

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

3  
4 PUBLIC MEETING

5  
6 VOLUME I

7  
8  
9 AVCP Regional Housing Authority Building  
10 Conference Room  
11 Bethel, Alaska  
12 October 12, 2016  
13 9:00 a.m.

14  
15  
16  
17 MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

31  
32  
33  
34 Regional Council Coordinator, Eva Patton

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40  
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P R O C E E D I N G S

(Bethel, Alaska - 10/12/2016)

(On record)

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Call the meeting to order. The time is now, according to the watch on my desk, is 9:04.

At this time we'll have our invocation, and we'll ask Mr. Bob Aloysius, would you please say the invocation for us this morning.

MR. ALOYSIUS: In the name of the Father, the Son, the Holy Spirit, amen. Heavenly Father, Creator, Maker of the universe, Maker of the most fantastic delta in all the world, the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta. Thank You for bringing us here together to share whatever we need to help each other. We ask you to bless our spirit, our mind, and our hearts so that we can be more receptive in the wisdom and the knowledge of our ancestors, the love, teachings, patience, gentleness, kindness, and generosity of our grandparents. And we ask you to bless us with the courage and the strength of our parents, enhance our skills and abilities to be the stewards that we have been appointed to. We need you to bless us with the energy and endurance of our young people, reinforce in us the dreams and the visions of our children, but most of all we ask you to bless us with the innocence and the spirit of our innocence so that we may be able to be the stewards that our ancestors want us to be, to look after all of our relations, especially our relations that fly, roost, walk, hop, jump, skip, crawl, slither, burrow, swim, and grow on Mother Earth.

Let's just take a moment of silence to honor so many of our young people who have passed since the last time we met here, the great, great loss.

So together let us recite the prayer given to us by our Lord, Jesus Christ. Our Father who is in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation and deliver us from evil. Amen. In the name of the Father and of the Son and the Holy

1 Spirit. Guyana  
2  
3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Bob. Thank  
4 you, Mr. Aloysius.  
5  
6 Prior to our meeting, if any public  
7 comments, if anyone here would like to. Public  
8 comments are welcome on each agenda item, and for  
9 regional concerns not included on the agenda. The  
10 Council appreciates hearing your concerns and  
11 knowledge, so please fill out a comment form if you  
12 want to make a comment on any of the agenda items. You  
13 can pick up these blue forms in the back there and fill  
14 them out.  
15  
16 And agenda times are subject to change,  
17 so we'll try to stick to the agenda as adopted, but if  
18 in the event that we need to change them, they can be  
19 changed.  
20  
21 I think at this time we'll call the  
22 meeting to order, and, Mr. Secretary, could you please  
23 call the roll.  
24  
25 MR. ULAK: Mr. Chairman. I have  
26 William Brown.  
27  
28 MR. BROWN: Here.  
29  
30 MR. ULAK: James Charles. John Andrew.  
31  
32 MR. ANDREW: Here.  
33  
34 MR. ULAK: Michael Peters.  
35  
36 MR. PETERS: Here.  
37  
38 MR. ULAK: Lester Wilde.  
39  
40 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Here.  
41  
42 MR. ULAK: Dale Smith.  
43  
44 MR. SMITH: Here.  
45  
46 MR. ULAK: Annie Cleveland.  
47  
48 MS. CLEVELAND: Here.  
49  
50 MR. ULAK: Dorothy Johnson. Ray Oney.

1 MR. ONEY: Here.  
2  
3 MR. ULAK: Greg Roczicka. Robert  
4 Aloysius.  
5  
6 MR. ALOYSIUS: Here.  
7  
8 MR. ULAK: David Bill.  
9  
10 MR. BILL: Here.  
11  
12 MR. ULAK: Mr. Chairman. We have 10  
13 present, and I have a couple -- three absent.  
14  
15 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. Quorum has been  
16 established then.  
17  
18 We'd like to welcome you all to our  
19 annual winter meeting. Or is this our fall meeting?  
20 And we're at this time going to be asking for  
21 introductions, starting from the gentleman back there  
22 with the two water bottles.  
23  
24 MR. COGSWELL: Mr. Chair. My name is  
25 Stuart Cogswell. I'm the acting assistant regional  
26 director for Office of Subsistence Management. It's  
27 great to be here.  
28  
29 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Welcome.  
30  
31 MR. LIND: (In Yup'ik) Orville Lind  
32 from Office of Subsistence Management, Native liaison.  
33 Happy to be here.  
34  
35 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Good to have you here.  
36  
37 MR. LIND: Quayana.  
38  
39 MR. DECOSSAS: (In Yup'ik) Gary  
40 Decossas, Office of Subsistence Management, fisheries  
41 statistician.  
42  
43 CHAIRMAN WILDE: (In Yup'ik) to you,  
44 too.  
45  
46 MR. BORN: Camai. I'm Ray Born, the  
47 deputy refuge manager for Yukon Delta National Wildlife  
48 Refuge.  
49  
50 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Welcome.

1 MR. STAHLNECKER: Good morning. Kent  
2 Stahlnecker, refuge manager, Yukon Delta National  
3 Wildlife Refuge.  
4  
5 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Good to meet you.  
6  
7 MR. MASCHMANN: Good morning. I'm  
8 Gerald Maschmann with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife  
9 Service out of Fairbanks. I'll be giving the Yukon  
10 fisheries report.  
11  
12 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you. Welcome.  
13  
14 MS. HENRY: (In Yup'ik), Mr. Chairman  
15 and members of the Council. I'm Susannah Henry. I'm  
16 the refuge manager at Togiak National Wildlife Refuge.  
17 I'm from Dillingham.  
18  
19 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Welcome. Good to see  
20 you here.  
21  
22 MS. ESQUIBLE: Hi. I'm Janessa  
23 Esquible, and I'm Orutsararmiut Native Counsel. I'm  
24 the Partner's biologist.  
25  
26 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Welcome.  
27  
28 MS. KENNER: Hello. I'm Pippa Kenner  
29 and I'm with the Office of Subsistence Management in  
30 Anchorage. And I'm the anthropologist.  
31  
32 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Good to see you,  
33 Pippa.  
34  
35 MS. PETRIVELLI: I'm Pat Petrivelli,  
36 the BIA subsistence anthropologist from Anchorage.  
37  
38 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Good to see you again.  
39  
40 MR. SAMPSON: Good morning. I'm Pat  
41 Sampson. I'm the translator for this meeting. Early I  
42 ask you speak one language. For those of you that  
43 speak two or three languages, please choose one  
44 language and then I'll translate to the other. That  
45 makes the process go a lot faster.  
46  
47 Thank you.  
48  
49 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. Thank you.  
50 Anyone else?

1                   MR. WEBBER: I'm Aaron Webber with the  
2 Fish and Wildlife Service here in Bethel. I work on  
3 the Kwethluk and Tuluksak weirs.  
4  
5                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: Welcome, Aaron.  
6  
7                   MR. JOSEPH: Allen Joseph. I work for  
8 AVCP Housing. Welcome to our office building. We're  
9 really proud of this building. It was built by local  
10 boys. The only thing we contracted was the electricity  
11 and heating system. And welcome to Bethel, all of you.  
12  
13                  CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah, nice building.  
14 Thank you, Al.  
15  
16                  MS. HOOPER: Good morning. My name is  
17 Jennifer Hooper. I've AVCP's natural resources  
18 director, back on the job about a month. Welcome, and  
19 I look forward to working with all of you.  
20  
21                  CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yep. Welcome back,  
22 and good to see you again.  
23  
24                  Is that everybody? Starting from the  
25 lady in the front, we'll introduce each other. Go  
26 ahead.  
27  
28                  MS. PATTON: Good morning. Eva Patton,  
29 Council coordinator. New Council coordinator for the  
30 Y-K Delta Region, and really happy to be back in  
31 Bethel. And thank you to AVCP for hosting our meeting  
32 and the warm welcome.  
33  
34                  Thank you.  
35  
36                  MR. BILL: David Bill, Sr. from Toksook  
37 Bay.  
38  
39                  MR. SMITH: Good morning. Dale Smith  
40 from Mekoryuk.  
41  
42                  MR. ONEY: Ray Oney, Alakanuk.  
43  
44                  MR. ALOYSIUS: (In Yup'ik)  
45  
46                  INTERPRETER: I'm going to speak in my  
47 language. My name is Sliksuyuk. I was born in  
48 Kasigluk and I grew up in this area, and right now I  
49 live in Kalskag.  
50

1                   MR. ALOYSIUS: You want to translate?  
2 I can. My paper name is Bob Aloysius. My real name is  
3 Sliksuyuk. That's the name my grandfather gave me when  
4 they delivered me over on the Yukon River. I was born  
5 and raised over there for a while. Moved over to the  
6 Kuskokwim between Aniak and Kalskag, mostly in what the  
7 unknowing people call wilderness, tributaries of the  
8 Aniak River, and tributaries on the south side of the  
9 Kuskokwim from Kalskag to Aniak, all the way up to the  
10 Nyac and Whitefish Lake area. So I have very little,  
11 very, very little, knowledge of the Yukon-Kuskokwim  
12 Delta as it is, because I'm right up here where it  
13 starts, so bear with me, because my mind, and spirit,  
14 and my heart are always up there.  
15  
16                   Thank you.  
17  
18                   MR. BROWN: William Charlie Brown, Eek.  
19  
20                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: I am Lester Wilde from  
21 Hooper Bay.  
22  
23                   MR. ULAK: Anthony Ulak, Scammon Bay.  
24  
25                   MS. CLEVELAND: I'm Annie Cleveland  
26 from Quinhagak.  
27  
28                   MR. ANDREW: John W. Andrew out of  
29 Kwethluk. Quyana.  
30  
31                   MR. PETERS: I'm Mike Peters from  
32 Marshall.  
33  
34                   MS. DOWNING: Meredith Downing, your  
35 court reporter.  
36  
37                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: Welcome all. We are  
38 now down to our agenda, review and adopt agenda. The  
39 agenda is as follows:  
40  
41                   Item 6. Review and approve previous  
42 minutes.  
43  
44                   Item 7 is reports. Council members'  
45 reports and the Chair's report.  
46  
47                   Item 8 is public and tribal comment on  
48 non-agenda items. And this is available every morning  
49 for anyone that would like to address the Council.  
50

1 Under old business, Item 9 is draft  
2 non-rural determination policy. Item B under 9 is  
3 Federal Subsistence Board 805 non-consensus action  
4 reports.

5  
6 Item 10, under new business, is  
7 fisheries proposal. Under fisheries proposals we have  
8 Kuskokwim area proposals, report, 2016 Kuskokwim River  
9 fisheries season summary, Yukon Delta -- what in the  
10 world is that. Let me try this again. Under the  
11 reports, under Kuskokwim area proposals, report on 2016  
12 Kuskokwim River fisheries season summary, Yukon Delta  
13 Northwest Region, ADF&G.

14  
15 Proposals: FP17-05, for the Kuskokwim  
16 area, remove .27(e)(4)-parenthesis, whatever those, ii,  
17 from the regulations. Pardon me. Federal subsistence  
18 management plans, strategies, fishing schedules,  
19 openings, closings, and fishing methods are issued  
20 independently by U.S. Fish and Wildlife.

21  
22 Under (2), Yukon, northern area  
23 proposals, report, 2016 Yukon River fisheries season  
24 summary by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and ADF&G.

25  
26 Proposals: FP17-01, revise harvest  
27 limits to allow harvest once the mid-range of the  
28 interim management escapement goal and the total  
29 allowable catch goal are projected to be achieved in  
30 the Yukon River.

31  
32 Item FP17-02, allow for harvest of  
33 early-run Chinook Salmon in Sub-district 5D on the  
34 Yukon River.

35  
36 FP17-03, revise the season dates and  
37 align Federal regulations with State regulations in  
38 Sub-district 4A on the Yukon River.

39  
40 FP17-04, Revise methods and means for  
41 use of gillnets in Racetrack Slough of the Koyukuk  
42 River and sloughs of the Huslia River drainage.

43  
44 Item B, Fisheries Resource Monitoring  
45 Program, priority informational needs.

46  
47 Item C is review and discuss on  
48 Kuskokwim River Partnership Project MOU and formation  
49 of subcommittee.

50



1                   Item D, revision of MOU with the State.  
2  
3                   Item E, review annual report reply and  
4 identify issues for 2016 annual report.  
5  
6                   Item F, charter review.  
7  
8                   Item G, feedback on all Council  
9 meeting.  
10  
11                  H, Tongass submerged land proposed  
12 rule.  
13  
14                  Under 12, regulatory -- I'm sorry,  
15 agency reports. I don't think we're going to have a  
16 time limit on that, so we don't need to worry about the  
17 15 minutes.  
18  
19                  Tribal governments: Native Village of  
20 Napaimute and Partners for Fisheries Monitory Program  
21 will be under Item 1.  
22  
23                  Item 2, Orutsararmiut Native Council  
24 and Partners for Fisheries Monitoring Program.  
25  
26                  Under Native organizations, (1)  
27 Kuskokwim River Intertribal Fisheries Commission.  
28  
29                  Item 2 is AVCP Natural Resources.  
30  
31                  Special Actions Review. U.S. Fish and  
32 Wildlife Service. Under 1, Yukon Delta National  
33 Wildlife Refuge. Item 2, Togiak National Wildlife  
34 Refuge.  
35  
36                  ADF&G. Number 1, Yukon River  
37 Comprehensive Salmon Plan update, Jill Klein, special  
38 assistant to the Commission.  
39  
40                  North Pacific Fishery Management  
41 Council will have -- are on the agenda also.  
42  
43                  OSM.  
44  
45                  Item 13 is future meeting dates.  
46 Confirm winter 2017 meeting and location. Select fall  
47 2017 meeting date and location.  
48  
49                  14 is closing comments.  
50

1 15 is adjourn.  
2  
3 Are there any special corrections or  
4 additions to the agenda as read. Mr. Aloysius.  
5  
6 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman. On Page  
7 2, under review of research monitoring program, it says  
8 (f) charter review. What charter are we reviewing?  
9  
10 CHAIRMAN WILDE: The charter for -- our  
11 charter.  
12  
13 MR. ALOYSIUS: Okay. Thank you.  
14  
15 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Are there any  
16 additions to the agenda. Ms. Patton.  
17  
18 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council. We  
19 had a couple additions. Under agency reports we will  
20 have Yukon River Drainage Fisheries Association. Those  
21 materials are in your supplemental.....  
22  
23 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Could you slow down a  
24 little bit? Under the AVCP report you said?  
25  
26 MS. PATTON: Under agency reports.  
27 So.....  
28  
29 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Agency reports.  
30  
31 MS. PATTON: So this will be tomorrow.  
32 Wayne Jenkins from the Yukon River Intertribal -- I'm  
33 sorry, Yukon River Fisheries Association will be  
34 providing an overview of the Yukon River in-season  
35 management. And they also have a request from Native  
36 Village of Marshall, from the tribe, for a letter of  
37 support on a BLM areas of critical concern request. So  
38 that will.....  
39  
40 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. YRDFA will be  
41 under.....  
42  
43 MS. PATTON: Under agency reports  
44 tomorrow.  
45  
46 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Probably right above  
47 future meeting dates. Right above that. Put them  
48 right after OSM.  
49  
50 MS. PATTON: Did have an action item at

1 the request of the tribe for a letter of support.  
2  
3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: No, I was talking  
4 about YRDFA.  
5  
6 MS. PATTON: YRDFA? Yeah. If they can  
7 present the tribe's request since that's an action item  
8 earlier in the day so the Council has time to review  
9 that.  
10  
11 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Would they -- did they  
12 want to be earlier in the day?  
13  
14 MS. PATTON: Yes, to address the  
15 Council. And we can include that request from Native  
16 Village of Marshall under the Native organizations and  
17 tribal governments at the beginning of reports  
18 tomorrow.  
19  
20 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Native organizations.  
21 Okay. And that was for Marshall. Item 3 under Native  
22 organizations is Marshall's request.  
23  
24 MS. PATTON: Yes. And that letter is  
25 in your supplemental materials in the back of your  
26 meeting book packets.  
27  
28 CHAIRMAN WILDE: And then after that  
29 special action, does YRDFA need special action, or is  
30 it just a report.  
31  
32 MS. PATTON: No, it was just an update  
33 on the in-season management.  
34  
35 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Are they on a time  
36 crunch? Or will they be on a time crunch?  
37  
38 MS. PATTON: For the action item they  
39 wanted to address the Council. They're bringing that  
40 letter for the tribe forward to the Council, but the  
41 YRDFA report can come later.  
42  
43 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. We could put  
44 them right in front of U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.  
45  
46 MS. PATTON: Sure.  
47  
48 CHAIRMAN WILDE: And that's YRDFA. Any  
49 other additions to the agenda. Mr. Aloysius.  
50

1 MR. ALOYSIUS: Thank you. Could you  
2 tell us where you're writing these two things you were  
3 working?  
4  
5 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah. Under Native  
6 organizations, Item 3, Marshall request.  
7  
8 MR. ALOYSIUS: Request?  
9  
10 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah.  
11  
12 MR. ALOYSIUS: And your last one?  
13  
14 CHAIRMAN WILDE: And YRDFA is right  
15 under them, right under Marshall's request.  
16  
17 MR. ALOYSIUS: So that's Number 4.  
18  
19 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah.  
20  
21 MR. ALOYSIUS: Thank you.  
22  
23 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any other additions.  
24 Ms. Patton.  
25  
26 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council. At  
27 the request of several Council members, we did contact  
28 the Yukon River Intertribal Fish Commission, and  
29 Stephanie Quinn-Davidson will be able to call in  
30 tomorrow under Native organizations to provide a really  
31 brief update on the work of the Yukon River Intertribal  
32 Fish Commission.  
33  
34 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Under tribal  
35 governments or Native organizations.  
36  
37 MS. PATTON: Under Native  
38 organizations.  
39  
40 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. Item 5 then?  
41  
42 MS. PATTON: Uh-huh.  
43  
44 CHAIRMAN WILDE: And that is -- what  
45 was that again?  
46  
47 MS. PATTON: The Yukon River  
48 Intertribal Fish Commission.  
49  
50 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. I got it. Are

1 there any other additions. Dale.  
2  
3 MR. SMITH: Mr. Chair. Eva, were you  
4 able to get ahold of Bering Sea Elders Group, Fred  
5 Phillip, to give a brief update on what they're doing.  
6  
7 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council.  
8 Yes, again at the request of several Council members  
9 for an update from the Bering Sea Elders Group, I  
10 contacted Fred Phillip, the director. He was on  
11 travel, extensive travel on the East Coast, and wasn't  
12 sure -- he had just returned just this last week. So I  
13 will contact him again today and see if he might be  
14 able to call in tomorrow to provide a very brief  
15 update.  
16  
17 CHAIRMAN WILDE: And what was that  
18 again.  
19  
20 MS. PATTON: The Bering Sea Elders  
21 Group.  
22  
23 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. Under Item 6.  
24  
25 MS. PATTON: Yes. And again that was  
26 at the request of Council members to have an update on  
27 their work.  
28  
29 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Anything else. Any  
30 other addition.  
31  
32 MR. SMITH: Mr. Chair.  
33  
34 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Just a minute. Go  
35 ahead, Mr. Smith.  
36  
37 MR. ONEY: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Since  
38 we've got the Yukon River Inter-tribal.....  
39  
40 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Just a minute,  
41 Raymond.  
42  
43 MR. ONEY: Oh, I'm sorry.  
44  
45 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Smith, are  
46 you.....  
47  
48 MR. SMITH: Yes, sorry, Mr. Chair.  
49 Bering Sea Elders Group is not a tribal government, so  
50 it would go under another section I guess on the

1 agenda.  
2  
3 MS. PATTON: Native organizations would  
4 be appropriate. They're a non-profit so they're an  
5 organized Native organization.  
6  
7 MR. SMITH: Okay. So it's under Native  
8 organizations, the Bering Sea.  
9  
10 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Is that Bering Sea  
11 Elders Group?  
12  
13 MR. SMITH: Yes. Okay.  
14  
15 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. Mr. Oney, did  
16 you have a.....  
17  
18 MR. ONEY: Yeah. Thank you. Mr.  
19 Chairman. Since we've got the Yukon River Intertribal  
20 Fish Commission, I was wondering if the Kuskokwim Fish  
21 Commission will also be giving a report.  
22  
23 Thank you.  
24  
25 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council.  
26 Yes. We have also an update from the Kuskokwim River  
27 Intertribal Fish Commission. The Council will also be  
28 addressing the creation of a subcommittee for  
29 interacting with the Fish Commission, and we have  
30 Stewart Cogswell here who will be helping to facilitate  
31 that conversation. And I think Stewart, you had said  
32 that needed to be moved until tomorrow? Okay. So  
33 perhaps early tomorrow morning we can come back to that  
34 specific item.  
35  
36 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. What item is  
37 that? Would that be under item 7, the Kuskokwim River  
38 Intertribal Commission?  
39  
40 MS. PATTON: Correct. So the Council's  
41 discussion on that, we originally have that discussion  
42 under Item 10, Number C -- or Letter C rather, the  
43 review and discussion on the Kuskokwim River  
44 Partnership project, the MOU, and formation of a  
45 subcommittee. So that's on Page 2, Letter C, and we  
46 had a request to move that until tomorrow.  
47  
48 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. The Kuskokwim  
49 -- which one was that again.  
50

1 MS. PATTON: Page 2, down towards the  
2 bottom, Letter C.  
3  
4 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. Item C.  
5  
6 MS. PATTON: Uh-huh.  
7  
8 CHAIRMAN WILDE: You want that for  
9 tomorrow.  
10  
11 MS. PATTON: And we could move that to  
12 the beginning of the day tomorrow if that works.  
13 Tomorrow morning. That's an action item for the  
14 Council.  
15  
16 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. Beginning -- my  
17 agenda is looking a little bit.....  
18  
19 MR. ALOYSIUS: Where are you at?  
20  
21 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Item C. We're down to  
22 Item -- moving the Item C, review and discussion on  
23 Yukon River Part, that one?  
24  
25 MR. ALOYSIUS: What's the number?  
26  
27 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Just a minute. Let me  
28 clarify it with.....  
29  
30 MS. PATTON: Number C on Page 2.  
31  
32 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Number C. Yeah,  
33 that's C under fisheries -- under.....  
34  
35 MS. JOHNSON: 10.C.  
36  
37 CHAIRMAN WILDE: 10.C, Bob.  
38  
39 MS. PATTON: Yeah.  
40  
41 CHAIRMAN WILDE: And we'll move that  
42 to?  
43  
44 MS. PATTON: Tomorrow morning was the  
45 request to have that discussion. And we do have the  
46 opportunity, the way we've organized the agenda, prior  
47 to the Council's discussion and action on fisheries  
48 proposals to have updates and presentations from in-  
49 season managers to help inform your decisions. And the  
50 Kuskokwim River Intertribal Fish Commission may also

1 provide an update on their work and how that went this  
2 summer, and that would help also inform the Council.  
3 So there's that opportunity to get that feedback from  
4 the Kuskokwim Intertribal Fish Commission on how they  
5 interacted with the in-season management this summer.  
6  
7 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any other agenda items  
8 that need to be added.  
9  
10 MR. ULAK: Mr. Chairman. Eva, what was  
11 Number 4 again?  
12  
13 CHAIRMAN WILDE: What was that? Oh,  
14 you're talking to Eva.  
15  
16 MR. ULAK: Yeah.  
17  
18 MS. PATTON: So we just changed Number  
19 10.C, which is on Page 2 of your meeting book.  
20  
21 MR. ULAK: Number 4 under Native  
22 organizations on Page 3.  
23  
24 MS. PATTON: So we have Native Village  
25 of Marshall, Yukon River Intertribal Fish Commission,  
26 possibly Bering Sea Elders Group, and then we'll be  
27 addressing this Kuskokwim River Intertribal Fish  
28 Commission, the MOU, and the formation of a  
29 subcommittee. So it will be this Council working on  
30 developing a subcommittee to formally interact with the  
31 Intertribal Fish Commission, and that will be Number 4.  
32  
33 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. Thank you. Any  
34 other additions to the agenda.  
35  
36 Mr. Peters.  
37  
38 MR. PETERS: Mr. Chairman. Thank you.  
39  
40 I was wondering under tribes, they did  
41 send in a letter about the sporthunters in our area,  
42 and I was wondering when it's the right time to comment  
43 on that.  
44  
45 Thank you.  
46  
47 CHAIRMAN WILDE: We could put it -- we  
48 probably could put that under new business, the last  
49 item. G. H. I. Item I under Tongass submerged lands  
50 proposed rule. And that was -- what was that again?



1                   MR. PETERS: Mr. Chairman. The tribe  
2 sent in a letter for, you know, sporthunters in our  
3 area, and they have it in writing, and just need to do  
4 a follow-upon that one.

5  
6                   Thank you.

7  
8                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you. Any other  
9 additions to the agenda.

10  
11                  MR. ALOYSIUS: I have one point, a  
12 question, please.

13  
14                  CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah, I'll go over the  
15 agenda.

16  
17                  MR. ALOYSIUS: What number are you on?

18  
19                  CHAIRMAN WILDE: We're on item under  
20 new business, way down to the bottom under I,  
21 Marshall's letter.

22  
23                  MR. ALOYSIUS: After Tongass?

24  
25                  CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah, after Tongass  
26 submerged lands proposed rule. Okay. Yes, Mr.  
27 Aloysius.

28  
29                  MR. ALOYSIUS: Under the charter  
30 review, are you going to have someone really go through  
31 the code of conduct?

32  
33                  CHAIRMAN WILDE: Well, we could.

34  
35                  MR. ALOYSIUS: Well, because, you know,  
36 during our last meeting we had in Anchorage, there was  
37 a lot of things that happened that had no business  
38 happening, and it reflects on us. And not only us, but  
39 on the home of the person who was causing all the  
40 ruckus, so we need to really make sure that people  
41 understand what their responsibilities, even after the  
42 meeting.

43  
44                  Thank you.

45  
46                  CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Bob. Any  
47 other discussion. Any other agenda items.

48  
49                  (No comments)

50

1                   CHAIRMAN WILDE:  If not, let's try  
2 going over -- okay.  Ms. Patton, one more time.  
3  
4                   MS. PATTON:  Mr. Chair and Council.  I  
5 just wanted to alert Council members, if you would like  
6 to use a headset for the Yup'ik translation, there's a  
7 headset now in front of each of you with earphones.  
8 And you can just turn it on and tune to Channel A.  And  
9 similarly for the public attending, Orville or Gary  
10 could help check out a headset.  We have these  
11 headsets, and you simply turn them on and set it to  
12 channel A and put an earpiece in.  And that way then if  
13 Yup'ik is being spoken, you'll be able to listen to the  
14 English translation.  So you can see -- maybe Orville  
15 will help check them out over here for you.  
16  
17                   Thank you.  
18  
19                   And one last thing is we'll want to  
20 check in with those who've joined us on teleconference  
21 also.  
22  
23                   Thank you.  
24  
25                   CHAIRMAN WILDE:  Oh, okay.  Is there  
26 anything -- at this time, before I forget, is there  
27 anybody on the teleconference for today.  Oh, okay.  
28 Nobody coming on?  
29  
30                   MS. CARROLL:  This is Molly Carroll,  
31 I'm summer season management biologist for the Yukon  
32 River, and I'm standing by here in Anchorage.  
33  
34                   MR. ALOYSIUS:  I can't hear.  
35  
36                   CHAIRMAN WILDE:  Is there anyone else  
37 that's on the teleconference.  
38  
39                   MS. SHEBERT:  This is Kate Shebert, the  
40 environmental coordinator for the Native Village of  
41 Birchtown.  
42  
43                   CHAIRMAN WILDE:  We can't -- I can't  
44 understand who's saying what.  
45  
46                   MR. ESTENSEN:  Mr. Chair.  This is Jeff  
47 Estensen with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game,  
48 fall season manager for the Yukon area, calling in from  
49 Fairbanks.  Good morning.  
50

1                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: Are we settled down  
2 now?  
3  
4                   MR. CARSON: This is John Carson,  
5 (indiscernible) management in Anchorage.  
6  
7                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: I'm trying to get this  
8 meeting going.  
9  
10                  MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman.  
11  
12                  CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes, Mr. Aloysius.  
13  
14                  MR. ALOYSIUS: Usually they have that  
15 speaker sitting right in the middle of this U so that  
16 we can hear whoever is on the outside.  
17  
18                  CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah, we have a new  
19 coordinator, so we'll have to have a little patience  
20 here. Have a little patience here, and then once we  
21 get started, we'll get going.  
22  
23                  MR. ULAK: Mr. Chair. Mr. Chair.  
24  
25                  CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes, ma'am -- sir. Go  
26 ahead.  
27  
28                  MR. ULAK: Can we take a five-minute  
29 break while they're.....  
30  
31                  CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. Let's take a  
32 five-minute break until this system is set up, and then  
33 we'll come back.  
34  
35                  (Off record)  
36  
37                  (On record)  
38  
39                  (Off record conversation regarding  
40 people hearing the people on the phone)  
41  
42                  CHAIRMAN WILDE: Well, I apologize for  
43 this problem that we're having today. It's not very  
44 often that we have this, but we have to deal with it  
45 when we have it.  
46  
47                  Are there any other people on the  
48 teleconference.  
49  
50                  MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman.

