resource in NPR-A to a resident hunt.
44 And, I mean, are those guide influences at play here or
45 what. That's what -- that would lead me to those kind
46 of questions, but certainly I think there's an
47 opportunity for local Tikigaq people to be able to get
48 muskox through what you're talking about. But those
49 are the systems in play, it sounds like it's a tier
50

1 hunt, a tier II, that you're talking about for muskox.

2

3 MS. DAGGETT: Okay. Let's -- there's a
4 little bit of confusion here and I think -- I want to
5 separate things a little bit too. So how muskox are
6 being managed versus how moose are being managed on the
7 North Slope are totally different.

8

9 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I understand that.

10

11 MS. DAGGETT: And it's totally
12 different from unit 23 as well. So I'm going to get
13 into some detail on the Power Point presentation that I
14 have with that moose proposal. And I have some
15 information for you and we can talk about that in
16 detail. Do we want to wait to have that conversation
17 when we actually talk about that stuff and it's up in
18 front of you?

19

20 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yeah, I think so, but
21 go ahead and address the muskox portion because that
22 came from the residents here.

23

24 MS. DAGGETT: I'm not sure what else
25 beyond what I've already said, is there a piece that
26 I'm missing, I feel like I.....

27

28 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Like your phone
29 number so they know who to call.

30

31 MS. DAGGETT: Oh. So my office number
32 in Barrow is 907-852-3464. And I am certainly very
33 happy to talk to any hunters, I welcome them to come to
34 my office, it's over next to the Borough Assembly
35 building. Many people don't know I'm in Presbyterian
36 Church, but I am. So, you know, I love to hear from
37 local hunters and I really encourage that. And if you
38 can't get to me in person I do often travel to villages
39 too and I try to make at least annual visits to all of
40 the surrounding North Slope communities. And I'm going
41 to talk about that some in my presentation later too.
42 But I travel a fair amount and really try to reach out
43 to villages when I can. And I did spend some time in
44 Anaktuvuk Pass a bit ago and really talked with a lot
45 of residents there and I plan to do so with the rest of
46 the villages this year as well. So the outreach
47 component of it is something that I take very seriously
48 and I really value all of the hunters' knowledge and
49 opinions and thoughts and I really like to hear them.

50

1 So know that I'm always open to that and I'm always
2 reaching for that stuff too.

3
4 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Just one last thing
5 before we entertain a break and I think there's been a
6 request to take a break, and I -- I'll recognize Wanda
7 here in just a second from Atqasuk too.

8
9 MS. KIPPI: Thank you.

10
11 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I just want to also
12 say, you know, Tikigaq like many other communities has
13 adopt -- they have now a comprehensive plan. And that
14 comprehensive plan also defines an area of influence.

15
16 MS. DAGGETT: Uh-huh.

17
18 CHAIRMAN BROWER: An area of influence
19 means the immediate environment outside of the village
20 district boundary, like the municipal boundary, for --
21 that supports the contemporary and traditional use
22 patterns. And the hunters and the community themselves
23 define the area of influence for Tikigaq. And then
24 there's Alaska statutes that say departments of the
25 State are to conform to the laws and ordinances and
26 zoning of the home rule borough of the North Slope. It
27 says that in Alaska statute. That means ADF&G, DOT,
28 DNR, have to listen to the laws and ordinances and
29 abide by them too. I can pull out the specific Alaska
30 statutes that say these things. So how do you use and
31 are willing to look at the village area of influence
32 for Tikigaq for that kind of -- probably a tier hunt
33 for that community inside that village area of
34 influence that provides a contemporary and traditional
35 use pattern to support the community.

36
37 I think those are important pieces of
38 the puzzles that are new, these are new things. The
39 Borough has started to develop these for their
40 communities and enacted by its own legislature, the
41 Assembly, into law. Does that mean you're not
42 recognizing where you're supposed to be recognizing and
43 work with the community to recognize the area of
44 influence for each community?

45
46 MS. DAGGETT: I -- I'm going to say
47 that these sorts of decisions are made well above my
48 pay grade.

49
50

1 (Laughter)

2
3 MS. DAGGETT: So, you know, I think --
4 yeah, that, you know, there's certainly -- we certainly
5 look at those things and try to take those into
6 consideration. But I -- there's a lot of things that
7 are taken into consideration that I don't even know
8 about it so I'm just going to.....
9

10 CHAIRMAN BROWER: You're supposed to
11 take into consideration the statutes that -- you're
12 supposed to abide by those laws. You're not supposed
13 to take into consideration when your statute says
14 listen to the home rule borough. You're the State,
15 we're a political subdivision and there's Alaska
16 statute that says you got to abide by that. That's --
17 I don't think -- unless you go and have a
18 constitutional convention to -- or change laws and
19 stuff.
20

21 I mean, I'll leave it at that, but at
22 this point I'll recognize Wanda from Atqasuk.
23

24 MS. KIPPI: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I
25 wanted to just add or comment on the muskox with you.
26 And I'm glad you brought it up again, thank you. When
27 I came up -- when I called her up or messaged her I --
28 or visited her on our way here I asked her if we could
29 open it up from August -- first part of August to the
30 first week of October for the muskox. And that's
31 changing the whole new thing going on for there and
32 they need to go through the Board of Game to make those
33 changes. Because the muskox are scaring the caribou
34 away and they -- and they're damaging the (in Native),
35 the tundra when they (in Native), when they eat. So
36 they -- and it's going to provide mead for the
37 community which they are -- whoever catches that muskox
38 they are going to share it with the community for sure.
39

40 So I just wanted to add that. I'm
41 hoping something will.....
42

43 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yeah, thank you,
44 Wanda.
45

46 MS. KIPPI:be done.
47

48 CHAIRMAN BROWER: You know what, that
49 kind of strikes an interest, one last.....
50

1 MS. KIPPI: Because.....

2
3 CHAIRMAN BROWER:thing.
4

5 MS. KIPPI:because that is the
6 time when the muskox usually come around our area, that
7 one -- one muskox must know that -- it must be its
8 route. And if it's scaring our caribou and we can't
9 catch caribou, it's right around my area. It even come
10 right into Atqasuk last year. And she -- they told her
11 about it too I think, I believe and -- yeah.
12

13 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Here's a quick
14 question. Atqasuk is surrounded by Federal public
15 land. I don't see any State land around Atqasuk.
16

17 MS. KIPPI: True.
18

19 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Is the muskox in
20 trespass now that you're trying to have regulation on
21 Federal public land and that we should be referring to
22 rural subsistence priority on Federal land when the
23 Federal land says you must have rural preference. At
24 one point it used to say you must have Native
25 preference a long time ago. And when the State had its
26 impasse on subsistence on its constitutional
27 convention. When was that, 1994?
28

29 Anyway I'm just saying ADF&G, I know we
30 want to work with you too and we had this thing about
31 aligning of regulations so it doesn't -- once you go on
32 State land and Federal land that the regulations mirror
33 such that the enforcement remains the same. But I
34 think we could change those rules on Federal public
35 lands when we need to to accommodate.....
36

37 MS. PATTON: Mr.....
38

39 CHAIRMAN BROWER:this kind of
40 thing. I just see some concerns here about, you know,
41 the muskox that are on Federal public land versus the
42 State public lands.
43

44 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council, if
45 I may. So the muskox population has been low in that
46 area and that's been a report that comes to the Council
47 fairly regularly, updates on the population status.
48 And you are correct if someone wants to submit a
49 proposal to open up a hunt on the Federal lands, a
50

1 member from the public can do that, the Council can do
2 that. Part of the consideration that the Federal
3 Subsistence Board takes into account though is
4 population status. And so that will still be
5 considered, but if there's observations and an interest
6 from the community on the Federal public lands through
7 the regulatory cycle process a proposal can be
8 submitted to open it up and they will take a look at
9 the current population status and the biology and the
10 subsistence in the region. There aren't currently any
11 proposals to open up a muskox hunt in -- under the
12 Federal Subsistence proposals that are before you
13 today, but that is something that both the public and
14 the Council can pursue in the future.

15
16 And I think to address the member of
17 the public here from Point Hope, just want to make sure
18 that you get the information that you need for the
19 current State hunt for unit 23. And so I think the
20 primary contacts for Point Hope are actually out of
21 Kotzebue for unit 23. And so we can make sure like
22 over break that we get the best contact information for
23 you, for people in Point Hope who'd like to pursue that
24 opportunity to apply for this hunt in unit 23 for
25 muskox.

26
27 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Eva. And
28 I think that's important. You know, we should try to
29 make sure everybody has enough information to get their
30 questions answered and do it in a way that facilitates.
31 Sometimes I think the biologists don't like nobody to
32 hunt these animals and that they will not even count
33 them correctly, you know.

34
35 Anyway, but with that any other
36 concerns from community members? And we'll have an
37 opportunity again tomorrow for any residents that want
38 to address the Council in any subsistence issue that --
39 even proposals, you could make proposals. And then --
40 I've made proposal one time and didn't make it and, but
41 you can try. And but we do try to support communities,
42 we've tried to make proposals for Kaktovik on moose
43 issues, it's always an uphill battle. Sometimes I want
44 to yell at OSM too, say listen to us. Hey, we're the
45 Council here and when you write -- when we make a
46 proposal and OSM is against even their own Advisory
47 Council, is sometimes an uphill battle. And we should
48 be supported by numbers and be able to have a
49 legitimate proposal that can go forward like harvest
50

1 bag limits, seasons changing and emergency request and
2 things like -- just Atqasuk had an emergency request to
3 harvest moose and that was -- not moose, but muskox.
4 Yeah, I saw your -- say moose, yeah, it was -- it was
5 muskox.

6
7 By anyway do we want to take five or 10
8 minutes or what's the wish of the.....

9
10 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council.
11 Yeah, if.....

12
13 CHAIRMAN BROWER:Council?

14
15 MS. PATTON:if I may just to
16 address the public that's gathered here. As Gordon,
17 Chair of the Council had mentioned, we have an
18 opportunity in the morning on both days. So, you know,
19 if you didn't speak this morning, but would like to
20 address the Council on issues for subsistence or for
21 your community, we will have that opportunity again
22 tomorrow morning for open feedback and to hear from
23 everyone here.

24
25 And also as the Council is working
26 through these proposals on the agenda and having a
27 discussion here today, if you would like to address the
28 Council or ask a question specific to the agenda
29 discussion, we do have -- there's some little blue
30 cards up there and you can fill that out and bring it --
31 bring it up to us here and that way we know you would
32 like to address the Council on one of the agenda items
33 here and we can be sure to reach out to you.
34 But again tomorrow morning we'll have an open
35 opportunity to hear from the public, your feedback,
36 your observations, questions and recommendations.

37
38 And there is information on the back
39 table there about submitting Federal subsistence
40 proposals, how that process works, the Federal
41 Subsistence Program. And we're all here, we'll be here
42 over lunch and for a potluck dinner tonight to join us.
43 So any questions for fisheries biologist, wildlife
44 biologists, the process, the Council, we do have
45 applications to serve on the Regional Advisory Council
46 and that process is open now too. So please do just --
47 I mean, if you'd like to address the Council just alert
48 us that you want to address something on the agenda and
49 then we'll have opportunity tomorrow and any chance
50

1 you're welcome to just come grab any of us for
2 questions, you know, over lunch or the break or dinner
3 tonight as well.

4
5 So thank you so much for coming and
6 thank you for welcoming us to Point Hope.

7
8 CHAIRMAN BROWER: All right, Eva, I
9 know you're long-winded sometimes.....

10
11 (Laughter)

12
13 CHAIRMAN BROWER:because that's
14 why you're the Madam Coordinator.

15
16 (Laughter)

17
18 MS. PATTON: Not as long as -- not as
19 long as you.

20
21 (Laughter)

22
23 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yeah. Well, anyway I
24 encourage residents to be here because later on under
25 new business too there's crossover proposals for unit
26 23 and some of them say something like eliminate bull
27 closure and prohibit on calf harvest for caribou in
28 unit 23. Something you might be interested in because
29 you're unit 23, might have been a proposal that came in
30 from the Kotzebue side or some -- or somebody else is
31 making that proposal.

32
33 And then another one, WP 20-47 is
34 eliminate cow season for moose in unit 23. There's a
35 reason for that, I don't know what it is, but it would
36 be good for the -- because you're unit 23 as well, you
37 might want to hear that.

38
39 Recent closure, it's WP 20-49, recent
40 closure on non-Federally-qualified users for sheep.
41 And when they say recent closure on non-Federally-
42 qualified user, I'm a Federally-qualified user for a
43 resource, you're a Federally-qualified user for a
44 resource, you have a customary and determination use
45 for a resource. And to non-Federally-qualified users
46 when you're going to rescind that, that means you're
47 inviting guides, you're inviting other residents and
48 things like that to these things and stuff. But this
49 one is 25A though, that would be an issue for Kaktovik
50

1 on that one.

2
3 And there's language that people really
4 need to understand because it took me a long time to
5 learn how to understand what non-Federally-qualified
6 user was, just a nonresident, you know, from Montana.
7 And guided by a guide with an airplane in my view. Or
8 it could -- because the State views things as resident
9 and that scares me on Federal public land because the
10 Federal public land says you must have a rural
11 subsistence priority. When they start to make
12 regulation change, oh, ADF&G's proposing to open this
13 moose to resident use. Oh, sounds good, I'm a
14 resident. But so is Fairbanks and so is Anchorage and
15 so is Juneau. And you're -- it seems to suggest that
16 one moose that I really been wanting to get for 20
17 years, somebody's going to fly in and snatch it out of
18 my hands and camp there and do it.

19
20 So there's terms and terminologies that
21 over time you learn to be afraid of some of these
22 languages. And we would ask ADF&G to highly explain
23 what they're planning. And it's important to hear
24 those things.

25
26 With that do we want to take a break or
27 do we want to push on?

28
29 MR. OOMITTUK: So are we going on a 10
30 minute break, is that what you said?

31
32 CHAIRMAN BROWER: There's a bunch
33 hungry for lunch, we can grab some munchies or
34 something.

35
36 MR. OOMITTUK: So moved.

37
38 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Okay. We're taking
39 a.....

40
41 MR. HOPSON: 1:30.

42
43 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Oh, is it lunchtime
44 already?

45
46 MR. HOPSON: It's past lunchtime, Mr.
47 Chairman.

48
49 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Oh. Oh, I didn't
50

1 know. Okay. We're taking lunch until 1:30, 1:00, what
2 time is it?

3

4 IN UNISON: 12:20.

5

6 (Laughter)

7

8 CHAIRMAN BROWER: 1:15? Okay. All
9 right. I didn't even know we were talking that much.

10

11 MR. REXFORD: Bye.

12

13 (Off record)

14

15 (On record)

16

17 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Okay. I'd like to
18 get the meeting back to order. All right. We're back
19 on the record and we took a lunch break. And I think
20 we are item eight is my understanding unless we were --
21 we're done with all the members' reports and Chair's
22 reports.

23

24 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council.
25 Correct, we did quickly skip over the service awards
26 discussion for public and tribal comment so we'll go
27 back to service awards. Just a real quick update that
28 Council members are recognized for their -- for their
29 long service on the Council. And we don't have any
30 service awards at this meeting, but we will have some
31 coming up. We have a five year service award which the
32 Council member from Point Hope, Steve Oomittuk, will
33 have served five years next year. So that one's coming
34 up. And we do have many new Councils on the -- Council
35 members on the Council which we're really appreciative
36 of and we'll be covering applications to serve on the
37 Council as well for the public.

38

39 We do have another long time Council
40 member, Mr. Gordon Brower, our Chair. And you have
41 another 20 plus year coming up next year. I know
42 there's a little gap in there, but long time, since
43 1998 I believe was when you first started.

44

45 So thank everyone for your service and
46 our new Council members for the time you take to be
47 here and your dedication to your communities.

48

49 Thank you.

50

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: (In Native), Eva.
2 (In Native). Thank you very much, we're very thankful
3 to you.
4

5 So I guess we'll go down the item list,
6 to public and tribal comments on nonagenda items,
7 available each morning. And I have a asterisks here
8 under that as well, Orville Lind, OSM Native liaison.
9

10 So do we have Orville that's going to
11 do something here?
12

13 MR. EVANS: I just spoke with Eva and
14 Eva's on the phone, but the -- she suggested that the
15 tribal representative from Point Hope will be here
16 tomorrow morning and she was thinking of moving Orville
17 to first thing tomorrow morning and then starting off
18 with old business right now.
19

20 So if I said that correct, Eva, that's
21 where we are.
22

23 MR. HOPSON: Mr. Chairman.
24

25 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yeah, go ahead there,
26 Mr. Hopson.
27

28 MR. HOPSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
29 Like I said this morning I would like to comment on
30 item number 9 on the agenda, public and tribal comment
31 on nonagenda items. I would like to speak on behalf of
32 the Inupiaq Community on the -- of the Arctic Slope. I
33 am vice president for the Inupiaq Community. And I
34 would like to make a comment that -- and I thank you
35 folks on the Federal side, and thank you for the State
36 for having comment attendees, if you will keep your
37 ears open and listen to what I have to say. As a --
38 I'm going to speak to you as a tribal council member
39 and I am like I said vice president for the Inupiaq
40 Community of the Arctic Slope.
41

42 This -- my comment is on behalf of
43 regulations. We need -- I'm also on the North Slope
44 Borough Advisory Council, Fish and Game. I've been
45 with them for over 15 years. And for years the Federal
46 and State have brought us regulations to go by. And
47 for years they've never really recognized the need of
48 the people, the unemployment, the other people who
49 otherwise could not support themselves. And I have to
50

1 speak up on this, on the regulations, State and
2 Federal. And it -- in regards to the standards of
3 regulations.

4
5 For years, all my life, I took -- I was
6 a participant in the 1963 duck-in, the youngest person
7 ever. And I watch out for my people, the animals,
8 practically all my life. And some of this is hard, but
9 I'll say it. The standard of regulation has been
10 dependent on the amount of animals there is.
11 Migration, migrational animals or nothing. And we're
12 still regulated. Because this time and this age of
13 climate change the people are hurting to put meat in
14 their cellars, in the freezer, for this winter's use.
15 That part of life is gone now to climate change. And
16 many people have tried to dry fish meat and because of
17 climate change thousands of pounds of dry meat are
18 being thrown away because they're not drying, they're
19 molding before they dry. That's a thousand pounds per
20 village, maybe some hunters per hunter. And that takes
21 away meat for the winter, for these families. And it's
22 hard to see them go through that. The nutritional
23 values of the food given to them from the food bank
24 doesn't match the nutritional values of the animals we
25 get. And that hurts them big time in the wintertime.

26
27 And therefore the standard of
28 regulations need to be adjusted, State and Federal, to
29 meet the people's needs, the families out there. And
30 it hurts to see me look at families that are in need of
31 food in the cold weather. And they need help on that.
32 The way regulation has been is the population counts of
33 animals, the health of the animals. Today in this day
34 and age I think we need to change that. And change it
35 so that the Native people's needs govern the regulation
36 part, not the animals. You need to change the way you
37 see regulation. You need to recognize the people are
38 in need. Don't, you know, use numbers from animals to
39 regulate the people.

40
41 Amount needed for necessary -- needed
42 for survival must take place before any sports hunting
43 is approved, done or basically, you know, what I'm
44 saying. It needs to change. The people need to be the
45 ones to dictate up on the North Slope the regulations.
46 And the way I see it you need to have them take the
47 amount necessary for survival in the winter before any
48 sports hunt with transporters are given permits. And
49 let the people hunt to get the amount necessary for

50

1 survival for the year, then after that's done maybe the
2 tribe can open a sports hunt. You need to reverse the
3 way you regulate our animals. It's more -- has become
4 more that you are regulating the people, not the
5 animals with the current existing way you regulate fish
6 and game. And use -- you guys need to recognize that,
7 the difference, the people's need versus the animals
8 count, population.
9

10 And recognize that the people need to
11 -- more than sport hunters and transporters. And
12 somehow they remain in the picture as -- for example,
13 Anaktuvuk Pass has not had a good caribou hunt in at
14 least 15 years because the transporters are re-routing
15 the migration path. And that's impeding their way of
16 life, their very survival. And that's important to
17 recognize as a regulator which is more important, a
18 human life, family or your job as to count the animals.
19 And please recognize that. Take it home with you,
20 that's the way it is for our people. They are hurting,
21 you know. Like I said there's a food bank, the
22 nutritional values are not there and I just wanted you
23 folks to hear that from me.
24

25 And I had a few things written down
26 here, I said most of them, but please recognize that
27 and look at the way you regulate a Native people's way
28 of life. Right now, you know, cultures change because
29 of climate change, we have to change. But recognize
30 the people first before the amount of animals that are
31 there and to regulate. Because it's hard for our
32 people all over in the seven villages to try to, you
33 know, do I want to become an outlaw so I can feed my
34 family or am I going to listen to the regulations and
35 maybe have a hungry week or so. You recognize that.
36

37 Those things are never brought up in
38 any meetings that I have been to. And this is only the
39 second time I said that, last month I did to a
40 different group, but please recognize that as
41 regulators. And the most important thing recognize we
42 have a government to government relationship that we
43 can work things out to fit the needs of our people.
44

45 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
46

47 CHAIRMAN BROWER: (In Native) quyanaq,
48 Mr. Hopson. And under item nine and I do have an
49 asterisks here for Orville and apparently Tom tried to
50

1 hijack your spot a while ago, but I'm not going to let
2 him do it.

3

4 (Laughter)

5

6 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Go ahead there,
7 Orville.

8

9 MR. LIND: Quyanag, Mr. Chairman, Board
10 members. Orville Lind, Native liaison for the Office
11 of Subsistence Management. Thank you very much for
12 that -- those comments, Mr. Hopson. And I will say
13 that it's a privilege working with Regional Advisory
14 Councils. As you know -- well know that your positions
15 are very much volunteer positions and we -- this
16 program would not work without you so you guys are just
17 as important to us as our system's program is to you.
18 And the important thing is that we're learning and I
19 believe we are getting better, at least in the five
20 years I've been on this job, at communicating those
21 type of concerns, those issues, you know, regulations,
22 proposals, those type of things, special actions, you
23 know, reconsideration. All those processes are
24 becoming I think better known in each RAC I think.
25 I've been to all 10 regions with the tribal engagement
26 session and this is the 10th one as I started two years
27 ago. And we're going to continue to do that, to engage
28 tribes, corporations, village corporations, into this
29 process.

