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KODIAK/ALEUTIANS SUBSISTENCE
REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

PUBLIC MEETING

DENA'INA CIVIC AND CONVENTION CENTER
Anchorage, Alaska
March 8, 2024

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Rebecca Skinner, Chair
Coral Chernoff
Natasha Hayden
Patrick Holmes
Richard Koso
Christopher Price
Brett Richardson
Samuel Rohrer
Della Trumble
Jeffrey Wasley

Regional Council Coordinator, Lisa Hutchinson-
Scarborough

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P R O C E E D I N G S

(Anchorage, Alaska - 3/7/2024)

(On record)

ACTING MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay. I think we have our Teams link connected in so we're going to go ahead and get started. So this is the Kodiak/Aleutians RAC meeting on March 8th. First item on the agenda is the invocation. And I didn't pre-ask Pat Holmes, but are you willing to do the invocation?

(No comments)

ACTING MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Thank you.

MR. HOLMES: Yes. Thank you, Madame Chair. Usually I bring a yellow cedar carving I did many years ago for our Council. This is a rough sketch of Liam Sulla who is a solar ultimate deity for the Alutiiq peoples. And I think that the (indiscernible) have a similar spiritual relationship.

Anyway I have some bad news in terms that some of our -- two of our really important people for subsistence, Eddie Olpine, died this fall and Johnny Ref died a little more than a month ago. And they were really dear people and only a couple years older than me. So I'm going to hang on as best I can, but anyway they really, really were important to our community as well as a lot of our elders that have passed on. So I would ask you if you have a moment to just think of those people and send them some good vibes.

I think today -- I'm not as good as my cousin, Ronny Lind -- I mean, Orville, but I think we should -- a possible thing to consider is the serenity prayer by Niebuhr. God grant us the serenity to accept the things we cannot change and courage and wisdom to accept the things that we can and to know the difference.

So let's just take a moment and pause and think about what we're going to be doing and that we'll do it in the most positive way we can.

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1 Thank you.

2

3 (Moment of silence)

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5 MS. TRUMBLE: Madame Chair, Della.

6

7 MR. HOLMES: Okay. Thank you.

8

9 ACTING MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Go ahead,
10 Della.

11

12 MS. TRUMBLE: I'm not sure how well
13 everybody else is hearing, but there is a horrid echo
14 on here and I'm wondering if we need to call back in or
15 dial back in.

16

17 REPORTER: So my suggestion is they do
18 that because we're not having an echo anywhere else.

19

20 ACTING MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay. So
21 we're not getting an echo in the room, but Tina advises
22 if you are getting an echo go ahead and hang up and try
23 to dial back in and see if that addresses the issue.

24

25 REPORTER: Yeah.

26

27 ACTING MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: All
28 right. We'll go ahead and call the meeting to order at
29 8:19 a.m. And next item is roll call to establish a
30 quorum. And this is either Chris or the Coordinator.

31

32 Chris, are you prepared to do this.

33

34 MR. PRICE: To do a roll call, where's
35 our list.

36

37 Jeffrey Wasley.

38

39 MR. WASLEY: Present.

40

41 MR. PRICE: Patrick Holmes.

42

43 MR. HOLMES: Here.

44

45 MR. PRICE: Richard Koso.

46

47 (No comments)

48

49 MR. PRICE: Sam Rohrer.

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1 MR. ROHRER: Here.

2

3 MR. PRICE: Christopher Price, here.

4

5 Coral Chernoff.

6

7 MS. CHERNOFF: Here.

8

9 MR. PRICE: Rebecca Skinner.

10

11 MS. SKINNER: Here.

12

13 MR. PRICE: Della Trumble.

14

15 MS. TRUMBLE: Present.

16

17 MR. PRICE: Natasha Hayden.

18

19 MS. HAYDEN: Here.

20

21 MR. PRICE: Brett Richardson.

22

23 MR. RICHARDSON: Here.

24

25 MR. PRICE: We have a quorum.

26

27 ACTING MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: All
28 right. Thank you, Chris. All right. The next item on
29 our agenda which I'll point out we do have an updated
30 agenda which is in the supplemental meeting book, it's
31 the white cover book with the tabs on the side. That's
32 an updated agenda from the original one. But the next
33 item on the agenda is meeting announcements and I'll
34 turn it over to the Council Coordinator.