1                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes, Mr. Aloysius.  
2  
3                   MR. ALOYSIUS: You haven't called the  
4 meeting back to order there, too.  
5  
6                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: I'm sorry. Call the  
7 meeting back to order. Sometimes the Chair makes a few  
8 mistakes now and again. Okay.  
9  
10                  Are there any other people on the  
11 teleconference.  
12  
13                  (No comments)  
14  
15                  CHAIRMAN WILDE: There being none, the  
16 agenda now reads as follows. Under the new additions  
17 starting from Item 10, new business. Everything on new  
18 business is good, except for item B under fisheries.  
19  
20                  Item C, review and discussion on  
21 Kuskokwim River partnership project is going to be  
22 moved until tomorrow morning.  
23  
24                  And then we have Item D, revision of  
25 MOU with the State. Everything's the same down to I.  
26 Under I, a new I is Marshall letter.  
27  
28                  Under 12, agency reports we have new  
29 additions. Under 3 is Marshall request. Item 4 is  
30 Yukon River Drainage Fisheries Association. Item 5 is  
31 Yukon River Intertribal Commission. Under 6 is Bering  
32 Sea Elders Group.  
33  
34                  And the rest of the agenda is as  
35 written.  
36  
37                  Are there any other additions. Mr.  
38 Aloysius.  
39  
40                  MR. ALOYSIUS: Did you say Bering Sea  
41 Elders?  
42  
43                  CHAIRMAN WILDE: Bering Sea Elders  
44 Group.  
45  
46                  MR. ALOYSIUS: Okay. Thank you.  
47  
48                  CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any other correction  
49 to the agenda. Addition.  
50

1 (No comments)  
2  
3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: If not, the Chair will  
4 entertain a motion for approval of the agenda as.....  
5  
6 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman.  
7  
8 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes, Mr. Aloysius.  
9  
10 MR. ALOYSIUS: I move we accept the  
11 agenda as revised.  
12  
13 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Aloysius made a  
14 motion to accept the revised agenda. Is there a second  
15 to the.....  
16  
17 MR. BROWN: Second.  
18  
19 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Brown seconded the  
20 motion. Any further discussion.  
21  
22 (No comments)  
23  
24 MR. PETERS: Question.  
25  
26 CHAIRMAN WILDE: The question's called  
27 for. All in favor of the motion say aye.  
28  
29 IN UNISON: Aye.  
30  
31 CHAIRMAN WILDE: All opposed same sign.  
32  
33 (No opposing votes)  
34  
35 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Motion's carried.  
36  
37 Okay. Now we are down to review and  
38 approval of the previous minutes. Council members.  
39 Any discussion on the minutes.  
40  
41 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council.  
42 You'll find your previous meeting minutes on Page 5 of  
43 your meeting book if you'd like to take a chance to  
44 review that.  
45  
46 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any corrections.  
47  
48 (No comments)  
49  
50 CHAIRMAN WILDE: There being none,

1 we'll need a motion for approval of the previous  
2 minutes.  
3  
4 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman. I can't  
5 do anything about this request, because I finally got  
6 my book and I haven't had a -- I didn't even open it,  
7 so I don't have any justification to ask for approval,  
8 because I haven't read the minutes.  
9  
10 Thank you.  
11  
12 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. Any other --  
13 I've read the minutes, but I need a motion for  
14 approval.  
15  
16 MS. CLEVELAND: I move.  
17  
18 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Annie made a motion to  
19 approve the minutes as written. Do I hear a second.  
20  
21 MR. ULAK: Second  
22  
23 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Seconded by Mr. Ulak.  
24 Any other discussion.  
25  
26 (No comments)  
27  
28 MR. PETERS: Question.  
29  
30 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Question's called for.  
31 All in favor say aye.  
32  
33 IN UNISON: Aye.  
34  
35 CHAIRMAN WILDE: All opposed same sign.  
36  
37 (No opposing votes)  
38  
39 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Motion carries.  
40  
41 At this time we're going to be calling  
42 on Mr. Jacob N. Black. He's got a time crunch, so  
43 would you like to come up and make your comments.  
44  
45 MR. BLACK: (In Yup'ik)  
46  
47 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Come up here to the  
48 front.  
49  
50 MR. BLACK: (In Yup'ik)

1 INTERPRETER: First of all.....  
2  
3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Oh, excuse me just a  
4 minute. Before we get started, I've been asked by the  
5 translator prior, if you're going to be speaking, speak  
6 one language. If you're going to speak out in English,  
7 speak English only, because it makes it a lot easier  
8 for him to translate. If you're going to speak in  
9 Yup'ik and then using your own language, speak your  
10 total presentation in that language.  
11  
12 Thank you.  
13  
14 Go ahead.  
15  
16 MR. BLACK: Okay. Quyana. (In Yup'ik)  
17  
18  
19 INTERPRETER: Thank you for helping me  
20 with that introduction. First of all, I want to do a  
21 testimony regarding that this fall when there was a  
22 moose opening here on the Kuskokwim, there was some  
23 hunters that did not like the way that it was opened.  
24 The opening was from on the 1st to the 15th, and some  
25 of the people were saying that it was too late of an  
26 opening, because -- the reasons given were that there  
27 was a lot of issues with that, because I've heard that  
28 up in the mountains the hunters up there are -- they  
29 say that the mountains are warmer than the lower  
30 valleys down here. And so there were issues with  
31 keeping the game from getting worms and whatnot, and so  
32 the people that were hunting up in the mountain areas,  
33 they had to keep smoking their meat so that they  
34 wouldn't.....  
35  
36 And a lot of them, because that they  
37 had to report their catch like one or two days, they  
38 had choice but to go back, even if two, three hunters  
39 were sharing the same boat, so only one hunter went  
40 back with -- and the other two didn't have anyone.  
41  
42 And so I really wanted to see if we can  
43 do a different opening because of that.  
44  
45 And on another note, I want to address  
46 about the subsistence of what we are trying to get  
47 regarding the salmon. And we know that the Kuskokwim  
48 River kept having an opening, because there was some  
49 set times for opening, and they opened the fisheries  
50 really late. And that the time that it was opened was

1 when the house flies were getting numerous in numbers.  
2 And it was humid out there, and that led for a lot of  
3 worms to be -- for the house flies to be laying their  
4 eggs on the dry salmon, and so that really -- after the  
5 drying season was past, that was when they opened the  
6 fishery salmon. So there was a high incidence of  
7 salmon spoiling due to the too hot weather and too many  
8 flies laying their eggs, and too many worms in trying  
9 to do that.

10  
11 And also regarding to that, some of the  
12 villages are catching their subsistence through the  
13 permit use of salmon. So I do not like the permit  
14 system on trying to obtain salmon. And we do know that  
15 people who are fishermen out there, and I know from  
16 this area and from the Bristol Bay area, they use  
17 permits, and those are the only ones that are allowed  
18 to fish.

19  
20 But we know that the people that do not  
21 have these necessary financial backing to go hunting,  
22 we cannot -- and this is going to be a problem, because  
23 those that don't have financial capabilities to go  
24 fishing and stuff. So if we do not put a stop of use  
25 those permit, limiting exactly how many fish that we  
26 are going to catch, the most neediest are going to be  
27 the ones that suffer the most.

28  
29 And so please be aware of these issues  
30 of what I just brought up to you, and please look at  
31 them, and perhaps you can do something about them. And  
32 we all know that right now that in these days -- the  
33 last days that we are here, there are a lot of people  
34 that are unemployed, and because of the unemployment  
35 status makes for financial hardship. And if we start  
36 having people pay for these permits to fish, then  
37 those, the most needy, financially needed of our  
38 society, those are going to be the ones that are hurt  
39 the most. And so the ones that have the financial  
40 status that they are the only ones that will be able to  
41 go fishing. But in a lot of the unemployed areas, or  
42 the villages, even if they want to go fishing, they are  
43 not able to, and it's just going to perpetuate into a  
44 crisis, and I really want you to understand and address  
45 these issues that are upcoming that would be  
46 detrimental to the unemployed families, and these are  
47 always a hardship causing all the villages.

48  
49 And I know that we are staying here on  
50 the lower end of the Kuskokwim Delta, and we know that



1 the salmon first hit the lower end of the river and we  
2 can -- and they close the fisheries at the lower end,  
3 and after they are past, then they give us an  
4 opportunity to fish after the fish have gone.

5  
6 And that's all I wanted to say.

7  
8 Thank you.

9  
10 CHAIRMAN WILDE: There don't seem to be  
11 any other person that would like to address the  
12 Advisory Council at this time.

13  
14 We're going to continue on with our  
15 agenda to Item 7 under reports.

16  
17 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman.

18  
19 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any Council members  
20 have any reports.

21  
22 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman.

23  
24 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes, Mr. Aloysius.

25  
26 MR. ALOYSIUS: I think it would be  
27 appropriate for you to ask if anybody had any questions  
28 on what he presented, because, you know, I have a  
29 comment that, you know, he brought out that are very  
30 powerful. And so, you know, if there's a time that we  
31 can respond to or comment to what he says, I would  
32 really appreciate that.

33  
34 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Are there any  
35 questions. Thank you, Bob. I think that what you  
36 stated is right. Is there any questions for Mr. Black  
37 concerning what he said.

38  
39 MR. ALOYSIUS: From this group.

40  
41 MR. ULAK: Mr. Chairman.

42  
43 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes, Mr. Ulak.

44  
45 MR. ULAK: (In Yup'ik)

46  
47 INTERPRETER: All we have said, those  
48 that are trying to get a permit, it's not easy trying  
49 to get food in your table, but we really need to do  
50 something about it. We really do.

1                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: Is he still here? Mr.  
2 Aloysius to ahead. Mr. Brown.

3  
4                   MR. BROWN: (In Yup'ik)

5  
6                   INTERPRETER: All this, what I have  
7 heard and what I have heard from Mr. Black, I'm very  
8 thankful that he said all of what he said. I never had  
9 a fish camp down there where he said where he had one.  
10 They're not having fun over there. They're taking care  
11 of theirs kids. Everybody's taking care of their --  
12 everybody's very thankful. Everybody works on their  
13 catch. But if there is a way we can fix it and get the  
14 actual numbers or something, I think that would be  
15 really informative.

16  
17                   Thank you.

18  
19                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Mr. Brown.

20  
21                   Mr. Aloysius.

22  
23                   MR. ALOYSIUS: Thank you. Many of  
24 things he said are common sense for us Yup'ik people on  
25 the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta. There are many people who  
26 do not appreciate other people, especially non-  
27 residents, coming here and making regulations to  
28 restrict the people in this area.

29  
30                   One of the things that is really  
31 disturbing is the simple fact that, you know, we've  
32 been asking for a later moose season because of the  
33 simple fact that it's too early, too warm, and many  
34 people don't have the luxury of having a freezer. And  
35 so that explains itself right there. Because we want  
36 to preserve the meet in its best condition, and many  
37 times it's impossible if you don't have a freezer.

38  
39                   The other one is the thing about the  
40 ability to harvest the best salmon at the best time,  
41 and that's the best time is in the early season when  
42 there are no flies. And we hear this. Ever since I  
43 was three years old, I hear it. And we hear it ever  
44 since the formation of this group. And yet it falls on  
45 deaf ears simply because the people who do the upper  
46 echelon regulations have no idea, because they don't  
47 live here. It's as simple as that. People from the  
48 outside come up here to Alaska to regulate Native  
49 people, because they know damn well they cannot  
50 regulate or manage nature, but they try their best to

1 regulate and manage people. And it's wrong.  
2  
3 Our people have been here for over  
4 10,000 years, and we know how to live with nature. And  
5 that's something that has to be taken into  
6 consideration. And any time any non-resident comes up  
7 here and starts making regulations, they better have  
8 someone from the area help them straighten it out, make  
9 sure that it's appropriate, and as to how it's going to  
10 affect the people in this area.  
11  
12 Thank you.  
13  
14 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Mr.  
15 Aloysius.  
16  
17 Any other comments. Ms. Cleveland.  
18  
19 MS. CLEVELAND: Yeah. I think we  
20 should put what Mr. Black presented in our agenda for  
21 next meeting.  
22  
23 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Well, our coordinator  
24 I'm sure was listening to him also.  
25  
26 Any other comments. Mr. Peters.  
27  
28 MR. PETERS: You know, listening to him  
29 I think it's a great concern. And, you know, the  
30 elders in our region that come from Marshall, but all  
31 our elders, when there's a concern about the  
32 regulations, I think we should support our elders from  
33 all over, because we need, you know, subsistence, our  
34 food, and the regulations, if it's going to affect  
35 them, affect our people, I think we need to help them,  
36 and set the regulations. And I think it's a really  
37 good thing that we need to take the letter into some  
38 sort of consideration, and if someone could do a follow  
39 up on that, then to try to help the people, because  
40 there are times when the salmon come in, and once they  
41 pass, there's no way that the elders could go out there  
42 and harvest them. And I think somewhere along the line  
43 they need to set the regulations where the elders could  
44 catch the first run of the fish and have it there,  
45 because a lot of times I see, you know, people up from  
46 the Lower 48 or -- you know, I have nothing against  
47 Lower 48 people, but not to set the regulations. But  
48 the resource is our food, and the person need to take  
49 the elders and people's words into consideration.  
50

1 Thank you.  
2  
3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Mr. Peters.  
4  
5 Any other comments from the Council.  
6 Mr. Bill.  
7  
8 MR. BILL: Yeah. (In Yup'ik)  
9  
10 INTERPRETER: I want to reiterate what  
11 he just said, and he did really make some good  
12 comments, because the subsistence way of life, our full  
13 efforts are always focused in the summertime, because  
14 in the summertime that's our subsistence gathering  
15 height, and during the wintertime we do not have any of  
16 the natural resources to look at. And we have always  
17 told that when the resources are available to you, they  
18 you need to take advantage of that, because there is no  
19 set times for the seasons. And when it's -- when the  
20 wintertime comes and ice closes the land, that you know  
21 that the subsistence resource ability diminishes with  
22 the ice coming, and so you are not able to go out there  
23 and get subsistence. So therefore if you didn't do any  
24 of your subsistence through the summertime, they you  
25 are going to be between a hard and rock places, because  
26 if we do look at his comments and we really do need to  
27 provide opportunities for subsistence gathering in the  
28 summertime without letting them wait forever for them  
29 to get what they need. And I know the further you go  
30 out there, it's more evident that you really rely on  
31 subsistence foods.  
32  
33 Thank you.  
34  
35 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Mr. Bill.  
36  
37 Any other comments from the Council.  
38  
39 MR. SMITH: Mr. Chair.  
40  
41 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Smith.  
42  
43 MR. SMITH: Just for clarification. So  
44 what I'm hearing this body talking about is supporting  
45 the testimony by Mr. Black, and I hear really strong  
46 support from this body. So what is the next step that  
47 we do? Do we write a -- or do we research that more,  
48 or do we write a letter to the Subsistence Board, or  
49 what do we do?  
50

1                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: Do you have any  
2 suggestions, Ms. Patton.  
3  
4                   MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council. If  
5 the Council would like to respond as you have here on  
6 the record to Mr. Black's questions and concerns, the  
7 Council can ask to draft a letter to the Federal  
8 Subsistence Board to help illuminate these issues and  
9 concerns that have been shared by the public, and also  
10 the discussion by the Council here on the record about  
11 your concerns. One of the roles of both the annual  
12 report of the Council and addressing letters to the  
13 Board is to help bring these issues up, also to  
14 consider what possible solutions might be. So the  
15 Council can further discuss that, make a motion to  
16 draft a letter, and elaborate on these issues and  
17 concerns, and potential ways the Council and the Board  
18 and the Federal Subsistence Management Program might be  
19 able to address it.  
20  
21                   Thank you.  
22  
23                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: Comments from the  
24 Council.  
25  
26                   Suggestions.  
27  
28                   Mr. Smith.  
29  
30                   MR. SMITH: Mr. Chair. So I think that  
31 would be appropriate considering that if this body just  
32 makes recommendation verbally and it's written down in  
33 the minutes, but there's no real or written  
34 documentation to request this issue be looked into by  
35 the Subsistence Board. I think that if we get that in  
36 writing, some things will start taking place as opposed  
37 to just listening to the testimony, we talk about it,  
38 and it just falls through the cracks.  
39  
40                   So I guess what I'm requesting or  
41 making a motion that this body writes a letter to the  
42 Federal Subsistence Board on behalf of Mr. Black's  
43 testimony.  
44  
45                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: You heard the motion.  
46 Do I hear a second.  
47  
48                   MR. PETERS: Second.  
49  
50                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: Seconded by whom? Mr.

1 Peters.  
2  
3 Any further discussion.  
4  
5 (No comments)  
6  
7 MR. ALOYSIUS: Question.  
8  
9 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Question's called for.  
10 All in favor say aye.  
11  
12 IN UNISON: Aye.  
13  
14 CHAIRMAN WILDE: All opposed same sign.  
15  
16 (No opposing votes)  
17  
18 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Motion's carried.  
19  
20 And that takes care of our public  
21 comments on non-agenda items.  
22  
23 Thank you.  
24  
25 Mr. Aloysius.  
26  
27 MR. ALOYSIUS: That's only one person.  
28  
29 CHAIRMAN WILDE: What's that?  
30  
31 MR. ALOYSIUS: I said you only heard  
32 from one person.  
33  
34 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah, I realize that,  
35 but that was the only one that was up here.  
36  
37 MR. OLSTROM: Hello.  
38  
39 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Who's that?  
40  
41 MR. ALOYSIUS: Somebody on the.....  
42  
43 MR. OLSTROM: Anybody listening?  
44  
45 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Oh, is somebody on the  
46 teleconference?  
47  
48 MR. OLSTROM: Yes. (Indiscernible)  
49  
50 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah. Could you -- go

1 ahead.  
2  
3 MR. OLSTROM: Lester, this is Bill  
4 Olstrom, St. Mary's.  
5  
6 CHAIRMAN WILDE: What was that? We  
7 can't quite.....  
8  
9 MR. OLSTROM: Yeah, this is Bill. Bill  
10 from St. Mary's.  
11  
12 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Oh, hi, Bill. Go  
13 ahead. You're on teleconference. Go ahead, Bill.  
14  
15 MR. OLSTROM: Oh, yeah. I just came  
16 on. I finally got the numbers down, and I was just  
17 wondering part of the agenda you're on.  
18  
19 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Oh, we're on Item 9,  
20 old business.  
21  
22 MR. OLSTROM: Okay. Thank you.  
23  
24 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Or we'll be going into  
25 old business.  
26  
27 MR. OLSTROM: Okay. Thank you.  
28  
29 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any other people out  
30 in the teleconference that have any comments.  
31  
32 (No comments)  
33  
34 CHAIRMAN WILDE: There being none,  
35 we'll continue on with our agenda. We're down to old  
36 business. Draft non-rural determination policy. Who  
37 is the presenter of this.  
38  
39 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council.  
40 Orville Lind will be presenting on the draft non-rural  
41 policy. You can find that on Page 11 in your meeting  
42 book.  
43  
44 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chair. Can I call a  
45 point of order.  
46  
47 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes, Mr. Aloysius, you  
48 may.  
49  
50 MR. ALOYSIUS: You have neglected Item

1 Number 7. There have been no Council member reports,  
2 nor has there been a Chair's report.  
3  
4 CHAIRMAN WILDE: I asked for Council  
5 member reports and then we started discussion on what  
6 was presented to us.  
7  
8 MR. ALOYSIUS: Well, usually if you  
9 have.....  
10  
11 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Are there any other  
12 Council member reports.  
13  
14 MR. ALOYSIUS: .....a Council member  
15 report, you ask everyone in the table for reports, and  
16 I haven't heard that.  
17  
18 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Well, if it makes you  
19 feel better, I will do that, Mr. Aloysius. Do you have  
20 any Council member reports.  
21  
22 MR. ALOYSIUS: Well, that's the  
23 procedure. That's the procedure. You asked each and  
24 every member if they have anything to report.  
25  
26 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Aloysius, I'm  
27 asking you, do you have any reports?  
28  
29 MR. ALOYSIUS: At this current time,  
30 no. Thank you.  
31  
32 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. Any other  
33 Council members have any reports.  
34  
35 MR. SMITH: Mr. Chair.  
36  
37 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Smith.  
38  
39 MR. SMITH: Yeah. Would this be the  
40 time to give a summary of what's been happening in the  
41 regions, or is that on the agenda later on?  
42  
43 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes, you can also  
44 report that if you must. Go ahead.  
45  
46 MR. SMITH: Right now?  
47  
48 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes.  
49  
50 MR. SMITH: Okay. I would just like to



1 give a brief, what do you call it. Over the past  
2 summer around Nunivak Island we've seen an abundance of  
3 salmon, abundance of pollack, and we're still seeing a  
4 shortage of the murre. For some reason, I know I  
5 reported this I think a couple years ago, seeing a  
6 shortage of murre.

7  
8 But to the people's activities over the  
9 summer, they reported a lot of dog salmon, a lot of red  
10 salmon, a lot of pollack and Pacific cod. And we're  
11 still -- the halibut are still coming around, but  
12 they're still kind of scarce.

13  
14 So I just wanted to share that, because  
15 I know that the issue of halibut has been a major  
16 concern for the people on Nunivak Island and Nelson  
17 Island as well. So I just want to bring it up as a  
18 brief update.

19  
20 Thank you.

21  
22 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Mr. Smith.

23  
24 Go ahead, Mr. Charles.

25  
26 MR. CHARLES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
27 I'm from Tuntutuliak, and the people in my village  
28 appreciate what the Refuge has been doing last couple  
29 of years. They opened the area where the non-salmon  
30 areas are, like Tukliaruk (ph), Kanek and Tuntatuliak  
31 rivers, and at the mouth we are allowed to set the net  
32 or fish inside the river, and that's 100 yards from the  
33 main river on the west side. So people appreciate what  
34 Refuge has been doing the last couple years. And I  
35 myself got some kings from that river, or Kanek River.  
36 So the salmon that was inside the rivers on the west  
37 side, non-salmon spawning. I tell people that they're  
38 last, just like me. So we catch them. We catch salmon  
39 in those rivers. And we didn't fish the main river,  
40 but people in my village have been setting a net inside  
41 the rivers on the west side. So that's what people  
42 appreciate and want to thank the Refuge for doing that.

43  
44 Thank you.

45  
46 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Mr.  
47 Charles. Any other -- Annie.

48  
49 MS. CLEVELAND: I'm happy to report  
50 that there was lots of Chinooks in Kanektok River this

1 year. I got all the fish I wanted for the winter with  
2 two driftings. But there was no commercial fishing  
3 this year, and men were really itching to go fishing  
4 for commercial. And there's also a report from the  
5 camp upriver that they've seen some dead fish floating  
6 down the river. And I wanted somebody to take one and  
7 check what causes them to die. I tried calling AVCP,  
8 Fish and Game, and I also tried to call Fish and  
9 Wildlife trooper, that guy who give me this card, but  
10 there's no answer. There was no answer. I wanted  
11 biologist of somebody to check on what causes that.  
12 Doy.

13

14 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any other Council  
15 members. Mr. Aloysius.

16

17 MR. ALOYSIUS: Thank you. Somebody  
18 brought up a couple that I had.....

19

20 REPORTER: Your microphone, Bob.

21

22 MR. ALOYSIUS: .....neglected to even  
23 -- oh. Too many buttons. Thank you. Someone reminded  
24 me that I wrote a note to myself, but I couldn't find  
25 it. It's very simple.

26

27 The Federal Subsistence Board is  
28 supposed to be looking after the subsistence needs of  
29 the Native people and other rural -- and I hate that  
30 word rural -- residents of Alaska. It is not clear to  
31 me how the state of Alaska has jurisdiction which is  
32 more restrictive than the Federal government.  
33 Effective May something, they had a regulation for the  
34 whole Kuskokwim River that no one was allowed to use  
35 any kind of subsistence gear, which stopped us from  
36 securing our subsistence fish, which are the sheefish  
37 and the whitefish that are in the river right after  
38 breakup. We even fish for sheefish before breakup.  
39 And as soon as May something, I forget what the date  
40 was, there's absolutely no use of any kind of netting,  
41 setnets or driftnets, until much earlier -- I mean much  
42 later date. That put a hardship on us people who  
43 depend on subsistence fish. And the first subsistence  
44 fish we get in the spring is sheefish. We couldn't  
45 even go after those, because the regulations simply  
46 state that there would be no fishing for any kind of  
47 fish after May something until they open it up, which  
48 is absolutely wrong.

49

50 Like I said earlier, we've lived on

1 this river for over 10,000 years, and we depend on  
2 Mother Kuskokwim to provide us food. And it -- people  
3 who do not know the way of life out here come in there  
4 and they start making a regulation to stop us from  
5 doing what we naturally do. They can't stop Mother  
6 Nature, but they sure as hell try to stop Native people  
7 from securing the food that's there for them. And  
8 Native people are upset upriver, because we couldn't  
9 even drift, we couldn't even set a net right after  
10 breakup because of the regulation. And the thing that  
11 they keep saying, well, I thought the Federal  
12 government said we could fish. They're supposed to be  
13 the upper echelon on restricting or regulating or  
14 opening, time available and the gear available for us  
15 to fish for our subsistence foods.

16

17 So that's something that has to be  
18 really clarified. Why is the State of Alaska always  
19 trying to restrict us from obtaining our food.

20

21 On the other side, they do all they can  
22 to make sure that there's commercial fishing, even in  
23 the river, the Yukon River and the Kuskokwim River,  
24 which had never happened before. No other place in the  
25 world allows commercial fishing inside of a river.

26

27 Thank you.

28

29 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Mr.  
30 Aloysius.

31

32 Any other comments. Mr. Peters.

33

34 MR. PETERS: My name is Mike Peters. I  
35 live in Marshall.

36

37 I think there was a concern about how  
38 fishing, about the salmon. You know, when they  
39 regulate about the dipnets, in some area it worked, it  
40 some areas it don't work. And I was kind of hoping,  
41 you could always correct me if I'm wrong, but we need  
42 to get back to the setnet, because sometime the water  
43 is so high that the dipnets don't work in some areas,  
44 and that was a consideration coming from the elders.  
45 And the elders would like to see somewhere around the  
46 line where that they could go back to setnet. And it  
47 was a concern there, and I thought I'd bring it up, you  
48 know, on comments, because it was a concern.

49

50 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

1 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Mr. Peters.

2

3 Any other Council members. Mr. Brown.

4

5 MR. BROWN: (In Yup'ik)

6

7 INTERPRETER: The issues that were  
8 brought up by my cousin here, the concerns, I wanted to  
9 endorse that we do fish on the other side of the  
10 Kuskokwim, on west side, and I want to thank the Fish  
11 and Wildlife, or Fish and Game, whoever said that we  
12 can fish in the non-tributary salmon areas. And so we  
13 did have opportunity to fish for salmon on the other  
14 side of the Kuskokwim where there was no tributaries,  
15 and we really like that idea. Instead of just cutting  
16 everything off, we had the opportunity to fish and  
17 catch some of the salmon that weekend, and I really  
18 want this practice to continue, because a lot of the  
19 people that are unemployed cannot go on long distance  
20 to try to get salmon. And so if you kept it within the  
21 area of our villages, that was a very good idea or  
22 practice that was instituted, and I don't want that to  
23 go unnoticed. So thank you.

24

25 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Mr. Brown.

26

27 Any other Council members.

28

29 Mr. Peters. Or Mr. Andrew.

30

31 MR. ANDREW: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
32 My name is John Andrew out of Kwethluk. I'll just give  
33 a short brief summary on our salmon fishery and moose  
34 hunting.

35

36 This summer it's been pretty  
37 restrictive where we -- especially where I am, right by  
38 the Y and all the tributaries are closed from May,  
39 middle of May all the way to July 25. In some of those  
40 tributaries our people to have short setnets. But then  
41 it's been better than 10 years which we haven't been  
42 able to do that. And people from my village, that  
43 practically majority of them that have a good working  
44 motor used to go out and salmon harvest every summer,  
45 and they find it harder and harder to go after salmon  
46 every year. They have to rely on somebody that has a  
47 good boat and a good motor that can fish for their  
48 household, and to their relatives. On my fish camp  
49 site, we used to have seven households that fish every  
50 year, but this summer only four households did that

1 part time. Like Bob said, we don't have no fish camps  
2 any more some time back, which is mostly true nowadays.  
3 So we have to wait and see for the Department or Fish  
4 and Wildlife to give us an opening, which cause severe  
5 hardship for especially families that -- or households  
6 with large families.

7  
8                   And for me, if I fish out there, I have  
9 to fish for -- catch the fish for at least seven  
10 households, but now I'm down to at least four. I get  
11 what -- after what I -- divide what I get for my  
12 family, I have to give some to my neighbors and two of  
13 my other relatives.

14  
15                   Chinook run was good this summer, but  
16 we weren't allowed to use our usual gear. The longest  
17 -- I think June we were allowed only three openings,  
18 and they restrict us down to any mesh -- allowed us  
19 five and a half inch -- or six inch or less and under  
20 five fathoms. And 46 hours per opening. And we all  
21 know that if we go out there, we catch just enough to  
22 process for the day. You fish for one or two hours,  
23 you've got to spend six to eight hours to process at  
24 your camp, then two to three weeks to care of them.  
25 And if our neighbors have trouble getting their share,  
26 we have to share with them. And if they have a broken  
27 motor, we still have to help them out, see how much we  
28 can give then to that certain household. And it  
29 creates extra hardship for an individual that goes out  
30 and harvests the fish.

31  
32                   And like Mr. Black said, some of them  
33 set during the latter part of the season, during the  
34 fly season and the rainy season, caught with them, they  
35 didn't dry very well.

36  
37                   And then on moose season, there were --  
38 I think they were better than 1500 permittees that went  
39 out for 150 moose where I live. And within five days  
40 they said they harvest -- the whole area got their  
41 harvest limits, and majority of the people that go out,  
42 never had a chance to harvest their moose, because it  
43 was too early and too warm.

44  
45                   And for me, I got skunked out of the  
46 first five days, but after the weather cooled down, I  
47 went out with one of my nephews and a grand nephew. We  
48 finally got one after the weather had cooled off on the  
49 10th, because as you know, when the moose season, when  
50 it's pretty warm out, the bulls don't usually move

1 around, only when the weather gets colder or where  
2 there's a chill in the air.

3  
4 And with that many people competing  
5 only for 150 permits, it's very hard to satisfy, or for  
6 a person to go out and get their moose in a four or  
7 five days time. But other areas further up the river  
8 only people that can afford to go financially can go.  
9 But the majority of them are -- with that kind of work,  
10 they have to hitchhike or ask their friends to take  
11 them along so they might have a chance to harvest their  
12 moose if they're lucky enough.

13  
14 Thank you.

15  
16 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Mr. Andrew.  
17 Anyone else.

18  
19 (No comments)

20  
21 CHAIRMAN WILDE: There being none, we  
22 had the same problem in Hooper Bay. The problem in  
23 Hooper Bay is that we're in a bay out there, and the  
24 only way that we're able to get fish in Hooper is at a  
25 certain wind. We have to have a north wind or  
26 northwest wind in order to -- or a west wind, to get  
27 salmon into the bay there.

28  
29 And this year we had a couple -- we had  
30 a project in Hooper Bay expanding the airport so we had  
31 people -- we had the people that were bringing in the  
32 material, which is all brought in, all the big rocks  
33 and all the gravel and everything had to be brought  
34 into Hooper Bay to work on the airport. There was  
35 about three or four ore barges where our fishing ground  
36 was, and that's right at the mouth of the bay. The  
37 fish didn't get an opportunity to come into our bay  
38 because of all the noise that was being generated by  
39 the big heavy equipment, and all the material that was  
40 being brought into the bay there in order to work on  
41 the airport.

42  
43 So we didn't have any fish -- or we  
44 didn't get hardly any fish, any chums or any of the  
45 other fish, king salmon or any of the fish that we  
46 usually get. But we did have an opportunity to get  
47 pinks. And we're fortunate in Hooper Bay that the  
48 pinks are still in silver bright and fat and they look  
49 a lot different than when they enter the river. So we  
50 got all the fish that we dried this summer were

1 humpies. We weren't fortunate to get any of the other  
2 fish that we usually get.

3

4                   And as far as our moose season, we  
5 waited at least two weeks prior to the time that we  
6 left, because the weather was too warm. And we usually  
7 leave the first of September, but we didn't leave until  
8 the 15th of September this year. We were fortunate  
9 enough to get our moose, but I understand what  
10 everybody's saying. The weather is getting a lot  
11 warmer than what we're used to, and it's at least two  
12 weeks. At least two weeks it was just too warm for us  
13 to go out and get moose. Just to go out there and get a  
14 moose, and a couple days later that moose starts going.

15

16

17                   So that's what we have coming from  
18 Hooper Bay.

19

20                   At this time, if there are no other  
21 comments from the Council. Mr. Brown, one last  
22 comment.

23

24                   MR. BROWN: My last summer (In Yup'ik)

25

26                   INTERPRETER: During this I just sort  
27 of forgot about it during -- on the Kuskokwim River, it  
28 had a lot of fish. I didn't fish this year, so I  
29 cannot tell you exactly what they were catching.

30

31                   But when I would hunt, my outboard  
32 motor would make a funny noise, and then when I checked  
33 it, it would have hit a fish. I've been presenting  
34 this to the working group, and requesting -- because  
35 there are people that were waiting for the fish to  
36 become abundant. We all know that the Kuskokwim, it  
37 carries a lot of fish, a lot of all sorts of species,  
38 some of them -- I seen on paperwork, on documents, in  
39 one of the reports how did they even think that king  
40 salmon were going to be less. I think we need to look  
41 at that, and then I think we can make a better  
42 testimony if we work together.

43

44                   Thank you.

45

46                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Mr. Brown.

47

48                   Any more comments from Council.

49

50                   (No comments)

1                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: If not, we're going to  
2 continue on with our agenda. Prior to our break we're  
3 going to listen our public tribal comments. We have  
4 one or two. We have Pam Smith -- or Paul Smith.

5  
6                   MR. PAUL SMITH: Good morning, and  
7 thank you very much for giving me the time. I'll  
8 briefly make my comments. Oh, okay.

9  
10                   Good morning, ladies and gentlemen of  
11 the Advisor Fisher Board. (In Yup'ik) How are you  
12 doing. And to the ladies and gentlemen of the  
13 audience, thank you, and appreciate you all being here.