30

31 With that said I've gotten some contact
32 numbers and I'm going to call some folks here in Point
33 Hope to hopefully get some younger folks here by
34 tomorrow morning and if that's okay with Mr. Chair and
35 the Board members I'd love to invite some students to
36 come down to hear my tribal engagement session
37 presentation. And hopefully we get more village folks
38 to join us in the morning. So if that's okay I'd like
39 to postpone my session for tomorrow morning.

40

41 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yeah. Thank you,
42 Orville. And I think that's wonderful to try to get --
43 to bring in some of the students at look at the North
44 Slope Council. And to see how it functions too. And
45 I'm eager to hear from the students as well.

46

47 So I think that's good, huh, we'll
48 postpone Orville's presentation until tomorrow and
49 he'll have students involved with his presentation.

50

1 MR. LIND: Quyanaq. Thank you.

2
3 CHAIRMAN BROWER: With that we'll go to
4 is it old business and take -- we have item 10(a), is
5 that what we're on with Tom, OSM?

6
7 MR. EVANS: Good afternoon, Mr. Chair
8 and members of the Council. My name's Tom Evans and I
9 work as a wildlife biologist for OSM. I'm going to go
10 over this closure review and I just wanted -- we talked
11 about it a little bit earlier so I think this will
12 probably be brief, but I've been wrong before about
13 being -- whether things end up brief or short. I've
14 learned not to judge.

15
16 Anyhow as a reminder our office reviews
17 all Federal public land closures periodically to ensure
18 that they're still warranted. These reviews with
19 Council recommendations will be presented to the
20 Federal Subsistence Board for final action at the
21 upcoming Wildlife Board meeting in April, 2020.

22
23 The wildlife -- I'm going to speak on
24 wildlife closure review 20-31. That's on page 20 of
25 your book. This review deals with Federal public land
26 closures for moose in two hunt areas, unit 26B
27 remainder, unit 26C and currently it's closed to the
28 taking of moose except by the Kaktovik resident holding
29 a Federal registration permit and hunting under these
30 regulations. This affects primarily the moose
31 population in the eastern portion of unit 26B including
32 the Canning River and the North Slope population in
33 unit 26C that occurs on the Arctic coastal plain north
34 of the Brooks Range. At the last meeting you -- the
35 Council made the decision at your winter meeting to
36 maintain the status quo, but you wanted more
37 flexibility to harvest during the fall, harvest more
38 moose, up to four bulls from unit 26C and establish the
39 harvest quota for one bull in unit 26B. You also
40 mentioned that you would like to harvest during the
41 fall when the animals are more in prime condition
42 versus in April when they're still in their winter
43 conditions.

44
45 OSM recommendation was to maintain the
46 status quo as well. The Arctic National Wildlife
47 Refuge has delegated authority to issue emergency or
48 temporary special actions affecting moose in unit 26B
49 and unit 26C and we heard from Steve earlier who
50

1 basically they have a special act -- they held a public
2 hearing, you heard that comment earlier. So they did
3 change the season, they made it longer and they
4 established a quota.

5
6 So that's what I have for the wildlife
7 closure review. There's no action that you need to
8 take at this time. There -- this is just kind of a
9 summary of what we did in the past.

10
11 So I'm open for comments.

12
13 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Any questions to Tom?

14
15 (No comments)

16
17 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Eddie Rexford from
18 Kaktovik, are you online?

19
20 (No comments)

21
22 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I'm pretty sure.....

23
24 MR. REXFORD: Yeah, I'm listening.

25
26 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yeah, this is more in
27 your area about this wildlife closure review and if you
28 had any questions for Tom or want to be more clarified
29 in 26B and C. And I'm not sure to my
30 understanding.....

31
32 MR. REXFORD: On.....

33
34 CHAIRMAN BROWER:of what you all
35 said myself.

36
37 MR. REXFORD: No, I don't have anything
38 now on that closure.

39
40 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yeah, (in Native),
41 Eddie. (In Native).

42
43 MR. REXFORD: Yeah, I don't have
44 anything on that closure right now.

45
46 Thank you.

47
48 CHAIRMAN BROWER: All right. Very
49 good. So maybe I have a little bit more clarity. It's
50

1 just a wildlife closure review, no action necessary,
2 you're just telling us what's going on?

3

4 MR. EVANS: Yeah. So.....

5

6 CHAIRMAN BROWER: So there was last
7 year or last spring we requested something and I'm
8 trying to remember what that something was. And we
9 wanted this area to talk about more opportunity for
10 moose for Kaktovik. And you're saying to me, to my
11 understanding, no, there's no more opportunity and we
12 going to remain in the same and that's our
13 recommendation, is that what you're saying?

14

15 MR. EVANS: Not exactly. So at the
16 last winter meeting -- so the closure is -- the way
17 they do now there's a new -- there's a new policy we
18 have. Now they get presented at the same time the
19 proposals do at the Board meeting in April. So that
20 was a change from the past because they used to be
21 presented just to the RACs and then a decision was
22 made. So at your last meeting you provided -- the
23 Council provided a recommendation which we now included
24 with the wildlife closure review. So when that gets
25 presented to the Council or to the Board in April your
26 recommendation will be there. And so that's -- so and
27 this is kind of the in between period, we're between
28 the winter meeting and the Board meeting. So at this
29 meeting we're just kind of refreshing, going over it
30 again, just for the Council's thing. And we had a
31 pretty good discussion with it earlier. And so that's
32 what we're doing now.

33

34 CHAIRMAN BROWER: That seems a little
35 bit more clear for me now, you know.

36

37 Any questions from the Council to Tom?

38

39 (No comments)

40

41 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Hearing none, go
42 ahead and proceed.

43

44 MR. EVANS: 805 now?

45

46 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council. I
47 have a very brief update under old business before we
48 get into the new wildlife regulatory proposals.

49

50

1 On your agenda -- on your page 2 of the
2 agenda at the top, you'll see a 805(c) report. The
3 805(c) report comes from Title VIII of ANILCA on the
4 Council's authority and recommendations to the Board.
5 So last winter was a fisheries regulatory cycle and the
6 Board took up Federal subsistence fisheries proposals
7 and heard the recommendations of all 10 Councils on
8 proposals in their region. And the Board is required
9 to report back to the Councils on the actions that they
10 took. So as we've discussed the Council's
11 recommendations to the Board are considered very
12 heavily, there's deference to the Councils on those
13 recommendations. And if they don't adopt a Council's
14 recommendation then they need to respond to the Council
15 and explain their reasoning, if there was a
16 conservation concern or there may have been an impact
17 to subsistence opportunity for another region based on
18 a proposal. And so that's what the 805(c) report is on
19 page 35 of your report there.
20

21 However for the North Slope region
22 there are very few fisheries regulatory proposals. The
23 Research and Monitoring Program is very important and a
24 very important part of this Council's process to guide
25 the research and monitoring. But the 805(c) report
26 just addresses regulatory proposals and for this past
27 year there were no regulatory proposals for the North
28 Slope region. So the Board does report back, but there
29 weren't any regulatory proposals regarding fisheries
30 this past year.
31

32 And if you have any questions.
33

34 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Any questions for Eva
35 on her update on 805(c) report?
36

37 (No comments)
38

39 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Is there a difference
40 in a regulatory proposal versus fish monitoring? I'm
41 getting a little mixed up here because it seems like
42 you're almost saying the same thing, but one is
43 regulatory changes maybe on harvest of fish and
44 shellfish and things like that versus all the
45 substantive dialogue that we've had about concerns, the
46 fish mold and other concerns related to low abundance
47 in Tasigruaq Lake for instance and things like that.
48 Those are altogether two different mechanisms.
49
50

1 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council.
2 Correct. And so the Board also does receive Councils'
3 recommendations and through the technical review
4 process. And Karen will be covering more of the
5 Fisheries Resource Monitoring Program. So the Council
6 was very much involved in guiding those -- what your
7 observations are of the community's needs for focusing
8 that research on subsistence in the region. The 805(c)
9 report is addressing just the regulatory part of the
10 Federal Subsistence Board and the Council's
11 relationship on the regulatory proposals. So
12 subsistence fisheries is very important in the region
13 and the Council's work in that regard is very
14 important, but there are not many regulations. So
15 they're two separate processes and Karen will be
16 covering the FRMP. Probably we'll get to that tomorrow
17 morning or later today.

18
19 Thank you.
20

21 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Very good. Can -- is
22 -- can there be a small example of what could be
23 something, is it like customary and traditional trade
24 of fish or something like that or maybe give a slight
25 example why we're -- we don't have proposals and maybe
26 there's a lack of understanding of something to be
27 submitted or something to that effect. Maybe if there
28 was a small example that we could say ah ha, yeah,
29 that's what it is, you know.
30

31 MR. RISDAHL: Mr. Chairman, members of
32 the Council, Greg Risdahl, Fisheries Division lead.
33

34 In a nutshell as Eva says they're two
35 different things. The regulatory cycle process is all
36 about making hunting and fishing, trapping regulations
37 and adjusting those on a bi -- every two years for
38 wildlife and every two years for fisheries. The
39 Fisheries Monitoring Program is strictly, you would
40 call it a research oriented affect or effort by the
41 OSM. And what -- so what we do every two years we put
42 out what's called a notice a funding opportunity or we
43 shorten that to NOFO. And we say we have -- we expect
44 to have X amount of money to do research projects that
45 get at answering subsistence fisheries questions. So
46 it has nothing to do with regulations, it's strictly
47 research and it's strictly research for subsistence
48 purposes. So like Fish and Game department, the State,
49 they do all kinds of research and monitoring on all
50

1 kinds of wildlife populations. But the FRMP is
2 specific to fisheries related, subsistence research
3 needs.
4

5 So in your -- and one instance might be
6 in this area, and I don't know it that well because
7 it's the first time I've been up here, but you may be
8 seeing some different things happening. Salmon are
9 starting to show up, maybe the char are coming in
10 differently, whatever. Just like everything else just
11 changing. Wanda was mentioning pike showing up where
12 they're used to getting humpback whitefish, maybe you
13 want to study that. Or maybe the beavers are changing
14 the streams and you're wondering how that's affecting
15 the way you normally fish or the fish that you catch.
16 So those are actually research questions and you folks,
17 you come up with ideas about what you want to research,
18 what is most important to you, what are the biggest
19 questions you have about the changes that you see going
20 on out there.
21

22 That's what the priority information
23 needs process is about. So you say we want to study
24 grayling, we want to study humpback whitefish or
25 whatever it is. And then this announcement goes out
26 and researchers from anywhere, they can be from the
27 State government, they can be from universities, they
28 can be from Fish and Wildlife Service. And they say we
29 would like to study this. They submit proposals to the
30 Office of Subsistence Management and we put together a
31 team called the Technical Review Committee and it has
32 like 10 of the top scientists that do fisheries
33 research. They read these proposals and they say, oh,
34 this is a really good proposals, this one's not so
35 good. They look at all those proposals and they select
36 the best ones from around the State for funding.
37 Eventually it's the -- the Board then looks at them and
38 they say, yeah, these look good and the assistant
39 regional director who we're waiting to hire, makes the
40 final decision on which projects get funded.
41

42 So it is specific to fisheries research
43 that's related to subsistence. So it has nothing to do
44 with regulations, but the information that you gather
45 from doing this research will sometimes help you answer
46 questions about how you want to manage a population or
47 something. So they're very, very different things.
48 One is regulations, you do it every two years for fish,
49 you do it every two years for wildlife and the other
50

1 one is to answer specific subsistence fisheries
2 questions.

3

4 Does that help?

5

6 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yeah, it certainly
7 helps me, you know, a.....

8

9 MR. RISDAHL: It's a little long-

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11

12 CHAIRMAN BROWER:good
13 explanation.

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1 It seems to me there would have been a
2 conservation concern developed out of that to where
3 some sort of study or is it -- is it the lake drying up
4 or is it temperature related or is it overharvesting or
5 what's the matter with that lake. And when we -- when
6 we make these kinds of concerns for multiple years
7 whose responsibility is it to make the proposal, do I
8 have to write it myself or is somebody asleep at the
9 wheel here and saying, yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah, it's
10 just fish, you know. But everybody consumes it. And
11 if we're having a conservation concern why is it going
12 out the other ear. That's -- you're making me remember
13 the concerns that were raised from multiple fishermen
14 saying Tasigruaq Lake is not producing any fish. And
15 when it used to have lots of fish, you know.

16
17 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council.
18 Yes, thank you very much for that. And as Greg
19 mentioned so it is the Research and Monitoring Program
20 that helps funds research that's needed that can help
21 inform the management. And these issues are very
22 important and they are listened to by the program. So
23 the priorities that you've identified based on your
24 observations in the region do go into that call. Part
25 of the challenge that we're faced with is we need
26 applicants who can address that proposal need to submit
27 a proposal. And so we're still challenged and we'll
28 have an in depth discussion with the Council again to
29 better target the researchers that we need who could
30 apply to get that research done. So it's an open
31 application process by.....

32
33 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Okay.

34
35 MS. PATTON:by researcher.

36
37 CHAIRMAN BROWER: So we'll state the
38 concern, so maybe I have to do more legwork and say I
39 need to find my own biologist and say, hey, you want to
40 put in a proposal, there's money available to study the
41 fish in my region where a lot of fishermen are saying
42 that lake is struggling to produce fish. Is that what
43 we're talking about, that we as -- have to find
44 somebody to do it ourselves?

45
46 MS. PATTON: Well, we're all working on
47 the outreach and so I know, you know, Karen and I have
48 worked to try to target specific researchers and people
49 that would be able to conduct research in the region to
50

1 address these issues. It is helpful though, I know we
2 reached out, you know, to the North Slope Borough
3 Wildlife Department, folks in the region who are
4 already well situated to address those proposals. So
5 all of that outreach can help. So, you know, if you've
6 got contacts yourself, it is an open application
7 process so we try to, you know, get ahold of folks at
8 the universities and both the Federal and State
9 researchers that might be able to address these
10 proposals. So it is an ongoing need and it's in the
11 FRMP and we'll keep working on that at this meeting too
12 to get the right people to submit those applications.

13

14 Thank you.

15

16 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yeah, thank you, Eva.
17 It's just kind of heartbreaking to me because we've
18 said this and the local fisherman said this five plus
19 years ago. And, you know, and we still going to be
20 trying to fish that big lake and because some of the
21 best fish come out of those big lakes over that way.

22

23 And it's important to heed the warning
24 of local fishermen, you know, it -- it's -- if I knew
25 that I had more legwork to do and say well, I -- I
26 should put the proposal. You give me all that money,
27 give me the 1 million bucks, I'll go study it. I'm a
28 fisherman, I'll catch all the fish, open the guts and
29 see what they're eating, if it's making them sick I'll
30 report it. Maybe that's what I need to do.

31

32 MR. RISDAHL: Mr. Chairman.

33

34 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Go ahead, Greg.

35

36 MR. RISDAHL: Mr. Chair and members of
37 the Council, just to help clarify a little bit. As Eva
38 says you guys do not have to write the proposal. Your
39 only real responsibility to start the project or
40 process is to develop this as a priority information
41 need. Now I wasn't here the last go around and we can
42 look to see if it was a priority information need or we
43 call it a PIN, then and if it did not get any bites,
44 not to be -- anyway apparently there were no proposals
45 or there were no proposals that were considered that
46 high of quality to study this phenomenon so what Eva's
47 saying is we as an office, fish -- subsistence office,
48 we will help you develop the PIN or PINs and we will
49 also do the outreach to find researchers that might be

50

1 interested in doing this study to help you find the
2 answer to your question.

3
4 CHAIRMAN BROWER: It's important I
5 think. I think maybe some of the biologists think oh,
6 my god, I got to go camp out and it's going to be 40
7 below zero and I'm going to be chattering and my teeth
8 are going to be chattering and I got to study this.
9 That's what I see besides -- okay. But it's important,
10 I'm a little bit more optimistic to hear that there's
11 going to be, you know, some, you know, talk about these
12 things. They really need to be mentioned over and
13 over. I mean, just like the fish mold. Why is the
14 fish in Colville River being sickly and the adjacent
15 drainage and the Ikpihpuk the fish are healthy in
16 there. And is there a difference when those two are --
17 at one point you could consider them mirror drainages.
18 They're big rivers, lots of different tributaries, lot
19 of rivers feed into them and they're a mecca for fish.

20
21 Carmen, there's somebody -- Carmen
22 wants to address the.....

23
24 MR. OOMITTUK: I have a -- I have a
25 question, Mr. Chair.

26
27 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Let me get to Steve
28 and we'll get to you next there, Carmen.

29
30 Go ahead, Steve.

31
32 MR. OOMITTUK: Yeah. You know, when
33 you talk about fisheries and, you know, and we know
34 this Council here we have no jurisdiction out in the
35 ocean even though the fish migrate through the waters
36 and go into the rivers. You know, just recently this
37 summer we saw a boat out there for three, four days
38 sitting out there and we understand that it was -- it
39 was -- they were doing studies on the fish that migrate
40 up there and see what kind of species are coming up
41 into Arctic waters now. And we didn't even know about
42 it.

43
44 You know, it's out of our city limits,
45 out of the borough limits. Once you go up north you're
46 in international waters after three miles. Who do you
47 guys get permission from to do these studies when
48 you're in international waters and we -- and here --
49 you know, we're Advisory Council, you know, we have

1 concerns about our -- the animals within our region,
2 we're a regional Advisory Council.

3
4 But we have no say so in the -- our
5 resources that are out in the ocean when these animals
6 we've always depended on. And yet as a Council we have
7 no -- can we put proposals together on, you know, the
8 concerns we have with traffic that's coming into our
9 territory in the oceans, are we able to submit these
10 even though we have no jurisdiction in this area
11 especially in international waters or, you know, at the
12 three mile limit, the borough government, city
13 government, you know.

14
15 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council, if
16 I may. So I did want to highlight we do have -- we do
17 have several of our FRMP researchers here that will be
18 providing an update for the Council on projects that
19 the Council had developed as a priority and wanted to
20 see done in the region. Those will probably come at
21 the end of the day today when we get to the full FRMP
22 report.

23
24 So this Council and the community's
25 feedback to the Council, making these observations
26 known and making the recommendations for the priority
27 information needs does get acted on. It's a long
28 process to work through those research proposals, but
29 we do have reports. Brendan and April are here to
30 provide their updates on the Colville River grayling
31 study which is a baseline study that was of interest to
32 Nuiqsut and advanced through the FRMP process by the
33 Council. They've also done dolly varden char work,
34 extends a little bit out to that marine environment and
35 the habitat that the dolly varden char need as part of
36 their life cycle as you say, Steve. Unfortunately our
37 program is limited and our jurisdiction and so the
38 Council's best and most direct authority is dealing
39 with fish and wildlife on Federal lands and waters, you
40 know, within -- and unfortunately not out into the
41 marine environment.

42
43 The Council has written letters and
44 addressed the Board on your concerns for the marine
45 environment, they do have a response to that in your --
46 a reply from the Board. But your best authority and
47 ability to get things done is within the federal lands
48 and waters. And we do have action on it. I know it's
49 frustrating because there's many needs and they're not
50

1 all coming to fruition through the research projects
2 immediately, but we're still working on those and we do
3 have reports back to the Council on research priorities
4 that were identified earlier. And so we'll have those
5 a little later on the agenda.
6

7 CHAIRMAN BROWER: All right. Thanks,
8 Eva.
9

10 MR. RISDAHL: Mr. Chairman
11

12 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Go ahead, Greg.
13

14 MR. RISDAHL: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
15 Mr. Oomittuk, through the Chair. Just to answer your
16 question a little bit more directly about who's doing
17 that research out there in the marine waters and how do
18 we talk to those people and, you know, to get our
19 questions and concerns known. There's actually a lot
20 of research going on, we don't know most of it because
21 there are a lot of individuals and organizations
22 involved, Some of the big ones for instance are the
23 North Pacific Fisheries Management council, the Bering
24 Sea Fisherman Association, NOAA Fisheries, NOAA Marine
25 Fisheries, they're all doing research out there all the
26 time, they've got all kinds of projects going.
27

28 I'm sure Steve knows a little bit about
29 what's happening off the coast of the Arctic. For
30 instance at Izembek we had NOAA Marine Fisheries coming
31 in and doing sea otter surveys, seal surveys, sea lion
32 surveys, we had people coming in and doing shellfish
33 surveys. And the only reason why we knew about it is
34 because they were asking to stay at our bunkhouse for
35 instance when I was the manager there. So there is a
36 ton of research going on out there. It's just that
37 this program doesn't work directly with them.
38

39 We send our fisheries biologist to the
40 North Pacific Fisheries Management Council meetings
41 just like we send them to the AFN meetings or any other
42 meetings to try to keep in contact with some of those
43 other researchers to know what they're doing and to
44 keep involved. And we get asked to submit a report to
45 the North Pacific Fisheries Management Council every
46 year, but our report is really, really tiny compared to
47 the products that they come up with. I mean, they have
48 -- they'll have a full week of planning sessions where
49 they have lots of different meetings going on all at
50

1 once because there's so much research going on.

2
3 And we don't track that, but there are
4 ways to get ahold of different individuals and, you
5 know, bring those questions to them and say, hey,
6 what's going on and we have a concern about this. I
7 mean, you can do that, we can help. But that is
8 definitely out of our normal purview, it's out of the
9 Board's purview. They'll answer a question and say,
10 yeah, we would like to help, but we really don't know
11 the -- you know, we're not involved in that process,
12 but here's somebody else that can possibly help you
13 answer those questions.

14
15 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

16
17 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yeah.

18
19 MR. OOMITTUK: Mr. Chair.

20
21 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yeah, go ahead,
22 Steve.