35

36 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: Yes, good
37 morning, Council members and welcome to the
38 Kodiak/Aleutians Regional Advisory Council in our
39 winter meeting here at the beautiful Dena'ina Center in
40 Anchorage, Alaska. I'm happy that everybody was able
41 to make it and, Della, I'm sorry that you were not able
42 to be with us in person.

43

44 REPORTER: And I'd say to Della, I have
45 -- show here on her twice. And that might be the echo,
46 she's like creating her own echo.

47

48 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: And, Della,
49 Tina has you logged in twice on Teams. Maybe it's --

50

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1 you can turn off one of those Teams.

2

3

REPORTER: We'll just try it.

4

5

6

MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: And see if that helps your echo.

7

8

Anyway, where are we.

9

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ACTING MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay. So this is Rebecca Skinner again. I'm going to go ahead and give the information for the call in number and information about public comments and then there may be additional meeting announcements from Lisa momentarily.

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So the call in toll free number is 1-833-436-1163. When prompted enter the passcode 930625778 pound. For public comments. Public comments are welcome for each agenda item and for regional concerns not included on the agenda. The Council appreciates hearing your concerns and knowledge. The Chair will identify the opportunities to provide public comments. Please fill out a comment form to be recognized by the Council Chair. Time limits may be set to provide opportunity for all to testify and keep the meeting on schedule. And please note that these are estimated times and the agenda is subject to change. You can contact Staff for the current schedule. And evening sessions are at the call of the Chair. And I also will note that we only have half a day for this meeting so I would encourage everyone to be as considerate as possible in their -- in their comments.

35

36

37

Lisa, do you have additional meeting announcements?

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MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: No, you pretty much covered it. Thank you so much, Rebecca. And I just wanted to welcome our two new Council members to the Council. So we have Brett Richardson, he represents Unalaska, the Aleutian region and subsistence concerns. And Jeff Wasley, he's from Cold Bay and he represents out sport users. So thank you and welcome to the Council. I'm happy -- and I just thank all of you for your service and continuing service to this Council. And again if you are in the room please fill out a form or sign the form and if you want to talk to the Council there's a blue testifier

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1 form. If you're online you can just alert us if you're
2 on the Teams' message by doing your star 5 and it'll
3 raise your hand and then we will know to call on you.

4

5 And thank you so much, Madame Vice
6 Chair.

7

8 ACTING MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Thank
9 you. The next item is welcome and introductions. So
10 again this is Rebecca Skinner, I am the Vice Chair of
11 KARAC. Della Trumble is on the telephone and we
12 thought it would make more sense for me to lead the --
13 this part of the meeting since I'm in the room.

14

15 At this point, Della, if you would like
16 to give a welcome, I -- that would be great otherwise
17 I'll go ahead and continue and go on to introductions.

18

19 So, Della, did you want to say any
20 words.

21

22 (No comments)

23

24 ACTING MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: All
25 right. So I'm not hearing a response from Della.
26 There may be some connection issues.

27

28 So I'd like to welcome everyone to the
29 Kodiak/Aleutians RAC meeting for March, 2024 and
30 welcome to our new RAC members. We'll go ahead and go
31 through introductions. This will be everybody in the
32 room and everybody online. I'm going to start with the
33 RAC members at the table and I'm going to start at the
34 end of the line to my left with Chris Price. So if you
35 could introduce yourself, state what community you're
36 from and if you'd like to make any other brief
37 statement.

38

39 Thank you.

40

41 MR. PRICE: Good morning. My name's
42 Christopher Price. I'm from Unalaska. I've been on
43 the RAC about five years now and appreciate having this
44 All Council meeting, it's been really beneficial. So
45 looking forward today to a productive meeting today.

46

47 Thank you.

48

49 ACTING MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Thanks,

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1 Chris.

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Natasha.

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MS. HAYDEN: Good morning. Natasha Hayden, I'm from Kodiak. I represent subsistence users and just similarly to Chris really appreciate the five -- the All -- both things. I'm on five years and appreciate the All RAC meeting. This is my first All RAC meeting. So it's definitely been beneficial and an opportunity to meet and have conversations with others from around the State.