14  
15                   I'll try and make my comments as brief  
16 as possible here, but, you know, many years ago our  
17 forefathers told us that something like this would  
18 happen, and sure enough, here it is. Now comes a time  
19 that your Alaska Natives are suffering now because of  
20 the subsistence harvesting that's been set as a  
21 regulation. Now, that regulation that they set by the  
22 Fish and Game Department is something that has put a  
23 crunch on the subsistence hunting and fishing for the  
24 Yukon and Kuskokwim individuals.

25  
26                   My question, I have two. One is a lot  
27 of folks from the region here travel on down to the  
28 open bay of the Eek, Quinhagak, Goodnews Bay and  
29 Platinum. Why aren't they putting any regulations on  
30 the open bay for subsistence hunting and -- on  
31 subsistence fishing there.

32  
33                   And also one of the high priorities is  
34 the Bristol Bay area. Tons and tons of salmon comes  
35 running through the bay there. I know that for sure,  
36 because I've been there for 11 years. I've fished as a  
37 commercial fisherman. I've seen a lot of waste and  
38 wants in that area.

39  
40                   And also the high sea fishermen that  
41 are on the -- in the open bays out there. Nothing's  
42 being regulated. Not even the -- the Fish and game are  
43 aboard these vessels, ensuring that these folks that  
44 are the high sea fishermen that are harvesting the  
45 salmon are not waste and want. But it happens.

46  
47                   Now the individuals on -- the Alaska  
48 Natives on the Yukon and Kuskokwim, we have to bear the  
49 brunt of that. That's not right. The Alaska Fish and  
50 Game Department should not be regulating our fishing



1 gear, but we've been warned about it many, many years  
2 ago. Now it happen. And no matter what is said, it's  
3 going to continue.

4  
5 This year out of the grace of God, I've  
6 only had two -- I only had five king salmons. One of  
7 the things that I miss having this year is (In Yup'ik).  
8 Never had it for -- first time in 35, 40 years. Just  
9 five king salmon with a six-inch mesh. That's  
10 impossible. If, you know.....

11  
12 CHAIRMAN WILDE: That's five more than  
13 I got.

14  
15 MR. PAUL SMITH: Am I finished?

16  
17 CHAIRMAN WILDE: No, I was just saying  
18 that's five more than I got.

19  
20 MR. PAUL SMITH: Okay. I thought I was  
21 alone for a while there.

22  
23 But anyway the -- you know, we're  
24 catching the jacks instead of the older fish. That's  
25 kind of crazy. That's stupid the way the Fish and Game  
26 allocates something like that, you know. Very, very  
27 stupid. It's bad enough that they can't set their own  
28 sonar in a proper way, and then they -- about a month  
29 or a week later they say, oh, we made a mistake. It's  
30 our sonar. Why don't they blame themselves once in a  
31 while. Are they too proud? They must be.

32  
33 But I wish for God's sake that the  
34 Alaska Natives on the Yukon/Kuskokwim would not be  
35 regulated so harshly. It really, really puts a hurt on  
36 a lot of families. I've been greatly considering to  
37 fish out around in the bay of Quinhagak, Eek, Platinum,  
38 but I don't want to. I want to fish subsistence  
39 fishing here. Subsistence way of live is each and  
40 every one of our responsibilities. But heavily  
41 regulating us really hurts.

42  
43 Thank you ladies and gentlemen.

44  
45 Have a nice morning.

46  
47 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you. If you'll  
48 stay around a little bit later, I'm sure the Fish and  
49 Game will have an opportunity address some of your  
50 concerns.

1 MR. PAUL SMITH: I don't have the time  
2 for Fish and Game.  
3  
4 CHAIRMAN WILDE: But they probably  
5 will, though.  
6  
7 MR. PAUL SMITH: Well, but not during  
8 my working hours. Not during my working hours. I have  
9 -- you know, what I said, well, that's -- they can take  
10 it any way they want. I appreciate the ladies and  
11 gentlemen.  
12  
13 CHAIRMAN WILDE: I think we have one  
14 more. Eva, who is that? Alissa, is that you next?  
15  
16 MS. PATTON: This was in regards to the  
17 fisheries proposals, so she can address under comments  
18 for the fisheries proposal.  
19  
20 CHAIRMAN WILDE: What's that?  
21  
22 MS. PATTON: This is under the  
23 fisheries proposals. So we'll come to public comment  
24 during fisheries proposals. Okay.  
25  
26 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. All right. We  
27 could wait for that then.  
28  
29 Well, if there are no other comments at  
30 this time, we'll take a 10-minute break.  
31  
32 (Off record)  
33  
34 (On record)  
35  
36 CHAIRMAN WILDE: We're back to our  
37 agenda. We'll ask -- Mr. Bill wanted to make some  
38 comments.  
39  
40 MR. BILL: Thank you, Mr. Chair.  
41  
42 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman. Would you  
43 call those guys (indiscernible).  
44  
45 MR. BILL: (In Yup'ik)  
46  
47 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Could we just call the  
48 meeting back to order. If you have anything to say,  
49 say it outside there, please.  
50

1 Thank you.  
2  
3 MR. BILL: (In Yup'ik)  
4  
5 (Interpreter not at table to translate  
6 at beginning)  
7  
8 INTERPRETER: Every year regarding the  
9 fisheries I come up with these issues, and I bring up  
10 all these issues, and every time I inquire about them,  
11 they always say that they do not know the process of  
12 the distributing of the salmon, because every time that  
13 -- 2002, we have started in that year. The Etolin  
14 Strait area, ever since that it has been regulated  
15 there is obvious changes that has happened into the  
16 Etolin District area -- Etolin Strait. The seals, the  
17 birds, the walruses, they've all changed their  
18 migratory paths, and their migratory path is no longer,  
19 although they have changed their pathways.  
20  
21 And also the walruses used to come in  
22 numbers through there, but there are no more walruses  
23 hiding out there. And every time that I speak about  
24 this issue to the powers that be, they always say it's  
25 because of the climate change, and I can never get any  
26 answers.  
27  
28 And there are -- when they first got  
29 into the Bristol Bay area, they told them that they  
30 shouldn't be using mechanized water craft in Bristol  
31 Bay area, because that will affect the migratory paths  
32 of the salmon. And right now, especially the Kuskokwim  
33 Bay area, there are diesel engines, tug boats, and  
34 barges going through there, because the sound -- the  
35 waters are really good conductor of sound, because that  
36 sound that the diesel engines create, they are really  
37 affecting the seals, the walrus, the wales, the salmon  
38 pathway, because this is a really evident change in our  
39 area, and I really want to address this issue and have  
40 it considered, because I have been long since been  
41 advocating for -- and especially in the Bering Sea  
42 Elders we have looked at this issue, but we don't have  
43 any privy to scientific research or anything like that,  
44 but you guys have a bigger instance where you can get  
45 research into the effects of the diesel engines in the  
46 water conducting all that sound.  
47  
48 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Mr. Bill.  
49  
50 Mr. Aloysius.

1 MR. ALOYSIUS: Thank you. In  
2 anticipation for a response from the Fish and Game and  
3 the Fish and Wildlife Service, you know, I'd really  
4 appreciate them responding to Mr. Bill's statements,  
5 and why we have never heard of this activity.  
6  
7 Thank you.  
8  
9 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Mr.  
10 Aloysius.  
11  
12 MR. SMITH: Mr. Chair.  
13  
14 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes, Mr. Dale Smith.  
15  
16 MR. SMITH: I'd like to kind of make  
17 comments on Mr. Bill's comment regarding the issue  
18 there.  
19  
20 Just so that -- at least maybe  
21 clarification, and possibly a request. Ever since I  
22 got on this Council here, I've heard Mr. Bill talk  
23 about the fishery at the Kuskokwim Bay. And I know  
24 that North Pacific came to one of our meetings and gave  
25 presentations, and I know that we as a body we  
26 requested North Pacific to look into lowering the  
27 bycatch of salmon and halibut. And then I recall the  
28 last year's meeting in Anchorage, they gave a report on  
29 the lowered bycatch of the salmon and the halibut in  
30 that area, or regionwide actually. I don't think they  
31 gave a specific look at the Kuskokwim Bay which we are  
32 talking about now. And I see that the North Pacific  
33 was on the agenda.  
34  
35 I think that if we have a continued  
36 dialogue with North Pacific on this particular issue,  
37 and I know that the Bering Sea Elders Group at some  
38 point is involved, but I don't know exactly how. So  
39 we've got this group here, the Bering Sea Elders Group,  
40 talking about salmon, subsistence salmon and for  
41 halibut as well.  
42  
43 So I think my recommendation is that we  
44 continue to at least push this issue to the Federal  
45 Subsistence Board, because I realize that as Mr.  
46 Aloysius talked about, the higher echelon of  
47 management, and that's where the policy is. And if we  
48 can continue this dialogue and maybe make a request to  
49 the Federal Subsistence Board to dialogue with North  
50 Pacific Fishery Management Council, because it is an

1 important issue. Nunivak Island and Nelson Island,  
2 historically we've supplemented our diet on the salmon  
3 and the halibut.

4  
5 So I really support Mr. David Bill's  
6 comments on we really need to look into this, and  
7 whatever that is that we need to do. Either we make a  
8 formal letter request to get down to the exact point,  
9 because it sounded like we're not getting the  
10 information. That's why Mr. Bill is -- he keeps  
11 bringing it up. There's no information about that to  
12 us about the bycatch issue at the Kotzebue Bay. And I  
13 think that's the main issue that Mr. Bill is referring  
14 to, and that's at least my two cents worth to try and  
15 at least get a resolution to this.

16  
17 Thank you.

18  
19 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Mr. Smith.

20  
21 Mr. Aloysius.

22  
23 MR. ALOYSIUS: I appreciate these guy's  
24 comments because they're from there. They know what's  
25 going on out there. I'm from the interior, I don't  
26 know what's going out there. That's why, you know, we  
27 need to find out exactly with the input of people like  
28 this who are out there in the area that is subject to  
29 what's going on. And we need to hear from them, and  
30 not only them, but from other people, especially old  
31 people who have lived out there for years and years and  
32 years, and know what the transition has been, and why.  
33 And we never hear anything like that, because we don't  
34 -- we seem to be like the non-Native people. Our old  
35 people are just there, but we don't need them. That's  
36 contrary to what I grew up with. Our old people are  
37 our connection to our past.

38  
39 I myself call myself a tri-centurion.  
40 I'm not 300 years old, but I was born in the 20th  
41 century, delivered by, educated, and raised by people  
42 in the 19th century, and many of them born before 1850.  
43 And now I live in the 21st century with all that  
44 knowledge that was given to me by people from that age.  
45 Anybody ever offer me a time to talk about what I grew  
46 up with especially from that area. I'm sure these guys  
47 will understand what I'm saying.

48  
49 Our people from different areas need to  
50 be present to explain to us who don't know exactly what

1 has been transpiring ever since statehood.

2

3 Thank you.

4

5 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Mr.

6 Aloysius.

7

8 Mr. Peters.

9

10 MR. PETERS: My name is Mike Peters

11 from Marshall.

12

13 I live on the Yukon, but, you know,  
14 when consideration come from the elders, I support no  
15 matter where they're from, from the coast, Kuskokwim,  
16 or the Yukon. And I think, you know, being on this  
17 board, I would like to support Mr. Bill's -- what he  
18 brought up, because it's a concern. And I would like  
19 to support, because they're looking at Yukon Bay, too,  
20 you know. It's going to affect us sooner or later,  
21 but, you know, I'd like to let the Council know that we  
22 should have some sort of a motion for him, and have it  
23 in writing and bring it up, because Mr. Bill brought  
24 this up before, and I think we should take it into some  
25 consideration, because those people, they live out  
26 there. They know what it's like. And, you know,  
27 coming from the Yukon, I could talk from Marshall, but  
28 I support those people, because traditionally everybody  
29 where they live at, they know their areas, like the  
30 Kuskokwim, coast, and Yukon. And I just want to let  
31 the Council know.

32

33 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

34

35 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Mr. Peters.

36 If you will look in your Council book on Page 165, and  
37 you go to Page 166, the second paragraph there, it  
38 states the Council would like to revisit the discussion  
39 -- oh, this is a letter that was written, drafted by  
40 the Council Chair to Mr. Don Hall, the Chair of the  
41 North Pacific Fisheries Management Council in  
42 Anchorage. And it was dated March 29th, 2016. And an  
43 excerpt from that, next to the last sentence -- in the  
44 paragraph, there is a sentence or a paragraph. The  
45 Council would like to revisit the discussion we had  
46 with representatives from the North Pacific Fisheries  
47 Management Council on February 25th, 26th, 2015 in  
48 Bethel. We greatly appreciate the North Pacific  
49 Management Council's meeting with us in person, and  
50 we're encouraged to hear of the new initiatives to

1 reduce the Bering Sea halibut bycatch by 50 percent.

2

3                   However, low abundance of halibut has  
4 still be an ongoing issue for our communities, and we  
5 wish to reiterate those observations and concerns for  
6 our consideration on Bering Sea halibut bycatch at the  
7 April 11th, 12th, 2016 North Pacific Management Council  
8 meeting. Council member Dale Smith of Mekoryuk relayed  
9 that the community is having travel -- is having to  
10 travel further and further and are catching fewer  
11 halibut. Council Member David Bill, Sr. of Toksook  
12 Bay, who has been a halibut fisherman since 1978, also  
13 relayed his experience of the dramatic declines in the  
14 halibut in the last four years in the Etolin Strait,  
15 and has to move to another area to find fish. In areas  
16 where he used to fish in deep water, there are no  
17 longer halibut, and he has to move to shallower channel  
18 waters to find any halibut. Overall communities are  
19 greatly concerned about the bottom trawl fisheries in  
20 the Kuskokwim Bay as well, and the community of Kipnuk  
21 has observed dead halibut floating that were discarded  
22 as bycatch.

23

24                   We appreciate the ongoing efforts to  
25 limit bycatch in the Bering Sea pollock fisheries, but  
26 urge the North Pacific Management Council to recognize  
27 the importance of halibut to our subsistence  
28 communities and take further action to significantly  
29 reduce halibut bycatch. The Council requests a report  
30 back from the North Pacific Fisheries on this issue,  
31 and we invite you to provide this update at our fall  
32 meeting to be held in Bethel on October 12-13, 2016.

33

34                   Thank you for the opportunity to  
35 dialogue with the North Pacific Fisheries Management  
36 Council. We look forward to continuing discussion  
37 about the issues and concerns of subsistence users on  
38 the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta region. If you have  
39 questions about this letter, please contact me via Eva  
40 Patton, Subsistence Council coordinator with the Office  
41 of Subsistence Management at the phone number.

42

43                   And that's a letter that was drafted by  
44 our Council.

45

46                   MR. SMITH: Mr. Chair.

47

48                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes.

49

50                   MR. SMITH: Mr. Chair. Here.

1                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: Dale.  
2  
3                   MR. SMITH: So is Mr. Hall going to be  
4 here to give an update, or a representative.  
5  
6                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: Well, I really don't  
7 know.  
8  
9                   MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council.  
10 The North Pacific Fisheries Management Council was  
11 invited to this meeting. They've acknowledged the  
12 letter from the Council and the interest of the  
13 Council. They are actually holding their North Pacific  
14 Fisheries Management Council meeting at this same time,  
15 and so they were not able to travel to be here, and  
16 were participating in their meetings at the same time,  
17 so weren't able to call in by teleconference.  
18  
19                   They did relay that they will work on  
20 responding with a written update for the Council, and  
21 then would be happy to be able to present at the winter  
22 meeting of this Council. So they are working on a  
23 written update to address some of the halibut bycatch  
24 issues, but unfortunately weren't able to here or  
25 participate, because of the overlap with their meeting.  
26  
27                   If the Council would like to elaborate  
28 on this letter, there was a lot of feedback from  
29 numerous Council members here, and also requests to  
30 relay input from elders and other community members.  
31 If the Council wants to make a motion to draft a letter  
32 to the North Pacific Fisheries Management Council to  
33 add more detail on your observations, we can then also  
34 go back and work through you with people in your  
35 community, if they want to add some of their  
36 observations or concerns of what they're seeing as  
37 well.  
38  
39                   Thank you.  
40  
41                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Aloysius.  
42  
43                   MR. ALOYSIUS: Thank you. Initially my  
44 understanding of the concern that Mr. Bill had was for  
45 our salmon in the Kuskokwim Bay, and I didn't hear  
46 anything in that letter stipulating that that was a  
47 concern.  
48  
49                   Thank you.  
50



1                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Mr.  
2 Aloysius.  
3  
4                   Eva's taking those notes, and if the  
5 Council feels that we need to write another letter with  
6 the concerns that have been expressed this morning,  
7 then we need a motion to that effect. Does anybody --  
8 Mr. Smith.  
9  
10                  MR. SMITH: Mr. Chair. I'll make a  
11 motion to add in a concern about the salmon in this  
12 letter here. I don't know if there's any other  
13 additions to this letter.  
14  
15                  CHAIRMAN WILDE: And the information  
16 that Mr. Bill gave us concerning those trawlers that  
17 are outside of Toksook Bay. I still need a motion on  
18 the floor.  
19  
20                  MR. SMITH: Mr. Chair. I make a motion  
21 to that effect.  
22  
23                  CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Bill's made a --  
24 sorry. Mr. Smith has made a motion to write a letter  
25 to the North Pacific Management Council with the  
26 concerns that were expressed by Mr. Bill and Mr. Smith  
27 and the rest of the Council members. Is there a  
28 second.  
29  
30                  MR. ALOYSIUS: Second.  
31  
32                  CHAIRMAN WILDE: Seconded by Mr.  
33 Aloysius. Any further discussion.  
34  
35                  (No comments)  
36  
37                  MR. ALOYSIUS: Question  
38  
39                  CHAIRMAN WILDE: Question's called for.  
40 All in favor say aye.  
41  
42                  IN UNISON: Aye.  
43  
44                  CHAIRMAN WILDE: All opposed same sign.  
45  
46                  (No opposing votes)  
47  
48                  CHAIRMAN WILDE: Motion's carried.  
49 Okay. We'll continue on with our agenda. We are now  
50 at old business.

1 First, before we get into old business,  
2 is there any other comments on non-agenda items by any  
3 of the members in the audience there.

4  
5 (No comments)

6  
7 CHAIRMAN WILDE: There being none,  
8 we'll continue on with our agenda under old business.

9  
10 MR. SMITH: Mr. Chair. Before we move  
11 on, non-agenda item, fairly quickly.

12  
13 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes.

14  
15 MR. SMITH: This past summer -- it's  
16 regarding subsistence, the overall issue affects  
17 subsistence around Nunivak and Etolin Strait. This  
18 past June there was an oil tanker, it was in the news,  
19 that it ran aground on one of the reefs around Nunivak  
20 Island. Currently there is no Coast Guard station, no  
21 oil spill response equipment around Nunivak Island.  
22 The nearest oil spill response equipment is in Naknek.  
23 It's toward the Bristol Bay area.

24  
25 So the concerns from the tribal members  
26 in our community is that if an oil tanker does run  
27 aground on a reef, and it starts leaking oil, it's  
28 going to affect the fish and the birds that we rely on.

29  
30 I know that at -- I attended the  
31 meeting last year regarding transportation, and the  
32 Coast Guard was there to give a presentation. And I  
33 did ask them what is their -- where is their nearest  
34 oil spill response equipment, and they mentioned  
35 Naknek. And I did inform them that we've seen a higher  
36 -- or an increased volume of these major oil tankers  
37 going around Nunivak Island every summer for the past  
38 three or four years. And what we've seen is that these  
39 smaller fuel barges go up to the tanker out in the sea.  
40 We could actually see them below the village. They  
41 take on their oil from that huge tanker, then they go  
42 back to the mainland to deliver their fuel.

43  
44 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah, that's done by  
45 Crowley.

46  
47 MR. SMITH: Yeah. So the concern that  
48 the -- the tribal members are concerned that in the  
49 event that there's a major oil spill, we're basically  
50 unprepared, or at least either the industry or the

1 Coast Guard or whomever. But the bottom line is that  
2 it will affect our -- the fish and the birds that we  
3 rely on. And I'd like to at least either get this in a  
4 motion format or a written request from this body  
5 whether it be to the Coast Guard or to whomever,  
6 whichever organization is to look at the preparedness  
7 of the area, because right now we're not prepared. So  
8 I'd just like to bring that up.

9

10 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Dale,  
11 because this also happens in the Hooper Bay area. They  
12 have a big tanker over there and the smaller tankers go  
13 over there and load up, and that's Crowley. Crowley  
14 does that all the time.

15

16 So if there is a possibility of writing  
17 to whoever we can to see if we can get those areas. I  
18 don't know what we can do to get that stopped, but it's  
19 a concern to a lot of people, not just to Mekoryuk, but  
20 for people on the coastal area. Hooper, Scammon,  
21 Chevak have a lot of concern about those oil tankers  
22 transferring their fuel to another smaller barge for  
23 delivery.

24

25 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council.  
26 One opportunity to convey that concern and to explore  
27 what the options might be or where to go with it is  
28 every year the Council drafts an annual report to the  
29 Federal Subsistence Board, and those are topics of  
30 interest or concern that are not regularly addressed  
31 through our regulatory proposals. And the Board and  
32 OSM staff can help assist in finding the avenues of  
33 where to go with that concern and seek information and  
34 a response back to the Council on that. So that might  
35 be a good avenue, is submitting that concern to the  
36 Federal Subsistence Board in your annual report for  
37 seeking a solution to that issue.

38

39 CHAIRMAN WILDE: That would be a good  
40 subject for our annual report if it's all in agreement  
41 with the rest of the Council.

42

43 Yes, Mr. Aloysius.

44

45 MR. ALOYSIUS: Thank you. Whatever  
46 happens in the Bering Sea not only affects the coast,  
47 it affects the Yukon and the Kuskokwim River and the  
48 basins. So really I think it's very appropriate that  
49 we request some kind of a answer from the Department of  
50 Transportation.

1                   The Coast Guard is only one agency.  
2 What is Crowley doing in case of an oil spill. Do they  
3 have material that they can put around their tanker to  
4 make sure that that oil doesn't get beyond wherever.  
5 But most of the time, if it's heavy oil, it's going  
6 sink. And whatever happens down in the Bering Sea  
7 affects all the fish that the fish on -- I mean the  
8 salmon feed on. And whatever the salmon feeds on, they  
9 feed on something else until it's down to the floor of  
10 the Bering Sea. So the food chain is affected all the  
11 way down to the bottom. And whenever that happens,  
12 it's going to affect the rivers as high as the areas  
13 where the fish spawn. So, you know, I don't think it's  
14 appropriate for us to take it lightly. We have to take  
15 it into consideration that whatever happens down there  
16 is going to affect all of us all the way up to the  
17 headwaters.

18  
19                   Thank you.

20  
21                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Mr.  
22 Aloysius.

23  
24                   Mr. Smith.

25  
26                   MR. SMITH: Thank you, Mr. Chair. And  
27 that's a very -- it's down to the point. Mr. Aloysius  
28 brought it down to the point. So just looking at the  
29 time frame of -- and I know that our Council  
30 coordinator will have to do a lot of research and  
31 making a lot of contacts with these organizations to  
32 try and figure out possibly a solution, but just  
33 looking at the time line, I'm already looking at next  
34 season, because they will continue to come around up  
35 until we as a body or the Subsistence Board or whoever,  
36 I'm not even sure which body, makes it mandatory to  
37 either have spill response equipment there on Nunivak  
38 Island, Nelson Island, or between the mouth of Yukon  
39 and Kuskokwim, but there needs to be spill response  
40 equipment to be readily available when it happens,  
41 because it will happen.

42  
43                   We were very fortunate that this major  
44 tanker, it was in the news, you guys could read -- I  
45 think it was in ADN that account. They reported  
46 running aground on the reef, and to everybody's relief,  
47 there was nothing spilt, so the Coast Guard did respond  
48 from Kodiak. They did a fly-over, and there was no oil  
49 spill.

50

1                   So I think that this is a very  
2 important and sensitive issue that we need to try and  
3 get this going as soon as possible.

4  
5                   Thank you.

6  
7                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: One thing, that  
8 Crowley doesn't handle rough -- the unprocessed, but  
9 it's all processed light oil, like oil and gasoline is  
10 what they transfer out of those big tankers they bring  
11 up from wherever they bring them up from.

12  
13                  Any other comments. Mr. Peters.

14  
15                  MR. PETERS: My name is Mike Peters  
16 from Marshall.

17  
18                  I think that's a great concern, because  
19 now I live on the Yukon. A lot of times these boats,  
20 fuel barges come up and they don't have no -- if  
21 there's a big major oil spill, and not just coming from  
22 the coast, Kuskokwim, or the mouth of the Yukon. I  
23 think it's a great concern, and I think these people  
24 that have that highest amount or on emergency order,  
25 you know, to respond really fast. I think we should  
26 take that into some consideration.

27  
28                  Thank you.

29  
30                  MR. BILL: (In Yup'ik)

31  
32                  CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Bill, we can hear  
33 your discussion. If you want to say something, would  
34 you please address the whole Council.

35  
36                  MR. BILL: Yeah, Mr. Chair.

37  
38                  CHAIRMAN WILDE: Go ahead.

39  
40                  MR. BILL: (In Yup'ik)

41  
42                  INTERPRETER: In Mekoryuk area, when  
43 the current is in a certain way, the current is always  
44 not the same. Sometimes on the southside it goes in  
45 some days. I have seen -- I know all this stuff,  
46 because I've been fishing for halibut, and then it goes  
47 into Ahgularuk (ph), and then it goes out where they  
48 call those Ahput, and it goes out. And then it turns  
49 and then goes out the other way.

50

1                   If that current affects the oil spill  
2 and we use the current, we've got to know the current,  
3 because it goes on the curve like. When the currents  
4 come in, it's not us that makes the currents, it's the  
5 person that takes care of the earth that does that.  
6 When the currents come in, currents, it affects  
7 everything, even the river system, the tributaries.  
8 The current controls everything. We really need to  
9 look at the current, too. And it's not just the wind,  
10 it's the current.

11  
12                   And I wanted to point that out to make  
13 the Council aware of that, because we have never done  
14 any study of the actual current, because when the  
15 current comes down from the southside, there's three  
16 currents. We need to look at those. And so when  
17 anything happens at Mekoryuk, it affects everything in  
18 the inland. And everything that comes out of the  
19 Yukon, it's going to affect Nunivak Island, and then  
20 whatever affects Nunivak Island affects Nelson Island.

21  
22                   When we talk about what has been, we  
23 tend to forget what our elders have passed down to us.  
24 The elders, what they have told us. They might not  
25 sound good to us right there, but then later on they  
26 will -- it will make sense. One person from the Yukon  
27 said he used a bad, bad thing, but then because he know  
28 it was a bad thing, he didn't bring it back to Yukon.  
29 That's what the Yukon person told me.

30  
31                   Thank you.

32  
33                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Mr. Bill.  
34 And that's true. Right outside of Hooper Bay is where  
35 the current splits. We have a split right outside  
36 between Hooper and Scammon Bay. Once on the same day  
37 the tide goes one way and the tide goes the other way.  
38 So that's why it splits right outside of -- between  
39 Hooper and Scammon Bay.

40  
41                   Go ahead, Mr. Aloysius.

42  
43                   MR. ALOYSIUS: Yes, sir. Whoever is  
44 snoring on the teleconference, please mute your phone.

45  
46                   REPORTER: Star-six.

47  
48                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Robert. I  
49 was just about ready to say that after we're done. But  
50 thank you.

1 Any other -- anything else.  
2  
3 MS. PATTON: For folks on  
4 teleconference, you can hit star-six on your phone and  
5 that will mute. And then if you would like to speak,  
6 you can just hit star-six again. That helps keep all  
7 the background noise down.  
8  
9 Thank you.  
10  
11 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Eva.  
12  
13 MR. SMITH: Mr. Chair.  
14  
15 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes.  
16  
17 MR. SMITH: So just to clarify, we're  
18 going to have the Council coordinator do all the leg  
19 work to try and seek information and get resolution.  
20  
21 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes, we are asking Ms.  
22 Patton to see if she can do all that.  
23  
24 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council.  
25 Yes, and we'll come back around to visiting the annual  
26 report to the Board, so we have this as a point of  
27 topic. And then I can also look into if it's the Coast  
28 Guard or, you know, if it's someone from DOT who might  
29 be able to address the Council at the next Council  
30 meeting for, you know, some questions and feedback. So  
31 I'll be looking into that as well.  
32  
33 Thank you.  
34  
35 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you. Anything  
36 else from the Council before we continue on with our  
37 agenda.  
38  
39 Yes, Mr. Peters.  
40  
41 MR. PETERS: Mr. Chairman. You know,  
42 it's really good. What I would like to see on feedback  
43 if supposedly we have an emergency motion or some kind  
44 of motion to this, because it's a great concern, and,  
45 you know, not try to wait, to act on it now, and try to  
46 get it moving forward as soon as possible, because  
47 you're looking at a time limit. And to my  
48 understanding, a lot of these communities don't have  
49 response stuff if there's big major oil spill.  
50

1 Thank you.

2

3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you.

4

5 Any other discussion.

6

7 (No comments)

8

9 CHAIRMAN WILDE: There being none, we

10 will continue with our agenda. We are down to old

11 business, try it one more time. Item A, draft non-

12 rural determination policy. And who has that subject.

13

14 MR. LIND: Quyana. Thank you. Mr.

15 Chairman. Council members. It's a pleasure to be

16 here. My name is Orville Lind. I'm the Native liaison

17 for the Office of Subsistence Management. And I'm here

18 to give you an update on the draft non-rural policy.

19

20 If you would turn to Page 11 of your

21 meeting book, and I'm going to -- I'll say this. If

22 you haven't reviewed this policy yet, we're here until

23 tomorrow. We're at a time now, and I'm just going to

24 go ahead and go to what I've got.

25

26 We are almost to the finish line for

27 this draft non-rural policy. In November of 2015 the

28 final rule changing the rural determination process was

29 published. The Board determines which areas or

30 communities in Alaska are non-rural. All other

31 communities and areas are therefore rural.

32

33 In January of 2016 the Board directed

34 Staff to create a non-rural policy that outlines the

35 administrative process for future non-rural

36 determinations. This July, this last July, 2016, the

37 Board approved a draft non-rural policy, which is

38 before you, to be presented to the Regional Advisory

39 Councils for feedback. And that's the time we are at

40 now.

41

42 Today we're presenting the draft non-

43 rural policy to you, and we want to focus on the

44 process section, process time line, and when you review

45 this, if you haven't already, we would like to hear,

46 you know, does this policy before you make sense. And

47 we want to hear your feedback on that. And, you know,

48 if there's holes in the process, we need to address it.

49

50 And we look forward, of course, for



1 your comments. All your comments and questions will be  
2 reviewed and considered for the final version of the  
3 policy.

4

5 Thank you for your time on an important  
6 issue. And the Board will decide whether or not to  
7 adopt the non-rural policy at this January 2017 Board  
8 meeting.

9

10 Thank you, Mr. Chair. Council members.

11

12 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any questions for Mr.  
13 Lind.

14

15 (No comments)

16

17 CHAIRMAN WILDE: There being none,  
18 thank you, Mr. Lind.

19

20 MR. LIND: Thank you, sir. And again  
21 we'll be here until tomorrow.

22

23 Quayana.

24

25 MS. PATTON: And, Mr. Chair and  
26 Council, this is an action item from the Council to  
27 have your feedback whether you feel this policy  
28 addresses the concerns, or if there are any further  
29 recommendations that you would like to go to the Board.  
30 The Council could take action on that at this time, or,  
31 if you want time to take a look at the details in the  
32 policy, and come back again with any questions  
33 tomorrow, there's an opportunity to do that as well.

34

35 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah, that might be a  
36 good idea for the rest of the Council to go over this  
37 determination policy today, tonight, and then we come  
38 back tomorrow and discuss it, if it's all right with  
39 the rest of the Council. Mr. Aloysius.

40

41 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman. Thank  
42 you. That was something I was thinking, because I've  
43 never seen this before. So, you know, I can't say yeah  
44 or nay about it until I would have to review it. And I  
45 thank you for the opportunity to review you.