23
24 MR. OOMITTUK: You know, last month I
25 think the North Slope Borough Wildlife Committee was
26 here in Point Hope having their meeting, so was the
27 Wildlife director was here also, the North Slope
28 Borough. And we had concerns of all the traffic within
29 the waters and suggested that there was com centers
30 along the coastline of the North Slope that we have
31 communications of who's out there and what they're
32 doing there. You know, if we have any type of
33 emergency that is -- you know, when -- nowadays you
34 could see what kind of ships. I was surprised to see
35 how many ships and boats and tugs are out there that we
36 don't even know about.

37
38 You know, we would like communication.
39 You know, there's -- we had talked with the Wildlife
40 Department and the Commission that was there, the
41 Wildlife Commission. I think William is on that. And
42 we suggested that we have com centers in each of our
43 villages along the coastline so we can at least have
44 communication with ships or tugs or cruise ships or --
45 especially when they come into our territory, the three
46 mile limit or even out there if there's any type of
47 emergency if they're able to help. Like you said, you
48 know, Barrow, Barter Island, Nuiqsut, you know, they're
49 going out 30, 40 miles out there to hunt for whales
50

1 and, you know, if there's any kind of emergencies if we
2 had these com centers and we know where -- which way a
3 boat is traveling, what speed, what direction, you
4 know, trying to respond in a timely manner to help out
5 for emergency purposes.
6

7 You know, is there proposals like that
8 to where we can get funds available from the Fish and
9 Wildlife or from the State itself to monitor and to
10 keep track of all the traffic.
11

12 And, you know, we want to ensure that
13 the animals that we depend on are not polluted with,
14 you know, I know they dump their sewage in the water or
15 they do things with the ships that are going -- these
16 are big ships we're talking about, they're not -- and
17 there's also more and more cruise ships with five, 600
18 people onboard, coming through the international
19 waters. You know, our ocean is very delicate, it's not
20 very deep in some places, very shallow. The smallest
21 of all things, you know, is what -- you know, the
22 plankton and the whale depends on that, the food source
23 in the summer and spring, that's the -- they're
24 migrating to their calving grounds, to their feeding
25 grounds and in a short time frame.
26

27 We want to make sure our way of life
28 continues and we want to know who's out there and what
29 they're doing and ensure that the animals that we
30 depend on are not depleted by diluting the water with
31 contaminants, especially the fish and the whales, the
32 seals when we have no jurisdiction in international
33 waters.
34

35 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
36

37 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yeah, thank you,
38 Steve. Maybe I wanted to add a little bit more. It
39 seems to me we should work with you to get a little bit
40 more information, the needs, information needs. Issues
41 like what's going on right now in real time when you
42 got real time problems.
43

44 The whaling captains in Barrow elected
45 to go a little bit early this year just to get maybe
46 two whales because we didn't get that much in spring.
47 So they decided two whales to get early. It's October
48 22.....
49
50

1 MR. OOMITTUK: 23.

2
3 CHAIRMAN BROWER:23, not one
4 whale. And they haven't even seen the blows. That --
5 there's something going on here. You should have
6 information and somebody should be on the phone talking
7 to somebody, well, what's the potential problem here
8 when from time immemorial these whales could be about
9 three miles from Nuvuk. And these are very important
10 resources for communities.

11
12 Like it's not really in our
13 jurisdiction because it's NOAA and it might be that
14 because it's subsistence we're still -- it's still
15 subsistence even though it's outside of this, we should
16 still be asking the question and asking NOAA what's
17 going on, how come the whales are not showing up. Did --
18 is something going on that we should know -- be aware
19 of. Maybe a connection to the Waterway Safety
20 Committee that's -- I've heard about that's been
21 presented at AWC convention, Waterway Safety Committee,
22 seems to have the ability to look at all of the ship
23 traffic and from what I heard you could work with that
24 group and put a subsistence zone do be enforced and to
25 avoid critical subsistence periods to interfere with
26 that. And this is to let the international maritime
27 operations to recognize local subsistence needs, that
28 these specific areas be identified so that if a ship
29 comes into them some alarms and bells and whistles go
30 off and say, hey, you're in a peak subsistence for a
31 whole community and those needs.

32
33 The other things that are specific to
34 subsistence concerns that may be what we have needs
35 for. And I don't know who would be or even where to
36 begin if there are specific concerns that could impact
37 local subsistence issues, North Pacific Fisheries or
38 others that need to know the availability of
39 subsistence resources for communities. That if there
40 are researches going on out here, they should be aware
41 of peak subsistence periods and how we can talk more
42 frankly about the subsistence needs that are coming
43 from the oceans that we depend on. And I think that's
44 getting to kind of the heart of what Mr. Oomittuk is
45 talking about as well.

46
47 Anyway and I appreciate, you know, your
48 response and being able to say, yeah, I think we can
49 make these connections and make this dialogue happen
50

1 and I think it's important. Maybe we should have acted
2 upon it sometime ago because I've known about the
3 Waterway Safety Committee and the Coast Guard ability
4 to monitor that once we establish subsistence zones and
5 areas to avoid during peak subsistence periods.

6
7 I think they're very important topics.

8
9 MR. RISDAHL: Mr. Chairman, Mr.
10 Oomittuk.....

11
12 MS. KENNER: Hello, Mr. Chair. This is
13 Pippa Kenner.

14
15 CHAIRMAN BROWER: There was somebody
16 online before I go to Greg. Was there somebody else
17 online?

18
19 MS. KENNER: Yes, this is Pippa Kenner
20 at OSM. I have some information.

21
22 CHAIRMAN BROWER: All right. What was
23 your name again?

24
25 MS. KENNER: Hi. Okay. My name is
26 Pippa Kenner and I'm an anthropologist here at the
27 Office of Subsistence Management. It's wonderful
28 listening to your meeting today.

29
30 I have been listening and I just wanted
31 to let know the Council members know that there has
32 been a process covering research that you're bringing
33 up. Kawerak is very involved in workshops. This one--
34 the recent one was called Research Processes in
35 Indigenous Communities in Western Alaska, a Workshop
36 Report. So they've been coming together with the
37 researchers that are in marine waters and setting up
38 networks for them to communicate with Kawerak and local
39 residents about the research that's going on.

40
41 I don't feel comfortable saying much
42 more because it is Kawerak's research. It was Julie
43 Raymond-Yakoubian who was working on it. They were
44 very successful. Maybe we can get some more
45 information for you, maybe they could come tomorrow.

46
47 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I think that would be
48 appreciated. And that's the type of things that I
49 think interest us because we're fishing at this point.

50

1 We're -- it's a fishing topic, but we're fishing for
2 information that, you know, of concern. And there
3 might be research and other things like that that
4 should be reported to this Council as just
5 informational needs so that we're much more aware and
6 maybe could contribute in some way so that it doesn't
7 impact us that much.

8

9 MR. RISDAHL: Mr. Chairman.

10

11 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Go ahead, Greg.

12

13 MR. RISDAHL: Just to add one more
14 point. I -- I'm sorry I don't know more about the
15 marine waters and what's going on there, it is a
16 question that all fisheries scientists have though. I
17 can tell you for a fact people don't really know what's
18 going on in the marine waters in a lot of cases. We
19 don't know where the salmon are going in many cases, we
20 don't know why salmon numbers declined dramatically in
21 certain drainages and came back really strongly in
22 others. Those are still big questions in people's
23 minds. So there's a lot of research yet to be done,
24 but I will as Pippa's given an example there, I will
25 try to look into it a little bit more in depth with my
26 staff when I get back. But I have a feeling that there
27 are -- you're -- we're still going to come up with the
28 same answer that there's still just a lot of unknowns.

29

30

31 But what kind of research is going on
32 or what are people looking at maybe that we can -- we
33 can get something there to at least set a direction
34 for, you know, the kinds of things that you would like
35 to know about and find out what's going on.

36

37 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

38

39 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council, we
40 did have -- Carmen Daggett was familiar with the
41 Kawerak program as well and maybe to address it
42 further.

43

44 MS. DAGGETT: So Brendan will be here.

45

46 MS. PATTON: Oh, Okay. So Brendan
47 might be able to address the Council further about that
48 program as well.

49

50

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: All right. Eva. I
2 will recognize Brendan.

3
4 MS. PATTON: And we will.....

5
6 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Before you become the
7 Chair.

8
9 MS. PATTON: Yeah. And we will get to
10 this tomorrow as well so it was a question that the
11 Council had requested to have the Coast Guard
12 specifically here. And on page 174 the Board does
13 respond to the Council's interest and concerns. The
14 Coast Guard has just recently hired a new Native
15 liaison. We've tried a couple times to get them to
16 attend the North Slope meeting and so far haven't been
17 successful, but it's promising now that they're going
18 to have a Native liaison working specifically with the
19 Coast Guard for outreach to the community. So we're
20 hoping by the next meeting that we would have that
21 person on the ground and be able to make those
22 connections for the Coast Guard. But I think ADF&G is
23 familiar with Kawerak and some of the other activities
24 going on in the region with the Arctic Waterways
25 Committee.

26
27 Thank you, Brendan.

28
29 MR. SCANLON: Thank you, Eva.

30
31 CHAIRMAN BROWER: You're up.

32
33 MR. SCANLON: Mr. Chair, members of the
34 Council. Thank you. My name's Brendan Scanlon, Fish
35 and Game, Fairbanks.

36
37 I don't have a lot of information on
38 the -- on the marine fishery. I did make a note at the
39 last RAC meeting, Mr. Oomittuk had asked me about
40 potential for a commercial fishery in and around Point
41 Hope and I did not know the answer. But I didn't
42 forget it. So I got some information just today and
43 I'm going to put it together and tomorrow when I give
44 our FRMP talk I'll try to describe more. The short
45 answer is, yes, you can have one. It would be
46 logistically a little bit challenging and there's
47 buyers in Kotzebue. But it's certainly legal and if
48 you're interested more in getting a fishery started
49 here I can -- I can do what I can to help.

50

1
2
3 As Mr. Brower was giving his report
4 this morning I was looking at my notes from last year
5 where he had mentioned that lake near Ikpikpuk about
6 the catches being much smaller than they were for
7 whitefish. And earlier you had a question about why
8 whitefish proposals haven't come before the TRC to get
9 funded through FRMP. And we have done the last several
10 years several projects on fish funded through the FRMP.
11 A couple on char, we're doing the grayling one now on
12 the Colville and we've just finished one on Lake Trap
13 near Anaktuvuk.

14
15 We purposefully have refrained from
16 submitting proposals to do whitefish work because we
17 knew the North Slope Borough had a pretty rigorous
18 whitefish program going. And so we wanted to defer to
19 them and not compete with them for any funding to do
20 any of these projects.

21
22 The lake you spoke of, I talked to
23 Carmen about it a little bit and I found out where it
24 was. And I talked to Todd Sformo with the Bureau of
25 Wildlife Department about it last year, about your
26 concerns. And so he's familiar with it. It would be a
27 lot more cost effective if the Borough Wildlife
28 Department did the work up there, it would cost a lot
29 for us to go up there from Fairbanks with a flotilla of
30 boats and snowmachines. Todd is a smart guy, he's a
31 PhD., he knows a lot about whitefish, he has a
32 whitefish program. I imagine they can do it without
33 having to look for funding to go up there to get some
34 sort of stock assessment information, maybe collect
35 some fish for pathology. They have expressed interest
36 in doing some necropsies, basically an autopsy on sick
37 and dead fish there in Barrow with their Wildlife
38 veterinarian. The Department also has a pathology lab
39 in Anchorage and we can send sick or dead fish there --
40 fish that look like they're diseased or wounded,
41 they'll look at those for free and give us a report.

42
43 And I can help you get those fish to
44 the lab. It's difficult because they don't like to get
45 frozen fish, it destroys a lot of what they're looking
46 for so they really like to have fish as fresh as they
47 can get it so they can get the most information on it.

48
49 Ms. Itta was concerned with diseased
50

1 fish earlier. We're doing this grayling project now
2 where we are radio tagging a bunch in the Colville,
3 both near the town of Nuiqsut and in the upper
4 tributaries to get some idea of seasonal movement and
5 identify important spawning and rearing and summer
6 feeding areas. We will be there Thursday for about a
7 week and this -- we've done some outreach there so
8 people should know about the project and know we're
9 coming. It was a priority information need so we
10 didn't just make this up, but so far it's going really
11 well and we plan to be there for about a week to put
12 about another 50 or so radio tags in fish caught
13 through the ice and release them. We'll track them for
14 up to two years.

15
16 It also might be an opportunity where
17 if somebody catches a disease or a sickly looking fish
18 or some fish that looks weird, can give it to us while
19 we're there in Nuiqsut and we can bring it back to town
20 fresh and get the most information out of it and can
21 get a report to you. So the project biologist, Andy
22 Gryska, I'll make sure that he knows that I said this
23 to you and that if somebody comes to him with a moldy
24 fish or horns on it that he knows what to do with it.

25
26 And so I don't want to gobble too much
27 time today. When I give reports, this presentation, I
28 have some other questions and some information for you
29 about some observations you have.

30
31 Thank you.

32
33 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Any other questions
34 for ADF&G on -- in this area? I have one, but I'll
35 refrain until any Council member wants to ask any
36 questions here.

37
38 (No comments)

39
40 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Well, I'm going to
41 pose a question. You say it might be more advantageous
42 just to defer some of these things to the North Slope
43 Borough's Wildlife Department and their biologist.
44 Does that mean I go do that, I go to Wildlife and tell
45 them my concerns I've told this body here and suggest
46 that there's an issue in that lake and go ahead and
47 restate that to the North Slope Borough or is it more
48 proper that you guys work together because you're the
49 biologists, you've heard the concerns of the fishermen
50

1 in this area. And then let's try synergize and someone
2 takes the lead, maybe preferably the North Slope
3 Borough you're saying, but it's not a he said, she said
4 type situation, but a more synergistic approach to
5 everybody singing from the same sheet of paper.
6

7 MR. SCANLON: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
8 We're happy to work with the Borough. I realize our
9 discussions with the researchers there were kind of
10 informal and I didn't follow-up on that. I thought
11 maybe something would happen, but apparently it hasn't.
12 But I -- I'm happy to contact the Borough again and
13 convey to them what your concerns are and see if we can
14 come up with some kind of cooperative project.
15

16 CHAIRMAN BROWER: And one other thing.
17 I mean, we weren't reporting dead fish, we're just
18 reporting where's the fish, you know. Nuiqsut is the
19 one they're saying right now you can go to the Colville
20 River, there's fish belly up in the ice, you can see
21 them as the ice is forming there's dead fish inside the
22 ice. That's where the dead fish are showing up over
23 there.
24

25 The one we're talking about for the
26 last five, six years of trying to get somebody to pay
27 attention is to Tasigruaq. The last five, six years
28 the fishermen have been saying how come we're not
29 getting anymore fish over here, what's happening to
30 Tasigruaq Lake. And it just seems like we have to
31 repeat ourselves so many times and it's an important
32 concern because a lot of people, they eat that fish,
33 it's a primary subsistence resource. And it's a prized
34 fish. And it's been there for generations. So I'm
35 just -- you know, I'm still going to go put nets out
36 and try to catch fish there.
37

38 And when we're not getting the
39 abundance maybe there's something -- maybe there's
40 something going on with the lake. You know, there's --
41 some fishermen blame each other saying, hey, did you
42 take your net out when it got frozen underneath there.
43 You're supposed to chop that ice up and take that net
44 out so your net doesn't catch fish all winter long.
45 Because, you know, there's a little bit of blaming
46 going on sometimes like that, but I suspect, you know,
47 that lake's been used for a hundred years, you know,
48 it's always been a source of fish. But it's just
49 suffering with availability of fish. That's all I'm
50

1 saying. I'm not saying they're dead, I'm just saying
2 that we're getting less and less and less.

3
4 MR. SCANLON: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
5 Just a few minutes ago I was talking to Carmen Daggett
6 with Fish and Game in Utqiagvik. She knows a
7 subsistence fisher that's been fishing there for a very
8 long -- many years who keeps pretty detailed data on
9 his catches. I don't know him personally, but maybe we
10 can talk to him and maybe he's got some perspective or
11 some idea of what's going on and maybe he's seen some
12 changes. So using that and talking to Todd about some
13 kind of way to estimate some sort of a -- maybe not
14 abundance, but some kind of index of abundance using
15 some test netting or something like that, even some
16 water quality testing. We're happy to do that.

17
18 Thank you.

19
20 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Any other questions
21 for ADF&G in this area.

22
23 (No comments)

24
25 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you very much.
26 And where were we, were we on your report, Tom, or was
27 there additional items that OSM was going to
28 contribute.

29
30 And by the way I'd like to welcome,
31 Jack Schaefer is here from -- a resident of Point Hope
32 and I seen a few people in and out. This is a public
33 meeting and it -- and we like -- over the years I think
34 we've gone through three or four different villages and
35 this Council has decided that we're going to try to go
36 to every village because this is the regional RAC. In
37 the past most meetings if not all of them have been
38 held in Barrow. And it's high time we start to hear
39 more from communities within their own region, their
40 village, on subsistence related issues and concerns.

41
42 So welcome, Jack, it's good to see you.

43
44 MR. SCHAEFER: (Indiscernible - away
45 from microphone).....

46
47 CHAIRMAN BROWER: We are on item 10,
48 old business. And OSM had a wildlife closure review
49 for unit 26B and C. And what's this, an update on
50

1 moose that's going to be coming up in April, I believe.
2 Will that be at the Federal Subsistence Board at that
3 time?

4
5 MR. OOMITTUK: He's also an ICAS
6 member.

7
8 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yeah. And also I'd
9 like to recognize him as a member of ICAS. And the --
10 which we were just at public and tribal comments on
11 nonagenda items that tribal representatives can make
12 public comments on nonagenda items on any topic of the
13 concerns that they have. And that's going to be again
14 available tomorrow as well, Jack, that public and
15 tribal comments on nonagenda items will be available
16 each morning.

17
18 MR. SCHAEFER: (Indiscernible - away
19 from microphone).....

20
21 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yeah. Yeah.

22
23 MR. SCHAEFER:(indiscernible -
24 away from microphone).....

25
26 MR. OOMITTUK: Have him come up.

27
28 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yeah. Mr. Schaefer,
29 the stenographer, the court recorder, I don't know if
30 they -- we call it the court recorder, they always want
31 to record people talking. So you might want to come up
32 to the mic and state what you just said. It's
33 important because what we say they actually record and
34 put it down in the minutes and because you represent
35 the tribes and things like that it's important.

36
37 MR. SCHAEFER: Okay. Thank you. Jack
38 Schaefer. I'm with the Native Village of Point Hope
39 just for the Wildlife Department. And we don't have
40 anyone there at this time. There's some needs that are
41 there in regards to equipment and paving the way for
42 someone to take over that department. And we had some
43 turnover and I came in to fill in and learn more about
44 this for whoever comes in, whether it be a young person
45 fresh out of college I hope. And I guess I'll say what
46 we've gone through over the past several years and ask
47 some questions. So it'll be at that time I guess that
48 I can get some answers in regards to, you know,
49 procedures like our relationship with NANA area as
50

1 users.

2

3

Thank you.

4

5

CHAIRMAN BROWER: (In Native), Mr. Schaefer. (In Native). And it's -- this is an important forum because this is the North Slope regional RAC comprised of region 10 which is all of the villages on the North Slope. And there are areas here like your unit 23 and unit 23 has from what I've understood like from ADF&G, they're -- the work on some of those resources comes out of the Kotzebue area. And I'm not saying you're not part of this area and I'll never say that, but it's just that it's important to recognize we had a resident ask about a muskox hunt and there is a muskox hunt. I mean, I know around Barrow it's closed, but Point Hope has -- available to have a muskox hunt, all you got to do is get the permit and follow the guideline.

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But that permit is out of Kotzebue and it's the area biologist that's managing that hunt. So it's important and I think we gave that information or had ADF&G supply that information to the resident that had an interest in hunting muskox in this area.

So when it's all -- you know, everywhere is pretty much regulated because we can't hunt them out of Barrow unless I, you know, do something to get myself in trouble or painted blue maybe or something.

MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council, next up on the agenda are the wildlife proposals coming before the Council. And the first two are addressing proposals that were submitted for unit 23. And so now's a great time for your engagement and feedback from the community on these unit 23 proposals.

CHAIRMAN BROWER: I appreciate that there, Eva, and I wanted to make sure Tom was done on his -- on the agenda item that we were going. And those are under new business, right?

MR. EVANS: Crossover proposals.

CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yeah. And I did -- I did state earlier that these particular -- there's two of them that are part of your region and one of them is

1 in unit 23, eliminate bull closure and prohibition on
2 calf harvest for caribou in unit 23. So we'll look at
3 those crossover proposals that are -- that'll come
4 before us to look at. And WP 20-47 is the elimination
5 of cow season for moose in unit 23 and that's on page
6 81 and that's another crossover proposal for us to look
7 at that you should have specific interest in listening
8 more closely on.
9

10 So with that, are we about ready to
11 finish off old business, are we done with -- is there
12 any other old business?
13

14 (No comments)
15

16 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Is there any old
17 business from the Council?
18

19 (No comments)
20

21 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Hearing none, we'll
22 go to item 11, I'll entertain new business section and
23 that's A, wildlife proposals, OSM Anthropology.
24

25 So who is -- is that you, Tom? Go
26 ahead.
27

28 MR. EVANS: Thank you, Mr. Chair,
29 members of the Council. My name's Tom Evans and I work
30 with OSM.
31

32 So the Council -- there were no
33 proposals submitted for units 26A, B or C. So what I'm
34 going to discuss now is crossover proposals. So these
35 proposals are crossover from other regions to the North
36 Slope region.
37

38 So the first one I'm going to present
39 is.....
40

41 MS. ITTA: Mr. Chair.
42

43 MR. EVANS: Yes.
44

45 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yeah, go ahead,
46 Councilwoman from Nuiqsut.
47

48 MS. ITTA: Sorry to interrupt you, Tom.
49 Before you go to the crossover proposal do we work with
50

1 you to turn in proposals for 26A, A, B or C or how does
2 that work to -- for us to be able to turn in proposals
3 to you guys?

4
5 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Go ahead, Tom, and
6 might be Orville too. Who knows.

7
8 MR. EVANS: So right now we're in the
9 -- we accepted proposals in January to March of this
10 year. They occur every two years. So now we're in a
11 cycle already and so we're looking at the proposals
12 that were submitted in January and -- January to March
13 of 2019. The next time to submit proposals would be
14 for the 2022 to 2024 season so that would be the next
15 time to submit for proposals and that would be I guess
16 January of 2021.

17
18 CHAIRMAN BROWER: So proposals are
19 changes to regulatory process and you entertain
20 proposals every two years. And we got one more year to
21 go.

22
23 MS. ITTA: Has there ever been any
24 turned in in the past from these areas, these units?

25
26 MR. EVANS: Yes, definitely. Yeah.
27 Yeah, it just so happens that it didn't happen the last
28 cycle.

29
30 MS. ITTA: Thank you.

31
32 CHAIRMAN BROWER: And could be there
33 let's just say a really urgent need that needs to be
34 met, is there off cycle emergency proposals?

35
36 MR. EVANS: Yeah. So Gordon's
37 referring to what -- to a special action, what we do in
38 an off season. So that's kind of like a proposal
39 that's outside of the cycle window. And those
40 proposals can be submitted during the off cycle. An
41 example of that would be let's say you had a moose
42 season and it went from February 1st to February -- the
43 end of February and during that time it was too cold or
44 there's just no way to get out there to hunt the moose.
45 You might submit an emergency special action to open
46 another season that would go from March -- for let's
47 say to hunt moose in March.

48
49 And that would be submitted just to us
50

1 and then we would -- as fast as we could we would
2 process that special action and see if we could open
3 the season to allow for an additional hunt because of
4 the emergency circumstances.

5
6 Those -- there are two types of special
7 actions, there's an emergency special action which is
8 an emergency one that's less than a year and then
9 there's a temporary special action which is good for
10 the whole regulatory period. So if it was submitted
11 early in the wildlife cycle it could go for almost two
12 years.

13
14 So that's the way those work. And then
15 the idea is that after those two years if it's still
16 something of an issue then it would -- it would be
17 proposed as just part of the regulatory cycle as a
18 change to the regulations.

19
20 CHAIRMAN BROWER: So, Martha, there --
21 there's opportunities. You know, if you see a need I
22 would contact OSM and just talk with them. I mean.....

23
24 MS. ITTA: Thank you.

25
26 CHAIRMAN BROWER:who would be the
27 point of contact to talk maybe if it was urgent enough
28 and it was maybe a special action need could probably
29 take care of that or something like that?

30
31 MR. EVANS: So you could contact me or
32 Chris McKee would be the primary people for the North
33 Slope area.

34
35 MS. ITTA: Okay. Thank you.

36
37 CHAIRMAN BROWER: It should be fairly
38 reasonable and concerning for subsistence because you
39 don't want one that was kind of like what happened in
40 Barrow, that public hearing went on and you had this
41 crazy veteran came up and stole somebody's caribou from
42 their yard, put it in front of the Council and made a
43 dead caribou carcass testify. That was pretty bad. We
44 didn't want that anymore. And I thought, you know, how
45 could you limit people from bringing and stealing
46 caribou meat from people's yard and say look at -- look
47 at what the Natives are doing, they're just throwing
48 caribou around when we leave outside to stay frozen.
49 Those kinds of things is alarming and why there's not
50

1 better controls to limit that kind of degradation of
2 indigenous peoples. I mean, to me it was a total
3 insult in my view.
4

5 So we got to be careful how we phrase
6 things and there's a lot of wordsmithing to some of
7 these things that you can come to the same conclusion
8 by phrasing things that are more acceptable than
9 others. I've learned that.
10

11 Go ahead, Tom.
12

13 MR. EVANS: Okay. So are we ready for
14 the -- this next proposal, this crossover proposal?
15

16 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Go ahead.
17

18 MR. EVANS: Okay. So this proposal is
19 WP 20-43/44/45/46. I'll be presenting a summary of the
20 analysis for this proposal which begins on page 38 of
21 your meeting books. So this is basically four
22 proposals that we've combined into one analysis because
23 of the similar request.
24

25 Proposal WP 20-43 was submitted by the
26 Kotzebue Sound AC and proposal WP 20-45 was submitted
27 by the Northwest Arctic Council. They request a year
28 round bull season for caribou in unit 23.
29

30 Wildlife proposal WP 20-44 was also
31 submitted by the Kotzebue Sound AC and requests that
32 the harvest of caribou calves be permitted in unit 23.
33

34 Wildlife proposal WP 20-46 was
35 submitted by the Western Arctic Caribou Herd Working
36 Group and it represents year round bull season --
37 requests a year bull season and that the harvest of
38 caribou calves be permitted in unit 23.
39

40 So those are the four proposals.
41

42 The Kotzebue Sound Advisory Committee
43 noted that the migration of the Western Arctic caribou
44 herd has occurred later in recent years resulting in
45 the bull season already being closed when the caribou
46 pass through the accessible areas. Therefore the
47 harvest has shifted to cows which could become a
48 conservation concern. Opening the bull closure would
49 allow harvest of younger bulls that do not stink during
50

1 the rut, conserve cows and alleviate compliance issues
2 associated with distinguishing between bulls and cows.
3 The Kotzebue Sound AC also stated that while no one
4 targets calves, legalizing calf harvest would allow the
5 take of orphan calves that may otherwise be killed by
6 predators.

7
8 The Western Arctic Caribou Working
9 Group provided the same rationale as the Kotzebue AC.

10
11 The Northwest Arctic Council states
12 that eliminating the bull closure would allow the
13 harvest of younger bulls thus reducing the pressure on
14 cows. The Council echos the concurrence of the
15 Kotzebue AC that due to the migration occurring later
16 in the year only the cow season is open when the
17 caribou migrate through the accessible areas.
18 Eliminating the bull closure would take pressure off
19 Federally-qualified subsistence users to harvest
20 caribou during a certain time frame.

21
22 Some of these concerns were brought up
23 earlier. In 2013 an aerial photo census indicated a
24 significant decline in the Western Arctic caribou herd.
25 In response the Board of Game and Federal Subsistence
26 Board implemented a suite of regulatory restrictions
27 across the range of the Western Arctic caribou herd in
28 2015, including closing the bull season during the rut
29 and prohibiting the calf harvest. Therefore these
30 restrictions have only been in regulation for a short
31 time and were intended as conservation measures during
32 a time of a steep decline.

33
34 Currently the Kotzebue Sound AC and the
35 Western Arctic Caribou Working Group also submitted
36 identical proposals to the State and those proposals
37 would be 19, 20, 24 and 25. The Board of Game will act
38 on those -- on these proposals in January of 2020.

39
40 The Western Arctic caribou herd has
41 declined from a population of 490,000 in 2003 to a low
42 of 201,000 in 2016. In 2017 the herd increased to an
43 estimated 259,000 caribou. While the photo census was
44 not completed in 2018, results from a successful 2019
45 photo census are currently being processed and should
46 be available by this December.

47
48 Bull/cow ratios have been adequate and
49 generally above the 40 bulls per 100 cows. Caribou
50

1 calving generally occurs in late -- in June and weaning
2 occurs in late fall before the breeding season. Calves
3 tend to stay with their mothers through the first
4 winter which improves the calves' access to food and
5 body condition. Calves orphaned after weaning have a
6 greater chance of survival than calves orphaned before
7 the weaning.

8
9 Since about 2000 the timing of the fall
10 migration has become less predictable, often occurring
11 later than in previous decades.

12
13 Caribou have been and are a primary
14 subsistence resource in the Northwest Arctic region.
15 Traditionally cows and calves were highly valued for
16 their hides and were harvested in late summer when
17 their hides were prime for making clothes. Calves also
18 provide food for elders as their meat was more tender
19 and easier to chew. However hunters no longer target
20 calves in the Northwest Arctic region and Northwest
21 Arctic Council members indicated that the harvest of
22 calves would be wrong and unethical.

23
24 The harvestable surplus of the Western
25 Arctic caribou herd is estimated -- is calculated as 7
26 percent of the estimated population. In 2016 the
27 harvest had likely exceeded the harvestable surplus
28 when the harvest was estimated at 15,000 caribou while
29 the harvestable surplus was only 12,000 caribou.
30 However the population increase in 2017 increased the
31 harvestable surplus to 18,000 caribou likely bringing
32 the harvest back to sustainable levels.

33
34 Local community harvest reflect caribou
35 availability rather than population trends. And
36 Federally-qualified subsistence users account for
37 approximately 95 percent of the total Western Arctic
38 caribou harvest.

39
40 As caribou migration has been occurring
41 later in recent years subsistence harvest has also been
42 occurring later in November for example rather than
43 September.

44
45 The reporting of the harvest is still
46 low among the Federally-qualified users. Another
47 alternative considered was to maintain the prohibition
48 on the calf harvest that some members of the Northwest
49 Arctic Council voiced strong opposition to the calf
50

1 harvest.

2

3 Since no conservation concerns are
4 associated with allowing a calf harvest and it
5 increases opportunity, OSM supports the calf harvest.
6 But they recognize Northwest Arctic Council members may
7 consider the calf harvest to be in conflict with their
8 subsistence lifestyle and benefits. Regardless, that
9 is the Council -- this is for the Councils to decide,
10 not OSM.

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Additionally other subsistence users on
the Kotzebue AC and the Western Arctic Caribou Group
support calf harvest and other Councils, including the
North Slope, Western Interior and Seward Peninsula,
will also consider this issue. So we're presenting it
to you now to consider this issue.

If these proposals are adopted the bull
caribou season would be open year round and the harvest
of caribou calves would be permitted in unit 23.
Eliminating the bull closure provides more harvest
opportunity and poses no conservation concerns. Young
bulls could still be harvested during the rut taking
harvest pressure off cows and providing more harvest
flexibility to Federally-qualified subsistence users.

Permitting calf harvest would allow the
harvest of orphan calves, however identifying orphan
calves can be difficult as cows and calves often
sometimes become separated by substantial differences.
Allowing a calf harvest may also reduce wanton waste as
calves mistakenly shot are left in the field since they
cannot be legally harvested and salvaged. Northwest
Arctic Council members and local biologists have
reported seeing wounded and orphaned calves out in the
field that are not legally available for harvest. The
Western Arctic and the Teshekpuk caribou herds are the
only herds in Alaska where calf harvest is prohibited
and it's only been prohibited since 2015. Calves only
comprise an estimated 2 percent of the harvest which is
not biologically meaningful. Indeed prohibiting cow
harvest would have much more of a conservation impact
than -- on herd attendance than prohibiting calf
harvest.

As I mentioned before the Board of Game
will consider these issues separately in January. If
only the Board of Game passes these proposals and not

1 the Federal Subsistence Board, Federal regulations
2 would be more restrictive than the State regulations
3 which is contrary to the law or is contrary to the --
4 yeah, to the objectives. Differing State and Federal
5 regulations would also create confusion and cause users
6 to have to distinguish between Federal and non-Federal
7 lands, including the mean high water mark which can be
8 very difficult to define.
9

10 So OSM's preliminary conclusion is to
11 support WP 20-46 and take no action on proposals WP 20-
12 43/44 and 45.
13

14 Thank you, Mr. Chair, and members of
15 the Council.
16

17 So open for questions.
18

19 CHAIRMAN BROWER: And, Eva, on these
20 presentation procedures for proposals, are we going
21 down the list here.....
22

23 MR. EVANS: Yes.
24

25 CHAIRMAN BROWER:on the process
26 or are we on these crossover type stuff we just
27 deliberate with the Council and take into consideration
28 what Mr. Evans has described to us in these proposals?
29

30 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council.
31 These are -- even the crossover proposals are a formal
32 recommendation from the Council and so we do follow the
33 process on the back of the presentation procedures. So
34 we've just gone through step one, the introduction and
35 presentation of the analysis. We did conduct a tribal
36 consultation and we would hear from Orville Lind on any
37 feedback on this proposal.
38

39 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I just wanted to make
40 sure.....
41

42 MS. PATTON: Uh-huh.
43

44 CHAIRMAN BROWER:I mean, I didn't
45 want you to think you were going to.....
46

47 MS. PATTON: Yeah, so we'll walk
48 through the process.
49
50

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER:carry it out
2 because I -- if it's carry -- follow the process or
3 not. So I guess we do and so we did the introduction
4 and presentation of analysis and these presentation
5 procedures for proposals in item two is report on
6 Board's consultations, tribes -- (a) tribes and (b)
7 ANSCA corporations.
8

9 And Orville Lind is our tribal liaison.
10 I would also encourage the local tribe here because
11 it's in unit 23 and this affects Point Hope in
12 particular, doesn't affect many of the other North
13 Slope communities because Point Lay, Wainwright,
14 Barrow, Atqasuk, Nuiqsut, Anaktuvuk, to a degree
15 they're in unit 26. But Point Hope being an outlier in
16 unit 23 and I would like to hear as well what the Point
17 Hope tribe and our Council member from Point Hope would
18 also say in this -- in this regard.
19

20 In times past a lot of the crossover
21 stuff we've elected to let the proponent on the other
22 side and not interfere with their proposals. But if it
23 is affecting a North Slope community then a fair bit of
24 consultations and deliberation has generally always
25 been done in my view that we either support and talk
26 about or not support a proposal if it was contrary to
27 the best interest of the region that it might be
28 affecting.
29

30 Orville.
31

32 MR. LIND: Quyanag, Mr. Chair, Board
33 members. Orville Lind, Native liaison for the Office
34 of Subsistence Management.
35

36 We did conduct tribal and ANSCA
37 consultations for the 2020/2022 wildlife proposals on
38 September 30th, 2019. We did have one of your RAC
39 members call in, Mr. Edward Rexford, Sr. However on
40 this proposal there was no comments made from him or
41 any other tribes.
42

43 Thank you, Mr. Chair.
44

45 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Okay. And agency
46 comments. Item three is agency comments.
47

48 ADF&G.
49
50

1 MR. BURCH: Mr. Chair, this is Mark
2 Burch in the Department of Fish and Game. I don't
3 believe we have official comments yet on this proposal.
4

5 Thank you.
6

7 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you. Item B is
8 Federal agency comments.
9

10 (No comments)
11

12 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Hearing none, at this
13 point item C is Native, tribal, village and other
14 comments.
15

16 We have the Native Village of Point
17 Hope, either Native Village of Point Hope or ICAS. But
18 I'm thinking it's Native Village.
19

20 MR. SCHAEFER: Native Village.
21

22 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Go ahead.
23

24 MR. SCHAEFER: Jack Schaefer, Native
25 Village of Point Hope. I haven't had the opportunity
26 to review the proposal, but it's good to hear that Fish
27 and Wildlife Service hasn't made its statement yet.
28

29 So I'm not too sure as to how much the
30 Native Village of Point Hope has been informed in
31 regards to this and what impacts that it does have.
32 Although I'll review it and I don't know if the
33 statistics that were brought up take into account sport
34 hunting stuff within shared units for sport hunting
35 like in Squirrel River area, close to Kotzebue that is
36 within the migration of the herd. And so I don't know
37 if that is there, I didn't really -- this is the first
38 time I've looked at this. I've seen some interesting
39 things here, but.....
40

41 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Jack, maybe I can
42 help.....
43

44 MR. SCHAEFER:we can review --
45 huh?
46

47 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Maybe I can help you
48 really quick that might help your train of thought too.
49
50

1 Around 2015, 2014, there was a drastic
2 decline in caribou populations, drastic decline.
3 Conservative management was being talked about
4 throughout the range of Western Arctic herd from 23,
5 26. And at that time ADF&G and probably OSM was about
6 ready to spring on Federally-qualified users some
7 stringent regulatory processes that would change bag
8 limits on caribou, limit times and seasons and things.

9
10
11 So in the best interest of all there
12 was an initiative from the North Slope Borough Wildlife
13 management along with regional RACs like us to look at
14 how we are conservative on our own part. And we
15 enacted some traditional things like we're not going to
16 hunt bulls when they go into rut and make that into a
17 law as a conservative management locally done. So up
18 in the Barrow area and some of those we knew that tuttu
19 would go into rut around October 5, start to stink and
20 then come out of rut somewhere around first week in
21 December. And say, hey, let's make that into a
22 conservative law, a traditional that we don't hunt the
23 tuttu bull from this time to this period. And so I
24 think it carried through because many of the other
25 regions shared just about the same sentiment that,
26 yeah, we're not going to hunt them when they stink,
27 right, when they're -- we're going to probably hunt the
28 females now and then -- but we weren't going to try to
29 hunt the females with calves or anything like that.

30
31 So that was -- that period of time
32 because the tuttu population had declined to such a --
33 we were going to have to be creative and develop our
34 own before ADF&G and OSM said, hey, you know, you're
35 going to have one caribou. So we came up with all of
36 these different self-imposed type traditional things we
37 did anyway. And it worked, I think it worked to our
38 benefit that our bag limits were good, we didn't hunt
39 bulls anyway from this -- but it made probably the
40 guides probably pissed off or something because they --
41 they just want the trophy value whether it was a bull
42 in rut or not. It's beside the point, I just wanted to
43 state that part.

44
45 But anyway the opportunity now is that
46 it looks like unit 23, the region in -- from the
47 Northwest Arctic regional RAC is seeing that the
48 caribou are arriving more later on that side because
49 they come from North Slope, over the Brooks Range to go
50

1 back on the other side. And they're being more later
2 and finding that the caribou are not in rut and want an
3 opportunity to harvest the bulls, I think it's saying
4 year round. Where the conservative management of those
5 from 2014, we're looking at can -- what should we
6 impose on ourselves before ADF&G does it to us. Is
7 that we -- we still not going to hunt the bulls in my
8 area anyway around October 5 to December, around
9 December 5 you can get a bull because he's dropped his
10 antlers and they taste good again.

11
12 And so that's what we're up against.
13 And if Point Hope is -- you're in unit 23 because most
14 of the RAC, Northwest Arctic region RAC and those areas
15 are saying now we should have an opportunity to get
16 these bulls now because it's well past their rut when
17 they're coming because they're coming over late and --
18 is what I'm understanding.

19
20 And they want the opportunity to
21 harvest it looks like some calves. It's not out of the
22 question that we harvested calves because that used to
23 be the clothing that was harvest -- we -- they
24 harvested calves to make clothing a long time ago. And
25 it looks like the making calves available again --
26 maybe when they're all by themselves and not nursing on
27 a cow or anything like that.

28
29 That's what I'm understanding is what
30 the proposal -- if I'm wrong, Tom, you need to let me
31 know. Because this is a remnant of that period of time
32 where everybody was scared what ADF&G and everybody was
33 going to do about the drastic caribou decline. And we
34 did self-imposed regulation of traditional things we
35 did anyway. We're not going to hunt bulls when they
36 stink. They're kind of -- you know, we'll go into heat
37 if we eat them or something, you know, that kind of
38 thing.

39
40 So if you want to support it or
41 sometimes we have a hands off mentality from the RAC on
42 a crossover proposal. But when it's affecting our
43 region, one of our communities, maybe you'll want the
44 ability to catch the bulls year round like these guys
45 are requesting in the Northwest Arctic region. Because
46 it's in your unit, unit 23 comes through Point Hope.

47
48 MR. SCHAEFER: I just wanted to, you
49 know, reflect that Native Village of Point Hope is --
50

1 and since there was an opportunity to be on record and
2 it does show up on paper that we do that. I don't know
3 if it's a normal process, but anyway, you know, if it's
4 something that our tribe can do in regards to our
5 relationship with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
6 and being on record in regard to some of the things and
7 expressing -- and getting updates on how things went.
8

9 The last time that I participated in
10 something like this with the Bureau of Land Management
11 was a section 810 hearing back in 2003 which dealt with
12 the Northwest Arctic Resource Management Plan. And
13 there was some rezoning that had taken place, but there
14 were three people that had come from Kotzebue area that
15 testified besides two from Point Hope in regards to
16 caribou. And their expressions had to deal with the
17 conflict they were having with sport hunting at
18 Squirrel River where the caribou go up, it impacted
19 them. And since -- they were having the hearing here
20 in Point Hope and apparently it affected us. And so
21 myself, Earl Camp and Rex Teshoy testified at that
22 besides the three from the Northwest Arctic Borough.
23 And anyway they were very concerned about it and I just
24 wanted to reflect that that did occur in the past and
25 was hoping to see what -- where that went.
26

27 That's all, you know, I -- and that we
28 will review this, but I assume that, you know, it looks
29 okay. But just for the record.
30

31 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yeah, Mr. Schaefer
32 and maybe for Tom, regardless if we comment or if the
33 North Slope region supports or not support or stays
34 neutral, this will go before the Federal Subsistence
35 Board in January?
36

37 MS. PATTON: April.
38

39 CHAIRMAN BROWER: And it could change.
40 It could be that the north -- there's a fair bit of
41 concern from the Northwest Arctic RAC that say don't
42 change this. And there proponents that say change it,
43 we want to hunt tuttu bulls anytime regardless of if
44 they're in rut or not. There's a little bit of both
45 ways in the -- sound like in the Northwest Arctic
46 regional RAC over there saying -- some saying we
47 shouldn't hunt them in the -- the bulls when they're in
48 the rut, others are saying by the time they get to us
49 they're out of the rut now, they're late. But up here
50

1 in unit 26 we haven't proposed any changes. It's still
2 we're not going to hunt the bulls from I think October
3 10, I think it's October 10 to December 5th is off
4 limits to bulls and let them get their business done,
5 let them mate and do all of that stuff. And then after
6 December 5 we should be able to hunt the bulls again,
7 giving them the opportunity to, you know, have the rut,
8 you know. And it was a conservative thing.
9

10 But, I mean, you could, you know, think
11 out loud and easily say, yeah, we support this and I
12 think Point Hope should have the opportunity under unit
13 23 to hunt these bulls at anytime and make the decision
14 ourselves whether it -- you feel it's not in rut or
15 not. And to put a bull down during the rutting season
16 that was defined more up on the unit 26 area.
17

18 And like I said it was a period of time
19 there was some scare tactics going on about changes to
20 regulatory hunting regulation, this is only a change to
21 hunting regulation. Nothing more, nothing less. It's
22 do you want to hunt bulls anytime or do you want to --
23 you recommend this RAC support the proposal in unit 23
24 or is Point Hope saying as well they don't want to --
25 they want to abide by the prohibition of hunting bulls
26 during rut.
27

28 MR. SCHAEFER: Thank you. I just --
29 we'll wait for the Fish and Wildlife to make their
30 comments and then by that time we should be able to
31 have a position and we might be neutral.
32

33 Thank you.
34

35 CHAIRMAN BROWER: (In Native), Jack. I
36 love explaining things so that people better understand
37 what's at stake.
38

39 And so we'll go to Interagency Staff
40 Committee.
41

42 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council.
43 Sorry, this is the old follow-up. There is no longer
44 ADF&G or I'm sorry, Interagency Staff Committee
45 comments so you can cross that off on the process here.
46

47 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Oh. What happened?
48

49 MS. PATTON: They're involved in the
50

1 review at a different stage in the process here. So
2 they don't have comments at this time.