46

47 Thank you.

48

49 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah. One thing that  
50 I failed to mention, I don't know how many of you, of

1 us got our Council books late, but I got mine earlier  
2 this year, this month, so if you need to have your -- I  
3 know we should have our Council booklet prior to this  
4 meeting because of the minutes and other things that we  
5 need to look at before we discuss. So the sooner we  
6 get these books to the Council members, the sooner we'd  
7 appreciate it and be able to take care of most of our  
8 business that we have problems with every meeting,  
9 because we did not get the books in time.

10

11 Yes, Mr. Aloysius.

12

13 MR. ALOYSIUS: Thank you. Forget about  
14 FedEx or UPS. They're slower than a dog team from  
15 Anchorage to Nome. If you want your packet, put it in  
16 the United States Postal Service with priority mail or  
17 second-day delivery. That way you know you'll get it  
18 in time.

19

20 Thank you.

21

22 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you for your  
23 suggestions, Robert, that's absolutely correct.

24

25 Any other discussion.

26

27 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council.  
28 Just to follow up, so we did mail out the meeting books  
29 a month in advance, and with Bob's recommendation, by  
30 priority mail. But if any of you didn't receive them  
31 three weeks in advance, that's when they should have  
32 arrived, let me know. It will give us a better sense  
33 of which communities maybe would take longer than, you  
34 know, a week or two to arrive. But that's our -- you  
35 know, we strive to mail them out a month in advance so  
36 that you'll have them two to three weeks prior to the  
37 meeting, have time to review.

38

39 Thank you.

40

41 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah. Eva, just for  
42 your information, I've had my book for a month, and  
43 thank you.

44

45 Mr. Aloysius.

46

47 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mine is posted 9/19/2016  
48 in Anchorage, and I don't know, it must have got  
49 waylaid somewhere, because I got it the day before I  
50 came down here.

1 Thank you.

2

3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. We are down to  
4 Federal Subsistence Board .805(c), consensus action  
5 report.

6

7 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council. So  
8 this past year the Council made recommendations to the  
9 Federal Subsistence Board on Federal wildlife  
10 subsistence regulations. On Page 29 you'll find a  
11 response from the Board. It's a report back to the  
12 Council on the proposals that the Board both adopted on  
13 the recommendation of the Council or may have made  
14 modifications to.

15

16 So part of ANILCA is that the Board  
17 responds to the Council and takes the recommendations  
18 of the Council in its consideration for decision-  
19 making. And the .805(c) report lines out which  
20 proposals that the Board adopted according the  
21 Council's recommendations, and then which ones, if they  
22 didn't adopt it, or with modification. And as you'll  
23 see, the Board adopted all of the Y-K Delta Council  
24 recommendations for each of the wildlife proposals that  
25 the Council weighed in on it.

26

27 And one was considered a non-consensus  
28 agenda. Multiple Councils were making recommendations  
29 on it. Some had recommendations to support and some  
30 had recommendations to support with modification. And  
31 so the Board spells out those proposals that they may  
32 have modified or not taken directly as the Council had  
33 wished, or that there were multiple Councils with some  
34 differing opinions. And you'll find that letter on  
35 Page 29.

36

37 And again the Board adopted all of the  
38 Council's proposals as recommended, and actually made  
39 one modification, which was addressing it as this  
40 Council had recommended, but some others had made some  
41 modifications. So in total, the Board supported all of  
42 the Council's recommendations, and one with  
43 modification.

44

45 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you. And one  
46 more thing I'd like to note concerning the Subsistence  
47 Board. We have two new members on there that are  
48 Native, which makes a lot of our proposals go through  
49 the Board a lot faster, and a lot more -- with a lot  
50 more meat in them, because they understand where we

1 come from, and they live our style, but they're from up  
2 north. But they're Native as we are. So that makes it  
3 a lot easier for our proposals to passed through the  
4 Board.

5  
6 MR. ALOYSIUS: Who are they?

7  
8 CHAIRMAN WILDE: I can't remember who  
9 they are, but one is from -- do you remember who they  
10 are?

11  
12 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council.  
13 The public members of the Federal Subsistence Board are  
14 Anthony Christianson from Hydaburg, and Charlie Brower  
15 from Brower -- I mean from Barrow. It's Browerville in  
16 Barrow.

17  
18 And then just recently you may have  
19 heard Chairman Tim Towarak from Unalakleet has recently  
20 retired from the Federal Subsistence Board. There is a  
21 call out which just closed recently for applications of  
22 interest or nominations to serve on the Federal  
23 Subsistence Board as the Chair. And Anthony  
24 Christianson was just appointed as the interim Chair,  
25 so he'll be filling in in that capacity until the  
26 Secretary of the Interior appoints a new Chairman.

27  
28 Thank you.

29  
30 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. Thank you. Any  
31 questions.

32  
33 (No comments)

34  
35 CHAIRMAN WILDE: There being none,  
36 well, let's take a 10-minute break before we get into  
37 our proposals.

38  
39 MR. ALOYSIUS: It will be lunchtime.

40  
41 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. Then let's  
42 break for lunch. Break for lunch and because proposals  
43 are going to take a little bit longer time. More than  
44 15 minutes, so if we take.....

45  
46 MR. ALOYSIUS: (Indiscernible -  
47 microphone not on)

48  
49 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Be back at 1:30 is  
50 fine. Be back at 1:30. We'll leave 15 minutes early,

1 and be back at 1:30.

2

3 (Off record)

4

5 (On record)

6

7 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Let's call the meeting  
8 back to order. Next on the agenda were the Kuskokwim  
9 area proposals, but the people who are going to make  
10 those presentations are at the Western Interior meeting  
11 and won't be here until later, so we're going to go and  
12 skip those down and go ahead and go on down into our  
13 Yukon-Northern Area proposals, starting with FP17-01.

14

15 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council.  
16 Just to let you know, we had a couple handouts over  
17 lunch. Gerald Maschmann will be presenting jointly  
18 with the State. We have State in-season managers on  
19 teleconference. And you have a packet, 2016 Yukon  
20 River salmon season overview. So that was just handed  
21 out. And we're going to have an overview of the in-  
22 season management before we go into discussion of the  
23 specific proposals.

24

25 Thank you.

26

27 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. Mr. Maschmann,  
28 you have the floor.

29

30 MR. MASCHMANN: Thank you. Chairman  
31 Wilde and Councilmen. My name is Gerald Maschmann.  
32 I'm with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the  
33 Fairbanks office, and I'm the assistant Federal manager  
34 on the Yukon River. Fred Bue, the Federal manager, he  
35 couldn't make it today. He's at the Western Interior  
36 RAC in McGrath. So I'm in his place.

37

38 I'm going to give the Yukon River  
39 season overview. And one of the handouts you got is  
40 the Federal summary, and I'm not going to read the  
41 whole thing. I'm going to just go through the summary  
42 portion and highlight some of the items I think that  
43 this Council might be interested in.

44

45 You should have also got -- the Alaska  
46 Department of Fish and Game has also put together a  
47 summer season summary on the Chinook and summer chum  
48 portion of the run, and that's there for your  
49 information, too.

50

1                   Holly Carroll, the ADF&G summer season  
2 manager is on the teleconference, and she'll be  
3 available for questions. Jeff Estensen, the fall  
4 season manager, he couldn't be here after lunch, so any  
5 fall season questions I'll have to just field on my own  
6 or get back to you on that. So I will begin.

7  
8                   This overview provides a preliminary  
9 report to the 2016 Yukon River fall Regional Advisory  
10 Council meetings. Although well below the historical  
11 average, the 2016 Yukon River Chinook salmon run came  
12 in near the upper end of the pre-season expectations  
13 and above the recent five-year average. Both summer  
14 and fall chum salmon returns performed well above  
15 expectations with above average runs. And the coho  
16 salmon run was above average based on the Pilot Station  
17 sonar index.

18  
19                   Management of the 2016 summer salmon  
20 season was challenged with the typical wide disparity  
21 in run strength between overlapping Chinook and summer  
22 chum salmon mixed stock fisheries. Due to anticipated  
23 below average Chinook salmon outlook and uncertainty in  
24 assessment, efforts to conserve Chinook salmon were  
25 initiated at the season in the lower river and  
26 implemented chronologically in upriver districts as the  
27 run progressed.

28  
29                   Conservation strategies and actions  
30 were applied through most of the summer season in all  
31 areas of the drainage. During the first half of the  
32 summer season, all fishing for Chinook salmon was  
33 closed in most districts, and fishing gear restrictions  
34 were used to direct harvest towards other species.  
35 Sportfishing and personal use fishing were closed, and  
36 commercial fishing opportunity for summer chum salmon  
37 was initially restricted to dipnets and beach seines,  
38 which, as you know, are both less efficient gear types.

39  
40                   Furthermore, conservative management  
41 actions also limited subsistence access to the abundant  
42 summer chum salmon; however, more selective fishing  
43 opportunities were offered this year than in previous  
44 years. In the Lower and Middle Yukon sections, dipnets  
45 and beach seines were allowed for the harvest of summer  
46 chum salmon while releasing Chinook salmon back into  
47 the river unharmed. In District 4, subsistence  
48 fishermen were provided the option to use manned  
49 fishwheels requiring the live release of Chinook  
50 salmon, in addition to the dipnets and beach seines.

1                   However, fishermen in the middle river  
2 reported less success targeting summer chum. Many  
3 lower river fishermen took advantage of the gear  
4 opportunities and were successful in meeting their  
5 summer chum salmon needs. This option was also  
6 provided in Subdistricts 5A, 5B and 5C; however,  
7 subsistence fishermen may not have taken advantage of  
8 these gear type opportunities as few fishermen in the  
9 area utilize summer chum as the abundance is low and  
10 the quality tends to be low. Fishermen in Subdistrict  
11 5D were not offered the option to use the selective  
12 gear types as few fishermen in the upper sections  
13 harvest summer chum due to the low abundance and poor  
14 flesh quality of the summer chum salmon.

15  
16                   However, in Subdistricts 5D -- however,  
17 5D was open to subsistence fishing with six-inch or  
18 smaller mesh gillnet gear on the early portion of the  
19 Chinook salmon run prior to the arrival of the first  
20 pulse. This specific action for Subdistrict 5D had  
21 wide public support prior to the season to allow for  
22 some subsistence harvest of Chinook salmon, because o  
23 the low availability to harvest alternative species.  
24 Some fishermen opted to wait for fall chum salmon run  
25 when the flesh quality was better.

26  
27                   Verbal reports and anecdotal  
28 information indicate many fishermen voluntarily avoided  
29 Chinook salmon in their subsistence fishing activity  
30 for the 2016 season.

31  
32                   After the first quarter point of the  
33 run, assessment information was indicating a Chinook  
34 salmon run that was better than expected. Managers  
35 began to methodically relax subsistence salmon fishing  
36 restrictions starting in the Lower Yukon River to allow  
37 for some harvest of Chinook salmon with opportunities  
38 increasing as confidence and run assessment improved.

39  
40                   All Chinook salmon escapements are  
41 believed to have been met or surpassed established  
42 goals. However, there was high water hindered counts  
43 on the Salcha and Chena towers, and aerial surveys were  
44 not flown due to poor weather conditions. Likewise,  
45 summer chum salmon run size came in above average and  
46 all escapement goals were met with the exception of the  
47 Anvik River, with an estimated passage just falling  
48 short of the escapement goal.

49  
50                   Fall season salmon stocks provided

1 liberal opportunities for subsistence harvest, and near  
2 record commercial harvest. Fall chum salmon are  
3 expected to meet or exceed most escapement objectives,  
4 and coho salmon escapement is suspected to be  
5 sufficient. And upriver fall season is still under  
6 way. There's still fish entering terminal streams  
7 upriver, so we're not quite down with the fall season  
8 yet.

9

10 So that's basically an overview, and  
11 there's maybe a few things that I wanted to highlight,  
12 because I know the Council members are probably  
13 interested.

14

15 At the beginning of the season, the  
16 Chinook salmon outlook was for a range of 131,000 to  
17 176,000 Chinook. If the fish were to come in below --  
18 at the low end of that, that would mean there would not  
19 really be enough fish for much subsistence, but we are  
20 also looking at that if the run came in at the high  
21 end, at 176,000, then we could actually ease some of  
22 the restrictions on Chinook and allow for some  
23 opportunity.

24

25 At the same time the summer chum run  
26 was expected to be 1.3 million to 1.8 million, which  
27 would allow for a normal subsistence harvest and  
28 commercial opportunities.

29

30 Prior to the season, as in past years,  
31 we had a lot of meetings with State AC groups, the RAC  
32 groups, YRDFA had a meeting. And, you know, prior to  
33 the season there was a stakeholder meeting in  
34 Anchorage. And some of the key conservation approaches  
35 that fishermen at these meetings agreed to were, you  
36 know, that gillnet fishing would be restricted to six-  
37 inch or smaller mesh prior to the entry of Chinook into  
38 the river. Fishing for Chinook salmon would be closed  
39 prior to the entry into each district, except  
40 Subdistrict 5 where a little bit of fishing would be  
41 allowed on the early portion of Chinook. Subsistence  
42 fishing for non-salmon species would be allowed  
43 utilizing four-inch mesh. And when summer chum salmon  
44 became abundant, subsistence and commercial fishing for  
45 summer chum salmon would be allowed utilizing the  
46 selective gear such as dipnets, beach seines, and  
47 manned fishwheels.

48

49 And we also wanted to be clear with  
50 fishermen that if confidence was high that the Chinook



1 salmon escapement goals would be met, we would allow  
2 the subsistence harvest of some Chinook salmon  
3 utilizing six-inch gear, and possibly even using 7.5-  
4 inch gear if the run looked good.

5  
6 So at the beginning of the season we  
7 had real early ice-out, like 20 days early, and so we  
8 were expecting a little bit of an early run. That's  
9 what we were anticipating. And that actually didn't  
10 come in quite as early as we thought it would, but it  
11 did come in early.

12  
13 Towards the end of the season, the  
14 preliminary end of season Pilot Station sonar estimates  
15 was approximately 175,500 fish, so that the run did  
16 come in at the high end of our expectations.

17  
18 So some of the subsistence -- kind of  
19 what we did with subsistence fishing in the Lower Yukon  
20 was, you know, beginning along the coastal district on  
21 May 29th gear was restricted to six-inch or less mesh  
22 size in the southern portion of the coastal district,  
23 which is the Scammon Bay, Hooper Bay, Chevak area.  
24 However, salmon fishing remained closed in the northern  
25 portion of the coastal district. Subsistence salmon  
26 fishing was then closed and re-opened to dipnets and  
27 beach seines only in Districts 1, 2, and 3 on May 30th,  
28 June 1st, and June 4th respectively. And when  
29 assessment information indicated Chinook salmon were  
30 entering the river, when managers were confident that  
31 Chinook salmon abundance was better than expected,  
32 which was near the midpoint of the run, subsistence  
33 fishing targeting summer chum was relaxed to six-inch  
34 or less mesh gillnet gear. And that meant some of the  
35 Chinook salmon that would be caught in six-inch mesh  
36 was allowed to be taken home for subsistence harvest.

37  
38 Towards the -- near the beginning of  
39 the fall season, gillnet gear restrictions were lifted  
40 at the end of the summer season and beginning of the  
41 fall season, and we actually did allow for a short  
42 seven-and-a-half-inch mesh or less gillnet opening in  
43 Districts 2 and 3 to provide brief opportunities to  
44 target Chinook salmon. And essentially those similar  
45 types of openings were held chronologically in upriver  
46 districts as the run progressed upstream.

47  
48 Commercial fishing. Again commercial  
49 dipnet and beach seine gear was employed during the  
50 first half of the summer season when Chinook salmon

1 could not have been avoided with traditional gillnet  
2 gear. Between the mid point and the three-quarter  
3 point of the summer season, commercial fishing periods  
4 were opened utilizing five-and-a-half-inch mesh in  
5 District 1, and six-inch gillnet gear in District 2, to  
6 provide harvest opportunity on the remaining summer  
7 chum salmon. And with that gear, any incidental  
8 Chinook salmon caught were allowed to be taken home for  
9 subsistence.

10  
11 As managers became more confident that  
12 the Chinook salmon run was coming in even better than  
13 expected, that's basically at the three -- after three  
14 pulses had already moved out of the area, after most of  
15 the Chinook salmon cleared District 1, six-inch  
16 gillnets were allowed to target summer chum salmon in  
17 District 1. Further upriver in District 6, nine  
18 commercial fishing periods were opened to target summer  
19 chum salmon.

20  
21 Again all Chinook salmon caught in  
22 commercial dipnets and beach seines had to be released.  
23 Those Chinook caught later in gillnets could not be  
24 sold, but were allowed to be kept for subsistence use.

25  
26 The preliminary commercial harvest for  
27 the summer season fishery were approximately 525,000  
28 summer chum salmon. 8,255 Chinook salmon were caught  
29 and released. 5,600 Chinook salmon were caught and not  
30 sold, and taken home for subsistence purposes. And  
31 overall the 2016 summer chum salmon commercial harvest  
32 was the highest on record since 1989.

33  
34 And due to conservation efforts and the  
35 return of the run near the top end of the pre-season  
36 projection, the estimated Eagle sonar passage of 72,300  
37 Chinook salmon was above the interim management  
38 escapement goal range of 42,500 to 55,000. And even  
39 with the additional surplus for Canadian harvest share  
40 stipulated by the Yukon salmon agreement.

41  
42 Next I'd like to just touch on the fall  
43 season. So as I said earlier, the fall season stocks  
44 provided liberal opportunities for subsistence harvest  
45 and near record commercial harvest. And the coho  
46 escapement was expected to be sufficient.

47  
48 So at the beginning of the fall season  
49 in Districts 1, 2, and 3 subsistence fishing was  
50 reverted to its standard fishing gear and schedule of

1 seven days per week, with closures 12 hours before,  
2 during, and 12 hours after announced commercial fishing  
3 periods. Since little or no commercial fishing effort  
4 was anticipated in District 4 for the fall season, and  
5 Subdistricts 5A, B and C, these sections of river began  
6 their fall season on a five-day per week schedule as  
7 specified in regulation, and were later relaxed to  
8 seven days per week in an effort to compensate  
9 fishermen for lost opportunity during the summer  
10 season. District 6 continued on its standard two 42-  
11 hour periods per week regulatory schedule. And  
12 Subdistrict 5D continued their normal seven days per  
13 week schedule.

14  
15 Many subsistence fishermen indicated to  
16 managers at the beginning of the season that they  
17 intended to make up for their low Chinook salmon  
18 harvest with good qualify fall chum salmon from the  
19 front of the run. So managers took a standard approach  
20 to scheduling commercial periods for the fall season to  
21 ensure that fish passed upriver for subsistence  
22 fishermen who are looking to harvest that early fall  
23 chum salmon to make up for the lack of Chinook salmon.  
24 However, due to the better than expected fall chum  
25 salmon run, additional periods were scheduled with  
26 attempts to make align -- attempts were made to align  
27 commercial openings with pulses as each one passed  
28 through the district.

29  
30 Meanwhile, slightly later overlapping  
31 coho salmon run appeared to be coming in better than  
32 expected based on the Lower Yukon test fishery and  
33 harvest reports. The estimated passage of 132,000 coho  
34 salmon by the Pilot Station sonar was below average,  
35 but when taking into account the strong commercial  
36 harvest below the sonar, the total coho salmon run was  
37 assessed to be well above average.

38  
39 The combined fall season commercial  
40 harvest through October 7th was approximately 450,000  
41 fall chum and 180,000 coho salmon. And both the fall  
42 chum salmon and coho salmon commercial harvest were the  
43 highest on record this year.

44  
45 Fall season escapement. The fall  
46 season escapement goals were essentially met or  
47 exceeded on the Yukon. The Chandalar River sonar  
48 project exceeded its upper end of its biological  
49 escapement goal of 152,000 fall chum, with an estimated  
50 passage of almost 300,000 fall chum. The Eagle sonar

1 ceased operations on October 6th with a preliminary  
2 total passage of 144,000 fall chum. This is adequate  
3 to provide for a Canadian harvest goal of 70,000 -- or,  
4 I'm sorry, a Canadian escapement goal of 70,000 to  
5 104,000, with typical Canadian harvest levels.  
6 However, fall chum were still coming in pretty strong  
7 at the end of the fall season when the Eagle sonar shut  
8 down. So managers have done a preliminary post-season  
9 expansion and estimate maybe 161,000 fall chum would  
10 have passed the Eagle sonar if they had kept it in a  
11 little bit longer.

12  
13                   However, even though we met the  
14 Canadian escapement goal, the passage of fall chum  
15 salmon may have fell short of Canada's total allowable  
16 catch, which is their harvest share specified in the  
17 treaty agreement.

18  
19                   And just to finish up or to conclude,  
20 as expected, subsistence salmon harvest information  
21 collected in-season, that most fishermen did not meet  
22 their Chinook salmon subsistence harvest goals.  
23 Generally fishermen reported a lack of fishing  
24 opportunity, having to fish later in the season, or  
25 having to shift their fishing efforts to other species.  
26 However, fishermen did report harvesting some Chinook  
27 salmon during the limited or restricted times that  
28 harvest was allowed.

29  
30                   Post season subsistence surveys are  
31 expected to reflect a subsistence Chinook salmon  
32 harvest larger than reported in 2015, but still well  
33 below average. Based on assessment projects,  
34 particularly the Eagle sonar, the 2016 Chinook salmon  
35 total run appears to have been above the recent five-  
36 year average, and near the high end of the pre-season  
37 outlook range.

38  
39                   And like we did last year, we want to  
40 recognize the sacrifices of the Yukon River fishing  
41 community as they're heavily relied upon for assistance  
42 in conserving Chinook salmon. And to sustain this  
43 important resource, fishermen incurred a significant  
44 hardship through reduced harvest, and having to use the  
45 inefficient gear types.

46  
47                   Given the trend in Chinook salmon runs  
48 in recent years, managers will continue to work with  
49 fishermen and interested parties to develop  
50 conservation strategies with the primary goal to

1 provide for escapement needs and subsistence uses  
2 during low abundance years while looking for ways to  
3 accommodate other fishing opportunities.

4  
5 I just want to ask if Holly Carroll has  
6 anything she'd like to add to that assessment.

7  
8 MS. CARROLL: Thank you so much,  
9 Gerald, for that. I'm sorry I couldn't be there myself  
10 in person, but I think you did a great job of  
11 summarizing the season, and I'd just be happy to stand  
12 by and answer any questions that people might have.

13  
14 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Are there any  
15 questions for Fish and Game on the Yukon overview. Mr.  
16 Peters.

17  
18 MR. PETERS: My name is Mike Peters. I  
19 live at Marshall. I think there was a concern about  
20 when they first started off the season, there were some  
21 subsistence fishermen, and about these dipnet. And  
22 they kind of, you know, closed it, and there was a  
23 restriction, we can't use nets. And there was a  
24 concern, because the water was really high is what I'm  
25 saying. And, you know, which pulse to open it, but,  
26 you know, you could always answer the question, but I  
27 think the concern was the dipnets didn't work in my  
28 area because the water was so high. I want to let the  
29 Fish and Game know that then when the water got closed,  
30 the fish swim right in the middle of the Yukon River,  
31 and some of the people they did not get their  
32 subsistence needs with the dipnet, and they were kind  
33 of concerned about nets that -- that they want to go  
34 back to nets.

35  
36 And my other question is, you know,  
37 what Eagle sonar and with the numbers that came up, and  
38 with that 70,000 and what they estimate that what they  
39 caught, that pass through the border about middle part  
40 of the summer or whatever, they did get their  
41 escapement goals, and, you know, I'm just kind of  
42 wondering on the release numbers, if you were to look  
43 at the page on the percentage, it would show that  
44 subsistence and commercial and the run of the Yukon  
45 that passed, the numbers with the escapement goal all  
46 around the river, I think some places were kind of  
47 high, but looking at some of their numbers, they were  
48 about average. And, you know, that was a concern,  
49 because whatever passed through the Eagle sonar and got  
50 passed through the Pilot Station sonar, they kind of

1 estimate the escapement goal, and some people were just  
2 wondering about, you know, why it was kind of high, and  
3 that 70 percent or 70,000 fish that passed by, and they  
4 were kind of wondering of why we were restricted down  
5 to dipnets, why we can't have been using our nets for  
6 our subsistence use. And I'm not talking for myself,  
7 I'm talking for the elders in my area, because there  
8 was a concern there. And I think with this -- you  
9 know, with these numbers changing and stuff like that  
10 and, you know, we just would like to know the reason  
11 why we're being cut off in my area, but, you know, if  
12 they got their escapement goal somewhere along the  
13 line, you know, they should try to reconsider about --  
14 I think the great concern was about the dipnet, and if  
15 we could go back to fishing fish nets is what I'm  
16 trying to say. So, you know, the only reason why I'm  
17 bringing this up, the numbers, they could always change  
18 and the percentage wise. And if you were -- if people  
19 are to understand the escapement goal to Canada, I  
20 think there about about the middle part of the run,  
21 with the chum salmon and salmon, I think they got their  
22 escapement goal about the middle part of the season. I  
23 just wanted to let Fish and Game know.

24  
25 But I want to thank you guys for all  
26 your work, but, you know, there are a few questions  
27 coming from my area that need to be addressed to the  
28 management.

29  
30 Thank you.

31  
32 MR. MASCHMANN: Thank you. Yeah, Mike  
33 you mentioned the dipnet, that you thought folks in  
34 your area -- at the beginning of the season water was  
35 high and the fish were running deeper than your dipnets  
36 could reach. And, yeah, I think that's a good point.  
37 I don't recall hearing that brought up on the YRDFA  
38 teleconference. You know, most folks, they want to use  
39 nets, and we heard that in general. We didn't -- I  
40 don't think we heard that maybe water was too deep for  
41 dipnets in your area, so if that happens again next  
42 year, we'd definitely like the managers to hear that.

43  
44 This year we did, as we did last year,  
45 we started the season with dipnets, but we did get back  
46 to gillnets sooner than we did last year. And  
47 depending on what the Department's expectations are for  
48 2017, we'll be talking with you preseason about  
49 strategies on how we can make sure that people are able  
50 to get opportunity for summer chum.

1                   And, yeah, the Eagle sonar. Yeah, you  
2 mentioned the Eagle sonar may be meeting the goal  
3 midway through the season or something like that. And  
4 it's been, you know, even though our expectations were  
5 -- we met the high end of our expectations this year,  
6 we're still below average runs on Chinook, and we're  
7 not out of the woods yet. What we saw go past the  
8 Eagle sonar was due to, you know, restrictions on  
9 fishing, and we definitely appreciate that fishermen's  
10 efforts to conserve.

11  
12                   We did lose the -- Stan Zuray used to  
13 operate a fishwheel in the lower -- I think in 5B in  
14 the Rapids area. And that used to give us an  
15 indication of -- it didn't count fish, but it gave us  
16 an indication of the run strength that was entering 5D,  
17 and could give us some indication on if we can loosen  
18 up on subsistence, but Stan decided to retire from that  
19 project, so we lost the 5B fishwheel. And so we're a  
20 little bit blind in that area this year.

21  
22                   And as managers, we're not real  
23 confident yet in, you know, the Pilot Station sonar and  
24 the lower test fisheries, so Eagle sonar is at the end  
25 of the line, and so we're still conservative. We're  
26 still being conservative on our actions at this point  
27 where things are looking like they might be getting  
28 better, but again we're going to talk about that this  
29 winter and spring. And, so, yeah, it's frustration. I  
30 mean, we want to make sure that if we have surplus fish  
31 that we allow subsistence fishermen to fish those, but  
32 it's just our level of confidence in the test fisheries  
33 that we have is what makes it hard for us.

34  
35                   I don't know if I answered everything  
36 or if there was more, or if Holly wants to interject.

37  
38                   MR. PETERS: Mr. Chair. You know with  
39 these numbers and stuff like that, I know there was a  
40 little frustration coming from my area, because, you  
41 know, all of a sudden they were cut off from  
42 subsistence, and for fishing, and hearing that there  
43 was an opening upriver from us in a different section  
44 of the river, and we're kind of wondering how could  
45 they get so much openings up there while some of my  
46 people in my area are concerned about how can they  
47 close us and restrict us down to the dipnets. And I  
48 think their main concern is about having the nets come  
49 back and, you know, try to work from there with  
50 management. And I was kind of -- I think it was a real

1 concern coming from the elders and the subsistence  
2 people in my upper end of the -- where I live at  
3 Marshall. I just thought I'd bring that to your  
4 attention.  
5  
6 Thank you.  
7  
8 Thank you, Mr. Chair.  
9  
10 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Are there any further  
11 questions for.....  
12  
13 MR. ALOYSIUS: Over here.  
14  
15 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Aloysius.  
16  
17 MR. ALOYSIUS: Just a point of  
18 clarification. This is and was the Fish and Wildlife  
19 report, not the Alaska Department of Fish and Game.  
20 I'm curious how it's going to differ when the Fish and  
21 Game reports.  
22  
23 But the other thing is it's hard for me  
24 to understand why the Lower Yukon is restricted in the  
25 beginning, and after the fish pass, those guys upriver  
26 have easier access to the salmon. It doesn't make  
27 sense. Why restrict the people down there, and let the  
28 people up there have more freedom.  
29  
30 Thank you.  
31  
32 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Maschmann.  
33  
34 MS. CARROLL: Mr. Chair. This is Holly  
35 Carroll, Fish and Game summer season manager. I wanted  
36 to reply to the gentleman's comments.  
37  
38 MR. MASCHMANN: Holly, you're coming in  
39 garbled. Can you repeat that.  
40  
41 MS. CARROLL: I just wanted an  
42 opportunity to respond to Mr. Mike Peters' comments and  
43 also to Mr. Aloysius's comments if I may.  
44  
45 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes, you may.  
46  
47 MS. CARROLL: So one of things I wanted  
48 to clarify for Mr. Aloysius is that we don't really  
49 have a separate report from the Federal report. I work  
50 really closely with Gerald and Fred Bue to create the



1 season summary. We both review each other's documents,  
2 and they are essentially reporting the same thing, so  
3 I'm not giving an additional or different report. His  
4 report was a good, accurate representation of how the  
5 season went.

6

7 MR. ALOYSIUS: Thanks for the  
8 clarification. I thought you were with Fish and  
9 Wildlife.

10

11 MS. CARROLL: No, I'm with Fish and  
12 Game and Gerald is with Fish and Wildlife. And because  
13 you guys are a Federal proceeding, we do defer to our  
14 Federal co-managers for this meeting.

15

16 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. Mr. Maschmann.  
17 Okay, Robert? Mr. Aloysius.

18

19 MR. MASCHMANN: I wanted to discuss I  
20 guess the equality of the subsistence openings now.  
21 Essentially what happened in Districts 1, 2, and 3 was  
22 chronological up the river, so Districts 4 and 5A, B,  
23 and C, they were restricted to essentially dipnets,  
24 beach seines, but they also use fishwheels so we  
25 allowed the manned fishwheels to be used during the  
26 selective fishing times with Chinook having to be  
27 returned immediately to the river live from the  
28 fishwheel.

29

30 So the only districts that were a  
31 little different was 5D, and because they don't really  
32 have abundant summer chum, the few they get are of poor  
33 quality, it was agreed to pre-season at the pre-season  
34 meetings that 5D would be given a little bit of  
35 opportunity to use six-inch gear on that trickle of  
36 Chinook salmon right at the beginning, just to give  
37 them a little bit of opportunity because they don't  
38 have the opportunity for the summer chum or some of the  
39 other species.

40

41 District 6 is the Tanana District.  
42 It's essentially a terminal district, and they're  
43 managed by the Tanana Plan, so they had a little bit of  
44 -- and they're close to Fairbanks, so they had a little  
45 bit of a different schedule going on in District 6.

46

47 But as managers, we try to be as equal  
48 and as fair downriver as we could upriver with  
49 subsistence openings and closings.