3
4 And I did want to let Mr. Jack Schaefer
5 and others know that there is also an opportunity
6 beyond the Regional Advisory Council meeting today.
7 There's an opportunity for the public and tribes to
8 participate in the Federal Subsistence Board meeting
9 itself. Those are fully teleconferenced and we'll be
10 sending out the news release for full public
11 participation either in person or by teleconference.
12 So if the tribe did decide they would like to make a
13 formal recommendation to the Board there's an
14 opportunity at that April meeting.

15
16 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Eva.

17
18 MS. PATTON: Thank you.

19
20 CHAIRMAN BROWER: So we'll move on to
21 item four, advisory group comments. A, other regional
22 Councils.

23
24 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council.
25 Thus far on page 41 you'll find -- this is a crossover
26 proposal for a number of different Councils. This unit
27 23 is kind of in a corner of a number of different
28 Councils' regions and communities with C&T to hunt in
29 unit 23.

30
31 So far we only have formal comments
32 from the Western Interior Alaska Subsistence Regional
33 Advisory Council which met last week. That Council
34 voted to support proposal 46 and take no action on 43,
35 44 and 45 since they are very similar in nature.

36
37 CHAIRMAN BROWER: So in a sense the
38 Western Interior Alaska Subsistence Regional Advisory
39 Council is saying by approving or supporting WP 20-46
40 is the same as supporting all of these other ones?

41
42 MS. PATTON: They chose to take action
43 on 46 and felt that encompassed the other proposals.
44 So they took no action on the other proposals.

45
46 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Very good.

47
48 MS. PATTON: The Seward Peninsula
49 Regional Advisory Council is also meeting this week.

50

1 So they're still in meeting today as well so we don't
2 have a recommendation back from that Council yet. We
3 don't know what their action has been.

4
5 And the Northwest Arctic Regional
6 Advisory Council will meet next week I believe. And so
7 we don't have their action yet either, they'll be
8 taking action.

9
10 The Northwest Arctic Subsistence
11 Regional Advisory Council did submit the wildlife
12 proposal WP 20-45 that is part of this grouped analysis
13 here.

14
15 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Okay. Just for
16 informational purposes which one of the proposals did
17 the west -- Northwest Arctic Regional Advisory Council
18 request, was that WP 20-45?

19
20 MS. PATTON: Correct.

21
22 CHAIRMAN BROWER: And who's the
23 proponent of WP 20-46?

24
25 MS. PATTON: The Western Arctic Caribou
26 Herd Working Group.

27
28 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Oh, okay. I just
29 wanted to -- but they're mirrored -- they're mirrored
30 proposals pretty much?

31
32 MS. PATTON: Similar.

33
34 MR. EVANS: They're similar, that's why
35 we grouped them.

36
37 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Is it similar in that
38 one says.....

39
40 MS. KENNER: Mr. Chair, this is Pippa
41 Kenner.

42
43 CHAIRMAN BROWER:don't kill the
44 calves and the other says we can get the calves? See
45 that's really big, it's.....

46
47 MS. KENNER: Mr. Chair.

48
49 CHAIRMAN BROWER:similar, but one
50

1 says kill the calves and the other says don't kill the
2 calves.

3
4 MR. EVANS: So, let's see, the 45
5 requested a year round bull season for caribou in 23.

6
7 MS. PATTON: Sounds like we have Pippa
8 Kenner checking in as well.

9
10 MR. EVANS: And 20-44 was submitted by
11 the Kotzebue AC.

12
13 MS. KENNER: Hi, Mr. Chair. This is
14 Pippa Kenner at OSM and I'm sorry that I can't see you,
15 but you're asking a great question and I just wanted to
16 direct you to page 43 of your Council book.

17
18 MR. EVANS: I'm sorry.

19
20 MS. KENNER: And there you can see the
21 difference between WP 20-45 that was submitted by the
22 Northwest Arctic Council and WP 20-46 that was
23 submitted by the Working Group. You're correct, one
24 includes the harvest of calves and one does not. The
25 Northwest Arctic Subsistence Regional Advisory Council
26 did not include the harvest of calves.

27
28 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

29
30 CHAIRMAN BROWER: That's very good
31 clarification. I mean, they're similar, but you
32 shouldn't really say familiar when it includes the
33 taking of a life of a baby one, a baby fawn, you know.
34 And that's concerning to me when you say by approving
35 this in a sense it's kind of taking these other things
36 by storm. Even though I think we harvested calves in
37 the past, it's still -- we're having in a conservative
38 management and I don't know, it sounded like the
39 Western Arctic Regional Advisory Council is saying
40 don't kill the calves, but let's kill -- allow us to
41 get some bulls. Is that what I'm hearing?

42
43 So, I mean, I would -- if that's what
44 I'm hearing I would be inclined to support the
45 Northwest Arctic Regional Advisory Council's proposal.

46
47 MS. KENNER: So, Mr. Chair, this is
48 Pippa Kenner again. So when you get to your
49 deliberation at the end of the process you're going to
50

1 have a couple of options. The Council can support,
2 oppose, support with modification and it can also defer
3 to the home region.

4
5 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Very good. And I
6 know we've done that in the past. But I think it was
7 important to define each one and what were the small,
8 intricate differences meaning and I think the calves is
9 not -- is not a little thing. I think the calves is a
10 big thing.

11
12 Anyway and that was very good to hear,
13 what the -- was there -- are there any other Regional
14 Advisory Council comments at this point.

15
16 Eva

17
18 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council.
19 No, the Western Interior Council was the only report
20 back that we've received so far from other Regional
21 Advisory Councils.

22
23 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Very good. And then
24 B is Fish and Game Advisory Committees.

25
26 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council. I
27 did not receive any formal updates on the Regional ACs
28 that have taken action and I don't know if Carmen or
29 others who are on teleconference have any formal
30 recommendations that they can provide to the Council at
31 this time.

32
33 CHAIRMAN BROWER: And these are ACs
34 like the North Slope Borough Regional AC, Advisory
35 Councils. There might be the Yukon people out of
36 Anaktuvuk Pass, don't they have an Advisory Council now
37 in Anaktuvuk?

38
39 MS. PATTON: There's one based out of
40 the Kotzebue area as well. We do have a couple Council
41 members that serve on the AC for the North Slope
42 region. But I haven't received any formal updates on
43 the actions that they've taken. We do provide those AC
44 comments at the time of the Board meeting as well so
45 those comments are considered by the Board if we don't
46 have formal recommendations at the Council meeting at
47 this time.

48
49 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you. And it's
50

1 important because you would want to hear the ACs
2 because we're deliberating on what we should be saying
3 too to the Federal Subsistence Board and recommending.
4 It's important.

5
6 So I'm going to go to item C,
7 Subsistence Resource Commissions.

8
9 MS. PATTON: And similarly, Mr. Chair,
10 there are a couple SRCs in the region and those are the
11 National Park Service Subsistence Commissions. And I
12 have not heard formal comments back from them. Many
13 groups, both ACs and the SRCs, kind of meet around the
14 same time frame or a little bit later in the fall and
15 so there's often overlap and sometimes the Councils
16 meet first. And again the SRCs, also we do make those
17 recommendations at the time of the Board meeting so
18 they're aware of those comments. But I don't have any
19 that I've received from those coordinators.

20
21 Thank you.

22
23 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Eva. And
24 item five is summary of written public comments.

25
26 DR. REAM: Eva, this is Josh Ream, Mr.
27 Chair.

28
29 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Let me recognize
30 somebody online.

31
32 MS. PATTON: Yes, Joshua Ream from Park
33 Service. He may have some updates that we don't have
34 at this time.

35
36 DR. REAM: Yes. I'm sorry, I'm having
37 trouble hearing you whenever I am off of mute, but I do
38 have a little bit of information on the decisions that
39 were made by the Cape Krusenstern and the Kobuk Valley
40 SRCs if the Council is interested.

41
42 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yeah, go ahead,
43 Joshua, we'll -- let's hear what you got.

44
45 DR. REAM: Okay. Thank you, Mr. Chair.
46 So the Cape Krusenstern's formal position on the
47 caribou proposals is to support the year round bull
48 season to both conserve the cows and to allow for
49 opportunity to harvest young bulls. The Cape
50

1 Krusenstern SRC decided to take no action on the calf
2 harvest question as there was an obvious split among
3 members on this subject. While some of the members
4 agreed that orphan calves shouldn't be left to die and
5 admitted that a few individuals from the region would
6 like the actively harvest for making parkas, others
7 indicted strong opposition indicating that it is not
8 part of their culture to harvest the future of the
9 herd.

10

11 The Kobuk Valley SRC's position on
12 caribou was similar except for they formally rejected
13 the calf harvest component of the request. There
14 appeared to be more uniformity among the members that
15 calf harvest is not a contemporary practice and that
16 even traditionally calves found dead or accidentally
17 killed were used to make clothing. The Kobuk Valley
18 SRC also commented in opposition to the Board of Game
19 proposal seeking to allow calf harvest.

20

21 Thank you, Mr. Chair and members of the
22 Council.

23

24 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Joshua.
25 That's pretty enlightening. I -- that's the kind of
26 stuff we like to hear in what other regions and SRCs
27 are saying.

28

29 With that, summary of written public
30 comments.

31

32 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council.
33 There were no public comments -- written public
34 comments submitted for this proposal.

35

36 Thank you.

37

38 CHAIRMAN BROWER: At this point I'm
39 going to go to item six, public testimony on the
40 proposal. Anybody want to write public testimony on
41 this.

42

43 (No comments)

44

45 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I can provide public
46 testimony, right?

47

48 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council.
49 Your role is actually formal as the Chair of the
50

1 Council and so public testimony would be our wonderful
2 members of the public here in Point Hope and also on
3 teleconference.

4
5 Thank you.

6
7 MR. HOPSON: Mr. Chairman.

8
9 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yeah, go ahead, Mr.
10 Hopson from Utqiagvik, I'll recognize you.

11
12 MR. HOPSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
13 We've listened to these folks on these proposals --
14 we've listened to these comments on proposals 20
15 through 49 and I would support these proposals, but I
16 would stay neutral in voting on them and leave that to
17 the region that they're affecting.

18
19 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

20
21 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Mr.
22 Hopson, for your public comments. Any other comments
23 on the proposal.

24
25 MR. OOMITTUK: Mr. Chair.

26
27 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Steve, Point Hope.

28
29 MR. OOMITTUK: Yeah, this is Point
30 Hope. I would support that with -- along with William.
31 But, you know, this is unit 23, you know, the caribou
32 have just went through Kotzebue. You know, like
33 they've been talking today, everything's coming later
34 and later. You know, we've been getting caribou here
35 for over a month now. And they're finally going
36 through the Kotzebue area. Noatak finally got their
37 caribou about a week ago. And, you know, the migration
38 time is changing quite -- you know, the -- I would
39 support these proposals, what William suggested.

40
41 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Councilman
42 Oomittuk from Point Hope. Any other public comments,
43 public testimony.

44
45 (No comments)

46
47 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I'm going to provide
48 one really quick. You know, we made a whole bunch of
49 rules with a drastic decline in caribou. We had
50

1 490,000 animals at one point for the Western Arctic
2 herd. And over 50 percent declined down to 201,000 at
3 one point. And we were about to face a much more
4 restrictive regulatory climate that was going to be
5 imposed on all us Federally-qualified users on these
6 resources. And we did a lot of soul searching and said
7 what can we do to impose on ourselves what others would
8 do by themselves and say we don't want you to do this
9 no more. So we -- what we did was say we're not going
10 to hunt bulls during the rut period and we're not going
11 to hunt calves, the fawns, and accompanied by a cow.
12 And then we're not going to hunt the pregnant female
13 from about March until it gives birth because it's now
14 when you get a caribou that's around March it looks
15 like a fully formed baby caribou inside the womb of
16 that tuttu to be born.

17
18 So we did a lot of these soul searching
19 to make additional restrictions that were traditional
20 in nature that we didn't -- we didn't really -- we
21 didn't do these things and they were conservative, we
22 were conservatives by our own right. And it -- and
23 then the ADF&G and OSM saw that was good and we made
24 our own laws, right, we did that. And I'm proud of
25 that. It's awesome. Traditional things became law and
26 I was proud of that. I thought we did our own homework
27 there.

28
29 But it's important to recognize the
30 other region. There our brothers. (In Native),
31 they're hungry too. I would think that we should
32 discern, there's several proposals here with very
33 slight differences, that slight difference being one,
34 the region says we just want to get the bulls and
35 another proposal says well, let's get the calves too
36 when the region is asking just for the bulls.

37
38 So we should be careful which ones we
39 support, they're not all the same, there's a subtle
40 difference. That subtle difference is the calf, the
41 future of the herd. I know we've resorted to hunting
42 calves for clothing in the past because we needed to do
43 that. It's important and I just want to -- I just want
44 us to recognize if we're going to stay neutral, but
45 support the region's proposal, the Northwest Arctic
46 region's proposal because it's specific. They're not
47 all the same. One of them's saying -- somebody added
48 calves, yeah, let's kill the calves too when we -- when
49 we're still in a conservative management scheme while
50

1 the Western Arctic herd is trying to climb back up.

2

3 And I'm just saying we should be
4 careful with our words because we did a lot of the work
5 to try to help be conservative and let the growth of
6 the herd be the priority. I still say we let the
7 growth of the herd be the priority and limit the take
8 of the calves.

9

10 (In Native). I'm just concerned about
11 that.

12

13 That's my only public testimony I'm
14 going to provide on that part.

15

16 Any other public testimony?

17

18 MR. SCHAEFER: Mr. Chair.

19

20 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Mr. Schaefer.

21

22 MR. SCHAEFER: Point Hope had a lot of
23 pride in regards to its subsistence since, you know,
24 forever. And back in the early '60s they wrote a
25 letter to the Federal government indicating they had
26 harvested caribou, 10 boats for the village. And it
27 was at a time that they were looking at studying the
28 animal and they were complaining about it, that they
29 left too soon and never look at the animal.

30

31 All I wanted to say was that 10 boats
32 for the whole village at that time and it was falltime.
33 And we always look toward taking care of ourselves and
34 our loved ones, our families and do hope that we work
35 toward being able to do that again should it ever, you
36 know, be a need. And the species' recovery is
37 something that is -- if it's not at that point, you
38 know, we're always looking for the best harvest and the
39 best species recovery.

40

41 Thank you.

42

43 CHAIRMAN BROWER: (In Native), Mr.
44 Schaefer. And it's easy to read between the lines when
45 you hear complicated remarks. And I always thank Jack
46 for -- because he makes me read between the lines.

47

48 Any other public testimony before we
49 move on.

50

1 (No comments)

2
3 CHAIRMAN BROWER: With that I am going
4 to entertain a motion at this point, Regional Council
5 recommendation. I'd like to entertain a motion on
6 these proposals. They alike, but they're not like.
7 There's an OSM preliminary conclusion to support
8 proposal WP 20-46, that includes the taking of calves
9 along with taking of bulls year round in unit 23. And
10 take no actions on the proposals 20 -- WP 20-43, WP 20-
11 44 and WP 20-45. And bereminded WP 20-45 is Western --
12 Northwest Arctic Regional RAC's proposal is my
13 understanding and does not include the taking of
14 calves, but the taking of bulls year round.

15
16 So what's the wish of the Council?
17 Need a motion.

18
19 MR. HOPSON: Mr. Chairman.

20
21 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Go ahead, Mr. Hopson.

22
23 MR. HOPSON: I'll second the motion
24 that you made.

25
26 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Well, if I made that
27 motion it would be to support WP 20-45 and defer to the
28 Regional Council of that area. That's their proposal.

29
30 MR. HOPSON: Okay. I second your
31 motion.

32
33 CHAIRMAN BROWER: It's been seconded.
34 Any discussion?

35
36 (No comments)

37
38 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Now we can talk about
39 are we making a goof up, are we screwing up or are
40 doing the right thing here. I certainly think if we
41 supported the original because it's being clouded by
42 some other proposals that kind of say, yeah, it's like
43 that one, but let's add all the baby ones to it too,
44 you know. And that sounds pretty crazy to me.

45
46 So I think the original proposal and
47 supporting that region's Council and giving them
48 deference with -- to their proposal is in order meaning
49 give weight to that Regional Council's proposal, that's
50

1 what deference is, you give them more weight to their
2 proposal. And let them -- it'll affect this, it'll
3 mean that Steve can go out here and -- after Federal
4 Subsistence Board ratifies it, Steve, you can go get
5 all the bulls out here, it doesn't matter, but you
6 can't go to 26 I think to do that. We would still be
7 limited in 26 on bulls until December 5.

8

9

Any other discussion on the motion?

10

11

MR. HOPSON: Mr. Chairman.

12

13

CHAIRMAN BROWER: Go ahead, Mr. Hopson.

14

15

MR. HOPSON: Call for question.

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

CHAIRMAN BROWER: The question's been
called for to support WP 20-45 and defer to the Western
Arctic Regional Advisory Council and give them
deference on their proposal. All in favor signify by
saying aye.

23

24

IN UNISON: Aye.

25

26

27

CHAIRMAN BROWER: All those opposed say
nay.

28

29

(No opposing votes)

30

31

32

CHAIRMAN BROWER: The ayes have it and
we'll move on to the next proposal.

33

34

35

In the meantime I'm going to get some
water.

36

37

(Pause)

38

39

CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yeah. Go ahead, Tom.

40

41

42

43

44

45

MR. EVANS: Thank you, Mr. Chair. And
again my name's Tom Evans, I'm a wildlife biologist
with OSM. I'm going to present the analysis for WP 20-
47. This deals with moose in unit 23 and can be found
on page 81 of your meeting materials.

46

47

48

49

50

This proposal was submitted by the
Northwest Arctic Subsistence Regional Advisory Council
and it requests the closure of the cow moose season and
to require the use of the State registration permit to

1 harvest moose in unit 23. The proponent is concerned
2 about declines in the unit 23 moose population. The
3 Council states that they would like to eliminate the
4 cow moose season and require the use of the State
5 registration permit to conserve cows, improve harvest
6 reporting and in turn help the unit 23 moose population
7 recover.

8
9 In 2016 and 2017 the Department of Fish
10 and Game provided a unit wide population estimate of
11 7,500 moose. In 2018 the Department of Fish and Game
12 estimated that the unit 23 moose population was at
13 6,300 moose representing a 16 percent decline in the
14 unit wide population estimate. The most recent
15 population estimate provided by the State and their
16 comments in special action WSA 19-04 was 5,600 moose.
17 The low calf/cow ratios indicate that unit 23 moose
18 population is declining with a possible exception being
19 in the lower Kobuk Valley survey area which has a
20 larger percentage of maternal cows.

21
22 The reported harvest by non-local and
23 nonresidents combined with the community household
24 survey harvest estimates for local residents indicate a
25 total of 23 moose harvests -- that unit 23 moose
26 harvest likely exceeded the harvestable surplus. And
27 this was not by much.

28
29 If adopted the Federal cow moose season
30 in unit 23 would be closed and the moose harvest in the
31 unit would require the use of the current State
32 registration permit which could be obtained between
33 June 1st and July 15th in local villages. And this
34 could put an additional burden on local users. However
35 adoption of WP 20-47 could aid in the recovery of unit
36 23 moose population and decrease regulatory complexity
37 in the area.

38
39 OSM's preliminary conclusion is to
40 support wildlife proposal WP 20-47 with modification to
41 change the harvest limit from one bull to one antlered
42 bull.

43
44 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

45
46 And I'll open for questions.

47
48 CHAIRMAN BROWER: And what was that
49 proposal number, 20-47.
50

1 MR. EVANS: Correct.

2
3 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I know you kind of
4 summarized it, but there's lots and lots of pages and
5 that you didn't talk about and that went to -- straight
6 to your own modifications. And but I would like to
7 understand a little bit better maybe. But because I --
8 you know, this goes on, 20-47, at least at seven pages
9 now and you went straight to the end to OSM preliminary
10 conclusion to support wildlife proposal WP 20-47 with
11 modification to change the harvest limit from one bull
12 to one antlered bull.

13
14 Is that just semantics at this point
15 that one antlered bull versus -- is it a bull that has
16 no antlers, is it to try to differentiate or maybe you
17 can talk about why your modification is from one bull
18 to one antlered bullwinkle.

19
20 (Laughter)

21
22 MR. EVANS: Thank you, Mr. Chair. So
23 modifying the harvest to one antlered bull could
24 further limit the cow harvest as well as cow harassment
25 by hunters, ensuring that a cow is not inadvertently
26 taken by a hunter when the antlers have dropped from
27 the bull moose. So it's a -- it's just another
28 conservation -- little bit more conservative approach.

29
30 CHAIRMAN BROWER: So it's like to limit
31 an inadvertent take of a cow is what you're doing, if
32 it looks like a bull it's a bull, if it doesn't look
33 like a bull don't shoot it. Is that what you're
34 talking about?

35
36 MR. EVANS: (Indiscernible - away from
37 microphone).....

38
39 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Does the Council have
40 any concern about going straight to the conclusion and
41 forego all of these affects on proposals, other
42 alternative.....

43
44 MR. OOMITTUK: Mr. Chair.

45
46 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Go ahead, Mr.
47 Oomittuk.

48
49 MR. OOMITTUK: Mr. Chair.

50

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yep. Go ahead,
2 Steve.