50

1 MS. CARROLL: I wanted to follow up on  
2 something that Gerald said, if I may.

3  
4 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes, you may.

5  
6 MS. CARROLL: And this goes to Mr.  
7 Peters' question, or he had some comments about  
8 starting out with dipnets, and I just want to say that  
9 we understand that that is a more frustrating gear  
10 type. Obviously you can't retain kings in that gear,  
11 and it's harder to catch the chum, and we understand  
12 that. But obviously we only use that gear type in the  
13 beginning we can't allow the harvest of king salmon,  
14 because we're mandated to protect the first pulse.

15  
16 This season, I also wanted to clarify  
17 that -- you mentioned that the number at the Eagle  
18 sonar border, and while at the end of the season we now  
19 know it was 72,000, I just want to point out that when  
20 we are managing from the lower river, the count of fish  
21 that we get at Pilot, let's say on a given day we get  
22 our first 1,000 king salmon in. We won't see those  
23 same king salmon at the border for 28 days. It's an  
24 entire month later. So you had a good point that there  
25 was a point at which we met the goal at Eagle, or maybe  
26 the lower end of the goal. And that's correct, on the  
27 21st of July we had just over 40,000 Chinook at Eagle.  
28 But that was in July. And so we have to project, we  
29 have to essentially project what we think will arrive  
30 at the border based on what we're seeing at Pilot, and  
31 we did that, and in June.

32  
33 So June 22nd, almost a whole month  
34 before we met the goal at Eagle, fishermen in District  
35 3 were already using gillnets. And admittedly those  
36 gillnets were restricted to six-inch, and we were doing  
37 that thinking that people could get some kings, but  
38 they would have a better likelihood of getting those  
39 chum salmon.

40  
41 And so I just kind of wanted to point  
42 out that there is that huge lag in time where we don't  
43 know what's going to arrive at the border, and we do  
44 project. And we do try our best to make decisions  
45 about what numbers of fish will arrive at Eagle, and  
46 then to allow the use of gillnets in the lower river as  
47 soon as we can. So gillnets were fishing in the lower  
48 districts a month (indiscernible - teleconference  
49 interference). So I just wanted to kind of clarify  
50 that, but it was very frustrating (indiscernible -

1 teleconference interference) we do try to let people  
2 use those gillnets as soon as we're confident that  
3 we're going to see good numbers at Eagle. But if we  
4 waited until we met the goal at Eagle before people  
5 used gillnets, they wouldn't get to use them until it  
6 was far too late and most of the kings would have  
7 passed out of the area. So we really do try to balance  
8 that.

9  
10 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you.

11  
12 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chair.

13  
14 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah. Do you have  
15 anything else, ma'am.

16  
17 MS. CARROLL: No, that's all I have for  
18 the current questions, but I'll stand by if there are  
19 more.

20  
21 Thank you.

22  
23 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. Thank you.

24  
25 Mr. Aloysius.

26  
27 MR. ALOYSIUS: Thank you. It's hard  
28 for me to understand, you know, if you -- the first  
29 pulse you want to get by, so you restrict the people  
30 down there when that first pulse is there. And the way  
31 I look at it, that first pulse is up there sometimes,  
32 right? It's still the first pulse. Are you targeting  
33 that first pulse with that -- well, why didn't you say  
34 so? You know, that's the thing. We don't understand  
35 what pulse of salmon you're opening those people for up  
36 there in 5A. You've got to be consistent with your  
37 explanation. Are you following the first pulse, and  
38 how far are you following them.

39  
40 Thank you.

41  
42 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Go ahead.

43  
44 MS. CARROLL: Yeah. Thanks for that  
45 question, Bob. The first pulse of salmon was protected  
46 all the way to the border. No one was able to fish the  
47 first pulse, not in any district. What Gerald was  
48 talking about is there are some kings that will come  
49 into the river very early, and they trickle in. They  
50 don't come in in very strong numbers. And they come in

1 smaller numbers, and then when the first pulse hits  
2 Pilot, it's very obvious, because the numbers double.  
3 Once we see that first pulse at Pilot, no one fishes  
4 that first pulse. In fact, once we detect it in the  
5 lower river at our test fishery at Lower Yukon test  
6 fishery, no one fishes it. And then we tracked it all  
7 the way up the river, and no one fished it, not even  
8 5D. We closed 5D before the first pulse go there, so  
9 that it was protected all the way up the river.

10

11 I hope that clarifies things for you.

12

13 MR. ALOYSIUS: Thank you.

14

15 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Go ahead, Gerald.

16

17 MR. MASCHMANN: Yeah, I just want to  
18 clarify. Some of the language that we use in our  
19 summaries, we'll use words like, you know, we implement  
20 subsistence restrictions chronologically as the run  
21 moves up river. And that's what we mean, is when the  
22 first pulse hits District 1, we implement subsistence  
23 restrictions, and then as that pulse one moves to the  
24 next district, then we implement subsistence  
25 restrictions. As it hits District 3 and District 4,  
26 we're implementing those restrictions chronologically  
27 at that run moves upriver. So that's what we mean when  
28 we say that.

29

30 Just so everyone -- I know, you know,  
31 fair, and same, equal and fair, that's a big concern on  
32 the Yukon is making sure that everyone is participating  
33 in the conservation strategies, and that's what we mean  
34 by that.

35

36 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Aloysius.

37

38 MR. ALOYSIUS: Thank you. The pulse  
39 that you targeted up in 5A, what pulse was that? The  
40 second, third, or fourth? You know, I'm not from the  
41 Yukon River, so I don't know.

42

43 MR. MASCHMANN: So we didn't target the  
44 first two pulses anywhere on the Yukon. We did allow  
45 -- again, it was agreed to by the fishermen in-season  
46 to allow 5D to fish a little bit on that early trickle,  
47 not the first pulse, but those early Chinook that enter  
48 just before the first pulse. And then we closed 5D  
49 completely on the first pulse, and we did not allow the  
50 selective gear, because they just don't have the summer

1 chum, and the few they do is poor quality. So 5D was  
2 just closed to subsistence fishing, except with four-  
3 inch or less. So it wasn't until, you know, into the  
4 third and fourth pulses that we liberalized subsistence  
5 with six-inch gear, and we even allowed an opening with  
6 seven-and-a-half-inch gear.

7

8 MR. ALOYSIUS: Why didn't you allow the  
9 people in the Lower Yukon to target those that went up  
10 there that you allowed them to be caught up there?  
11 That is my biggest frustration. There are more people  
12 down there in the Lower Yukon than there is in the  
13 middle and the upper.

14

15 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Go ahead, Gerald.

16

17 MR. MASCHMANN: Again, the Lower Yukon  
18 was -- as the third and fourth pulse came in the Lower  
19 Yukon subsistence restrictions were liberalized, and  
20 then as those pulses moved upriver chronologically, we  
21 began to open 4 and 5. It was agreed to pre-season by  
22 fishermen on the river that, because of 5D's lack of  
23 opportunity, that it was agreed to that they could have  
24 that trickle of Chinook in 5D. And that was agreed to  
25 preseason as a strategy. Again, nobody filled their  
26 racks on that trickle. And preliminary reports are  
27 that a few people got a few kings, but really they said  
28 it closed too early.

29

30 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay, Bob? Ms.  
31 Johnson.

32

33 MS. JOHNSON: You're talking about the  
34 first trickle of Chinook salmon that are coming in on  
35 the beginning of the year. How do you -- do you just  
36 estimate the count, or do you have actual sonar that  
37 works under the ice?

38

39 MR. MASCHMANN: Well, ice out came 28  
40 -- 20 days early this year, and particularly at the  
41 beginning of the season it is subsistence fishermen --  
42 there's a few fishermen in District 1 who really get  
43 out there early, and we really rely on them to report  
44 the first Chinook. And so we have our ears open and  
45 the phone lines open, and we're looking for those  
46 subsistence reports of the first Chinook, and, you  
47 know, there's some big fishermen who start early who  
48 call in often and tell us what they've got. We also  
49 try and get the Lower Yukon test fishery in Emmonak  
50 started as soon as we can, and that will usually give

1 us the indication of the first Chinook, and those first  
2 few Chinook start coming in. We've been calling that  
3 the trickle, and that's what traditional knowledge or,  
4 you know, indigenous knowledge has been -- folks have  
5 been telling us, there's always those early fish that  
6 come in, and some people really do like to target those  
7 early fish that come in before the first pulse. So  
8 that's what we're calling the trickle. And then when  
9 that first pulse hits, we kind of have a day based upon  
10 the lower test fishery and Pilot Station sonar, what  
11 date that first pulse is, and so when the first pulse  
12 did finally get to 5D, then we closed 5D on that first  
13 pulse.

14  
15 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any other questions  
16 for Mr. Maschmann. Mr. Oney.

17  
18 MR. ONEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
19 Raymond Oney for the record.

20  
21 I am puzzled, and I am surprised about  
22 your chain of the king salmon into the Yukon River.  
23 This is the first time we've seen an abundance in the  
24 Chinook salmon on the river. I'm kind of wondering if  
25 Fish and Game are really reporting what they reported  
26 over the years since we had the crash in the late 90s.  
27 And like I said, I was puzzled, and, you know, to see  
28 this abundance of Chinook salmon returning to the Yukon  
29 make me wonder why, you know, just one year there's  
30 just so much fish on the river. Not only Chinook, but  
31 summer chum salmon, too.

32  
33 Thank you.

34  
35 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Do you have a.....

36  
37 MR. MASCHMANN: Yeah. Well, last year  
38 was -- again I guess maybe our memories fade, because  
39 we're used to low runs, and 175,000 this year sounds  
40 kind of good, but really it's not. It's below  
41 historical averages, and it's still not a good run.  
42 It's a below-average run. And 2015 was also better  
43 than expected, but again below average. So it appears  
44 to be trending up, but two years isn't really a trend,  
45 so, you know, we're going to talk with fishermen this  
46 winter and this spring at the pre-season meetings, and  
47 we're going to ask you what you think how we should  
48 manage next year, what kind of strategies we should  
49 use. And it will be -- the Department will be working  
50 on a pre-season projection again, and we'll be hearing

1 what -- you know, hearing your input on how you think  
2 we should handle it.

3

4 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Oney.

5

6 MR. ONEY: Yeah. Thank you, Mr.  
7 Chairman.

8

9 Follow up. So the cycle of the Chinook  
10 salmon, so is that five or six years, so five or six  
11 years from now we should see a good abundance of  
12 Chinook salmon returning as the result of the  
13 escapement goals that we provided for them this summer?

14

15 Thank you.

16

17 MR. MASCHMANN: Yeah, we've had some  
18 good escapements. We've met our goals fairly well, and  
19 hopefully in four or five and six years we'll reap that  
20 investment. I don't know if Holly has any more to add  
21 to that.

22

23 MS. CARROLL: Yeah. Thanks, Gerald,  
24 and thanks, Mr. Oney.

25

26 I understand your question. It sure  
27 seems like we're getting good numbers at the border.  
28 You know, last year we saw about 83,000 at the border.  
29 This year we saw 72,000 at the border. And I just want  
30 to reiterate that, you know, while we're happy with  
31 those numbers, that it is better than what we've been  
32 seeing, the numbers used to be 150,000. And it's why  
33 we still have had to restrict subsistence. I mean, a  
34 true unrestricted subsistence harvest of king salmon on  
35 the Yukon could be 50,000 fish. And if we had taken  
36 all 50,000 this year, we might not have seen those fish  
37 at the border. We might not have met the goal.

38

39 And so that's where we're trying to  
40 balance the fact that this run is coming back better,  
41 but it's still not 100 percent. It's still not good  
42 enough to let us just allow unrestricted subsistence  
43 harvest, and that's why we're trying to find this  
44 balance (indiscernible - teleconference interference)  
45 some harvest opportunity while still limiting that  
46 harvest.

47

48 But the good news is that, yes, the run  
49 was better in 2015, and we saw a similar sized run this  
50 year, and the juvenile data that we're getting from the

1 Bering Sea is showing that there are just a ton of  
2 juvenile salmon out there in the Bering Sea. And that  
3 bodes really well for those salmon returning. And we  
4 do make forecasts based on the juvenile salmon, and  
5 those forecasts do tell us that over the next two years  
6 we should see this continue slight increase in the size  
7 of the Chinook run.

8  
9 And so like what Gerald said, we're not  
10 out of the woods yet, we're not back to what the run  
11 sizes used to be, (indiscernible - teleconference  
12 interference) creeping up, and these runs are getting  
13 better, and as long as the trend continues, people will  
14 be a lot happier in a couple years. So bear with us,  
15 and, yeah, we'll try to keep doing our best to allow as  
16 much opportunity as we can while still meeting those  
17 escapement goals.

18  
19 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Aloysius.

20  
21 MR. ALOYSIUS: Thank you. On the  
22 average, what is the harvest of Chinook for the  
23 Canadians versus Alaska?

24  
25 And it was my understanding that the  
26 State of Alaska has no jurisdiction out there in the  
27 ocean. How can they determine how many juvenile salmon  
28 are there.

29  
30 Thank you.

31  
32 MS. CARROLL: Yeah. Okay. So let me  
33 take that last question you asked first. Although we  
34 don't have jurisdiction to manage, for instance, like  
35 the pollock fishery or something like that, we can  
36 certainly do research out there. We have a research  
37 scientist named Katie Howard and she's been conducting  
38 research on the juveniles. So she partners with NOAA  
39 and they go and they collect the data on the juveniles.  
40 So then they can use that data to find out lots of  
41 stuff about Chinook salmon. And one of the things  
42 we're finding is that there's a good abundance of  
43 juvenile salmon out there, and that means that we can  
44 expect an increase in returns over the next couple  
45 years.

46  
47 And then to answer your first question,  
48 you know, Canada -- Gerald touched on this, but we do  
49 have as part of our agreement with Canada that a  
50 certain proportion of the total run, so let's say this



1 year the total run was 90,000 Chinook and that's just a  
2 guess right now, because we don't have our final  
3 harvest data, but the way we would figure that out is  
4 we'd say, okay, about 72,000 fish past the Eagle sonar.  
5 I might estimate that about 18,000 fish were harvested  
6 on the U.S. side this year. I'm hopeful that that many  
7 were harvested. That means the total run of Canadian  
8 origin is about 90,000 fish. And if that's true, we  
9 have a harvest share agreement with Canada that says  
10 that they can take 23 percent of that total run for  
11 their harvest. And so if the total run was 90,000,  
12 which again is pretty much an educated guess at that  
13 point, their harvest share would be about 20,000 fish.

14  
15                   However, for the last 15 years Canada  
16 has not been taking their share of the Chinook salmon.  
17 They have had -- with a lot of their tribal  
18 governments, they've had voluntary moratoriums, and  
19 they've also had reduced harvest of kind salmon. So as  
20 far as to get to your question to how many king salmon  
21 are we taking on the U.S. side, compared to thee Canada  
22 side, it's a much larger number of salmon.

23  
24                   MR. ALOYSIUS: Thank you.

25  
26                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: Are you okay then  
27 about it, Mr. Aloysius.

28  
29                   Mr. Peters.

30  
31                   MR. PETERS: My name is Mike Peters.

32  
33                   And I've got a question, you know.  
34 When are you going to lift the ban of the dipnet, you  
35 know, for my people, because on the first pulse  
36 everybody's saying to -- management, they're saying to  
37 protect that. What about our quota? You know, people  
38 are very lucky if they in this first pulse with  
39 dipnets, if they even catch five salmon. And I think  
40 somewhere along the ride, they really need to look at  
41 that on the restriction for my people, because where I  
42 come from, they said, we are tired -- not tired, but  
43 they put all the restrictions on us, and like the water  
44 was very high like I indicated before, but in the  
45 future we're looking for some sort of an adjustment  
46 there where that the people will catch some fish for  
47 their subsistence needs.

48  
49                   And the other question was when we had  
50 our restrictions on with dipnets and we hear that

1 they've opened upriver, and it's the same pulse that go  
2 by, and we're kind of wondering how come they let them  
3 fish up there while the time, and fish -- only use our  
4 dipnet, and they are trying to consider the nets back,  
5 and, you know, probably in the future could we consider  
6 that about in my area, we always catch the last pulse  
7 -- end of the pulse, and the people are, you know, once  
8 that fish pass by with all the pulse that go by,  
9 there's no way that they could catch any more salmon,  
10 and it was a concern.

11  
12 Thank you.

13  
14 MR. MASCHMANN: Yeah. Thanks, Mr.  
15 Peters. I think maybe this spring with the managers,  
16 maybe we should consider a special visit to Marshall,  
17 because it sounds like there's some information that  
18 maybe we need to get to the Marshall people about how  
19 the openings and closings are working upriver, because,  
20 you know, we're attempting to -- you know, when you  
21 guys are closed on a pulse, that same closure moves  
22 upriver, so I don't know if people think that you're  
23 closed but somebody else is -- you're closed on a  
24 pulse, but somebody else gets to be open isn't really  
25 -- we're trying to make it fair for everybody. So if  
26 maybe there's some way we can communicate better with  
27 the folks in Marshall.

28  
29 And we definitely understand that the  
30 dipnets are inefficient, and it's a hardship. So  
31 perhaps maybe this spring we can talk about a visit,  
32 the managers can visit Marshall. That might help clear  
33 it up with some folks.

34  
35 MR. PETERS: Yeah. Thank you, Mr.  
36 Chair, and thank you.

37  
38 I think one of the things that's come  
39 up, you know, it's the tribal government or the tribal  
40 people out there are really concerned about this, and I  
41 think having a letter drafted up to whoever, but this  
42 need to be taken to some sort of consideration coming  
43 from the people of my area.

44  
45 Thank you.

46  
47 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Mr. Peters.

48  
49 Mr. Smith.

50

1 MR. SMITH: Thank you, Mr. Chair.  
2  
3 Just listening to the comments from Mr.  
4 Peters regarding this issue, and Dorothy there, it  
5 sounded like there might be a lack of communication  
6 from the Department to the people there. So maybe if  
7 there could be more of a streamlined communication to  
8 inform Marshall and Mountain Village and Emmonak and  
9 Alakanuk, maybe you could get more understanding,  
10 because from what I'm hearing is they're saying one  
11 thing, and the Department's saying another. And that  
12 tells me that there's a communication gap. So maybe  
13 you could work on making it a little better.  
14  
15 Thank you.  
16  
17 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Mr. Smith.  
18 Are there any more questions or discussion on the  
19 summary season for the Yukon overview..  
20  
21 (No comments)  
22  
23 CHAIRMAN WILDE: There being none --  
24 oh, yeah. Okay. Is there anybody else on the  
25 teleconference that have any questions concerning the  
26 overview on the Yukon.  
27  
28 (No comments)  
29  
30 CHAIRMAN WILDE: There being none,  
31 thank you very much, Mr. Maschmann.  
32  
33 MR. MASCHMANN: Maschmann, yep. I'll  
34 be here today and tomorrow, so if anyone wants to talk  
35 afterwards. And I've got a spreadsheet that shows  
36 openings and closings in each district up the river.  
37 We can kind of lay it out and show you how it goes,  
38 too, if you're interested.  
39  
40 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. Thank you very  
41 much. Anybody that have any questions with the Yukon  
42 can see him.  
43  
44 At this time, let's take a 10-minute  
45 break, and then we'll get into proposals.  
46  
47 (Off record)  
48  
49 (On record)  
50

1                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: Let's call the meeting  
2 back to order.  
3                   We are down to proposals. The first  
4 proposal is FP17-01. And our friend Pippa.  
5  
6                   MS. KENNER: (In Yup'ik).  
7  
8                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: You are on the floor.  
9 You have the floor, young lady.  
10  
11                  MS. KENNER: Good afternoon, Mr. Chair  
12 and members of the Council. For the record my name is  
13 Pippa Kenner, and I'm an anthropologist at the Office  
14 of Subsistence Management in Anchorage.  
15  
16                  I'd like to introduce you to my  
17 coworker, Gary Decossas.  
18  
19                  MR. DECOSSAS: Hello, Mr. Chair and  
20 members of the Council. My name is Gary Decossas, and  
21 I'm a fisheries statistician for the Office of  
22 Subsistence Management. And I'm glad to be here, and  
23 this is my first Council meeting, so it should be a  
24 blast.  
25  
26                  CHAIRMAN WILDE: You know, it's good to  
27 have another student.  
28  
29                  (Laughter)  
30  
31                  CHAIRMAN WILDE: Go ahead.  
32  
33                  MS. KENNER: I'm going to present a  
34 summary of the analysis for a proposal to change  
35 fishery regulations, and it begins on Page 50 of your  
36 Council books. And it's Proposal FP17-01.  
37  
38                  Proposal FP17-01 was submitted by the  
39 Eastern Interior Council, and the Council proposes that  
40 if an in-season closure for Chinook salmon is put in  
41 place in Subdistrict 5D of the Yukon drainage, the  
42 closure will be lifted for Federally-qualified  
43 subsistence users once the mid range of the Canadian  
44 interim management escapement goal for Chinook salmon  
45 and the total allowable catch based on the treaty  
46 between the U.S. and Canada, once those goals are  
47 projected to be achieved.  
48  
49                  This proposal, if adopted, would  
50 provide an opportunity for Federally-qualified

1 subsistence users to harvest both Chinook and fall chum  
2 salmon in Subdistrict 5D when the Federal in-season  
3 manager projects the Chinook salmon passage past the  
4 Eagle sonar site has met those goals.

5  
6 So the Canadian interim management  
7 escapement goal is 42,500 to 55,000 Chinook salmon, and  
8 it's based on the Eagle sonar. In order to meet this  
9 goal, the passage at the Eagle sonar station must  
10 include a minimum of 42,500 fish for escapement,  
11 provide for a subsistence harvest in the community of  
12 Eagle upstream of the sonar, that's approximately 1 to  
13 2,000 Chinook salmon, and incorporate Canadian harvest  
14 sharing as dictated in the U.S./Canada Yukon River  
15 treaty. And that is approximately 20 to 26 percent of  
16 the total allowable catch.

17  
18 The customary and traditional use  
19 determination for the.....

20  
21 MR. ALOYSIUS: What page are you on?

22  
23 MS. KENNER: I am going to move now to  
24 Page 58, Table 1. I'm bouncing around the analysis a  
25 little bit in order to get to the important points  
26 quickly.

27  
28 So the C&T determination, the  
29 Federally-eligible harvesters for Chinook in  
30 Subdistrict 5D of the Yukon drainage include everybody  
31 who lives in the Yukon drainage, but there are a group  
32 of communities that are in Subdistrict 5D and adjacent  
33 to Subdistrict 5D that rely mostly on salmon in  
34 District 5D. So on the table on Page 58 and 59, the  
35 border for Subdistrict 5D runs between Rampart and  
36 Stevens Village, and this group of communities from  
37 Rampart upriver to Eagle City to the Canadian border  
38 are the communities that we're talking about here. And  
39 that's about 1500 people living in about 700  
40 households. They would be affected by this proposal.

41  
42 And particularly for those of you who  
43 live on the Kuskokwim, you might want to look at the  
44 Map on Page 53, and on that map you can see the  
45 boundary for Subdistrict 5D, and District 5D starts in  
46 between Rampart and Stevens Village, and continues to  
47 the Canadian border at Eagle. And it's composed almost  
48 entirely of Federal public waters.

49  
50 So since 2001, the Yukon River Chinook

1 salmon stock has been categorized as a stock of yield  
2 concern by the Alaska Board of Fisheries. And this  
3 designation identifies a chronic inability to maintain  
4 expected yields or harvestable surpluses above a  
5 stock's escapement needs despite restrictive management  
6 actions. Directed -- I want to remind you that  
7 directed commercial fishing for Yukon River Chinook  
8 salmon has been discontinued since 2007, and  
9 subsistence fishing opportunities have become  
10 increasingly more restrictive in an effort to conserve  
11 Chinook salmon.

12  
13                   The 2014 season was the most  
14 conservatively managed Chinook salmon season in recent  
15 history on the Yukon drainage. For example, in  
16 District 5, subsistence fishers were not allowed to use  
17 greater than four-inch mesh gillnets for up to 45 days  
18 in the summer of 2014.

19  
20                   The Council's motivation for submitting  
21 the proposal was the events of the 2015 season when the  
22 interim management escapement goal over the Canadian  
23 border was exceeded. Over 85,000 Chinook salmon went  
24 over the border, but the subsistence salmon fishery in  
25 Subdistrict 5D remained closed. During the 2016  
26 season, in-season managers were more responsive to  
27 opening the fishery. So this proposal was submitted  
28 this spring, and before the 2016 fishery.

29  
30                   So if you move on to Table 61 -- excuse  
31 me, I believe you can see that the fishery in 2016 in  
32 Subdistrict 5D, rather than closing, some subsistence  
33 opportunity was allowed from June 19th. So the  
34 subsistence fishery in this area closed to the use of  
35 nets that were more than six inches. So it closed on  
36 the 19th, and it didn't reopen again until July 24th  
37 when it was opened again to nets over six-inch mesh.

38  
39                   So the OSM preliminary conclusion is to  
40 support Proposal FP17-01 with modification, to change  
41 the wording in the proposed regulation from projected  
42 to be achieved to achieved, and to specify that the  
43 Federal in-season manager is the person to declare when  
44 the interim management escapement goal and the total  
45 allowable catch are achieved. So the regulation would  
46 read this:

47  
48                   In Subdistrict 5D, during in-season  
49 subsistence fishery closures, you may take salmon for  
50 subsistence use once the mid range of the Canadian

1 interim management escapement goal and the total  
2 allowable catch goal are achieved as declared by the  
3 Yukon River Federal in-season fisheries manager.

4  
5               So adoption of the proposal with  
6 modification could result in additional harvest  
7 opportunity for Federally-qualified subsistence users  
8 in Subdistrict 5D in times of Chinook salmon  
9 conservation. Estimates of in-season run strengths  
10 usually have a high degree of uncertainty, so it would  
11 be prudent to wait until the Eagle sonar counts achieve  
12 the mid range of the interim management escapement goal  
13 and total allowable catch before lifting the closure to  
14 Federally-qualified subsistence users.

15  
16               I want to point out that in -- there's  
17 a little bit of an unusual situation for the Yukon  
18 drainage in District 5D in that in Subdistrict 5D there  
19 are three roads that cross the Yukon River from the  
20 Fairbanks North Star Borough. So if the State has an  
21 opening in this area, that means that everybody in the  
22 North Star Borough, including the City of Fairbanks,  
23 are eligible, while during a Federal opening only  
24 Federally-qualified subsistence users are eligible to  
25 fish on Federal public waters in Unit 5 -- in  
26 Subdistrict 5D.

27  
28               CHAIRMAN WILDE: D?

29  
30               MS. KENNER: D. Nowhere else on the  
31 Yukon do you have this accessibility to non-rural  
32 residents or urban residents.

33  
34               MR. ALOYSIUS: Page number again,  
35 please. Page number.

36  
37               MS. KENNER: Mr. Aloysius, through the  
38 Chair. I'm not on a page number right now.

39  
40               MR. MASCHMANN: You can look at the map  
41 on Page.....

42  
43               MR. ALOYSIUS: What page is that map.

44  
45               MS. KENNER: I'm looking at Page 53,  
46 Map 1.

47  
48               MR. ALOYSIUS: That's what I wanted.

49  
50               MS. KENNER: Thank you, Mr. Chair,

1 members of the Council. That's the end of my  
2 presentation, and Gary and I are available to answer  
3 your questions.  
4  
5 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Pippa. Was  
6 there any report from consultation with the tribes and  
7 ANCSA corporations on this proposal.  
8  
9 MS. KENNER: I'd like to ask if members  
10 of the Council have any questions before we move on,  
11 Mr. Chair. It might be best to take them up right now.  
12  
13 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. Are there any  
14 questions by Council. Go ahead, Mr. Smith.  
15  
16 MR. SMITH: Mr. Chair. Thank you, Mr.  
17 Chair.  
18  
19 Okay. So just for my own  
20 clarification, did -- this FP17-01, is for Subdistrict  
21 5D, which is Interior. So has this regulation been  
22 shared with all the RACs.  
23  
24 MR. ALOYSIUS: Proposal.  
25  
26 MR. SMITH: Or proposal.  
27  
28 MS. KENNER: Thank you for that  
29 question, Mr. Smith, through the Chair. The Eastern  
30 Interior Council will be meeting in two weeks and take  
31 up the proposal, and the proposal is from them. The  
32 Western Interior Council is meeting today, and I am  
33 unsure if they have already taken this up.  
34  
35 MR. SMITH: Mr. Chair. So the question  
36 I have is this RAC is responsible for -- is it just  
37 advisory, or are we responsible for passing the  
38 regulation that affects the Upper Yukon? That's my  
39 question.  
40  
41 MS. KENNER: Thank you. A very good  
42 question. Thank you again. And, Mr. Smith, through  
43 the Chair, these are what we call so-called cross-over  
44 proposals that cross over from one region to another.  
45 And the reason why is that there are people on our  
46 Council who represent Federally-qualified users of  
47 salmon in Subdistrict 5D of the Yukon River. So the  
48 members of this Council who live in the Yukon drainage  
49 are Federally-qualified to fish up there, although  
50 oftentimes they are unlikely to do so, because it's so



1 far away. So even though some of you are not  
2 Federally-qualified to take part in this fishery, you  
3 are all asked to come to make a motion to adopt the  
4 proposal or then to support it or not support it.

5  
6 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Pippa.

7  
8 Are you done, Mr. Smith.

9  
10 Any further questions on Proposal FP17-  
11 01.

12  
13 Mr. Aloysius.

14  
15 MR. ALOYSIUS: Thank you. My  
16 understanding is that they're just asking whether we  
17 support this proposal or not.

18  
19 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah, we're going to  
20 go through the regular presentation and procedures for  
21 the proposals as we go along. But at this time we're  
22 asking questions of Pippa on this proposal.

23  
24 And were you done, Mr. Aloysius. Mr.  
25 Peters.

26  
27 MR. PETERS: Mr. Chairman. I've got a  
28 question on this proposal. You know, I'm not -- where  
29 I come from in Marshall, you know, under discussion  
30 with -- you know, I've got nothing against the upriver  
31 people or people along the river, but the people in my  
32 area are kind of concerned about, you know, how could  
33 half of the, you know, escapement goal pass through  
34 Canada, and all of a sudden they got that right to fish  
35 in the Federal waters. And, you know, that's a concern  
36 coming from my village, because, you see, you're giving  
37 on -- or whoever making that proposal is giving one  
38 section of the Yukon River, and where I come from, my  
39 people, they sacrifice a lot. And by doing this,  
40 you're taking -- you'll probably take away something  
41 from us that are partly in State water, but with the  
42 Federal government, my people have that right to  
43 subsistence fish for the traditional use of fish.

44  
45 And to my -- you know, I could always  
46 be corrected if I'm wrong, but to take away something  
47 from my people when you guys set -- when they set  
48 restrictions with dipnets and not give us back the  
49 setnets, I think the regulations really need to be set  
50 coming from my people, look how much times we're going

1 to sacrifice for -- and all of a sudden they got this  
2 proposal in coming from upriver that they want to have  
3 them openings. And somehow along the line that they  
4 need to draw a line, because with that 70,000 or  
5 whatever escapement goal go to Canada, then they give  
6 them that right to fish up here, I think it's not  
7 right, because my people have that right with the State  
8 and Federal regulations that they could fish for their  
9 subsistence needs. And this really need to be looked  
10 at, and what is really going to hurt is my people. How  
11 many times like -- I'm not going to repeat myself, but  
12 how many times we're going to sacrifice for what. It's  
13 usually -- sometimes the numbers that pass through the  
14 escapement goal to Canada, and then all of a sudden  
15 this is coming up in middle part of Yukon, which is  
16 going to hurt us in the Lower Yukon where I come from.

17  
18 And, you know, somewhere along the line  
19 we've got to draw the point where at least take into  
20 some sort of consideration of how could we regulate the  
21 regulations that's going to affect my people. Or how  
22 could -- how it's going to benefit my people. That's  
23 something that you really need to look at where  
24 everybody living in different parts of the river. But  
25 you know, I'm going to speak up for my people, because  
26 that's food for us on the table. And if that go  
27 through, you know, it's going to be harder for us where  
28 I live at. Don't you see that? And I could always be  
29 corrected if I'm wrong, but I think the Native Village  
30 of Marshall and the other tribal government are trying  
31 to submit a letter to try to consider us for our needs.  
32 And that's something to really look at.

33  
34 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

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

37  
38 Ms. Pippa.

39  
40 MS. KENNER: Thank you, Mr. Chair. May  
41 I respond?

42  
43 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes, you may.

44  
45 MS. KENNER: Okay. Thank you, Mr.  
46 Peters, through the Chair.

47  
48 You know, when I was working on the  
49 Section .804 determination for the Yukon several years  
50 ago, I had an opportunity to review the harvest reports

1 from people along the -- in the Yukon drainage. And  
2 one of the things I noticed is that in the low, low  
3 river, people rely just as much on summer chum when  
4 they're fresh coming in, as they do Chinook salmon, or  
5 actually even more. But when you get up into about the  
6 Marshall area, there's a change, and people rely more  
7 on Chinook salmon in numbers than on summer chum or  
8 other salmon in the Yukon River. And that probably has  
9 something to do with opportunity and availability, and  
10 where fish camps are. So I did notice that right  
11 around that part of the river there was more of a  
12 reliance on Chinook salmon. And so when there are  
13 these closures and limitations, I can imagine it is  
14 felt by the people who live there, more so than maybe  
15 on other parts of the river.

16  
17 Well, Subdistrict 5D is in a little bit  
18 of the same situation. Summer chum aren't usually  
19 found up in that area, and all the Chinook that enter  
20 into Subdistrict 5D are considered of Canadian origin,  
21 and, therefore, if those interim goals haven't been met  
22 at the Eagle sonar, they cannot open in 5D, because all  
23 those fish are going up into Canada. From the lower  
24 river, a lot of these Chinook salmon coming into the  
25 river turn off before they get to 5D, mainly at the  
26 Tanana. So that's one of the reasons why this area,  
27 Subdistrict 5D have had longer closures and less  
28 opportunity with different gear types.

29  
30 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

31  
32 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Pippa.

33  
34 Any further discussion, questions on  
35 the proposal.

36  
37 Mr. Oney.

38  
39 MR. ONEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
40 Yeah, we do rely heavily on the Chinook salmon, too, on  
41 the lower river. You could correct me if I'm wrong.  
42 I've lived with it ever since I was born. And it's the  
43 first salmon that we rely on during the summer, and  
44 they're the first ones that we target in the summer.  
45 And we haven't had that opportunity since 1998 or  
46 whenever the crash happened, so, you know, don't say  
47 that the Lower Yukon doesn't rely on Chinook salmon,  
48 because I've seen it, and I've been born into it, and  
49 we rely on it heavily. It's because of the  
50 restrictions that were put on us is why we haven't been

1 harvesting them.  
2  
3 Thank you.  
4  
5 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you for your  
6 comments, Mr. Oney.  
7  
8 Any further -- Mr. Smith.  
9  
10 MR. SMITH: Thank you, Mr. Chair.  
11  
12 I've got a question. Pippa, is there  
13 an opportunity for public comment from the tribes? And  
14 if so, how far in advance is it sent out to the tribes  
15 for them to comment? Because from what I'm hearing Mr.  
16 Peters, it sounds like there wasn't any type of  
17 communication or time to comment on this particular  
18 proposal.  
19  
20 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Go ahead, Pippa.  
21  
22 MS. KENNER: Thank you, Mr. Chair.  
23  
24 Mr. Smith, through the Chair, thank you  
25 for that question. So what we're going to do now when  
26 Gary and I step down, is we'll have a series of people  
27 will get up and comment on this. There will be an  
28 opportunity for tribes and ANCSA corporations.  
29  
30 First we bring these proposals to the  
31 Councils, and after the Council has asked their  
32 questions and given us their point of view, there will  
33 be another opportunity for tribal consultation. Only  
34 tribes will be invited. And there will be an  
35 opportunity for ANCSA corporation consultation, and  
36 only they will be invited.  
37  
38 Thank you.  
39  
40 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Pippa.  
41  
42 Any further questions on this Proposal  
43 FP17-01. There being no more -- okay. Mr. Bill,  
44 you've got the floor.  
45  
46 MR. BILL: My question, did you guys  
47 talk with the tribal councils of the villages that Mr.  
48 Peters was talking about, Middle and Lower Yukon  
49 people. Their tribal council? I'm remembering  
50 something here that used to happen a long time ago with

1 our elders, and it's still going on today. Sometimes  
2 the fish, that it -- we don't usually have fish down in  
3 that area, but sometimes they ask for seal oil, and  
4 we'll trade them with fish meat -- I mean seal meat if  
5 we have the seal oil. We will give them that seal oil,  
6 and at the same time they're going to give us some of  
7 their food. It's not going to hurt Yukon alone. It's  
8 not. It's going to hurt some of the people that are  
9 trying to live what we live on on the coastline. And  
10 the food for food, that's what we used to trade for,  
11 and we've still doing it some. And I'm still doing it.  
12 When I go to the Yukon, they asked me their things, and  
13 if successful to see that, I bring along a quart of  
14 seal oil or something, and they gave it to -- I gave it  
15 to them, and they gave me their food. We're living  
16 like we know them, even though we never see them most  
17 of the time. That's what the Eskimos and the Yukon,  
18 the coast people and the Yukon do. Sometimes when they  
19 get hungry for our food, they come and ask them, and we  
20 go up and ask them, too, to trade food for food. Still  
21 going on today. When I go moose hunting on Kashunuk,  
22 they bring me something, and I bring them something,  
23 too. When you take something away from them, you also  
24 take something from us. See, these things you'll never  
25 know, because you don't know. Whenever you guys trade  
26 on the big winters, you trade money for food, money for  
27 everything. You've got to have almighty dollars to  
28 take something from each other. We don't.

29

30 Thank you.

31

32 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Mr. Bill.

33

34 Yes, Mr. Smith.

35

36 MR. SMITH: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

37

38 So one more question, Pippa. In terms  
39 of the tribal consultation, how is that information  
40 going to be disseminated to have the tribes voice their  
41 opinions on this particular proposal.

42

43 MR. LIND: Good afternoon. Mr.  
44 Chairman. Board members.

45

46 Mr. Smith, my name is Orville Lind,  
47 Native liaison for OSM.

48

49 Primarily it's my duty as my position  
50 to make sure that the tribes' voices are being heard.

1 The first introduction of this proposal, like Pippa has  
2 mentioned, after this process is done here, we're open  
3 for comments for the proposal. After that is done,  
4 they'll hold a public meeting. And then after the  
5 public meetings are held, after the Regional Advisory  
6 Councils are held, I will invite the tribes that this  
7 proposal affects to have their voices heard. And this  
8 is probably going to be in the month of November, and I  
9 believe it's probably going to start I would say during  
10 the first week, or shortly after that the tribes will  
11 be able to call it and talk about this proposal, and we  
12 can hear their voices and concerns.

13

14 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

15

16 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Mr. Lind.

17

18 Are there any further questions.

19

20 Yes, Mr. Bill.

21

22 MR. BILL: I'll continue. When you  
23 have your meeting, you're going to have your meeting in  
24 Anchorage or in the villages or where?

25

26 MR. LIND: We will have it by.....

27

28 MR. BILL: Sometimes when you hold a  
29 meeting in the place where our people cannot attend,  
30 because of the -- because they don't have anything to  
31 go to meeting for, like I'm talking about money to pay  
32 for the airline, too, so I'll bring cash. We want to  
33 know where you're going to live. So have your meeting  
34 in the village or in Anchorage or Seattle or where?

35

36 MR. LIND: Thank you. Through the  
37 Chair. Mr. Bill, the process is I will send a letter,  
38 invite, with all the information on the teleconference,  
39 so each of your villages can call in and voice your  
40 concerns and/or questions during that time. I will  
41 also invite the corporations and village corporations  
42 also.

43

44 Thank you.

45

46 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any other question on  
47 the proposal.

48

49 Mr. Aloysius.

50

1 MR. ALOYSIUS: Thank you. Page 65,  
2 Roman numeral 8, capital B. In Subdistrict 5D, during  
3 the in-season subsistence fisheries closures, you may  
4 take salmon for subsistence use once the mid-range of  
5 the Canadian interim management escapement goal and the  
6 total allowable catch goal are achieved and announced  
7 by the Federal in-season manager.

8  
9 It's simple English to me. That should  
10 clarify all the questions that have been raised. It's  
11 not a it's going to happen. There is a restriction in  
12 the way that that is going to be effective.

13  
14 Thank you.

15  
16 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Mr.  
17 Aloysius.

18  
19 Any further discussion on Proposal No.  
20 1.

21  
22 (No comments)

23  
24 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Council members, if  
25 there are no other questions on this proposal, we will  
26 continue on.

27  
28 Thank you, Pippa, and thank you, Gary.

29  
30 Are there any reports of -- okay. The  
31 consultation on this proposal will be taken care of by  
32 Mr. Lind. Are we correct then, Mr. Lind, in assuming  
33 that you will be taking the report on consultation of  
34 the tribes and the ANCSA corporations on this proposal.

35  
36 MR. LIND: Quyana. Mr. Chair. I will  
37 be doing that. Each time we are consulting with tribes  
38 and corporations, it is recorded. And with tribal  
39 requests, that information is sent back to you to make  
40 sure that what is said is recorded, and the intent of  
41 the feeling and voices of the tribes.

42  
43 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you very much.

44  
45 MR. LIND: Quyana.

46  
47 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Are there any  
48 questions for Mr. Lind before he happens to -- I had to  
49 wait until you get up before I asked. Are there any  
50 questions for Mr. Lind.

1 MS. JOHNSON: I have one.  
2  
3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Dorothy.  
4  
5 MS. JOHNSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
6  
7 Is there a website or a link you could  
8 go to to make like a public comment or something on  
9 your proposal?  
10  
11 MR. LIND: There is the website.  
12  
13 MS. PATTON: Through the Chair and  
14 Council. There is a website, and news releases that go  
15 out. So when the proposals are submitted to the  
16 Federal Subsistence Board, they're published on the  
17 website, and then there is a call for written public  
18 comments. And that time frame for written public  
19 comments has passed at this time. But we will work to  
20 make sure -- we usually send out news releases that are  
21 published in the newspapers, the local newspapers, and  
22 PSA announcements on the radio, and then also  
23 contacting the tribes. And the tribes have a special  
24 opportunity to consult directly to the Board, and  
25 that's a closed session. But they can also submit  
26 written public comments as well.  
27  
28 And so that time period has passed, but  
29 these meetings are open to the public, and so we're  
30 soliciting public feedback to speak to the Council at  
31 these meetings as well.  
32  
33 Thank you.  
34  
35 MS. JOHNSON: Thank you.  
36  
37 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Peters.  
38  
39 MR. PETERS: I've got one last question  
40 for you. The time and date of the meeting, could you  
41 let the tribes know way ahead of time.  
42  
43 And another thing, too, you know, you  
44 indicated that it would be by teleconference. What I  
45 would like to see is when the tribes have motions that  
46 could, you know, be like -- you know, with black and  
47 white coming from the tribal on this, what -- for  
48 public comment and stuff like that, and what we need --  
49 what they need is follow up also, you know, of the  
50 actions, of what -- how it's going to affect our area,



times on teleconference you cannot, you know,  
3 draft a resolution or something like that, but, you  
4 know, that's something that you need a -- when the  
5 people are on the teleconference need to be known,  
6 aware of that, and certain documentations of the  
7 actions, what's going to be coming up. And I just  
8 thought I'd let you know to take that into some sort of  
9 consideration.

10

11 Thank you very much.

12

13 MR. LIND: Quyana. Thank you. Through  
14 the Chair, Mr. Peters. Well said. The first thing I  
15 would like to say is in your meeting book, on Page 64,  
16 after every proposal in there, it says effects of the  
17 proposal, and it talks about how this proposal will  
18 affect the villages if it is adopted or if it is not  
19 adopted. And so there's a good start right there in  
20 your meeting book.

21

22 So after the public meetings we'll go  
23 into the tribal consultation. I send letters out to  
24 invite all the tribes. Each one of your tribes will  
25 receive the letter. I will then give the information  
26 of the date and time the consultation will happen. It  
27 will be through a teleconference. Then it will be  
28 recorded, and then again like I said, you will be able  
29 to have that information once the consultation is  
30 transcribed and completed.

31

32 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Mr. Lind.

33

34 MR. PETERS: Thank you.

35

36 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any further discussion  
37 on proposal 17-01.

38

39 (No comments)

40

41 CHAIRMAN WILDE: There being none, no  
42 more comments, questions from the Council, we'll go on  
43 down to our agency comments. ADF&G, do you have any  
44 comments.

45

46 MS. WESSEL: Thank you, Mr. Chair. My  
47 name is Maria Wessel, and I'm the Federal subsistence  
48 liaison with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in  
49 Fairbanks. And we do have the following comments.

50

1                   This proposal would allow the harvest  
2 of salmon in Subdistrict 5D once the mid range of the  
3 Canadian interim management escapement goal and the  
4 total allowable catch goal for Chinook salmon are  
5 projected to be achieved in the Yukon River at the  
6 Eagle sonar site.

7  
8                   The State understands that people in  
9 Subdistrict 5D can have a difficult time harvesting  
10 salmon due to the braided nature of the river and high  
11 water events. Also, being the last district on the  
12 river with mostly Canadian origin Chinook salmon has  
13 led to closures in this region in the past. The State  
14 has been endeavoring to provide additional opportunity  
15 for this district the past couple of years such as  
16 fishing on the early fish to try to get Chinook salmon  
17 into the community ahead of the first pulse closure.

18  
19                   We would like to work with people in  
20 the region, but have concerns that formalizing this in  
21 regulation could decrease flexibility in management.

22  
23                   Additionally, the modified language  
24 suggested by the OSM, which would replace the words,  
25 are projected to be achieved, with the words, are  
26 achieved, creates two different scenarios. To be  
27 achieved would be a post-season estimate and would not  
28 work for in-season management. For example, in 2015,  
29 under this proposal, more harvest could have been  
30 supported with a post-season estimate of the achieved  
31 total allowable catch, but in-season the projection was  
32 lower, and management was restrictive with almost no  
33 directed Chinook subsistence opportunity as a result of  
34 the projections in Districts 1 through 5.

35  
36                   Should this proposal be adopted, the  
37 area manager suggested the following substitute  
38 language. In Subdistrict 5D, salmon may be taken for  
39 subsistence use once the midpoint of the interim  
40 management escapement goal and the Canadian harvest  
41 share are projected to be achieved, which seems to be  
42 the original intent of the proposal language.

43  
44                   And I believe area management staff are  
45 still listening in, and they should be able to answer  
46 specific questions the Council may have about the  
47 State's comments and management of salmon.

48  
49                   Thank you, Mr. Chair.

50

1                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you. Any other  
2 state agencies here that need to make any comments on  
3 this.  
4  
5                   (No comments)  
6  
7                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: There being none, Fish  
8 and Wildlife Service have comments on this.  
9  
10                  (No comments)  
11  
12                  CHAIRMAN WILDE: How about Native  
13 tribes. Is there tribal comments here on this  
14 proposal.  
15  
16                  (No comments)  
17  
18                  CHAIRMAN WILDE: No one available. How  
19 about villages, any villages from this Yukon area have  
20 any comments.  
21  
22                  (No comments)  
23  
24                  CHAIRMAN WILDE: No one available from  
25 there. How about InterAgency Staff Committee, have any  
26 comments.  
27  
28                  (No comments)  
29  
30                  CHAIRMAN WILDE: There must not be any  
31 comments, because InterAgency Staff usually don't have  
32 any comments. Did you say there was a comment, Pippa.  
33 I was wondering what that one finger meant. I thought  
34 that might be one comment.  
35  
36                  (No comments)  
37  
38                  CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. No comment.  
39 Other Regional Council comments.  
40  
41                  MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council.  
42 The Western Interior Regional Advisory Council is  
43 meeting at the same time as the Y-K Delta, and we  
44 haven't gotten a report on this one, whether the  
45 Council has acted on this proposal yet for the Yukon  
46 River. They will be taking this up.  
47  
48                  And then the Eastern Interior Council  
49 will meet in a couple weeks time. So right now Y-K  
50 Delta is the first to address this. We don't have

1 other RAC feedback yet on this proposal.  
2  
3 Thank you.  
4  
5 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you. Fish and  
6 Game Advisory Committees.  
7  
8 MR. OLSTROM: Hello?  
9  
10 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Is there any comments  
11 from the Fish and Game Advisory Committee.  
12  
13 MR. CHARLES: Mr. Chairman.  
14  
15 MR. OLSTROM: Hello?  
16  
17 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Just a minute on  
18 television, we have -- on television.  
19  
20 (Laughter)  
21  
22 CHAIRMAN WILDE: On the phone line. We  
23 have one comment from Mr. Charles and then we'll be  
24 hearing yours. Mr. Charles, go ahead.  
25  
26 MR. CHARLES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
27 Lower Kuskokwim Fish and Game AC has no comments.  
28  
29 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any comments from the  
30 Yukon Fish and Game. Go ahead, Mr. Oney.  
31  
32 MR. ONEY: Yes. Thank you, Mr.  
33 Chairman. The Lower Yukon Advisory Council haven't got  
34 chance to meet to review this proposal.  
35  
36 Thank you.  
37  
38 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. Thank you.  
39  
40 MR. OLSTROM: Hello?  
41  
42 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes, on  
43 teleconference, go ahead.  
44  
45 MR. OLSTROM: Yes, Mr. Chair.  
46  
47 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes, Bill, go ahead.  
48  
49 MR. OLSTROM: Yeah, this is Bill  
50 Olstrom. Are you discussing the Proposal FP17-01 for

1 the Yukon?

2

3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes, we are.

4

5 MR. OLSTROM: Okay. I've just got a  
6 question here. It says under revisal of harvest  
7 limits, once the mid range of the interim management  
8 escapement goals, and the total of all the catch are  
9 projected to be achieved in the Yukon River. Are you  
10 just referring to Chinook?

11

12 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes, it is.

13

14 MR. OLSTROM: Okay. The harvest limit,  
15 what are -- I don't got the proposal in front of me.  
16 I'm just looking at the agenda here. Are they -- Is  
17 this saying that on the mid range of the interim  
18 management escapement goals, and I think it this is the  
19 escapement goals that goes in -- that passes, that goes  
20 into the Canadian -- on the Canadian side. And by the  
21 way, who submitted this proposal?

22

23 CHAIRMAN WILDE: It was submitted by  
24 the Eastern Interior Council.

25

26 MR. OLSTROM: Oh, okay. Well, it seems  
27 like, you know, it's in regulation already that on the  
28 first pulse of Chinook salmon entering the Yukon River,  
29 those are untouchable all the way up to the Canadian  
30 border. Is this proposal asking that if the mid range  
31 -- well, I don't know if the first pulse -- I know the  
32 first pulse usually reaches Canadian border about 30  
33 days after they enter the mouth of the river. So are  
34 they saying that whenever the mid range is -- the  
35 projected mid range is, that it will be allowed up in  
36 5D. I believe it's way up -- projected that -- that  
37 the proposal is saying that they'd be allowed to fish  
38 on that first pulse.

39

40 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah, go ahead, Pippa.

41

42 MS. KENNER: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

43

44 Mr. Olstrom, through the Chair. This  
45 is Pippa Kenner with OSM.

46

47 And this proposal is requesting that  
48 when the interim management escapement goal and the  
49 total allowable catch for Canada that are in the  
50 treating, when that escapement goal is met, District 5D

1 will open to the harvest of salmon. And when this  
2 occurs, the first pulse has already moved through the  
3 Alaskan portion of the Yukon River.

4  
5 So the answer to your.....

6  
7 MR. OLSTROM: Okay. Thank you. That's  
8 all I want to hear.

9  
10 MS. KENNER: You're welcome.

11  
12 MR. OLSTROM: Okay. That's when the --  
13 oh, you're talking -- I'm talking about -- wait a  
14 minute now. I'm talking about escapement goals. I  
15 know the escapement goals for the Yukon Chinook is, if  
16 I'm not mistaken, 47,500. They're talking about the  
17 mid range of that escapement goal, if that is met, that  
18 they'd be able to fish on the Chinook salmon.

19  
20 MS. KENNER: That's correct.

21  
22 MR. OLSTROM: So what was that -- that  
23 seems like that's a disparity, you know, down here on  
24 the Lower Yukon, you know, we don't get that choice.  
25 We, you know, abide by the regulations that are imposed  
26 on us on the lower river, and I thought all these  
27 regulations were from the whole Yukon River, from the  
28 mouth up to the border. And like what happened this  
29 summer, there was an influx of Chinook salmon, and I  
30 understood the Department of Fish and Game and, you  
31 know, Fish and Wildlife Service we're able to fish on  
32 the Chinook salmon that already had passed, you know,  
33 that were still entering the river, I'd say about the  
34 third or fourth pulse of Chinook salmon. But I can  
35 see, you know, up there in the -- you know, I don't  
36 know what's the mid range, because we can't really  
37 forecast (indiscernible - teleconference interference)  
38 seasons so if this goes through, that's going to be the  
39 regulation to the advantage of people way up on the top  
40 of the river.

41  
42 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Was that a question,  
43 Bill. I didn't quite get it.

44  
45 MR. OLSTROM: Well, what I'm trying to  
46 say is that, you know, it seems like in the river,  
47 we're abiding by, you know, all the regulations out  
48 here in the lower river. And, you know, we really  
49 don't get any -- you know, we do get the stragglers, I  
50 mean, the -- whatever the hell, those that enter before

1 the first pulse, you know. But not very many fish et  
2 to fish on those. But, you know, I don't know where's  
3 this proposal, and the (indiscernible - teleconference  
4 interference) you know, kind of not really fair for the  
5 downriver people who are abiding by these regulations,  
6 that they don't get to, you know, fish on the early  
7 parts of the Chinook run.

8  
9 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Is that the.....

10  
11 MR. OLSTROM: I just need some  
12 clarification on that.

13  
14 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Clarification on what,  
15 Bill. We didn't quite catch that.

16  
17 MR. OLSTROM: On the proposal, you  
18 know. What do they mean by mid range. Is that going  
19 to be -- run this back for the first pulse goes  
20 through, but is this thing -- okay. This is way up in  
21 the upper reach of the Yukon. Okay. Maybe they -- I  
22 guess I just had a question under -- on this, what's  
23 the -- well, let me put it this way. What is the  
24 Department -- I know the Department of Fish and Game is  
25 there, but I know it's the but do they have any  
26 opinions on this.

27  
28 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Are you asking to see  
29 if Fish and Game had any opinions on this proposal?

30  
31 MR. OLSTROM: Yeah.

32  
33 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Is anyone here from  
34 Fish and Game. They did not have any comments.

35  
36 MS. CARROLL: Hi, this is Holly  
37 Carroll. I'm the season manager for the summer season.

38  
39  
40 But we did have official comments read  
41 at the beginning, and, Bill, perhaps you missed them.  
42 But our State Federal liaison read our official State  
43 comments already. Did you miss those, Bill?

44  
45 MR. OLSTROM: Yes, I did. I tuned in  
46 pretty late.

47  
48 MS. CARROLL: Well, I guess what I  
49 would say is that the only main comment we had about  
50 this proposal -- and just to be clear, we already

1 effectively manage this way. We already effectively  
2 manage hoping to allow fishing in District 5D. Once we  
3 know that the interim management escapement goal is met  
4 and that the harvest share objective will be met, we  
5 effectively do try to do that currently.

6  
7 And our understanding is this Federal  
8 regulation would just align the Federal regulation with  
9 what we are already trying to do as managers. The only  
10 difference is that from the State of Alaska we did  
11 propose changing the wording so that it would say that  
12 the -- gosh, I don't have the exact wording in front of  
13 me, and I don't want to get it wrong, but that we would  
14 effectively -- that fishing would be open in 5D once it  
15 is projected that the interim management escapement  
16 goal and the harvest sharing objectives will be met.

17  
18 MR. OLSTROM: Okay. Thanks, Holly.

19  
20 MS. CARROLL: That is essentially what  
21 we do try to do, but admittedly in the last couple of  
22 years District 5D has been opened for fishing after  
23 those goals have already been met. And so that's  
24 essentially the issue with this proposal right now, is  
25 that they want to make it so that once it's met, they  
26 get to fish.

27  
28 MR. OLSTROM: Okay. Thank you, Holly,  
29 for the explanation. Okay. That's it, Mr. Chair.  
30 Thank you for listening to me.

31  
32 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay, Bill. We'll  
33 continue on. Are there any Subsistence Resource  
34 Commission. Is there any comments from the Subsistence  
35 Resource Commission.

36  
37 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council. We  
38 did not receive any formal comments from any of the  
39 Subsistence Resource Commissions, unless someone is on  
40 line at the moment.

41  
42 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Is anyone on line to  
43 make comment on this proposal for the Resource  
44 Commission.

45  
46 (No comments)

47  
48 CHAIRMAN WILDE: There being none then,  
49 we'll ask Mr. Lind was there any summary of written  
50 public comments to this proposal.



1 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council. I  
2 can respond to that. These are public written comments  
3 and also what we receive from tribes, and there were no  
4 submitted public written comments for this proposal.

5  
6 Thank you.

7  
8 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. Thank you. Is  
9 there any public testimony concerning this proposal.

10  
11 (No comments)

12  
13 CHAIRMAN WILDE: There being none,  
14 Regional Council recommendation. If you're going to  
15 make a motion, make a motion to the positive.

16  
17 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council. We  
18 did just get a report from the Western Interior RAC.  
19 Again they're meeting at the same time. We did have a  
20 general statement that was shared via Fred, and we may  
21 be getting some more for the other proposals as well.  
22 If you are interested to know the action the Western  
23 Interior RAC took.

24  
25 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes, I would be  
26 interested. I think the rest of the Council would be  
27 interested in the comments on Western Interior. This  
28 comments from other Regional Councils.

29  
30 MS. PATTON: So this was shared through  
31 the grapevine, so this is a summary in terms of  
32 receiving it in a text with the phone. But what was  
33 shared via Fred was the Western Interior Regional  
34 Advisory Council adopted Proposal FP17-01 with the word  
35 proposed put back in. So they're adopting with  
36 modification to put the proposed back in as opposed to  
37 the recommendation for achieved.

38  
39 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Where? In what part  
40 of the proposal was the word proposed.

41  
42 MS. PATTON: I'm sorry, projected.

43  
44 MS. CARROLL: Mr. Chair. This is Holly  
45 Carroll. I have a clarification that might help Eva  
46 out.

47  
48 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes, we need a  
49 clarification, please.

50

1 MS. CARROLL: I think instead of the  
2 word proposed, it's projected. So the original  
3 proposal was written to say that once the interim  
4 escapement goal is projected to be met, and OSM's  
5 proposal removed the word projected. It sounds like  
6 the WI RAC group deliberated on FP-01 to support with  
7 the word projected, with that projected intent put back  
8 in there. Again this is just on the text from Fred. I  
9 didn't hear the proceedings. I wouldn't consider that  
10 official, but he is the Federal manager and he conveyed  
11 that to me on text. So I'm just passing that along.  
12

13 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Well, we heard it. We  
14 all heard it, the people here, that it should be the  
15 word projected will be replaced by the word.....  
16

17 MR. ALOYSIUS: No. No.  
18

19 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Protect? Okay, Pippa,  
20 please help us out.  
21

22 MS. KENNER: Thank you, Mr. Chair.  
23 What the Western Interior Council supported was the  
24 proposal as written, and that is on Page 51 of your  
25 Council book. Rather than adopting the OSM  
26 modification, they adopted the proposal as written by  
27 the Eastern Interior Council.  
28

29 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you.  
30

31 MS. KENNER: You're welcome. And that  
32 does include the wording when the achievement of the  
33 goal is projected as opposed to when it is achieved.  
34

35 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. Thank you very  
36 much. Is that clear with the rest of the Council.  
37

38 (No comments)  
39

40 CHAIRMAN WILDE: If not -- if so.....  
41

42 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman. Pippa,  
43 are they also omitting all the rest of that sentence.  
44 All the rest of that sentence, it says achieved and  
45 announced by the Federal in-season manager. Has that  
46 been -- because that's not original language.  
47

48 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Go ahead, Pippa.  
49

50 MS. KENNER: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

1                   Mr. Aloysius through the Chair. What I  
2 heard reported was that the Western Interior Council  
3 had adopted the proposal as written, and supported this  
4 proposal as written, which is on Page 51, and that does  
5 not include the additional language that talks about as  
6 determined by the Federal in-season manager. I would  
7 like to check and make sure I'm correct.

8  
9                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes, ma'am. Eva,  
10 we're waiting.

11  
12                  MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council. So  
13 again what I received, and perhaps if the Council wants  
14 to confirm with Western Interior, all that I received  
15 was a brief text that said that they were going with as  
16 was in the original language, projected as opposed to  
17 the OSM modification. But we may have -- Stewart was  
18 trying to get in touch with them to confirm, so if.....

19  
20                  MR. COGSWELL: You are correct.

21  
22                  MS. PATTON: Okay. So the Western  
23 Interior Council supported Proposal FP17-01 as written.

24  
25                  Thank you.

26  
27                  CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. That's all the  
28 comments we needed.

29  
30                  MS. PATTON: Thank you.

31  
32                  CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes, Mr. Aloysius.

33  
34                  MR. ALOYSIUS: So does that -- go back  
35 to Page 48, Item Roman numeral 8, capital B.....

36  
37                  REPORTER: Your microphone, Bob.

38  
39                  MR. ALOYSIUS: Oh. Does that go back  
40 to middle of the Page 48, Roman numeral 8, capital B,  
41 in English, in Subdistrict 5D, you may take salmon for  
42 subsistence use once the mid range of the Canadian  
43 interim management escapement goal and the total  
44 allowable catch goal are projected to be achieved.  
45 That's the words that Western Interior -- okay.

46  
47                  Thank you.

48  
49                  CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any further discussion  
50 on this proposal, Council.

1 (No comments)  
2  
3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: If not, what is the  
4 recommendation of the Council.  
5  
6 MR. ALOYSIUS: Was there a motion  
7 to.....  
8  
9 CHAIRMAN WILDE: No, there is not a  
10 proposal.  
11  
12 MR. ALOYSIUS: I move that we support  
13 Proposal FP17-01 as written.  
14  
15 CHAIRMAN WILDE: You heard the motion.  
16 Do I hear a second.  
17  
18 MR. ONEY: Second.  
19  
20 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Seconded by Mr. Oney.  
21 At this time, Mr. Secretary, would you please call the  
22 role.  
23  
24 MR. ULAK: The vote on.....  
25  
26 REPORTER: Your microphone, sir.  
27  
28 MR. ULAK: A vote on a motion by.....  
29  
30 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Eastern Interior.  
31  
32 MR. ULAK: Bob Aloysius on the  
33 proposal. I have William Brown.  
34  
35 MR. BROWN: Yes.  
36  
37 MR. ULAK: Yes or no?  
38  
39 CHAIRMAN WILDE: He said yes.  
40  
41 MR. BROWN: Yes.  
42  
43 MR. ULAK: James Charles.  
44  
45 MR. CHARLES: Yes.  
46  
47 MR. ULAK: John Andrew.  
48  
49 MR. ANDREW: Yes.  
50

1 MR. ULAK: Michael Peters.  
2  
3 MR. PETERS: No.  
4  
5 MR. ULAK: Dale Smith.  
6  
7 MR. SMITH: Abstain.  
8  
9 MR. ULAK: Annie Cleveland.  
10  
11 MS. CLEVELAND: Yes.  
12  
13 MR. ULAK: Dorothy Johnson.  
14  
15 MS. JOHNSON: Yes.  
16  
17 MR. ULAK: Raymond Oney.  
18  
19 MR. ONEY: Yes. Yes.  
20  
21 MR. ULAK: Robert Aloysius.  
22  
23 MR. ALOYSIUS: Yes.  
24  
25 MR. ULAK: David Bill.  
26  
27 MR. BILL: Yes.  
28  
29 MR. ULAK: Lester Wilde.  
30  
31 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes.  
32  
33 MR. ULAK: Myself, yes. Motion  
34 carries.  
35  
36 CHAIRMAN WILDE: How many -- what's the  
37 count then.  
38  
39 MR. ULAK: We have 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7,  
40 8, 9, 10. Ten yeses, one abstain, one absent.  
41  
42 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Motion carries.  
43  
44 MS. CLEVELAND: One no.  
45  
46 CHAIRMAN WILDE: We are down to FP17-  
47 02. The proposal to allow for harvest of early run  
48 Chinook salmon in Subdistrict 5D on the Yukon River.  
49  
50 MR. ULAK: Oh, one no, yeah.