3
4 MR. OOMITTUK: Yeah, on page 98 other
5 alternatives considered. And I see that -- you know,
6 we -- you know, we're, you know, unit 23 and, you know,
7 Point Hope very rarely catches moose, very rarely. We
8 don't see them very often unless there's a forest fire
9 and the smoke brings them into our area. Although
10 there's -- we know that the Northwest Arctic -- I mean,
11 the Kotzebue Sound area, you know, they rely on a lot
12 of moose in their area. And, you know, here it states
13 that, you know, considered since the conditional
14 closure of one cow moose for Federally-qualified users.
15 You know, with the decline of caribou that they want --
16 is that what you're saying they want more. One moose
17 is a.....

18
19 MR. EVANS: It's one moose. Yeah,
20 so.....

21
22 MR. OOMITTUK: Yeah, 20-47 is.

23
24 MR. EVANS: So to change the harvest
25 limit from one bull to one antlered bull from what the
26 proponent requested.

27
28 MR. OOMITTUK: Closure to cow moose.

29
30 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Per person?

31
32 MR. EVANS: Yeah. So there's no --
33 yes.

34
35 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Any.....

36
37 MR. OOMITTUK: By State registration
38 permit. Okay. I just -- you know, here we are again,
39 you know, these are proposals from areas that we're not
40 familiar with and we're making decision under -- even
41 though we agree with it, it still has to go to the
42 Federal Subsistence Advisory Board and they can decline
43 even if we support them. You know, I mean, they've
44 declined our proposals before. So it's -- you know,
45 once we make decisions on, you know, this is the
46 Northwest, I know it's in the unit 23 area and we are
47 part of unit 23, but, you know, it's not within -- you
48 know, I'm a few hundred miles away from them, you know,
49 and here I'm making decisions on these subsistence
50

1 hunters that -- you know, these are their proposals and
2 I never lived in that area, you know. And I normally --
3 the economy is pretty low and they depend on
4 subsistence hunting. So.....

5

6 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you.

7

8 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council.

9

10 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Steve.

11

12 MS. PATTON: If I may.

13

14 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Go ahead, Eva. I was
15 going to respond, but.....

16

17 MS. PATTON: Thank you. Yeah, I wanted
18 to acknowledge Steve's comments as well. And this does
19 come before the Council because it is a crossover
20 proposal and Point Hope is in unit 23, but your
21 feedback coming from Point Hope and the understanding
22 of where your community hunts is very important. Again
23 the Council always has the opportunity for any proposal
24 to take no action or -- and defer to the home region or
25 to take action or to take action with modification. So
26 it's always up to the Council and your feedback coming
27 from Point Hope is very important to this Council.

28

29 Thank you.

30

31 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yeah, thank you, Eva.
32 And that's basically what I was going to try to help
33 with there too, Steve. Because it is Northwest Arctic
34 RAC's proposal. And it's only before us because of
35 you.....

36

37 MR. OOMITTUK: Right.

38

39 CHAIRMAN BROWER:because you're
40 in 23. So we could defer it to them, we don't have to
41 support it, but if -- you know, whatever happens over
42 there it'll still be -- if it passes and a stray moose
43 come down over this way you should be able to kill it
44 and eat it and barbecue it and take care of it, you
45 know. I'd want it too.

46

47 But I'm just saying we don't have to
48 support it, but all it's going to do is put your name,
49 North Slope Council might say we support the proposal,
50

1 we support our neighbors because our neighbors are also
2 proposing this regulatory change and it's going to
3 affect one of our villages that's in that unit. It
4 sounds like Steve would want to kill a stray moose that
5 comes around with big horns as would I.

6
7 So anyway it's important. I don't want
8 to minimize the role that this Advisory Council does
9 because I think we carry a lot of weight. I mean,
10 whatever we're recommending and the Board of Game --
11 the Federal Subsistence Board look at this and their
12 support for our neighboring brothers over there, North
13 Slope says, yeah, let's support them. Yeah, we'll
14 steal some of their moose and bring them over here and
15 we'll get them. I think it's -- I think it's good in
16 my view.

17
18 And with that is there any other
19 explanation on the proposal? I know you kind of did a
20 shortcut, but it was pretty direct, you know.

21
22 MR. SCHAEFER: Mr. Chair.

23
24 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Mr. Schaefer.

25
26 MR. SCHAEFER: (Indiscernible - away
27 from microphone).....

28
29 CHAIRMAN BROWER: And Mr. Evans will be
30 able to respond to some of those types of questions.

31
32 Jack Schaefer, Native Village of Point
33 Hope.

34
35 MR. SCHAEFER: I noticed on this
36 proposal that, you know, you got a line drawn through
37 some -- through a bunch of it. And it changes one
38 moose by State registration permit. What do you mean
39 by that, has it been done in a different way before
40 this proposal?

41
42 Thank you.

43
44 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Mr. Evans, OSM, if
45 you could respond. It sounds like because of the --
46 there's some -- been controls and restrictions in the
47 past because of the population concerning it, there's
48 been some conservative management schemes and there's
49 -- either it's -- there's no hunt or there's some hunt
50

1 or some -- you know better than I do at this point.

2

3 MR. EVANS: So it was one moose before
4 and so the change would be now to one antlered bull and
5 then the State registration permit would be an addition
6 as well from what the regulation was previously.

7

8 MR. SCHAEFER: So previously there was
9 no need for a State registration permit?

10

11 MR. EVANS: Correct.

12

13 MR. SCHAEFER: All right. I got.....

14

15 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yes.

16

17 MR. SCHAEFER:his clarification
18 on it as to whether or.....

19

20 CHAIRMAN BROWER: That's a good
21 clarification. I'd like ADF&G to come down here
22 because they're kind of like nodding something and
23 cringing their teeth and gnawing on things back there
24 and saying no.

25

26 Okay. Well, let's see what ADF&G says.
27 I think there's some explanation to have with was there
28 a requirements for registration before this or not and
29 what is this proposal doing?

30

31 MS. DAGGETT: There's not in the
32 Federal regulations, but there would have been in the
33 State regulations.

34

35 CHAIRMAN BROWER: So am I thinking now
36 that OSM is trying to do the stuff that we did in the
37 past to say if you're on Federal land it should be the
38 same as State land so there's no enforcement changing
39 going on. It's -- there's one side, you don't need the
40 registration permit, you go to State side of it you
41 need a registration permit?

42

43 MR. EVANS: So this was proposed by the
44 Northwest Arctic Regional -- Subsistence Regional
45 Council and they wanted to go with the State
46 registration permit because they felt that it was
47 better accounting for the number of moose being
48 harvested on a population that's declining.

49

50

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: So it's just the
2 ability to manage the information and much like -- you
3 know, you need harvest data and things like that, same
4 thing as that.

5
6 So, yeah, Mr. Schaefer, that is a
7 change because on the -- I think the State required a
8 registration permit and now the Feds are going to
9 require a registration permit. But you were already
10 going to be required as you're a little more surrounded
11 by State land than in the other areas on that side
12 where there's Federal public lands. Am I correct in
13 that sense?

14
15 MR. EVANS: So Point Hope is surrounded
16 by State lands though there is some Federal lands.
17 But.....

18
19 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Very good. So if
20 there was a difference, let's just say Jack ski-dooed
21 into this orange area which is administered by BLM
22 lands, he didn't need to register, he'd just shoot it
23 all up, right, and versus if he went on this white
24 section that say State, you better have Carmen's
25 permission with a registration permit.

26
27 So, I mean, it's funny how those things
28 works like that, but anyway it sounds like when you
29 look at the request and it's from the Northwest Arctic
30 Region to do this and you're basically -- the only
31 thing you're changing is your modification is to an
32 antlered bull versus just a bull so they can discern
33 whether or not -- you're not accidentally shooting a cow.

34
35 Very good. Any other -- we're going to
36 go down the line here. We did introduction and
37 presentation of analysis. And I'm going to go ahead
38 and go down the line. Report on Boards and
39 consultations. So tribes.

40
41 And I'm going to refer to Orville.

42
43 MR. LIND: Thank you, Chair. Orville
44 Lind, Native liaison for the Office of Subsistence
45 Management.

46
47 There was consultation on 9/30. Again
48 Edward did comment on another issue, not pertaining to
49 unit 23, but of moose. And he said they're just trying
50

1 to have a small moose season so they could try to
2 harvest moose in the area of Kaktovik. And he says
3 that moose harvesting there has been an issue for the
4 people in the area.

5
6 And then anyway he also said that the
7 location for the hunt worked in -- with the Refuge is
8 not working out for them and that they have an
9 opportunity for the public hearing that same evening to
10 discuss more of it for that. But he -- the reason he
11 brought up moose is because they were talking about
12 moose prior to that.

13
14 I'm going to go ahead and give these
15 other comments because that will be all that was said
16 during the consultation for your RAC member.

17
18 He also said that he knows that there's
19 a lot of die-offs in birds and then in the summertime
20 they did get a lot more salmon in his area and then
21 that he's been on the Kaktovik for about 60 years and
22 this is the first time they ever caught three type of
23 salmon species. And he thinks it's because of the
24 warming of the temperatures or changes in species' behavior.

25
26 And then he had a question, he wanted
27 to know a little bit about Red Sheep Creek. And of
28 course OSM staff provided the information on that
29 issue.

30
31 And that was all that was said from
32 Edward Rexford, Sr.

33
34 Thank you, Mr. Chair, Council members.

35
36 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Orville.
37 Any questions for Orville on the report from the
38 tribes?

39
40 (No comments)

41
42 CHAIRMAN BROWER: It's always good to
43 hear from the Kaktovik area and I know they have
44 specific moose concerns of their own and well, thank
45 you for that.

46
47 Jack, if you're going to provide
48 comments there's a specific agenda for you, that'll go
49 after the ANSCA corporations ones on item three. We're
50

1 going to get to you.

2

3 Item B, ANSCA corporation comments.

4

5 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council.
6 Orville was reporting on both the tribal and ANSCA.....

7

8 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Okay.

9

10 MS. PATTON:corporation
11 consultations.

12

13 Thank you.

14

15 CHAIRMAN BROWER: All right. My bad.
16 Item three, agency comments.

17

18 ADF&G.

19

20 MR. BURCH: Mr. Chair, this is Mark
21 Burch from the Department of Fish and Game. We have
22 not developed formal comments on this particular
23 proposal. I would acknowledge your discussion that you
24 just had about some of the benefits of using the State
25 registration permit, however that often does provide
26 numbers that are useful to us in managing moose and
27 other species as well.

28

29 Thank you.

30

31 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you. I guess
32 that was Mark.

33

34 Federal agency comments.

35

36 (No comments)

37

38 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Eva is nodding no
39 because she's a Federal agent.

40

41 Native, tribal, village and/or other.
42 So I'm going to recognize Mr. Schaefer, Native Village
43 of Point Hope.

44

45 MR. SCHAEFER: Thank you. Jack
46 Schaefer, Native Village of Point Hope.

47

48 I don't know how often, you know,
49 tribes were able to say something on record, but tribes

50

1 perform governmental functions like any other
2 government, whether it be State, whether it be Federal,
3 you know, governmental functions. And we have that
4 responsibility as a government. And every once in a
5 while we do look at these functions and, you know, we
6 do swear that we would perform these functions for our
7 people. And with that said, you know, we are obligated
8 to relook at that opportunity whenever it occurs, even
9 before in preparation in dealing with our government to
10 government relationship, in regards to whether it be
11 compacting or some other arrangement. And we have that
12 responsibility.

13
14 And so in regards to a State permit,
15 you know, I don't know if that does cause any type of
16 impact in regards to the governmental function of the
17 Native Village of Point Hope that has a Wildlife
18 Department. Now there isn't very many tribes that do
19 have that or even have that line item in the green book
20 in regards to budget justifications to Congress.
21 Nevertheless we have governmental functions and we have
22 that responsibility and we have those that are willing
23 and able and are not aware that that possibility is
24 there. And so with that said, you know, we -- we're
25 obligated to say that. We don't know when we'll get
26 into that type of arrangement, when it's acceptable,
27 when we're not strapped by the BIA or anyone that
28 prevents us from working directly with the U.S. Fish
29 and Wildlife Service and so -- and performing their
30 functions.

31 And so I say that and, you know, we
32 don't really know what type of impact, but we did
33 observe difficulty with caribou and a state employee
34 coming in, trying to push, for lack of a better term,
35 push hunting licenses for money that we don't have.
36 And anyway we seen that. And it's been difficult to --
37 whether that person was afraid to be available or, you
38 know, from -- a State employee. I'm referring to a
39 State employee. And anyway we did have difficulty in
40 the past. I don't know if this will have more
41 difficulty, but we do have a program. And naturally
42 it's a governmental function and we have a
43 responsibility and hopefully we'll have that
44 opportunity despite the competition that we're faced
45 with.

46
47 Thank you.

48
49 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Mr.
50

1 Schaefer. And maybe I could help a little bit too and
2 you might want to respond back.

3
4 On the map, Tikigaq's here, and this
5 white section says that it is a -- I think it says
6 State land, State jurisdiction. And these orange lands
7 in unit 23 close to Point Hope would be BLM lands. And
8 that's what I think in my view this particular
9 regulation change would align itself with the white
10 land, where it's State and we're saying you must have a
11 registration to get a moose on State lands around the
12 periphery of Point Hope. And these little orange
13 Federal lands is going to come in alliance with that if
14 this is passed by the Federal Subsistence Board in
15 April. That there's going to be no difference in the
16 regulatory responsibility between Federal and State
17 land, both of those -- right now one you don't -- you
18 have to have registration on it, the other you don't.
19 And this regulation change's going to say you're going
20 to need registration regardless you're on Federal
21 public lands or State lands.

22
23 And here's one good thing I would like
24 you to know. I was at the Federal Subsistence Board
25 meeting and heard this great argument from Ahtna, I
26 think it was Ahtna. And on lands that their tribe made
27 a compact with the Interior Secretary of the United
28 States of America to take over management of those
29 resources in those lands. It seems to me -- I mean,
30 there are things like that because of great
31 indifference between user groups, that there was a
32 higher priority need for indigenous peoples to have a
33 little more control and willing to be part of these
34 things. I would ask you maybe to sit down with Orville
35 and discuss that kind of stuff that I seen. I thought
36 that was a precedent at that Federal Subsistence Board
37 meeting about what I would amount to as like an ICAS
38 taking over some areas of Fish and Game management and
39 giving the resources to manage it for its people. Kind
40 of liking to what I thought was happening in my view.

41
42 All right. I just thought that was
43 interesting in an area that was maybe highly contested
44 and stuff. Anyway that's just my feedback.

45
46 MR. SCHAEFER: Thank you. And so
47 because we have a government to government relationship
48 and the State has a government to government
49 relationship and we perform those functions, you know,
50

1 I -- and we're obligated to do that and going through
2 the right process and steering it as a government. And
3 every tribe has the ability to do that. And our good
4 President Trump has, you know, reflected through his
5 agencies in regards to feedback and justification in
6 dealing with budgets and spending of funds. And so,
7 you know, we've gone a few years within his
8 administration following that process. And, you know,
9 the compacting arrangement has been ongoing for a long
10 time since 1995 or somewhere around there. And as we
11 get to that point and as the State continues to say
12 owie, owie, owie, I'm getting my cuts and the price of
13 oil is worthless.

14
15 And so tribes are there and we
16 performed these functions because it was a governmental
17 function for our community and a responsibility. And
18 we will get to that point somewhere on down the line
19 through agreements that have been stated by the State,
20 work with the tribes. And it might not be an
21 acceptable thing in regards to the outcome, depending
22 on which way things go. And the price of oil has
23 really got to the point where, you know, they have to
24 go to war to keep the price up. You know, that's kind
25 of crazy. And they got to accept the idea that there's
26 too much oil already so there's those times where we
27 have to work together and we will in dealing with the
28 State and the arrangement with the Federal government.
29 And who knows, you know, we might end up doing it for
30 less.

31
32 (Laughter)

33
34 CHAIRMAN BROWER: (In Native).

35
36 MR. SCHAEFER: Thank you.

37
38 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I'm going to move on
39 down to.....

40
41 MR. EVANS: Mr. Chair.

42
43 CHAIRMAN BROWER: All right. Tom, go
44 ahead.

45
46 MR. EVANS: I just wanted to correct
47 something that you said. You said that the regulations
48 would be exactly the same. They wouldn't be exactly
49 the same. Under the State regulations they still have
50

1 an option for one bull with 50 inch antlers or antlers
2 with four or more heavy brow tines on at least one side
3 with a harvest ticket.

4
5 So their regulations and our
6 regulations would be a little bit different for that
7 area.

8
9 CHAIRMAN BROWER: So is that then that
10 you're a little less restrictive at this point because
11 it's just an antlered bull?

12
13 MR. EVANS: Well, it's just antlered
14 bull on Federal public lands. We're just talking
15 Federal public lands. But you mentioned that the
16 regulations would be exactly the same and they aren't
17 exactly the same.

18
19 CHAIRMAN BROWER: So we don't have to
20 have as many pointed tines on the -- on Federal public
21 lands. It could have a bull with about this big
22 antlers on there or something. I'm just saying.

23
24 MR. OOMITTUK: Mr. Chair, I have a
25 question.

26
27 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yeah, go ahead there,
28 Steve.

29
30 MR. OOMITTUK: You know, I see that --
31 you know, I caught one moose in my life, you know, here
32 in Point Hope about five miles out of town. It was the
33 1st of July and I was coming back from my camp and down
34 the road my daughter hollers out horses, horses. And I
35 look and there's these three moose running. Oh, so I
36 decided to catch a moose. It was my lucky day that the
37 game wardens were in town.

38
39 (Laughter)

40
41 MR. OOMITTUK: And I thought I was a
42 subsistence hunter. And they told me -- I was hanging
43 up the skin, it was my first moose. And, you know,
44 when you catch your first animal of any sort you give
45 it away. So I gave all my moose meat away except I had
46 one piece left that somebody wasn't home and I had it
47 in my freezer. I mean, this was -- this was a big
48 moose and there was, you know, I thought caribou bulls
49 were big, but this was a moose, you know, and which we
50

1 rarely saw. And I was hanging up the skin on my (in
2 Native) hanging rack and here comes this game warden
3 behind me in uniform. He says, oh, you caught a moose.
4 I said, yeah, I got one right down there. I was there
5 the happiest guy, you know, I just -- and he said, oh,
6 what did you do with the meat. I said well, I gave it
7 away because it's my first meat, but I got one more
8 piece in my freezer. And he asked to look at it. So I
9 brought him into my house and he says well, I'm going
10 to have to take this from you, you know, moose season
11 don't open, and I'm going to have to take this skin
12 from you.

13
14 So he takes my moose meat and my skin,
15 then he writes me up a ticket. I had to go to court
16 and pay a fine. And I told him I thought I was a
17 subsistence hunter, you know, and I see the dates, is
18 that date changes, that's July 1st to December 31st for
19 our area. You know, because we don't see moose very
20 often, but 1st of July when there's the forest fires is
21 the only time we see a moose. And the moose come up
22 this way when there's a lot of smoke in the Noatak
23 drainage and everything. And so a moose come up this
24 way. We're not moose hunters, but every so often they
25 do catch a moose. But it's usually the first part of
26 July. I've never caught a moose since 1982 when that
27 happened.

28
29 And I've -- but I was looking at the
30 dates, I see 350 to 450 are permitted within unit 23,
31 is that what is says. And 44, even though it's closed
32 nonresidential, 44 moose were taken by nonresidential.
33 So 2018, is that when, 2019, in unit 23, approximately
34 44 moose from unit 23 each year. Non-local residents
35 still harvest even though it's closed to nonresident
36 moose hunters. Do they get ticketed for that if it's
37 closed to nonresidents or, you know?

38
39 MR. EVANS: Yes, they would get
40 ticketed if they got caught.

41
42 MR. OOMITTUK: Yeah. I just had to
43 bring that up.

44
45 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yeah, if they're
46 nonresident you're talking about non-Alaskan at this
47 point. Because the State of Alaska say you're a
48 resident, you're a resident of the State, regardless
49 you're from Fairbanks, Anchorage, Juneau, everybody can
50

1 have access to it. But when it says nonresident
2 they're talking about Montana and Colorado and those
3 things coming up by.....

4
5 MR. OOMITTUK: Okay.

6
7 CHAIRMAN BROWER:guides.

8
9 MR. OOMITTUK: I -- yeah. I have a
10 better understanding on that.

11
12 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yeah. I'm sorry
13 those kind of things ever happen, you know, I mean,
14 that's a hard lesson to take. And I hope in the future
15 that, you know, we don't have to have these kind of
16 things plague our own people when they're putting food
17 on the table. And if there is a possibility that's
18 going to happen, well, come to every village and talk
19 about it all the time. Do a fair bit of education for
20 the communities. And I think education goes a long
21 ways instead of taking the meat out of somebody's
22 freezer. He probably took it home and cooked it
23 himself in my view.

24
25 (Laughter)

26
27 Anyway so that's the difference,
28 they're not exactly aligned, you said there's some
29 tines, whatever tines are, fingers I suppose of the
30 antler is a tine maybe, I'm not sure. And the Federal
31 side of it just says antlered bull.

32
33 MR. EVANS: Correct. And the season
34 for the harvest ticket's a little bit different as
35 well. The season for the unit 23 remainder under the
36 Federal side is August 1st to December 31st. And on
37 the State side it's currently September 1st to
38 September 20th. So it's kind of a short season for the
39 harvest ticket part of it.

40
41 CHAIRMAN BROWER: All right. Thank
42 you.

43
44 MR. OOMITTUK: Mr. Chair.

45
46 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Is there something
47 else you were going to add, Steve?

48
49 MR. OOMITTUK: Yeah.

50

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Go ahead.

2
3 MR. OOMITTUK: Yeah, I see it showed
4 that 388 moose were taken and, you know, when I think
5 of residents I think of just residents of unit 23 along
6 with the Northwest, but you're talking the whole State.
7 And I don't know, it's 388, do you know the percentage
8 that a local residents like in unit 23, how many moose
9 were taken that are local residents other than other
10 people from Nome area, Fairbanks, Anchorage, wherever
11 they come from, what percentage is taken by the local
12 people within that unit?