1                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: That's the same as the  
2 one above?

3  
4                   MR. ULAK: Mr. Chair. For the record,  
5 we had one no.

6  
7                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah. One no. I know  
8 that.

9  
10                  Go ahead, Pippa, with this next, 17-02.

11  
12                  MS. KENNER: Thank you, Mr. Chair.  
13 Just give me a minute to get sorted here.

14  
15                  Thank you, Mr. Chair, members of the  
16 Council. Again my name is Pippa Kenner, and I'm with  
17 the Office of Subsistence Management, and I'm going to  
18 be summarizing the analysis for Fishery Proposal 17-02.  
19 And that starts on Page 70 of your Council book.

20  
21                  Okay. Proposal FP17-02 was submitted  
22 by the Eastern Interior Council, and seeks the harvest  
23 of early run Chinook salmon in Subdistrict 5D. And in  
24 the previous proposal we were also talking about the  
25 area of Subdistrict of 5D in the Yukon drainage.

26  
27                  Few summer chum salmon migrate as far  
28 upriver as District 5, and therefore any subsistence  
29 opportunity provided would likely target Chinook  
30 salmon, the majority of which are of Canadian origin.  
31 Because few alternative fish species are available for  
32 subsistence harvest during the summer season, District  
33 5 often experiences the most restrictive management  
34 measures.

35  
36                  In an effort to increase harvest  
37 opportunity for Federally-qualified subsistence users  
38 in Subdistrict 5D, the Eastern Interior Council  
39 proposed allowing the harvest of early arriving Chinook  
40 salmon. Federally-qualified subsistence users would be  
41 able to harvest the early arriving Chinook salmon until  
42 the first pulse of Chinook salmon arrived in  
43 Subdistrict 5D, which is often protected by a fishing  
44 closure.

45  
46                  If this proposal were adopted, it would  
47 give Federally-qualified subsistence users in  
48 Subdistrict 5D the ability to harvest early arriving  
49 Chinook salmon migrating through portions of  
50 Subdistrict 5D without action from the Federal in-

1 season manager, provided a surplus is available for  
2 harvest. In times of low Chinook salmon abundance,  
3 when conservation actions are required, the in-season  
4 manager may still impose a subsistence fishing schedule  
5 and/or gear restrictions through Federal special  
6 actions.

7  
8 Since 2014 Federally-qualified  
9 subsistence users have been allowed to harvest the  
10 earliest returning Chinook salmon with some gear  
11 restrictions. Once the first pulse of Chinook salmon  
12 arrived in the subdistrict, the in-season manager  
13 issues a closure to protect the salmon pulse. If this  
14 proposal was adopted, the Federally-qualified  
15 subsistence users would have the same opportunity as  
16 they have had in recent years without a Federal special  
17 action.

18  
19 So the OSM preliminary conclusion is to  
20 support the proposal. Adoption of the proposal would  
21 result in continued opportunity for Federally-qualified  
22 subsistence users in portions of Subdistrict 5D  
23 adjacent to Federal management units to harvest the  
24 earliest returning Yukon River Chinook salmon.

25  
26 Since 2014 Federally-qualified  
27 subsistence users have been allowed to harvest Chinook  
28 salmon until the in-season manager closed the district  
29 to protect the first pulse of Chinook salmon, and  
30 adoption of the proposal would provide a preference for  
31 Federally-qualified subsistence users to continue  
32 harvesting the earliest Chinook salmon arriving in  
33 Subdistrict 5D without a Federal special action when  
34 the remaining waters not adjacent to Federal management  
35 units are closed by State regulations.

36  
37 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

38  
39 That's the end of my presentation.

40  
41 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Pippa.

42  
43 Any questions for Pippa on Proposal 17-  
44 02. Council members any questions on Proposal No. 17-  
45 02.

46  
47 (No comments)

48  
49 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Pippa.

50

1                   As Mr. Lind stated, the tribes and the  
2 ANCSA corporations will be consulted with this  
3 proposal. So we could pass those up.

4  
5                   ADF&G, do you have any comments on this  
6 Proposal 17-02.

7  
8                   MS. WESSEL: Thank you, Mr. Chair.  
9 This is Maria Wessel again, the Federal subsistence  
10 liaison with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game.  
11 And we do have the following comments.

12  
13                   This proposal requests to allow harvest  
14 of early arriving Chinook salmon in Subdistrict 5D  
15 until subsistence fishing is closed to protect the  
16 first pulse of Chinook salmon. State regulations  
17 direct that the subsistence fishery in the Yukon River  
18 drainage be based on a schedule implemented  
19 chronologically consistent with (indiscernible -  
20 teleconference interference) by the Alaska  
21 (indiscernible - teleconference interference) in order  
22 to account for the uncertainty in the pre-season  
23 (indiscernible - teleconference interference)  
24 projection. (Indiscernible - teleconference  
25 interference) assessment information.....

26  
27                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: There seems to be a  
28 lot of -- ma'am, there seems to be a lot of  
29 interference along with your presentation. Could you  
30 repeat your last comments that you made that we didn't  
31 hear? There was a lot of static or something on the  
32 phone line.

33  
34                   UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Actually order in  
35 place.

36  
37                   MS. WESSEL: Mr. Chair. Morgata (ph),  
38 probably I was saying the request (indiscernible -  
39 teleconference interference) the Yukon River drainage  
40 (indiscernible - teleconference interference) schedule  
41 (indiscernible - teleconference interference)  
42 chronologically, consistent with migratory  
43 (indiscernible - teleconference interference).

44  
45                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: Madam, we just -- we  
46 couldn't hear a word you said. Could you please repeat  
47 what you said, and whoever is on the phone with the  
48 noise, you could mute your phone by zero.....

49  
50                   REPORTER: Star-6.



1                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: Star-6. And could you  
2 please repeat your presentation on that or your  
3 comments.

4  
5                   MS. WESSEL: Absolutely. Thank you,  
6 Mr. Chair. Can you guys hear me now?

7  
8                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes. Perfect.

9  
10                  MS. WESSEL: Oh, good. Okay. This  
11 proposal requests to allow harvest of early arriving  
12 Chinook salmon in Subdistrict 5D until subsistence  
13 fishing is closed to protect the first pulse of Chinook  
14 salmon. State regulations direct that the subsistence  
15 fishery in the Yukon River drainage be based on a  
16 schedule implemented chronologically, consistent with  
17 migratory timing as the salmon run progresses upstream.  
18 Additionally, a provision adopted in 2013 by the Alaska  
19 Board of Fisheries requires first pulse protection in  
20 order to account for the uncertainty in the preseason  
21 run projection. This prohibition may be relaxed in  
22 Districts 3 through 6 if run assessment information  
23 suggests sufficient abundance. In practice  
24 (indiscernible - teleconference interference)  
25 management (indiscernible - teleconference  
26 interference) and the majority of (indiscernible -  
27 teleconference interference).....

28  
29                  MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman. Mr.  
30 Chairman. It is very obvious that someone does not  
31 want us to hear that presentation.

32  
33                  CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes, I realize that.  
34 It sounds like somebody on the phone line does not want  
35 us to hear the presentation of this proposal. So the  
36 last half of your presentation was nothing but static.  
37 Could you try one more time for that explanation,  
38 please, on the proposal.

39  
40                  MS. WESSEL: I absolutely -- I'll give  
41 it a go the last half.

42  
43                  In practice, the fishery is already  
44 being managed to allow an opportunity to harvest early  
45 arriving Chinook salmon in Subdistrict 5D in order to  
46 offset the lack of opportunity for Chinook salmon later  
47 in the season when management takes conservative  
48 measures in this district, because there are few summer  
49 chum, and the majority of Chinook salmon caught in this  
50 subdistrict are Canadian origin. Formalizing this

1 management approach in regulation, however, would  
2 reduce flexibility.  
3  
4                   Additionally users from Subdistrict 5C  
5 or other subdistricts could travel to Subdistrict 5D to  
6 fish, which may cause concerns in communities on a  
7 local level.  
8  
9                   Thank you, Mr. Chair.  
10  
11                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you. Are there  
12 any comments from the Fish and Wildlife Service on this  
13 proposal. Spence, do you have any comments.  
14  
15                   (No comments)  
16  
17                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: No comments. Okay.  
18 Then we'll continue on. Where was I. Oh, here I am.  
19  
20                   Any Native village, tribal members  
21 here.  
22  
23                   (No comments)  
24  
25                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: No one here. How  
26 about InterAgency Staff Committee.  
27  
28                   (No comments)  
29  
30                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: None. Okay. Let's  
31 continue on with advisory group comments. Other  
32 Regional Councils. Is there any comments from Western  
33 Interior.  
34  
35                   MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council. We  
36 did just receive an update via text. For Proposal 17-  
37 02, the Western Interior Regional Advisory Council had  
38 four votes in support, two to oppose, two to abstain.  
39 They only have eight members present, and so five are  
40 needed to pass a motion. So this motion failed.  
41  
42                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you.  
43  
44                   Fish and Game Advisory Committees.  
45  
46                   MR. CHARLES: None from Lower Kuskokwim  
47 Fish and Game AC.  
48  
49                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: Lower Yukon.  
50

1 MR. ONEY: No comments from Lower Yukon  
2 AC.  
3  
4 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you.  
5  
6 Subsistence Resource Commission.  
7  
8 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council. We  
9 didn't receive any formal comments from the National  
10 Park Service SRCs, unless we have anyone who's joined  
11 us on line.  
12  
13 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Anyone on line for any  
14 comments on this proposal.  
15  
16 MR. OLSTROM: Mr. Chair.  
17  
18 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Go ahead, Bill.  
19  
20 MR. OLSTROM: This is Bill. I'd just  
21 like to go on record to say I oppose this proposal.  
22  
23 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. And you are  
24 representing.  
25  
26 MR. OLSTROM: I'm representing myself.  
27  
28 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. And then we are  
29 down to any written public comments. Ms. Patton.  
30  
31 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council. No  
32 written public comments were received for this Proposal  
33 17-02.  
34  
35 Thank you.  
36  
37 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. Thank you. Are  
38 there any public comments on Proposal 17-02. Alissa.  
39  
40 MS. ROGERS: Good afternoon, Mr. Chair.  
41 I'm Alissa Joseph, Alissa Rogers, recently married.  
42  
43 I had a question for clarification.  
44 Does this proposal imply to the whole Yukon River or  
45 just Subdistrict 5D specifically. Is it already stated  
46 in the regulations that early salmon run is regulated  
47 to be harvested upon the first -- before the first  
48 pulse of Chinook salmon.  
49  
50 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Who's got an answer

1 from Alissa.

2

3 MS. ROGERS: Nobody in here. Okay.

4

5 MR. DECOSSAS: Mr. Chair. Gary

6 Decossas.

7

8 You can see on the executive summary on

9 Page 69, the regulations in bold under proposed

10 regulation. You can see right there that's the

11 language that is being added. Proposed to be added.

12 So this language was not -- is still not in regulation.

13 It was never for Subdistrict 5D.

14

15 MS. ROGERS: Mr. Chairman. So my

16 second question would be.....

17

18 REPORTER: The microphone.

19

20 MR. ALOYSIUS: Microphone.

21

22 MS. JOSEPH-ROGERS: My second question

23 would be, since you -- if you guys do decide to imply

24 this new regulation into the regulatory statute, would

25 you also be including all other subdistricts.

26

27 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Anyone got an answer

28 to that question.

29

30 MR. DECOSSAS: The proposed regulation

31 as -- Mr. Chair. Gary Decossas, OSM.

32

33 The proposed regulation states only

34 Subdistrict 5D, no other subdistricts.

35

36 Thank you.

37

38 MS. ROGERS: Okay. Mr. Chair. Alissa

39 Rogers again.

40

41 Well, I stand with Bill Olstrom as an

42 individual to fail this proposal in regards to, one,

43 Hooper Bay did not get fish because of commercial

44 companies interference with fishing grounds, and the

45 opportunity for the openings in regards to early run

46 salmon migration through that area, and including on

47 the Lower Yukon River as heavily restricted, harder to

48 fish for the direct harvest on Chinook salmon in

49 specific.

50

1                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Alissa.  
2  
3                   Are there any other public testimony  
4 concerning this proposal.  
5  
6                   (No comments)  
7  
8                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: There being none,  
9 Council recommendations. Mr. Smith.  
10  
11                  MR. SMITH: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I've  
12 got I guess it's a question. So the understanding is  
13 that the first pulse going up the Yukon cannot be  
14 harvested, and then this proposal is asking to fish the  
15 earlier run before the first pulse; is that what this  
16 proposal is asking?  
17  
18                  CHAIRMAN WILDE: I just need somebody  
19 to confirm this.  
20  
21                  MR. DECOSSAS: Yes. Gary Decossas for  
22 the record. So the easiest way to try to understand  
23 this, and I wish we had a visual. I just drew one on a  
24 piece of paper that I can pass around. And I know this  
25 is going to be hard to read, but imagine you have  
26 different pulses. So let's say there's pulses that come  
27 through. This very tail end in the beginning is what  
28 is being discussed in this proposal. We had kind of  
29 mentioned it before when Gerald was talking about the  
30 trickles.  
31  
32                  So the first pulse is usually  
33 protected, but what this proposal is talking about is  
34 this little trail end, these tricklers that come in  
35 before the beginning of the first pulse.  
36  
37                  MR. SMITH: Mr. Chair. So if the first  
38 pulse is protected, I guess I don't understand why  
39 they're looking at harvesting those tricklers. That's  
40 my -- I don't get that.  
41  
42                  MS. KENNER: First of all, to respond  
43 to -- this is Pippa with OSM to respond to Alissa who  
44 was just up. The protection of the first pulse is not  
45 in Federal regulations, but the Federal regulations say  
46 -- well, what happens in practice is that the Federal  
47 manager and the State manager manage together. And  
48 when emergency orders come out, they also come out as  
49 in-season special actions. The pulse protection, the  
50 first pulse protection is in State regulations. This

1 proposal is only in Federal regulations, which means it  
2 would only apply to Federally-qualified subsistence  
3 users, so basically the residents of District 5D. So  
4 because it's in Federal regulations, it will not apply  
5 to all the fishers who have access to the Yukon River  
6 from Fairbanks.

7

8                   Because very few summer chum salmon  
9 make it into 5D, they've all turned off and escaped  
10 before they get to it, this is an opportunity for some  
11 fishing to occur before the first pulse comes through  
12 in 5D. And the State and Federal manager in practice  
13 for several years now have been allowing this through  
14 their emergency order and Federal special action  
15 authority. What this would do is put it in regulation.  
16 The Federal subsis -- excuse me. The Federal in-season  
17 manager could close this opportunity, but it would put  
18 it in regulation so it's open until its closed, instead  
19 of the other way around.

20

21                   Did that help?

22

23                   MR. SMITH: Yes. Thanks.

24

25                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay? Okay. Mr.  
26 Peters.

27

28                   MR. PETERS: You know, I'm from  
29 Marshall on Y-2. I would like to comment.

30

31                   I think that young lady, Alissa, had a  
32 pretty good concern, and to take that into some sort of  
33 consideration, because it affect my area. And the  
34 question is -- the question I have, you know, how could  
35 one section of the river have a privilege over opening  
36 and stuff like that when we're down to limitations  
37 where I'm coming from, because of the subsistence need.  
38 You've got to take that into some sort of  
39 consideration, how the regulation's going to affect my  
40 people. And that's something really need to be looked  
41 at. How could one section of the river have priority  
42 over my people. Something along there need to be  
43 regulated, what's coming from my section of the river  
44 on upper end, because a lot of times in Marshall, what  
45 I indicated, they -- with dipnets, they know dipnets  
46 won't catch very much fish during the first run,  
47 because of the high water. Then the second  
48 consideration is that they asked about the nets coming  
49 back.

50

1                   But, you know, I don't have nothing  
2 against 5D, but you've got to consider us, we're also  
3 maybe not on the Yukon River, and we do a lot of  
4 sacrifice from my area. And that's something coming  
5 from the tribes going to be a very strong letter that  
6 with these recommendations of how to set the  
7 regulations of how it's going to affect us where I live  
8 at with my people. Because once you take that away  
9 from us, how in the world will they come back and  
10 reconsider on this proposal. And that's something to  
11 take into consideration, because if you live and have  
12 to live off subsistence and traditional way and where I  
13 come from, you would want to talk and bring that up for  
14 this, because my people, they want to have some sort of  
15 coming -- something for our grandkids and for the  
16 future generation. It's not one section of the Yukon  
17 River that's going to have more privilege over us, and  
18 then to really take that into some sort of  
19 consideration.

20  
21                   And I believe what that gentleman back  
22 there with tribes and address these concerns, like  
23 Alissa had a pretty good point there, you know. It's  
24 going to affect us where we live at, and that's  
25 something to really look at. So I just thought I'd  
26 like to let this Board know. You know, sometimes even  
27 though you get outvoted, stay it. You've got to speak  
28 up for your people and bring these recommendations to  
29 you guys and hear it from the people, because where I  
30 live at, it's a concern. But up there, I don't really  
31 know, and some parts of the river I don't know, but  
32 when it comes to my people for their source of food and  
33 stuff like that, I've got to speak up for my people,  
34 because they can't be here for making recommendation to  
35 the Board, but to help them in that, so that they could  
36 be part of that change. Not to change anything, but to  
37 help us, and to take that in consideration, because  
38 when you talk about one section of the village -- not  
39 village, but section of the river having more benefits  
40 over us, I think something need to be in that  
41 resolution need to be redrafted or something, because  
42 it affect my people really hard.

43  
44                   Thank you, Mr. Chair.

45  
46                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: Comments.

47  
48                   Any other Regional Council comments.

49  
50                   Mr. Smith.

1 MR. SMITH: Thank you, Mr. Chair.  
2  
3 Just for clarification. So the  
4 quote/unquote tricklers are the one that we're talking  
5 about, and we just heard Mr. Peters there in his  
6 testimony. So these tricklers, are they being fished  
7 down at the mouth, Area 1, 2, 3, and 4? Are they being  
8 harvested.  
9  
10 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any answer for the  
11 question.  
12  
13 MS. KENNER: Thank you, Mr. Chair.  
14 Again this is Pippa Kenner from OSM.  
15  
16 We were conferring when you asked your  
17 question. Would you mind repeating it?  
18  
19 MR. SMITH: Mr. Chair. The tricklers,  
20 are they being harvested in Areas 1, 2, 3, and 4.  
21  
22 MS. KENNER: Thank you for that  
23 question, Mr. Smith. I don't have in front of me the  
24 dates and times of all the emergency orders and special  
25 actions that are.....  
26  
27 MS. CARROLL: Pippa Kenner, I can  
28 answer that question if you're like.  
29  
30 MS. KENNER: I was just going to offer  
31 somebody else to answer. Thank you.  
32  
33 MS. CARROLL: This is Holly Carroll.  
34 I'm the Yukon summer season area manager.  
35  
36 And to answer your question, and just  
37 to clarify some of the -- there is not a regulation  
38 that says that we have to protect the tricklers. The  
39 regulation that the Board of Fish, the State  
40 regulation, says we just have to protect that first  
41 pulse. But there are fish, as you guys know, that come  
42 in sometimes even under the ice, and they continue to  
43 sort of trickle in right up until we see the first big  
44 pulse of fish come in. And those fish may come in a  
45 couple hundred a day, might get counted at Pilot, and  
46 it could be up to a thousand a day. But we don't call  
47 it a pulse until we start to see numbers like 3,000 or  
48 4,000 a day at Pilot. So that's just to give you some  
49 perspective. The grand total of the tricklers could be  
50 thousands of fish, but it is across, you know, a week



1 and a half, sometimes longer.

2

3 And there is no regulation that says  
4 that we have to allow anyone to fish those, or that we  
5 have to close that fishery to anyone. So for the last  
6 couple of years at pre-season planning meetings we have  
7 been discussing with fishermen what is a way to allow  
8 District 5D, which tends to be closed much longer than  
9 all other districts for king fishing and salmon fishing  
10 in general, what is a way to give them some Chinook  
11 opportunity. And the last two seasons we had them be  
12 the only subdistrict that was open to fish on those  
13 tricklers.

14

15 Now, we could let -- if the runs  
16 improve, or if District 5D is not limited, we could let  
17 them -- let other districts fish that trickle as well.  
18 But what happens is it's so few fish that if all the  
19 districts fished on that, there might be very few fish  
20 that would end up passing through District 5D.

21

22 So really I just want to clarify that  
23 little bit about that trickle, that there's nothing in  
24 regulation that says that we can't allow the other  
25 districts to fish it. It's just a unique opportunity  
26 that we found that we can allow 5D to fish on a few  
27 Chinook salmon before they're closed down for the bulk  
28 of the season. So hopefully that clarifies it for you.

29

30 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Oney, did you have  
31 a question.

32

33 MR. ONEY: Yes. I don't know when,  
34 maybe since 1998, I know that Chinook salmon has been a  
35 stock of concern, and it still is as of today. I still  
36 haven't heard anything from ADF&G or from Fish and  
37 Wildlife saying that they have lifted that stock. And  
38 it should be protected, no matter what, until we know  
39 for sure that that stock of concern, you know, well, to  
40 fish it truly. So, you know, that is still a stock of  
41 concern, that Chinook salmon.

42

43 Thank you.

44

45 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you. Any other  
46 comments, Council members. What is your  
47 recommendation.

48

49 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chair. Mr.  
50 Chairman.

1                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes, Mr. Aloysius.  
2  
3                   MR. ALOYSIUS: I didn't hear an answer  
4 to the fishers being able to harvest the pre-pulse  
5 Chinook salmon going up the river. All I heard was  
6 that there's no restriction.  
7  
8                   MS. CARROLL: Mr. Chair. I can answer  
9 again.  
10  
11                  MR. ALOYSIUS: And they don't have a  
12 regulation. And that doesn't mean a thing. It doesn't  
13 mean anything. And is there any records from Districts  
14 1 through 4 on people harvesting Chinook salmon prior  
15 to the first pulse. That was the question that was  
16 asked.  
17  
18                  MS. CARROLL: Yes, traditionally people  
19 have been harvesting those fish.  
20  
21                  CHAIRMAN WILDE: Go ahead, Pippa. Yes,  
22 ma'am.  
23  
24                  MS. KENNER: Thank you, Mr. Chair.  
25 This is Pippa Kenner.  
26  
27                  Holly, I was just going to ask you for  
28 some clarification. Did you say that people below  
29 District 5 have had opportunity to harvest before the  
30 first pulse?  
31  
32                  MS. CARROLL: Yes, if we're talking  
33 about long term, typically before severe restrictions  
34 were necessary, people just harvested their Chinook  
35 salmon early in the season. They might start out  
36 fishing for sheefish, and then they would switch to  
37 fishing for king salmon.  
38  
39                  In 2013 when the Board passed the law  
40 requiring us to protect the first pulse of salmon, we  
41 started having more strict restrictions in the  
42 beginning of the season. So, for instance, in 2015, we  
43 closed salmon fishing with large nets, and the only  
44 nets allowed in the water were four-inch or smaller so  
45 that people could target non-salmon species. This year  
46 we allowed six-inch gear in the water. So in theory  
47 people are catching some of those trickling in kings,  
48 because those kings can be caught in six-inch and four-  
49 inch gillnets. And for many years people have been  
50 fishing those kings.

1 But lately with our more severe  
2 restrictions, just to clarify, District 5D is often  
3 closed from the first pulse until the majority of the  
4 run has passed through. They often experience more  
5 closures than any other district in recent years. And  
6 so allowing them to fish this trickle of fish in the  
7 last two years was a small period of time that we were  
8 trying to provide an opportunity so that it would be  
9 more fair, so they would have more equal opportunity to  
10 fish, because other districts were having longer open  
11 times for fishing for salmon than District 5D.

12

13 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Aloysius. What  
14 does that mean? Okay.

15

16 Any other comments. Ms. Dorothy.

17

18 MS. JOHNSON: So I'm thinking you're  
19 talking about the tricklers, and then like the  
20 beginning of the summer you get tricklers and you're  
21 able to go out and, you know, harvest for your own with  
22 the tricklers. So if this is adopted, that means  
23 you're going to regulate the tricklers, too, at the  
24 beginning of the season before you start regulating.

25

26 Thank you.

27

28 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Fish and Game, do you  
29 have an answer to that question.

30

31 MS. CARROLL: This is Holly again with  
32 Fish and Game.

33

34 And to answer your question, my  
35 understanding is currently we already have the tools to  
36 either allow people to fish or not on the tricklers.  
37 And this law, if passed, would make it such that in  
38 Federal regulation 5D are allowed to fish the trickle.  
39 It doesn't say anything about letting other districts  
40 fish the trickle. So if we thought the run was  
41 excellent and would provide a lot of subsistence  
42 harvest, we could allow all the other districts to fish  
43 the trickle as well. This proposal as written wouldn't  
44 stop us as a State agency from allowing other people to  
45 fish it. But it would require us to let District 5D  
46 fish the trickle.

47

48 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay, Dorothy?

49

50 MS. JOHNSON: This is very confusing.

1 I don't know what kind of words to use for this, but I  
2 guess it's kind of coming into light, but if you allow  
3 5D -- if you pass this, you if you adopt this proposal,  
4 that would mean all the tricklers that we get at the  
5 beginning of the season, we won't be able to fish,  
6 because we're going to get regulated. And normally  
7 we're allowed to take a certain amount, you know, like  
8 subsistence, you put out a 4-inch 60-foot. They say we  
9 can catch the ones, you know, that are in the 4-inch  
10 60, but you have to let everything else go, like in a  
11 dipnet, which is really hard. I don't know, this is  
12 getting very confusing. I don't really -- I'm not  
13 understanding. I think I should just.....

14  
15 MS. KENNER: Mr. Chair. Can I respond  
16 to Ms. Johnson?

17  
18 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes, you may.

19  
20 MS. KENNER: Okay. I think the most  
21 important thing to remember -- this is Pippa Kenner  
22 with OSM -- this proposal will only affect fishing in  
23 District 5D. It will not have any effect with people  
24 fishing in other places.

25  
26 The way the Federal subsistence  
27 regulations are structured is like this: When there  
28 isn't a conservation concern on Chinook, there's a  
29 fishing schedule in State regulations, and we all  
30 default to it. They're quite liberal. However, when  
31 you're in a conservation situation, the river is  
32 managed through emergency orders and special actions  
33 that are one in-season. So currently there have been  
34 closures through special actions and State emergency  
35 orders, closures and restrictions that generally start  
36 in the lower river and as that first pulse moves up the  
37 river, those restrictions follow.

38  
39 So what this regulation says is that  
40 unless the Federal in-season manager closes harvest of  
41 Chinook salmon, of early run Chinook salmon in  
42 Subdistrict 5D, it will remain open. It will be in  
43 regulation. The regulations will default to this, and  
44 this will be the regulation unless the Federal in-  
45 season manager adopts a special action to close it.

46  
47 The way it is now it's generally closed  
48 or restricted unless the Federal manager opens it. So  
49 currently for this to open, the Federal manager has to  
50 take in-season action. What they're asking is that

1 this be allowed without a Federal in-season action,  
2 because it will go into the permanent regulations.

3  
4 MR. OLSTROM: Mr. Chair.

5  
6 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay, Dorothy?

7  
8 Any other questions. Mr. Peters.

9  
10 MR. PETERS: My name is Mike Peters  
11 from Marshall.

12  
13 You know there's a concern there for me  
14 and for my people, because how in the world you guys  
15 could open part of the upper section when my people are  
16 sacrificing. You guys set regulations for dip net,  
17 trying to cut back the net. Now you're going to set up  
18 a regulation that eliminate people's input and stuff  
19 like that, coming from the tribes. You know, I see  
20 once you have a restriction on the Yukon, all the way  
21 up to the Canadian border, it affect everybody. Nobody  
22 have privilege over anybody, because the way how I see  
23 it, look what's happening now. They're going to fish  
24 when my first pulse come up -- or not my first pulse,  
25 but when that first pulse pass Marshall, there's a  
26 restriction there and stuff like that. Then all of a  
27 sudden those people up there could -- before it even  
28 reach the Canadian border, they're catching that fish.  
29 You know, there's something wrong there. You've got to  
30 have the public or people's input coming from the  
31 tribal councils, because the way how it's affecting us  
32 now, it's going to hurt us, because the way how I see  
33 it, you're setting regulations on top another  
34 regulation that we have to follow. And there's  
35 something coming from us. We would like to address  
36 this concern and take it into some sort of  
37 consideration, because the way traditionally and stuff  
38 like that, you know, this first pulse, like what I  
39 indicated before, we're the ones that's going to be  
40 hurting. How many times are we going to sacrifice,  
41 just like that lady, you know, that's her own opinion.  
42 This, I would like to let the Board know to put the  
43 board of directors here. It's going to affect my  
44 people. It was one person's opinion from the Fish and  
45 Game or State Fish and Game, what about our  
46 consideration, that's being brought forth, and, you  
47 know, what I'm saying, it's going to affect us dearly.

48  
49 It's going to -- and I tell you, you  
50 know, I'm not blaming nobody. How could you guys took

1 one regulation and set up another regulation where that  
2 we can't fish. You know, that's really got to be  
3 looked into. You know, you've got to take that into  
4 some sort of consideration. And that's something -- I  
5 hear one manager or something like that trying to  
6 address this and trying to make it pass. You know,  
7 it's not right. It's up to the people, that we live  
8 here. We know the concerns coming from our area, and  
9 I'm not going to support that proposal. And I want to  
10 let you know, because I have to talk for my people, and  
11 that's something that's going to be very strong coming  
12 from my people. And we're not to be no better than  
13 upriver or downriver or whatever, but we're trying to  
14 protect that run of salmon and stuff like that. We've  
15 been conservative long enough. It's about time you  
16 guys start looking at us and take our consideration,  
17 because you got one regulation of the dip net, now look  
18 what you're trying to do, give those guys right to fish  
19 up there. The dipnet is not working in my area. What  
20 about my area? Where's our consideration. And that's  
21 something I thought I'd bring up and let you know for  
22 the record.

23

24 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Aloysius.

25

26 MR. ALOYSIUS: Thank you. You know,  
27 we're getting all bent out of shape, because there  
28 seems to be somebody blaming somebody else. And  
29 there's no blame going around. This is just a proposal  
30 from the Eastern Interior Alaska Subsistence Regional  
31 Council. That's all it is. It's just a proposal. It  
32 doesn't come from the Fish and Wildlife or Fish and  
33 Game, or people that you can't see. I haven't heard  
34 anybody, even from teleconference supporting this.  
35 They're just giving you information. That's it. And  
36 there's no use to jump to conclusions about you and you  
37 and you, how can you do this to me. You know, that's  
38 just way beyond comprehension. If you read this  
39 proposal, that's all it is, from one RAC.

40

41 Thank you.

42

43 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Bob. We  
44 needed those comments. Thanks a lot.

45

46 Any more discussion on Proposal 17-2.

47

48 MR. OLSTROM: Mr. Chair.

49

50 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes, Bill.

1 MR. OLSTROM: Yes. This is Bill.  
2 Okay. May I make a comment on this proposal.  
3  
4 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes, you may.  
5  
6 MR. OLSTROM: Yes. I just want to  
7 state the reason I oppose it is because, you know, down  
8 here in the lower river, we know when the fish are  
9 coming in at the mouth, and we know the tricklers. As  
10 they go up the river, you know, I've heard far behind  
11 it is the first pulse comes in. And as these tricklers  
12 head up the river, you don't know whether they're going  
13 up to the Canadian border or to Alaskan streams. But  
14 it's really hard to distinguish where these fish, how  
15 far are they up the river, whether they consider them  
16 tricklers, but the main pulse might be catching up with  
17 these fish. And I just wanted to -- I was just afraid  
18 this might set a precedent for future proposals, and  
19 that's the reason I oppose it.  
20  
21 Thank you.  
22  
23 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Bill.  
24  
25 If there are no comments, we are going  
26 to the recommendations, the Regional Council  
27 recommendations. Any recommendations from Regional  
28 Council.  
29  
30 MR. ALOYSIUS: I'll stick my neck out.  
31  
32 (Laughter)  
33  
34 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman. Being the  
35 way that proposals are supported or not supported, I  
36 move that we support, and that's in the positive. That  
37 means that whoever wants to vote for this proposal will  
38 vote in the positive or an aye. And those who don't  
39 want to support it will vote in the negative, which is  
40 a nay.  
41  
42 So after that clarification, I move  
43 that we support Proposal FP17-02.  
44  
45 CHAIRMAN WILDE: You heard the motion  
46 from Mr. Aloysius. Do I hear a second.  
47  
48 MR. ONEY: Second.  
49  
50 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Seconded by Mr. Oney.

1 Mr. Secretary, please call the roll.  
2  
3 MR. ULAK: Okay. William Brown.  
4  
5 MR. BROWN: No.  
6  
7 MR. ULAK: James Charles.  
8  
9 MR. CHARLES: No.  
10  
11 MR. ULAK: John Andrew.  
12  
13 MR. ANDREW: No.  
14  
15 MR. ULAK: No? John?  
16  
17 MR. ANDREW: No.  
18  
19 MR. ULAK: Michael Peters.  
20  
21 MR. PETERS: No.  
22  
23 MR. ULAK: Lester Wilde.  
24  
25 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes.  
26  
27 MR. ULAK: Dale Smith.  
28  
29 MR. SMITH: No.  
30  
31 MR. ULAK: Myself, no. Annie  
32 Cleveland.  
33  
34 MS. CLEVELAND: No.  
35  
36 MR. ULAK: Dorothy Johnson.  
37  
38 MS. JOHNSON: No.  
39  
40 MR. ULAK: Raymond Oney.  
41  
42 MR. ONEY: No.  
43  
44 MR. ULAK: Greg Roczicka absent.  
45 Robert Aloysius.  
46  
47 MR. ALOYSIUS: Being contrary, yes.  
48  
49 MR. ULAK: David Bill.  
50



1 MR. BILL: No.  
2  
3 MR. ULAK: We have 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7,  
4 8, 9, 10. Ten nos. One, two. Two yeses. And one  
5 absent.  
6  
7 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Motion fails.  
8  
9 We are down to FP 03, revise the season  
10 dates and align Federal regulations with State  
11 regulations in Subdistrict 4A on the Yukon River.  
12 Presenters, you have the floor.  
13  
14 MS. KENNER: Thank you, Mr. Chair,  
15 members of the Council. Again I'm Pippa Kenner with  
16 OSM, and I am going to present the summary of the  
17 analysis for FP17-03. And that analysis starts on Page  
18 87.  
19  
20 Proposal FP17-03 was submitted by the  
21 Western Interior Council and seeks to allow subsistence  
22 drift gillnet fishing for chum salmon in the lower  
23 portion of the Yukon River Subdistrict 4A annually  
24 between June 10th and August 2nd.  
25  
26 So I would like you first to go to the  
27 map on Page 90. And in the map you can see that  
28 Subdistrict 4A begins just below Anvik, at the bottom  
29 of the map, and ends near Koyukuk. And that the upper  
30 portion of 4A is above Stink Creek, and the lower  
31 portion of 4A is below Stink Creek. Now the  
32 regulations regarding the harvest of salmon,  
33 specifically regulations about the use of the gillnet,  
34 that are different in upper 4A or lower 4A.  
35  
36 So what's happened in the last couple  
37 years is that the Alaska Board of Fisheries has adopted  
38 new regulations concerning this area, and the use of  
39 gillnets. And I'd like -- if you would, I'd like you  
40 to open your books to Page 88. And on Page 88 you can  
41 see the proposed Federal regulation on the left, and  
42 the State regulation on the right. So in the Federal  
43 regulation as it exists now under (e), subpart (3)(xv),  
44 subpart (A), we have in districts -- in Subdistrict 4A,  
45 upstream from the mouth of Stink Creek, you may take  
46 Chinook salmon by drift gillnets less than 150 feet in  
47 length from June 10th through July 14th, and you may  
48 take chum salmon by drift gillnet after August 2nd.  
49 That's the only time you can use a drift gillnet for  
50 the harvest of Chinook and chum salmon.

1                   So a couple of years ago the Alaska  
2 Board of Fish adopted this regulation concerning chum  
3 salmon, and it's on the right-hand side, and it's  
4 (1)(B), and I'll read it to you. This is a new State  
5 regulation. From June 10th through August 2nd the  
6 Commissioner may open by emergency order fishing  
7 periods during which chum salmon may be taken by drift  
8 gillnets. Oh, and chum salmon may be taken by drift  
9 gillnets after August 2nd. That was the new part.

10

11                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: Revise the season  
12 dates and align regulations with State.

13

14                   MS. KENNER: Got it. Okay. Thank you.  
15 I'm going back and saying that again. The Alaska Board  
16 of Fish several years ago adopted (1)(B) on the right  
17 that says from June 10th through August 2nd the  
18 Commissioner may open by emergency order fishing  
19 periods during which chum salmon may be taken by drift  
20 gillnets. Then as we drop down to the (B) section in  
21 Federal regulations, the proposal is to add to the  
22 Subdistrict 4A downstream regulations, that unless  
23 closed by the Federal in-season manager -- oh, excuse  
24 me. From June 10th through August 2nd, the Federal in-  
25 season manager may open fishing periods during which  
26 chum salmon may be taken by drift gillnet.

27

28                   And on the State side, that regulation  
29 was adopted by the Alaska Board of Fish, you can see it  
30 at (2)(B), last year.

31

32                   So this proposal asks that (2)(B), the  
33 Subdistrict 4A downstream from the mouth of Stink  
34 Creek, that there be an additional time when you can  
35 use a gillnet for the harvest of chum salmon from June  
36 10th through August 2nd. And that has just been added  
37 into State regulations also. So this would make the  
38 regulations equivalent, and it would also offer more  
39 opportunity for Federally-qualified users to use drift  
40 gillnets.

41

42                   So the OSM conclusion is to include --  
43 the OSM preliminary conclusion begins on Page 95. And  
44 the OSM preliminary conclusion wants to include the  
45 language, unless closed by Federal special action, and  
46 from June 10th through August 2nd, the Federal in-  
47 season manager may open fishing periods during which  
48 salmon may be taken by drift gillnets, in the (A)  
49 portion to make it equivalent to State regulations.

50

1                   So what the Board of Fish did is they  
2 added it to the lower and what we're proposing is  
3 adding it to the upper and the lower to add additional  
4 time where Federally-qualified users can use drift  
5 gillnets to harvest chum salmon. So the proposal was  
6 more restrictive than the OSM modification. The OSM  
7 modification says, well, if you're going to give more  
8 opportunity in the lower part of 4A, let's give the  
9 same opportunity in the upper part of 4A to make it  
10 equivalent to State regulations. So the OSM conclusion  
11 adds opportunity to the proposal as written.

12  
13                   Gary, can you offer some insight as to  
14 why the Western Interior did not ask for that to be  
15 added? Had the Board of Fish not acted yet?

16  
17                   MR. DECOSSAS: Through the Chair. Gary  
18 Decossas, OSM fisheries.

19  
20                   So this proposal as it was submitted by  
21 the Western Interior Regional Advisory Council was to  
22 make the lower section of Subdistrict 4A more  
23 consistent with the recent State regulations that were  
24 also passed in Subdistrict -- the lower portion of  
25 Subdistrict 4A.

26  
27                   So what I was told was that the Western  
28 Interior -- that OSM had tried to write a proposal to  
29 fix these inconsistencies between State and Federal  
30 regulations in relation to Subdistrict 4A. So OSM  
31 wrote up a proposal last fisheries cycle, and it did  
32 not pass. So what the Western Interior did was put the  
33 proposal -- they submitted the proposal for it this  
34 cycle. So this will fix the lower portion. And what  
35 we suggest is that we modify the language to also add  
36 it for the upper portion of Subdistrict 4A as well.  
37 And this would make State and Federal regulations  
38 consistent for all of Subdistrict 4A.

39  
40                   I'd be happy to answer any questions  
41 about this proposal.

42  
43                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: Pippa, are you ready  
44 for questions?

45  
46                   MR. DECOSSAS: Yes, Mr. Chair.

47  
48                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Smith.

49  
50                   MR. SMITH: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

1                   So the Western Interior RAC, did they  
2 -- Pippa, when you say we, are you talking about the Y-  
3 K RAC to change dates? Are they the same dates as the  
4 Western RAC.

5  
6                   MS. KENNER: Than you, Mr. Chair.

7  
8                   Mr. Smith, this is Pippa from OSM.  
9 Could you restate your question? I didn't quite  
10 understand what you were asking.

11  
12                  MR. SMITH: Mr. Chair. So one of you  
13 said we, and I took that as the Y-K RAC, we, us, right  
14 here. When you said we, changing the dates.

15  
16                  CHAIRMAN WILDE: OSM.

17  
18                  MR. SMITH: OSM. Oh, you. OSM, okay.  
19 So Western RAC, did they have -- it says here, when you  
20 said changing the dates.

21  
22                  CHAIRMAN WILDE: Go ahead, Pippa.

23  
24                  MS. KENNER: Okay. Thank you, Mr.  
25 Chair.

26  
27                  Through to Dale, to my understanding --  
28 okay. You know, the process where our Councils -- back  
29 up. I just want to make clear that the Office of  
30 Subsistence Management rarely submits a proposal for  
31 regulation changes. We accept proposals for regulation  
32 changes. We encourage, and it's very common for  
33 Councils to develop proposals to change regulations.  
34 So a Council develops it, they vote on it, And then  
35 our Council coordinator and Staff actually write the  
36 proposal.

37  
38                  And my understanding is when the  
39 Western Interior was -- they knew this was happening,  
40 these regulation changes in State regulations, and they  
41 knew they wanted those changed in Federal regulations,  
42 but there was a communication problem, and not  
43 everything the Western Interior Council requested made  
44 it into the proposal. I believe that was part of the  
45 communication problem. It's implied that the Western  
46 Interior did want the OSM modification, which is why we  
47 modified it.

48  
49                  Thank you.

50

1                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. Mr. Peters.  
2  
3                   MR. PETERS: I've got a question, that,  
4 you know, I'm a little bit confused. Maybe you ought  
5 to make that clarification, because you say we, and  
6 when we say we, it's we on the Board here from the  
7 Yukon Delta RAC. How come when you say we, you're  
8 talking about Western. You know, you've got to make  
9 that understanding to me. How could another  
10 organization or a different of Alaska could make  
11 recommendations for us? And that's not right. It  
12 should be coming from this Board. And for  
13 clarification, when you talk about we, you know, we've  
14 been appointed and elected by, you know, our area. But  
15 for clarification, you know, it's really something that  
16 it's coming from you. What I mean by you, and when you  
17 say we, who you are recommending to Western, to Western  
18 Interior, or the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta. You know, that  
19 clarification need to be set somewhere. You guys,  
20 they're making whatever, trying to support something  
21 that we didn't even put in that proposal. It's coming  
22 from them. And when I say, we, it's up to the Board  
23 here, not another -- you know, I have -- they want to  
24 put.....  
25  
26                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Peters.  
27  
28                   MR. PETERS: Yes.  
29  
30                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: May I make something  
31 clear.  
32  
33                   MR. PETERS: Yeah.  
34  
35                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: When OSM is up there  
36 speaking and they say we, they mean OSM.  
37  
38                   MR. PETERS: Oh, okay. Yeah. Thank  
39 you.  
40  
41                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: You say (Indiscernible  
42 - simultaneous speech) speaking and they say we, they  
43 mean Fish and Wildlife. They don't speak for us. We  
44 speak for ourselves. So when they say we, they're  
45 talking about their agency, not ours.  
46  
47                   MR. PETERS: Okay. Thank you. Because  
48 just for clarification, you know, I don't have nothing  
49 against anybody, but just something -- thank you for  
50 that correction.

1 Thank you.

2

3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any other discussion

4 on this proposal.

5

6 (No comments)

7

8 CHAIRMAN WILDE: What is the Regional

9 Council recommendation on this Proposal 17-03.

10

11 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman. We are

12 the last of the groups to say anything. You have a

13 whole list of people ahead of us to ask.

14

15 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council. To

16 go through the procedure for proposals, we would just

17 like.....

18

19 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Well, didn't I just go

20 through that, or was it something else. If I didn't, I

21 apologize.

22

23 MS. PATTON: It's been a long day.

24 That's good. Thank you. So we.....

25

26 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. We just heard

27 the introduction of the proposal. We're going on to

28 tribe and ANCSA corporations will be taken care of by

29 Mr. Lind.

30

31 Agency reports. ADF&G, do you have any

32 comments.

33

34 MS. WESSEL: (Indiscernible -

35 teleconference interference) Subdistrict 4A of the

36 Yukon River between June 10th and August 2nd, which

37 would align Federal and State regulations and allow

38 subsistence users the opportunity to target summer chum

39 salmon with drift gillnets during times of Chinook

40 salmon conservation. The Alaska Board of Fisheries

41 adopted this regulation in March of 2015.

42

43 Additionally, the modification

44 suggested by the Office of Subsistence Management,

45 adding waters upstream of Stink Creek to the proposed

46 change, is consistent with regulations adopted by the

47 Alaska Board of Fisheries in January of 2016. This

48 change would reduce complexity in the regulations by

49 aligning Federal and State regulations, and ADF&G

50 supports this proposal.

1 Thank you, Mr. Chair.  
2  
3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you. Any  
4 comments from Fish and Wildlife.  
5  
6 (No comments)  
7  
8 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any comments from Fish  
9 and Wildlife Service.  
10  
11 (No comments)  
12  
13 CHAIRMAN WILDE: There don't seem to be  
14 any comments from Fish and Wildlife Service at this  
15 time.  
16  
17 Are there any Native tribes.  
18  
19 (No comments)  
20  
21 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Don't seem to be any  
22 Native tribes here either.  
23  
24 InterAgency Staff Committee, any  
25 comments.  
26  
27 (No comments)  
28  
29 CHAIRMAN WILDE: No comments from  
30 InterAgency.  
31  
32 Other Regional Council comments on  
33 Proposal 17-03.  
34  
35 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council. The  
36 Western Interior Regional Advisory Council supported  
37 FP17-03 as modified by OSM.  
38  
39 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you. Fish and  
40 Game Advisory Committees.  
41  
42 (No comments)  
43  
44 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Fish and Game Advisory  
45 Committees.  
46  
47 MR. CHARLES: No comments from the  
48 Lower Kuskokwim AC.  
49  
50 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Lower Yukon.

1 MR. ONEY: Lower Yukon, no comment.  
2  
3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: No comments.  
4 Subsistence Resource Commission, any comments.  
5  
6 (No comments)  
7  
8 CHAIRMAN WILDE: No comments.  
9  
10 MS. PATTON: No comments, Mr. Chair.  
11 Thank you.  
12  
13 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Summary of written  
14 public comments. Ms. Patton.  
15  
16 MS. PATTON: Again, Mr. Chair and  
17 Council, no written comments were submitted for this  
18 proposal. Thank you.  
19  
20 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you. Are there  
21 any public testimony concerning this Proposal 17-03.  
22  
23 Go ahead, Bill, is that you.  
24  
25 MR. OLSTROM: Thank you. Okay. Yes,  
26 Mr. Chair. I just have a question probably for the  
27 Departments, either Fish and Wildlife Service or  
28 Department of Fish and Game. In this proposal, June  
29 10th to whenever, does this mean that with drift  
30 gillnets to target chum salmon, and what about the  
31 incidental catch of Chinook. Will they be allowed to  
32 keep those? And that's most likely June 10th on up to  
33 that way, the first pulse will be in the river.  
34  
35 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Maschmann.  
36  
37 MR. MASCHMANN: Chair. Bill, this  
38 Gerald Maschmann with Fish and Wildlife Service.  
39  
40 Again this regulation is aligning the  
41 Federal regulations with what's already in State regs.  
42 And this just extends drift fishing for chum, which is  
43 already in State regs. But again that's going to be  
44 regulated in-season by the in-season managers. So if  
45 it's determined that incidental harvest of Chinook  
46 salmon in this fishery would be detrimental, then it  
47 would probably not be allowed. But if the managers  
48 determine that there's enough chum to be harvested, and  
49 that there's enough Chinook that an incidental harvest  
50 in this fishery could be sustained, then, yes, folks



1 who caught Chinook in this fishery could take them home  
2 for subsistence.

3

4                   Again, we're going to -- this is just  
5 extending the season in Federal records to match those  
6 that are in State already. And we're going to work  
7 with fishermen, you know, during the winter and spring,  
8 and manage the fishery to protect Chinook salmon as  
9 much as we need to, and also to allow for some harvest  
10 of Chinook salmon when we determine that there's an  
11 allowable harvest. But it's not guaranteeing them that  
12 they get to fish. It's just extending that opportunity  
13 if the opportunity is there.

14

15                   I hope that helps.

16

17                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay, Bill?

18

19                   MR. OLSTROM: Okay. Thank you.

20

21                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any other public  
22 testimony.

23

24                   (No comments)

25

26                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: There being none,  
27 we'll go down to our Regional Council recommendation.  
28 Mr. Aloysius.

29

30                   MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman. Always in  
31 the positive, I move that we support the adoption of  
32 Proposal -- what the heck is that number -- FP17-03.

33

34                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: You heard the motion.  
35 Do I hear a second.

36

37                   MR. CHARLES: I'll second the motion.

38

39                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: Seconded by Mr.  
40 Charles. Any further discussion.

41

42                   MR. SMITH: Question.

43

44                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: Question's called for.  
45 A roll call vote, please, Mr. Secretary.

46

47                   MR. ULAK: Okay. David Bill.

48

49                   MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council.  
50 David Bill needed to step out for a minute, so we have

1 one absent at this time.  
2  
3 MR. ULAK: Thank you. Robert Aloysius.  
4  
5 MR. ALOYSIUS: Yes.  
6  
7 MR. ULAK: Greg Roczicka absent.  
8  
9 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council. If  
10 I may, just for clarification on the motion, is the  
11 Council's intention to adopt the motion are originally  
12 proposed or to adopt the motion as modified by OSM.  
13  
14 MR. ALOYSIUS: Thank you for that  
15 reminder. As modified by OSM, is that appropriate?  
16 Yeah. And again remember you vote yes, it means you're  
17 for that adoption -- I mean, not the adoption but the  
18 support. And a negative is not support.  
19  
20 MR. ULAK: Okay. Mr. Chairman. To  
21 continue. Raymond Oney.  
22  
23 MR. ONEY: Yes.  
24  
25 MR. ULAK: Dorothy Johnson.  
26  
27 MS. JOHNSON: Yes.  
28  
29 MR. ULAK: Annie Cleveland.  
30  
31 MS. CLEVELAND: Yes.  
32  
33 MR. ULAK: Myself, yes. Dale Smith.  
34  
35 MR. SMITH: Yes.  
36  
37 MR. ULAK: Lester Wilde.  
38  
39 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes. My cough and  
40 John's cough. I stated yes when John was coughing, so  
41 he didn't hear me.  
42  
43 MR. ULAK: Michael Peters.  
44  
45 MR. PETERS: Yes.  
46  
47 MR. ULAK: John Andrew.  
48  
49 MR. ANDREW: Yes.  
50

1 MR. ULAK: James Charles.  
2  
3 MR. CHARLES: Yes. Yes.  
4  
5 MR. ULAK: William Brown.  
6  
7 MR. BROWN: Yes.  
8  
9 MR. ULAK: David Bill.  
10  
11 MS. PATTON: Absent at the moment.  
12 Thank you.  
13  
14 MR. ULAK: Okay. Mr. Chair, we have 1,  
15 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10. Eleven yeahs, two absent.  
16  
17 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Motion carries to  
18 revise the season dates and align Federal regulations  
19 with State regulations in Subdistrict 4A on the Yukon  
20 River.  
21  
22 We are going down to -- we'll take this  
23 last one before we break for the evening, or recess  
24 until tomorrow. The last proposal we're taking today  
25 is FP17-04, and that is to revise methods and means for  
26 use of gillnets in Racetrack Slough of the Koyukuk  
27 Rover, and the sloughs of the Huslia River drainage.  
28  
29 Ms. Pippa or Gary, you have the floor.  
30  
31 MS. KENNER: Thank you, Mr. Chair and  
32 members of the Council. Again this is Pippa Kenner  
33 with OSM, and I'm going to summarize the analysis of  
34 FP17-04, which begins on Page 103 of your Council  
35 books.  
36  
37 I'm practicing on you before I present  
38 all these to the Eastern Interior, so I appreciate your  
39 patience.  
40  
41 Proposal FP17-04 was submitted by the  
42 Western Interior Council, and requests that regulations  
43 be changed to allow an increase in the portion of  
44 Racetrack Slough on the Koyukuk River and sloughs of  
45 the Huslia River drainage that may be covered with a  
46 gillnet in order to provide more subsistence harvest  
47 opportunity for northern pike between ice out and June  
48 15th.  
49  
50 Current Federal subsistence regulations

1 allow for a fishery at this time, but gillnets may not  
2 obstruct more than one-half of the width of a stream.  
3 This would allow gillnets to cover all but 20 feet of  
4 the distance across the slough, which would match State  
5 subsistence regulation changes that were made at the  
6 January 2016 Board of Fisheries meeting.

7  
8 The OSM preliminary conclusion is to  
9 support the proposal. If adopted, this would allow  
10 Federally-qualified subsistence users the same  
11 opportunities as subsistence users under State  
12 regulations. It would likely increase the harvest of  
13 northern pike and other local fish species during this  
14 time period. The season for this gear change would end  
15 prior to the arrival of salmon into these systems.

16  
17 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

18  
19 And we're happy to answer any questions  
20 you might have.

21  
22 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any questions on  
23 Proposal 17-04.

24  
25 (No comments)

26  
27 CHAIRMAN WILDE: There being no  
28 questions, the report on Board consultation will be  
29 taken care of by Mr. Lind, along with the ANCSA  
30 corporation.

31  
32 And are there any comments from ADF&G.

33  
34 MS. WESSEL: Thank you, Mr. Chair.  
35 Yes. This is Maria Wessel again with the Alaska  
36 Department of Fish and Game.

37  
38 This proposal requests to allow  
39 gillnets to obstruct more than one-half the width of  
40 Racetrack Slough on the Koyukuk River and sloughs of  
41 the Huslia River drainage between ice out and June 15,  
42 and would align Federal regulations with State  
43 regulations adopted by the Alaska Board of Fisheries in  
44 January of 2016, allowing subsistence users more  
45 harvest opportunity for northern pike in Racetrack  
46 Slough on the Koyukuk River, and the sloughs of the  
47 Huslia River drainage. This change would reduce  
48 complexity in the regulations by aligning Federal and  
49 State regulations. And ADF&G supports this proposal.  
50

1 Thank you, Mr. Chair.  
2  
3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you. Any  
4 comments from the Service. Fish and Wildlife.  
5  
6 (No comments)  
7  
8 CHAIRMAN WILDE: No comments. Native  
9 village or tribe.  
10  
11 (No comments)  
12  
13 CHAIRMAN WILDE: There don't seem to be  
14 anyone here.  
15  
16 I'm going through the list here.  
17 InterAgency Staff Committee.  
18  
19 (No comments)  
20  
21 CHAIRMAN WILDE: No comments. Advisory  
22 group comments.  
23  
24 MS. PATTON: Regional Advisory  
25 Councils.  
26  
27 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Other Regional  
28 Councils.  
29  
30 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council.  
31 Again Western Interior is just meeting now, and so  
32 they're able to take on this. (Indiscernible -  
33 coughing) those members are asking. Eastern Interior  
34 will meet two weeks from today, so we won't know their  
35 actions until that time.  
36  
37 On FP17-04 the Western Interior Council  
38 supported with modification. On streams under 40 feet  
39 wide, they be restricted up to 75 percent blocked. And  
40 streams over 40 feet wide have to allow a 20-foot open  
41 corridor for passage.  
42  
43 So the Western Interior Council  
44 supported with that modification.  
45  
46 Thank you, Mr. Chair.  
47  
48 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you. Fish and  
49 Game Advisory.  
50

1 MR. CHARLES: No comments from the  
2 Lower Kuskokwim AC.  
3  
4 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Lower Yukon.  
5  
6 MR. ONEY: No comments from Lower  
7 Yukon.  
8  
9 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. Subsistence  
10 Resource Commission.  
11  
12 MS. PATTON: No comments from any SRCs.  
13 Thank you.  
14  
15 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Summary of public  
16 written comments.  
17  
18 MS. PATTON: And no written public  
19 comments for 17-04. Thank you.  
20  
21 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Ms. Patton.  
22  
23  
24 Any public testimony.  
25  
26 (No comments)  
27  
28 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Are there any public  
29 testimony out in telephone land.  
30  
31 (No comments)  
32  
33 CHAIRMAN WILDE: No public testimony.  
34 Regional Council recommendations.  
35  
36 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council. If  
37 I may, just to remind the Council, when there are  
38 regional proposals that don't affect the Council region  
39 directly, it's always an option to defer to the Council  
40 within that region. This proposal was specifically for  
41 the Koyukuk River prior to the salmon season. So  
42 that's an option as well for the Council.  
43  
44 Thank you.  
45  
46 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes. Thank you for  
47 that reminder. You can always, if you don't feel like  
48 that you need to handle this proposal, you can defer it  
49 back to the regional proposal maker. So it's up to the  
50 Council's recommendation at this time.

1 Yes, Mr. Charles.  
2  
3 MR. CHARLES: Mr. Chairman. I move to  
4 adopt the proposal FP17-04 with the modification.  
5  
6 Thank you.  
7  
8 CHAIRMAN WILDE: To support.  
9  
10 MR. ALOYSIUS: (In Yup'ik)  
11  
12 MR. CHARLES: Yeah, support or adopt,  
13 whatever.  
14  
15 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Support. Yes, Eva.  
16  
17 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council.  
18 Can I please clarify. When you say to support Proposal  
19 FP17-04 with modification, were you referring to the  
20 modification that the Western Interior had just made  
21 that we read into the record.  
22  
23 MR. CHARLES: (Nods affirmative)  
24  
25 MS. PATTON: So just to restate the  
26 motion, that would be to support FP17-04 with the  
27 modification as recommended by the Western Interior  
28 Council that streams under 40 feet wide can be 70  
29 percent blocked; streams over 40 feet wide have to  
30 allow a 20-foot open corridor passage.  
31  
32 Thank you.  
33  
34 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Do I hear a second to  
35 the motion.  
36  
37 MR. ALOYSIUS: Second.  
38  
39 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Seconded by Mr.  
40 Aloysius. Any further discussion.  
41  
42 (No comments)  
43  
44 MR. SMITH: Question.  
45  
46 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Question's called for.  
47 Mr. Secretary, could you kindly please call the roll.  
48  
49 MR. ULAK: Okay. Annie Cleveland.  
50

1 MS. CLEVELAND: Yes.  
2  
3 MR. ULAK: Dorothy Johnson.  
4  
5 MS. JOHNSON: Yes.  
6  
7 MR. ULAK: Raymond Oney.  
8  
9 MR. ONEY: Yes.  
10  
11 MR. ULAK: Greg Roczicka, absent.  
12 Robert Aloysius.  
13  
14 MR. ALOYSIUS: Yes.  
15  
16 MR. ULAK: David Bill.  
17  
18 MR. BILL: No.  
19  
20 MR. ULAK: William Brown  
21  
22 MR. BROWN: Yes.  
23  
24 MR. ULAK: James Charles.  
25  
26 MR. CHARLES: Yes.  
27  
28 MR. ULAK: John Andrew.  
29  
30 MR. ANDREW: Yes.  
31  
32 MR. ULAK: Michael Peters.  
33  
34 MR. PETERS: Yes.  
35  
36 MR. ULAK: Lester Wilde.  
37  
38 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes.  
39  
40 MR. ULAK: Dale Smith.  
41  
42 MR. SMITH: Yes.  
43  
44 MR. ULAK: Myself, yes. We have 1, 2,  
45 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10. Eleven yeahs, one absent, one  
46 no.  
47  
48 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council. If  
49 I may, on the other proposals there was lengthy  
50 discussion around justification for Council's action,



1 and we didn't have much discussion on this one. If we  
2 could get a few words of the supporting yeses for this  
3 proposal in terms of the justification, that would be  
4 helpful for the record.

5  
6 Thank you.

7  
8 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any justification on  
9 this proposal. What was our justification. I can't  
10 think of any off the top of my head. Can you think of  
11 a justification for adopting this proposal. Robert.

12  
13 MR. ALOYSIUS: End of the day, it's  
14 been a long, long discussion with the previous  
15 proposals.

16  
17 Thank you.

18  
19 CHAIRMAN WILDE: I think one of the  
20 things that we could -- you know, if this proposal was  
21 put in by us, our Regional Advisory Council, those  
22 distances should be all right. We would probably agree  
23 with them. We would agree with those, if not with the  
24 same justification. That is my justification.

25  
26 MS. PATTON: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

27  
28 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes, Mr. Dale Smith.

29  
30 MR. SMITH: Mr. Chair. Yeah, on Page  
31 109, there's a justification right there.

32  
33 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. Then use that  
34 justification on that page. Okay.

35  
36 Okay. We're going to go on until 5:30.  
37 We've got another 20 minutes to go, so let's see if we  
38 can attack something else here. We'll go down and take  
39 care of Item B and then we'll recess until tomorrow for  
40 Item C, and we'll take care of Item C first thing in  
41 the morning.

42  
43 MS. PATTON: Mr. Chair and Council.  
44 Just to remind the Council, we did defer taking action  
45 on the Kuskokwim area proposal, FP17-05.

46  
47 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah, we will do that  
48 tomorrow morning also.

49  
50 MS. PATTON: Okay. Thank you.

1                   CHAIRMAN WILDE: Fisheries Resource  
2 Monitoring Program, priority information needs.  
3  
4                   MS. KENNER: Thank you, Mr. Chair.  
5 This is Pippa Kenner.  
6  
7                   I'd like to advise the Council to not  
8 move on to this right now, because it's going to take a  
9 little bit of discussion.  
10  
11                  CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. On your advice  
12 we will recess this meeting until tomorrow morning at  
13 9:00 o'clock.  
14  
15                  MR. ALOYSIUS: I second that motion.  
16  
17                  (Off record)  
18  
19                  (PROCEEDINGS TO BE CONTINUED)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

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

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

THAT the foregoing pages numbered 02 through  
147 contain a full, true and correct Transcript of the  
YUKON KUSKOKWIM DELTA FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE REGIONAL  
ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING, VOLUME I taken electronically  
on the 12th day of October at Bethel, Alaska;

THAT the transcript is a true and  
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reduced to print to the best of our knowledge and  
ability;

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

DATED at Anchorage, Alaska, this 5th  
day of November 2016.

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

□