13
14 MR. EVANS: I don't have the exact
15 percentage, but roughly 67 moose were taken by non-
16 local residents and nonresidents and the remainder were
17 taken by residents of 23.

18
19 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Here's a question
20 along the same lines. Is there a conservation issue
21 here with the -- with the moose in this area and there
22 is no nonresident hunt is my understanding, right, or
23 does the State on State land have nonresident?

24
25 MR. EVANS: Correct. There's no
26 nonresident hunting open now.

27
28 CHAIRMAN BROWER: So on State land it's
29 open -- that's how come I hear concerns from Point
30 Hope, there's these little airplanes flying around this
31 area and they're surrounded more by State land than by
32 Federal land and that's the scheme there is. It's
33 important to note some of these things where the
34 population of the moose is more over the hill on the
35 other side that's being regulated, but the carryover
36 burden is on the Borough side of the border, the North
37 Slope side of the border barely gets a moose, only
38 maybe when there's a fire. Now wouldn't you think
39 that's the same issue as -- you're treating this very
40 differently than how Eddie Rexford has a problem with
41 the same moose and maybe that's how come he commented
42 on this, that they're limited to three forever almost.
43 We've been fighting this, saying the moose comes from
44 the -- is a transient animal come over to this side and
45 they're always limited by that.

46
47 And here the incidental migration of
48 moose to this area is still open to resident meaning if
49 somebody from Anchorage sees it first they're going to
50

1 get it. They going to fly down and shoot it all up
2 before Steve has any chance at it. That's just the law
3 that the State has. Now being that they're not in
4 moose habitat and there's an incidental moose
5 migration, seems to me that's a population of one. And
6 it should be a very tier leveled hunt now for the
7 community in the area of influence because they don't
8 ever see these moose except for once and the one time
9 it did come he almost got arrested, you know. I mean,
10 and you see those kind of train of thoughts, maybe on
11 Federal public land it should be a resident hunt, it
12 should be only a local, rural subsistence priority like
13 ANILCA says at this point. That means this Federal
14 land should be a vestige for the relief that the
15 population from -- it's in their area of influence. I
16 guarantee you it's in their area of influence as
17 defined by the village in their comprehensive plan.
18 This piece of Federal land saying the immediate
19 environment outside the village district boundary that
20 provides for the contemporary and traditional use
21 patterns to support the village. Now that would
22 preclude in my view allowing Anchorage and Fairbanks to
23 get that moose on Federal public land when it's the
24 only moose there.

25

26 Pat.

27

28 MS. PETRIVELLI: This is Pat Petrivelli
29 with BIA. And I happened to be at the Northwest Arctic
30 meeting when they submitted this proposal, but also in
31 the analysis on page 98 they discuss alternatives. And
32 that's kind of an alternative of closing Federal public
33 lands just to residents of unit 23 like what you were
34 thinking. And when they discussed this alternative is
35 -- in the alternative they reminded me that at the
36 meeting the Council discussed this because they were
37 very concerned about the conservation of moose, but
38 they said they didn't want to do it because they've had
39 so much trouble when they closed Federal public lands
40 to caribou. And then there was concentrations of
41 hunters in areas on State areas around certain villages
42 when there is just State land and it caused problems
43 for those villages.

44

45 And so what happens is when you close
46 all the land and -- to -- Federal public lands to the
47 outside people then they go on the white areas on the
48 map to hunt. So they'll still fly up to Kotzebue and
49 they'll still get in planes and they'll still go

50

1 hunting, but they'll just be in the white areas. And
2 so they were really concerned about that because when
3 they did close unit 2 to caribou the first year they
4 had problems, but then they adjusted it and they made
5 it a more limited, targeted area where it was just
6 impacting the migration, like the Squirrel River
7 drainage, the Noatak control use area, and let it open
8 on other Federal public lands even for that.
9

10 So OSM even looked at the possibility
11 as an alternative and dismissed it because the
12 Northwest Arctic Council didn't want to do it because
13 it could cause too much concentration of those other
14 hunters on State lands that would interfere. Because a
15 lot of those lands are near the villages, more so than
16 Federal public lands.
17

18 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I mean, I don't want
19 to over analyze this and I appreciate your feedback,
20 Pat, but those are the common fear tactics that happen.
21 If we say that we're going to use the true sense of
22 rural subsistence priority which the Federal law says
23 we must do when there is an abundance of the resource
24 then you can open it up and be more liberal in
25 approach. But when there's only a limited -- I mean,
26 we're just talking about moose here. I don't think the
27 State land right outside of Point Hope has 4,000 moose.
28 I don't think it has two, you know. But the one or two
29 that come down, I would really hope that Carmen and the
30 State look at it and say this particular area should be
31 a tier hunt for the village if there is an available
32 moose to be had right there.
33

34 Those are just some of the -- I think
35 many of the arguments we had on caribou when we were
36 talking about Federally-qualified users versus the
37 residents and the conservative management schemes that
38 were being talked about, yeah, I'm familiar with that
39 argument. I'm very familiar with it. I don't quite
40 subscribe to that type of argument, but it is -- it is
41 what it is. And it's a largely flawed in my view mode
42 of analysis to -- because it scares me. It scares me
43 when you limit -- when you try to use the mandates like
44 rural subsistence priority issues and stuff like that.
45 Which is an opportunity to do that.
46

47 In any event I just wanted to point
48 those out because they're so limited in approach in our
49 side of the woods over here.
50

1 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council, if
2 I.....

3
4 MR. OOMITTUK: I just have a comment
5 then. Go ahead.

6
7 MS. PATTON:may. There were
8 comments from the regional -- National Park Service
9 Subsistence Resource Commissions. Joshua Ream is
10 online and able to provide that for some of the other
11 local subsistence regional groups' comments.....

12
13 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yeah, very good.

14
15 MS. PATTON:on this proposal.

16
17 CHAIRMAN BROWER: And we'll get to
18 that. And I'm going to recognize Steve real quick and
19 then we'll go down the list. I just -- you know, we're
20 long-winded, we want to know all angles here before we
21 make a recommendation. And we got a recommendation to
22 do, but we want to hear all sides and have the free
23 mind of the RAC to discern and see what's good, what's
24 not and what's been tried and other things like that.

25
26 So, Steve, I'll go ahead and recognize
27 you.

28
29 MR. OOMITTUK: Yes. Well, while we're
30 on topic of moose, you know, this is unit 23 proposal.
31 And, you know, we were talking earlier about 26C moose
32 hunt on Barter Island, a permit for one and the decline
33 of moose in that area. Is there any program for
34 relocation of moose like in Anchorage. You see moose
35 walking all over the city of Anchorage, you know, in a
36 habitat that is so dangerous for them. And I would
37 either -- they're right in people's yards, you know,
38 kids are roaming around and going to school, you know.
39 And there's -- you know, is there any programs that --
40 to relocate moose from the urban areas to places where
41 they're declined and almost extinct. I would think it --
42 I mean, the moose are -- I seen a bull moose so big,
43 they -- cars run into them, you know, it's dangerous
44 for them to be living in the urban community and seem
45 like the population is getting higher and higher in
46 these communities.

47
48 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council,
49 I.....
50

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yeah. Thank you,
2 Steve.

3
4 MS. PATTON:don't think we're
5 able to address that at this time, but we did have
6 other groups that weighed in on this proposal in terms
7 of the presentation procedures that also help the
8 Council to be informed by the local subsistence groups
9 in the region as well.

10
11 CHAIRMAN BROWER: All right. Thank
12 you, Eva. You're always very willing to pitch right
13 in.

14
15 So, yeah, and I think the question is
16 out there, but more like ADF&G and they're the ones
17 that started relocating things in what, 1966, you
18 started moving muskox from Greenland after we killed
19 them all off way back when. But anyway, but they're
20 good eating though, I'll tell you that much.

21
22 MR. EVANS: Mr. Chair.

23
24 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yeah, go ahead, Tom.

25
26 MR. EVANS: I was trying to think if I
27 knew of any instances of moose being relocated and I
28 actually do know that they did put moose in Bernors Bay
29 down in southeast, they put a population down there.
30 And it grew and has a very limited hunt, but that was
31 an area that did not have moose and there was -- moose
32 were put into that area.

33
34 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yeah. Thank you,
35 Tom. Same thing, I think it was 1999 we helped the
36 Fortymile caribou herd out of Fairbanks, right, the
37 RAC, I was at the RAC in 1999, same Council. And we
38 relocated 40 wolves, timber wolves, and I think, you
39 know, you remember that. And they said oh, put them
40 right about here, about 65 miles out of Barrow and all
41 of the hunters were all lined up with rifles, go ahead
42 and go drop them. And go ahead, we'll take care of
43 them. They dropped off all these wolves to try to
44 conserve the caribou. So they've been -- they've done
45 relocations before that I think.

46
47 In any event let's move on down the
48 line here. Advisory group comments, other Regional
49 Councils.

50

1 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council.
2 The Northwest Arctic Council has not met yet so we
3 don't have comments from that region. We do have
4 Joshua Ream online for the Subsistence Resource
5 Commissions within this region who did comment on this
6 proposal.

7
8 If you're still online, Josh.

9
10 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Josh, you there?

11
12 DR. REAM: Yes, thank you, Mr. Chair.

13
14 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yeah, go ahead.

15
16 DR. REAM: Hi. For the record this is
17 Joshua Ream with the National Park Service. I'm the
18 Regional Subsistence Program manager. I do have
19 comments from both the Cape Krusenstern and the Kobuk
20 Valley National Monument Resource Commissions, the SRCs
21 regarding this proposal.

22
23 So the Cape Krusenstern National
24 Monument SRC voted to support the moose/cow closure,
25 but they also voted to oppose the implementation of the
26 RM880 permitting on Federal lands. The Commission was
27 concerned about harming opportunity for Federally-
28 qualified subsistence users. There's a fair number of
29 people from the region, from villages that don't get
30 the RM880 which you have to get in June and July.
31 Right now they can just go get a State harvest ticket.
32 The RM880 was developed to make it more challenging for
33 non-local hunters to get permits, but the intent was
34 never to restrict Federally-qualified subsistence users
35 from using Federal lands to harvest moose.
36 Implementing the RM880 for the Federal hunt will make
37 it more challenging for subsistence users in game
38 management unit 23 villages to comply.

39
40 If you'll give me just a moment then I
41 also have comments from Kobuk Valley.

42
43 The Kobuk Valley Commission voted to
44 support the moose/cow closure. They also voted to
45 oppose the implementation of the RM880 on Federal
46 lands. The Commission was concerned about harming
47 opportunity for Federally-qualified subsistence users,
48 there's a fair number of people from the region from
49 villages that don't get the RM880 which you have to get

50

1 in June and July. Right now they can just go get a
2 State harvest ticket.

3
4 And those were the comments from both
5 the Cape Krusenstern and the Kobuk Valley SRCs.

6
7 Thank you.

8
9 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yeah. Any questions
10 for Joshua Ream from the Park Service.

11
12 (No comments)

13
14 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Was it Park Service?

15
16 DR. REAM: Yes, sir.

17
18 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Well, I want to
19 probably understand a little bit more. I know you were
20 kind of speedy in some of your dialogue there. So you
21 feel that there's going to be complexity added in
22 Federal public lands with this change and kind of
23 opposing the registration needs on Federal public
24 lands. So maybe I'm not understanding a little bit
25 because I'm looking at this little bit of Federal
26 public lands outside of Point Hope and thinking about
27 what you said. And in context the unit 23 right near
28 Point Hope, this orange piece of land there, what are --
29 give me your layman's term of the difficulties or the
30 acceptance of this proposal and your concerns about it?

31
32 DR. REAM: Thank you, Mr. Chair. So
33 these are the concerns that were represented by those
34 two Subsistence Resource Commissions. Both of them
35 were concerned that if the RM880 is implemented, you
36 can only get it during a certain period in the
37 summertime. Some of the Council members mentioned that
38 the vendors aren't always present during that full
39 amount of time. Sometimes schoolteachers that are gone
40 for the summer have the permits to give out and aren't
41 available to do that. If they're unable to get the
42 RM880 and it becomes a requirement then they will be
43 restricted to hunting under those regulations that
44 require for the larger bulls to be harvested making it
45 potentially more difficult to get the subsistence food
46 that they need.

47
48 Thank you.

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: And last question,
2 are you at odds with OSM then?

3
4 DR. REAM: So both of the Commissions
5 are in support of closing the cow moose season again,
6 but the component to implement the RM880, the
7 Commissions are against that component.

8
9 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Now I get it, they're
10 in support of it, but not the registration portion
11 because the people that give out the registration
12 portion, they could be like schoolteachers or something
13 like that and they might not always be here and they
14 might not get it in time. And then the time closure
15 area being an issue or something.

16
17 DR. REAM: Yes, sir. And we also had
18 members of the SRCs indicate that when the RM880 was
19 originally proposed it was made available only in unit
20 23 communities and during a short period of time as a
21 means of restricting statewide access to this hunt
22 opportunity. And now the SRC members are concerned
23 that those same restrictions could cause additional
24 problems for local people to obtain the permit in some
25 instances.

26
27 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Any other questions
28 -- any questions for Josh that any of the Council
29 members may have?

30
31 (No comments)

32
33 CHAIRMAN BROWER: And, you know, he
34 makes some really good statements about his -- the
35 concerns of Cape Krusenstern National Monument and the
36 other preserve there about the 880, RM880 registration
37 permit. But they're still in support of the request
38 for closure of the cow moose season. But the
39 requirement of a State registration permit is what
40 they're just at odds with is what's my understanding.
41 And I'm getting a big nod yeah.

42
43 With that any other -- and that was
44 Subsistence Resource Commissions. How about Advisory
45 Committees?

46
47 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council. I
48 did not receive any formal reports on Advisory
49 Committees that had met and taken action on this
50

1 proposal, but just want to touch base with our State
2 staff and if there's anyone online that has heard
3 recommendations from the ACs.

4

5 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Carmen from ADF&G.

6

7 MS. DAGGETT: Thank you, Mr. Chair and
8 Council. I touched bases with Hazel Smith, she's the
9 coordinator for the ACs for the State in this region.
10 And she informed me that none of the Advisory
11 Committees have met yet to discuss this so there are no
12 comments.

13

14 CHAIRMAN BROWER: So we're on our own,
15 right. We have to think about it. But I'm glad for
16 Joshua's insight to some of the National Park concerns
17 and stuff.

18

19 So with that, summary of written public
20 comments.

21

22 MS. PATTON: There were no written
23 public comments submitted for this proposal.

24

25 Thank you.

26

27 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I'm going to open the
28 mic to public testimony. So we'll -- any public
29 testimony.

30

31 Native Village of Point Hope, Jack
32 Schaefer.

33

34 MR. SCHAEFER: Thank you. It's good to
35 hear, you know, and see open minds in regards to
36 experiences. I for one married a Yup'ik in 1980 and
37 life was really difficult, subsistence was something
38 that was a lifesaver. And I needed to, you know, be
39 with my wife and I needed to make money while I was
40 going to college. And so I took a police officer and a
41 public works person's position for 250 bucks a month.
42 And I had to replace him, be in his place, police in
43 the village while he'd go up the river springtime, up
44 the mountains, get his food that he need for the winter
45 and make a boat out of that moose skin and float down
46 when it melt and bring it home. And so Yup'iks are 58
47 villages in a small area. And I'm not really too sure
48 about the checkerboard land ownership, but it sure
49 reflected the impacts because they don't do that

50

1 anymore. And whether ANILCA plays a role, you know, as
2 to -- because I was down there in 1980, you know, I
3 don't know what it's like now. But I assume that, you
4 know, it was -- ANILCA was supposed to be for
5 subsistence, right, conservation, land. And seemed to
6 me it made it more difficult.

7
8 But the subject that came up during
9 this discussion earlier had to deal with State lands.
10 And we are in that same position now, before that
11 hardship occurs to us. My daughter lives down there,
12 she's taking care of my wife's mom. And I -- you know,
13 I do have concerns about this registration process and
14 I do have concerns about being able to have
15 governmental functions and be able to do this. I know
16 we're just now seeing this, but we're not alone. And
17 so we're going to keep our eyes open in regards to that
18 type of situation that we're faced with now. And what
19 lessons they have learned or what improvements have
20 been made if any. It seems to me it really hasn't made
21 much of a change, after all the Indians are having a
22 problem with their moose for their potlatches or their
23 funerals.

24
25 And I just thought I'd mention that,
26 you know, that registration was, you know, a concern.
27 And it's a governmental function. And so the tribe
28 performs governmental functions. State of Alaska,
29 buddy, buddy, you know, we could have an arrangement if
30 it's going to be that way, but we were, you know,
31 raised for this subsistence and the right to manage as
32 ourselves, each Federally recognized tribe is able to
33 do that although they can't or have difficult time, but
34 it's there. And we believe we have that right and we
35 will because we have no choice. And we're not getting
36 any smaller, as we grow we're going to be populating a
37 lot of these other areas based on competition and
38 species recovery.

39
40 And anyway as a tribe we have those
41 interests. And if there's difficulty we like to
42 continue and we frown upon tribal preclusion. And
43 sometimes things are -- occur to the point where
44 they're saying that tribes are unable to do these
45 things. And we're going to do it for them, is tribal
46 preclusion. And we worry about that because I have
47 grandkids that are excited to be able to make something
48 of their life and I really don't want any competition
49 especially if we could do it here in our village those
50

1 functions.

2

3

Thank you.

4

5

CHAIRMAN BROWER: Any questions for Mr.

6

Schaefer.

7

8

(No comments)

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So what did the corporation do, they created a working contract with the tribe's Wildlife Department to manage and police corporation lands. So that they had access permits and hunting licenses to be able to conduct these things primarily because of a lot of wanton waste, they didn't have the same connections to the resources that the local tribal residents had to these resources. We don't waste nothing, we eat the tongue, we even go in the stomach and get the grinder and get the stomach lining and pack it up and, you know, that show about weird foods that guy likes to eat, eyeballs and everything else and show off on TV, yeah, we're those people. We create these exotic from -- we -- I'm just saying we don't waste anything of these resources. And there was a lot of complaints about why there was a lot of dead wanton waste going on and to manage that.

It just seems to me there's an

1 opportunity for the State and Federal agencies to work
2 more with the tribes. It seems like there's -- you
3 know, there's opportunities here to diminish the types
4 of concerns that the Park Service is exuding right now
5 in the RM880 issuance and stuff type registration.
6

7 Just thought I'd say that, Jack, and I
8 don't know what ADF&G and others or OSM, that working
9 with tribes is important. And I think there's an
10 ability even through the State to work and recognize
11 tribes.
12

13 MR. SCHAEFER: Thank you. I do hope
14 that we have a good working relationship with the U.S.
15 Fish and Wildlife Service even if it involves a
16 relooking at, you know, arrangements that are made and
17 contracting the State's portion to the tribe directly
18 in order to avoid duplication or whatever word for lack
19 of a better term is not the right word because they're
20 both doing a permit registration, the State and the
21 Federal government. And that looks like duplication to
22 me. But it's -- you know, it's -- and it's money spent
23 on both and so they should be combined together and
24 provided to the tribe should the tribe want it. And I
25 believe it, you know, will alleviate some of the
26 problems. But, you know, it might also cause more
27 problems, but I think that's a real good solution.
28

29 Thank you.
30

31 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Jack. And
32 that's just one more question maybe to OSM. Well, that
33 RM880 registration, you just register one time and it's
34 good for State and it's good for Federal lands if this
35 is enacted by the Federal Subsistence Board. That one
36 registration covers both Federal and State land; is
37 that or is -- are those two as Jack said two separate
38 processes. And I'm about to throw a wrench in there as
39 well.
40

41 MR. EVANS: I think currently the way
42 it's situated they'd be two separate processes, one for
43 Federal public lands and one for State lands. But
44 could they be one process, I don't know the answer to
45 that. And I just don't know the answer to that.
46

47 MS. KENNER: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
48 This is Pippa Kenner.
49
50

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yeah. Go ahead.

2
3 MS. PATTON: Go ahead, Pippa.

4
5 MS. KENNER: If the State -- oh, sorry.
6 Yeah, I think I can answer that. If the proposal is
7 adopted by the Board there would be a conversation with
8 the State about using their registration permit for
9 both Federal and State lands. Current -- currently
10 their permit is good to use on both State and Federal
11 lands except for those Federal lands that are closed to
12 the harvest of moose by non-Federally-qualified users.
13 So State permits can be used on Federal public lands
14 for hunting under State regulations. In many areas of
15 the State the Alaska Department of Fish and Game and
16 the Federal manager work together and use one permit
17 and that permit is usually the State permit. And that
18 would probably occur in this case. So you could hunt
19 under Federal regulations with a State permit.

20
21 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

22
23 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Okay. I see some OSM
24 folks nodding and in agreement and so it's not going to
25 throw a wrench, but there is some difference, but once
26 the Federal Subsistence Board, if they were to adopt
27 this you would -- you would not need to get a Federal
28 registration separate from a State registration, one
29 and the same registration would work on both State and
30 Federal public lands. So that's good to hear because
31 that's -- that was about to be another type of question
32 with that.

33
34 So with that we went through summary of
35 public -- written public comments, there wasn't none.

36
37 Any other public testimony on the
38 proposal?

39
40 (No comments)

41
42 CHAIRMAN BROWER: And this proposal is
43 on unit 23 for wildlife proposal WP 20-47, request
44 closure of cow moose season and to require the use of a
45 State registration permit, RM880, to harvest moose in
46 unit 23. And it was submitted by Northwest Arctic
47 Subsistence Regional Advisory Council. And so I would
48 hope they support their own proposal. And we've heard
49 some concerns from Cape Krusenstern National Monument
50

1 and these other preserves that they support it with the
2 exception that the 880 permitting, to do without that.

3
4 So I'm going to move on if there are no
5 additional public testimony on the proposal and I don't
6 see any hands being raised.

7
8 Any other public -- any of the Council
9 want to provide public testimony on the matter or not
10 before we move on?

11
12 (No comments)

13
14 CHAIRMAN BROWER: With that I'm going
15 to Regional Council recommendation. And at this point
16 I would need to see what the Council's wish is about
17 the proposal. And that means motion to adopt, then go
18 into discussions, modifications, changes, denial,
19 whatever.

20
21 Where are we at?

22
23 MR. OOMITTUK: Second that.

24
25 CHAIRMAN BROWER: So seconded. I think
26 Steve from Tikigag is referring to that -- the wildlife
27 proposal WP 20-47, closure for cow moose season and to
28 require the use of a State registration permit, RM880,
29 to harvest moose in unit 23 as submitted by the
30 Northwest Arctic Subsistence Regional Advisory Council.
31 And there's a second.

32
33 Any discussion?

34
35 (No comments)

36
37 MS. ITTA: I call for question.

38
39 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Any objection to the
40 question?

41
42 (No comments)

43
44 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Hearing none, I'm
45 going to -- all those in favor of approving WP 20-47 as
46 submitted and give deference to Northwest Arctic
47 Subsistence Regional Advisory Council on the proposal
48 signify by saying aye.

49
50

1 IN UNISON: Aye.

2
3 CHAIRMAN BROWER: All those opposed
4 same sign.

5
6 (No opposing votes)

7
8 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Hearing none, WP 20-
9 47 is supported by the North Slope Regional Advisory
10 Council.

11
12 Do we want to take a break or where are
13 we?

14
15 MR. HOPSON: Mr. Chairman.

16
17 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yeah. Go ahead, Mr.
18 Hopson.

19
20 MR. HOPSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
21 Without any further discussion on WP 20-49, I make a
22 motion to take no action and move on down the agenda.

23
24 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

25
26 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council. We
27 may have lost Edward Rexford, our connection. And the
28 next proposal -- the next wildlife proposal before --
29 or I'm sorry, we're down to -- yes, we are on Red Sheep
30 Creek. So the next.....

31
32 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I just want to make
33 sure. I don't think, Mr. Hopson, that we can bypass
34 all of the procedural proposals and forego introduction
35 of the proposal and not provide the public testimony it
36 deserves and go into -- so there was a motion to do
37 that on WP 20-49 on this sheet.

38
39 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council.
40 Correct.

41
42 CHAIRMAN BROWER: There was no second
43 on that part, we just go through the procedures, right?

44
45 MS. PATTON: Correct. And for the
46 Council to take formal action on these proposals the
47 Council would have to walk through the full procedural
48 process.

49
50

1 That next proposal that's on the
2 agenda, WP 20-49.....

3
4 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Uh-huh.

5
6 MS. PATTON:is a very important
7 proposal for Kaktovik in particular.

8
9 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Uh-huh.

10
11 MS. PATTON: And the Council has taken
12 action on this proposal because of Kaktovik's
13 involvement in that hunt. I'm not sure, we might have
14 lost Edward Rexford on the teleconference and we do
15 want to make sure he's able to participate in that
16 deliberation. I can try to contact him and see if he's
17 on -- able to be on tonight still.

18
19 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Do you want to take a
20 break or what time is it. I mean, do we -- I know we
21 got another full day tomorrow. I mean, are we at a
22 point where we can continue tomorrow or do we want to
23 continue and try to get this -- I think there wasn't a
24 second, Mr. Hopson, to go ahead and move forward to
25 adopting WP 49 without going through all the procedures
26 of tribal consultation, ADF&G, Federal agency comments,
27 Native tribal comments, advisory group comments and
28 then summary of written public comments and most
29 importantly the public testimony needed to move any of
30 these proposals forward. So there was no second to
31 that so we would have to continue to follow the
32 procedurals that are outlined for any proposal.

33
34 But I want to make sure that -- do you
35 guys want to go through this one proposal before we
36 adjourn for today?

37
38 MS. ITTA: Mr. Chair.

39
40 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Go ahead,
41 Councilwoman Itta, from Nuiqsut.

42
43 MS. ITTA: I would feel uncomfortable
44 without Eddie being involved in this proposal, just to
45 hear what he has to say about it. So if we can
46 continue tomorrow with the rest of the agenda and make
47 sure Eddie's here for this part of the proposal.

48
49 Thank you.

50

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I think that's kind
2 of very prudent. But did you want to check to see is
3 Eddie Rexford online because this is an area of -- in
4 ANWR?

5
6 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council.
7 I'll ask online right now and then we can confirm that
8 Edward will be on tomorrow. I know when I spoke to him
9 yesterday he had planned to be on for the full meeting
10 so we would probably be assured to have him tomorrow I
11 think.

12
13 We'll just check online again if,
14 Edward Rexford, you're still on teleconference with us?

15
16 (No comments)

17
18 MS. PATTON: And if not then I'll give
19 him a call to confirm that the Council would like to
20 take this up tomorrow morning when he's available.

21
22 We did have one other thing that was on
23 the agenda to take place before the end of the day
24 today if the Council wishes. We do have -- Carmen
25 Daggett is here from the State. She will be flying
26 back to Barrow on the morning flight tomorrow.

27
28 CHAIRMAN BROWER: No, Carmen, you can't
29 go. You got to hangout with the rest of us.

30
31 MS. PATTON: So there's an opportunity
32 for an overview of the Board of Game proposals just to
33 introduce the regional proposals that are out there.
34 That was the last thing that was going to be on the
35 agenda for tonight.

36
37 CHAIRMAN BROWER: And that was -- we
38 are on -- we did reading of proposals, right, we did do
39 the (indiscernible - distortion).....

40
41 MS. PATTON: Correct, Mr. Chair. We
42 are going to conclude with the all the Federal
43 Subsistence proposals today. That's really the
44 business of the Council. Those are your formal
45 recommendations to the Federal Subsistence Board. The
46 thought was we would have some time after concluding
47 those for an overview of the State Board of Game
48 proposals if the Council wished to have some
49 information on those proposals. Carmen was prepared to

50

1 provide a brief overview of some of the regional
2 proposals for your information. And that's completely
3 up to the Council whether you want to take any action
4 on those proposals.
5

6 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yeah, and considering
7 all of (indiscernible - distortion) because some of
8 those like west 156 is like five miles from my cabin
9 and you want to open it up for resident hunt for moose
10 and that's for Anchorage and Fairbanks and everybody.
11 When you say residents in a Federal public land that
12 has Federal rural subsistence priority, I mean, who's
13 thinking of these ideas. I guess that's -- when you
14 got rural preference in Federal public land to create
15 laws especially where we're already having struggling
16 with moose, I've never caught a moose, my nephew's got
17 to go 200 miles up Ikpikpuk to go get a moose and then
18 this language that I read, introduction by ADF&G, 156
19 west. And I've had a consternation for 10 years with
20 that one. And I don't think I'm going to let you off
21 lightly on a quick introduction and that seems like war
22 almost with ADF&G.
23

24 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council, if
25 I may. Again this Council's formal role and
26 recommendations are to the Federal Subsistence
27 Board.....
28

29 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Right.
30

31 MS. PATTON:so the primary
32 work.....
33

34
35
36 CHAIRMAN BROWER: But this would be the
37 AC. This is to -- is it to the State Board of Game?
38

39 MS. PATTON: Yes, these are State Board
40 of Game proposals and so there is overlap within the
41 North Slope Region.
42

43 CHAIRMAN BROWER: See that's where I
44 think there's -- the regional RAC saying something on
45 an AC proposal to the State Board of Game. Yeah.
46 Yeah, I'd like to dig into that, you know.
47

48 MS. PATTON: So but it is not the
49 primary role of the Council. So we do have to ensure
50

1 that the Council's.....

2

3 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I know. I know it
4 isn't.

5

6 MS. PATTON:Federal.....

7

8 CHAIRMAN BROWER: But that proposal is
9 out there.

10

11 MS. PATTON: There is an opportunity.
12 So it's at the wish of the Council, so the full
13 Council's recommendation whether they would like to
14 have an overview.

15

16 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Okay.

17

18 MS. PATTON: As you know there would
19 not be time to make full deliberation on those
20 proposals. The comment period.....

21

22 CHAIRMAN BROWER: But you can -- we can
23 comment at them as a RAC.....

24

25 MS. PATTON: Yes.

26

27 CHAIRMAN BROWER:which is -- we
28 don't have to and I didn't really like that language
29 the other day that oh, you know, Tom, you said, oh, we
30 don't comment on those.

31

32 MR. EVANS: We comment on some of them.

33

34 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Well, you know, I beg
35 to differ. I mean, if we're a RAC.....

36

37 MR. EVANS: You can comment on them.

38

39 MS. PATTON: You can comment.....

40

41 CHAIRMAN BROWER:if we're a RAC
42 we can direct you to.....

43

44 MS. PATTON:but it's up to the
45 Council

46

47 CHAIRMAN BROWER:comment on them
48 on our behalf. And I see Pat's nodding her head yeah.

49

50

1 MS. PETRIVELLI: If the whole Council
2 votes to.

3
4 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yeah, if the whole
5 Council votes, you know, but they probably.....

6
7 MS. PETRIVELLI: (Indiscernible - away
8 from microphone).....

9
10 CHAIRMAN BROWER:don't want to
11 vote right now, they probably want me to shut up and
12 say, hey, let's go have dinner or something.

13
14 But it's important. I mean, I saw that
15 thing, west 156, that's Ikpikpuk. That's Federal
16 public lands. And if that were to become the law of
17 the land that means it says -- is it resident or
18 nonresident language? Is it resident or nonresident?

19
20 MS. DAGGETT: It's for resident.

21
22 CHAIRMAN BROWER: For resident?

23
24 MS. DAGGETT: Yeah.

25
26 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Are -- yeah. And
27 she's saying it's resident. That means Fairbanks,
28 Anchorage, it's not a rural subsistence priority in a
29 land the law is on Federal public lands rural
30 subsistence priority issues.

31
32 And we -- I've never caught a moose.
33 And how you going to let Fairbanks catch a moose first
34 of me in my back yard when I haven't got a moose yet.

35
36 MS. DAGGETT: Mr. Chair, I appreciate
37 your concerns. It's resident language. We can discuss
38 this proposal if you'd like. I really think that if we
39 want to do that we should do that within the agenda.
40 There's a fair amount of information that I have
41 available for you guys. I came fully prepared to talk
42 about this proposal. So we can get into it if you want
43 to get into it and it sounds like you do. So but.....

44
45 CHAIRMAN BROWER: The other thing I
46 wanted to do.....

47
48 MS. DAGGETT:I'm going to wait to
49 get into it until we're ready to get into it.

50

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: All right. The other
2 thing I wanted to hold you back for was I need to have
3 an understanding of the State's schemes, the tier I.
4 What does tier I mean, what does tier II mean, what is
5 tier III hunts and all of these things. Because in the
6 Borough it's off -- the North Slope Borough has even
7 decided when infrastructure is being developed in high
8 subsistence priority use areas, we've made a
9 determination that we can deplete a subsistence
10 resource while the abundance of these resources are in
11 liberal management schemes. Meaning you -- we can make
12 that determination and say the resource is depleted
13 even though it's in high numbers. The population could
14 be 200,000, but you've depleted them in this area. The
15 Borough has made those determinations of land use
16 policy and implemented mitigation measures to allow for
17 the balanced development.

18
19 I'm just saying these things that we're
20 already in areas and you're talking about areas where
21 resources are not in abundance. And then -- and you're
22 talking about opening these up to resident use and it
23 scares me when I hear residents use because Anaktuvuk
24 is dealing with residents use. The caribou are the
25 residents. That means it belongs to the State, it
26 belongs to Fairbanks, Anchorage, Juneau. Everybody in
27 their -- all their Piper Cubs can fly all the way up
28 and go 20 miles north of Anaktuvuk and hunt all they
29 want. And those are the types of things that scare
30 communities and things like that.

31
32 So the other thing is I just want to
33 understand better these tier levels of hunt. If we can
34 make determinations that resources can be depleted from
35 an area and I think tier I, tier II and tier III, those
36 are the levels of issues that are comparable to what
37 the Borough has said about resource development and
38 balancing -- and trying to balance that with mitigation
39 measures. In this case we need to learn a little bit
40 more about the State and why you're so reluctant in the
41 State things to even use tier I or tier II or tier III
42 and use a liberal management scheme like majority of
43 the time when we have concerns about village area of
44 influence, the needs of communities and things like
45 that.

46
47 It just -- it seems like that
48 dialogue's not going to allow you to escape on the
49 airplane real quick tomorrow. And if we start today or
50

1 this evening it can probably go on until midnight. And
2 it just -- you know, I'm just -- I heard that you're
3 intending to leave on the next available flight when
4 there's dialogue to be had.

5
6 MS. DAGGETT: Mr. Chair, I'm happy to
7 stay to have this discussion, that's fine. I just --
8 I'm happy to have this discussion with you, I'm happy
9 to stay. It's not a big deal.

10
11 CHAIRMAN BROWER: What's the wish of
12 the Council. Do we want to break for dinner and
13 reconvene tomorrow or maybe I'd better get a little bit
14 of advice because Madam Coordinator gets a little
15 concerned when we start to say we're getting tired.

16
17 MS. PATTON: So Mr. Chair and Council,
18 taking up the State proposals is at the wish of the
19 Council. I will say however that if the Council
20 decides to take it up tomorrow, if that's an option, we
21 would need to take it up at the end of our agenda
22 tomorrow because we do need to complete all of the
23 Council's formal duties and where you have the
24 authority and your recommendations to the Board and the
25 discussions with the Federal land managers where you do
26 have authority. So if we did take this up tomorrow --
27 so the idea was we'd have some flexibility going later
28 into the evening today. If we took it up tomorrow we'd
29 have to take it up at the end of the agenda after we
30 completed all the Federal Subsistence proposals, the
31 Fisheries Resource Monitoring Program and the
32 discussions under the agency reports with the Federal
33 land managers.

34
35 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Okay. Let me just
36 poll the.....

37
38 MS. PATTON: Uh-huh.

39
40 CHAIRMAN BROWER:Council. And I
41 kind of read a little bit of the 20-49 executive
42 summary on this and I -- I'm probably in the same
43 opinion as OSM, Office of Subsistence Management, and I
44 would really think that probably Eddie Rexford would be
45 in accord with OSM's recommendation as well to oppose
46 it.

47
48 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council. If
49 we're talking about the Federal Subsistence proposals,
50

1 the WP 20-49.....

2

3

CHAIRMAN BROWER: Right.

4

5

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MS. PATTON:if the Council is going to take any formal recommendation we do need to go through the full procedures on that.

CHAIRMAN BROWER: Absolutely. Absolutely. I'm just saying, I'm trying to poll and gauge the Council if they want to go ahead and take the time right now and deliberate on 20-49 and go through that or do you guys want to table it until tomorrow at the end of the session sounds like and.....

MS. PATTON: No. I'm sorry for the confusion. So the Council's primary order of work is to take care of these -- to deliberate on and make recommendations.....

CHAIRMAN BROWER: Uh-huh.

MS. PATTON:on these Federal Subsistence proposals. So since we don't have Edward Rexford on the phone tonight and this proposal is of particular to Kaktovik.....

CHAIRMAN BROWER: I understand that.

MS. PATTON:if the Council wishes to break for dinner tonight we can reconvene in the morning and take up those last two proposals. One is a statewide one which you may want to weigh in on as well. We can take up those proposals when he can join us again in the morning.

CHAIRMAN BROWER: Uh-huh.

MS. PATTON: And then we would need to proceed with the agenda as written here. If.....

CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yes. I'.....

MS. PATTON:if the Council wanted to take up the Board of Game proposals we can add that to the agenda at the end of the day tomorrow.

CHAIRMAN BROWER: Which is the Board of Game proposal?

1 MS. PATTON: Those are the State
2 proposals. And.....

3
4 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Oh, okay. Like the
5 156 one.

6
7 MS. PATTON:those are not
8 required.....

9
10 CHAIRMAN BROWER: The one we were just
11 arguing about a little bit?

12
13 MS. PATTON: And that's -- and that's
14 if the Council wishes to take up Board of Game.....

15
16 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yeah.

17
18 MS. PATTON:proposals. It's at
19 the Council's wish, it's not.....

20
21 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I think we need to do
22 that at a minimum, you know, we need to grill Carmen
23 and any of the ADF&G guys on that. And we don't want
24 them to escape without doing that. But I want to know
25 if you guys want to go through WP 20-49 right now and
26 get that part down so we can pave the way for
27 tomorrow's work.

28
29 MR. HOPSON: Mr. Chairman.

30
31 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Go ahead, Mr. Hopson.

32
33 MR. HOPSON: Break for dinner and
34 reconvene in the morning.

35
36 CHAIRMAN BROWER: There's differing in
37 opinion. I see some nods to continue. I saw Steve
38 say, yeah, let's get this one -- at least just this one
39 done and then break for dinner?

40
41 MR. OOMITTUK: Yeah, we've got supper
42 cooking and it's about done I think.

43
44 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Maybe they can
45 provide us supper right now too, you know.

46
47 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair, we also have
48 Pippa Kenner.....

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Okay. Hold on. Hold
2 on. I know you're adding more dialogue now, but I
3 think we wanted to do WP 20-49 and get that out of the
4 way; is that right?

5
6 MS. PATTON: So again I -- to clarify
7 we don't have Edward Rexford on the line right now.

8
9 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Well, we understand
10 that.

11
12 MS. PATTON: And if the Council would
13 like for him to be able to participate in this
14 discussion for that proposal which primarily affects
15 Kaktovik.....

16
17 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I think we -- I think
18 we.....

19
20 MS. PATTON:we can.....

21
22 CHAIRMAN BROWER:we understand
23 that part.

24
25 MS. PATTON: Okay.

26
27 CHAIRMAN BROWER: And I kind of read
28 through the analysis of it too a little bit beforehand
29 at the past deliberations in this sheep area, this
30 sheep management in this area, it seems to be in line
31 with some of the concerns that Eddie has expressed. I
32 think he would have opposed this in my view. But we're
33 not -- we haven't entertained it yet and I -- I'm
34 just.....

35
36 MS. PATTON: I could try to get him on
37 the line if the Council wishes. At the moment we don't
38 have him on the line if you wanted him to participate
39 in the discussion.

40
41 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Do you guys want to
42 try to finish this real -- go through this one, I'm not
43 saying real quick, but at the same time trying to get
44 Eddie on?

45
46 MS. ITTA: Mr. Chair.

47
48 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Go ahead, Martha.

49
50

1 MS. ITTA: Mr. Chair. I -- like I
2 stated earlier I would feel uncomfortable without
3 Eddie's presence.

4
5 Thank you.

6
7 CHAIRMAN BROWER: All right. So we're
8 ready to call it a day at this point. (In Native).
9 Because -- or do you guys want to take the proposal
10 that.....

11
12 MS. ITTA: Mr. Chair.

13
14 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Go ahead, Martha.

15
16 MS. ITTA: Is it possible we go on a
17 dinner break if we can get Eddie like after dinner to
18 continue or is that something that we can do?

19
20 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council. I
21 believe as we get later into the evening here there may
22 be some challenges with the use of the building.
23 And.....

24
25 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yeah. Yeah. What
26 have we got, bingo or something.....

27
28 MS. ITTA: Okay.

29
30 CHAIRMAN BROWER:having the
31 place.

32
33 MS. ITTA: I guess we can.....

34
35 MS. PATTON: I can.....

36
37 MS. ITTA:break for dinner and
38 continue tomorrow morning.

39
40 MS. PATTON: I can try and give him a
41 call right now. There is a statewide proposal that
42 isn't specific to Kaktovik that the Council.....

43
44 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Do you want us to
45 take up the statewide proposal and see what we -- get
46 that moving and if Eddie joins us we'll go through this
47 one?

48
49 MR. EVANS: (Indiscernible - away from
50

1 microphone).....

2

3 MS. PATTON: Let me just check online
4 as well. So Pippa Kenner is the anthropologist for
5 this region and she's a primary presenter on the Red
6 Sheep Creek proposal number 49 as well.

7

8 Pippa Kenner, are you still on
9 teleconference?

10

11 MS. KENNER: Thank you, Eva. This is
12 Pippa.

13

14 MS. PATTON: Thank you, Pippa. We were
15 just checking in as to your availability. We're trying
16 to contact Edward Rexford. We -- if we're not able to
17 get ahold of him the Council is deliberating to
18 potentially take this proposal up tomorrow morning when
19 he can join us and wondered.....

20

21 MS. KENNER: Eva, you faded out. Did
22 you ask me if I'm available?

23

24 MS. PATTON: Yes, correct. Either a
25 little later this evening if Edward is able to join us
26 and the Council's deliberating potentially taking this
27 up tomorrow morning when he may be able to join us at
28 that time.

29

30 MS. KENNER: I'm available at both
31 times even though the World Series is on.

32

33 (Laughter)

34

35 CHAIRMAN BROWER: It appears you're
36 trying to get Eddie.

37

38 MR. OOMITTUK: Mr. Chair.

39

40 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Go ahead, Steve.

41

42 MR. OOMITTUK: Make a motion to recess
43 until 9:00 o'clock tomorrow morning.

44

45 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Okay. There's a
46 motion on the floor to recess until 9:00 o'clock in the
47 morning.

48

49 MS. ITTA: Second it.

50

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Seconded. Any
2 discussion?

3
4 MR. OOMITTUK: Question.

5
6 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Question been asked
7 for. All those in favor of recessing until 9:00
8 o'clock in the morning signify by saying aye.

9
10 IN UNISON: Aye.

11
12 CHAIRMAN BROWER: All those opposed
13 same sign.

14
15 (No opposing votes)

16
17 CHAIRMAN BROWER: The ayes have it.
18 We're in recess.

19
20 (Off record)

21
22 (PROCEEDINGS TO BE CONTINUED)

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
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NORTH SLOPE FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE REGIONAL ADVISORY
COUNCIL MEETING, VOLUME I taken electronically on the
23rd day of October in Point Hope, Alaska;

THAT the transcript is a true and
correct transcript requested to be transcribed and
thereafter transcribed by under my direction and
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THAT I am not an employee, attorney, or
party interested in any way in this action.

DATED at Anchorage, Alaska, this 16th
day of November 2019.

Salena A. Hile
Notary Public, State of Alaska
My Commission Expires: 09/16/22