And I just want to make a comment about the introduction of three tribally nominated seats on the Federal Subsistence Board that I'm real -- was really excited to hear that announcement on the first day and looking forward to that getting implemented.

So thanks.

ACTING MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Thanks.

Sam.

MR. ROHRER: Good morning. Sam Rohrer here. I'm from Kodiak. This is my second All Council meeting I've been to and appreciated it. And I just want to especially say I appreciate all the effort Staff's put in, the OSM Staff's been here early in the morning until late in the evening. They've been working hard I'm sure for weeks before this, but certainly this week they've been putting in long hours. So thanks to all of our OSM Staff and the other agency Staff for all your work to make this week happen.

ACTING MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Thanks.

Coral.

MS. CHERNOFF: Yes, good morning, everyone. I'm Coral Chernoff from Kodiak area. I've served for nine years and just got approved for my next three and I'm happy to be here.

Thank you.

ACTING MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Thanks.

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1 Brett.

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 MR. RICHARDSON: Good morning. My
name's Brett Richardson. This is my first meeting, I
just got onto the Council. I'm from Unalaska, I
represent subsistence users which is an honor. I'm
just honored to be selected to be part of the process.
I guess it's fortunate for my first meeting to take
part in an All Council meeting. It's been a great
learning process and I'm looking forward to learning
and contributing more.

 Thank you.

 ACTING MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Thank
you.

 Pat.

 MR. HOLMES: Thank you, Madame Chair.
I'm Pat Holmes. I don't honestly know how long I've
been doing this, I think it's pushing 24 years. But I
think my first comment is I want to thank Della for all
her devotion through all this time. I used to go to
meetings when she was Chair before I was on the Council
and she has an incredible ability to contact anybody
that's related to an issue to try to get their input
and to try to find reasonable solutions. So my hat is
off to Della and I think we'll probably have a very,
very productive meeting because everybody cares about
the folks in their community and their ability to get
subsistence.

 So thank you very much.

 ACTING MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Thank
you.

 Jeff.

 MR. WASLEY: Good morning. I'm Jeff
Wasley, Cold Bay area. Just very thankful to be on
this Committee and I want to thank everyone and all the
different agencies and everyone that put this together.
I can't imagine the amount of work. I'm really looking
forward to learning from others here today.

 Thank you.

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1 ACTING MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Thanks.

2

3 Rick, we're just doing introductions.

4

5 MR. KOSO: Yeah, hi. I'm Rick Koso
6 from -- representing Adak. Been doing this for close
7 to 20 years now. It's been very educational and I
8 enjoy every bit of it.

9

10 Adak is doing pretty well subsistence
11 wise. We -- we're not having any trouble that I know
12 of. Lake Andy, we ran into some trouble, we're working
13 on that. But outside that overall we're looking at
14 hopefully putting in a small fish plant there the next
15 year or two, and then, you know, control some of the
16 cod that's being caught around the area to come ashore.
17 But outside of that everything is going well that I
18 know of.

19

20 Thank you.

21

22 ACTING MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: All
23 right. Thanks.

24

25 And, Della, were you able to connect
26 back in.

27

28 MS. TRUMBLE: Yes, thank you. Good
29 morning. I'm -- first of all I just want to thank
30 everybody. I unfortunately wasn't able to participate
31 in the meeting, but I did participate on Teams all
32 weekend. It was very beneficial and learned a lot.
33 And then the fact that I couldn't be there in these
34 meetings with all the regions it helps a lot to be able
35 to communicate and interact with other people in other
36 regions especially on issues that have an impact --
37 that impact all of us and especially the cross region
38 issues.

39

40 I'm just -- you know, being a part of
41 this process for over 26 years I just want to say that
42 I've learned a lot and it's been an -- I just don't
43 have words to say how much I've learned and just
44 learning how different regions of people and how we all
45 have so much in common yet we are different depending
46 on where we live in Alaska. I've enjoyed working with
47 everybody. Pat, I appreciate your words. This is --
48 and I will not be renewing my membership for this year,
49 I will be probably spending more time in Wasilla in the
50

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1 future after this -- during the course of this seems to
2 be moving towards this part of the country.

3
4 So but with that I just want to say
5 thank you to everybody. Lisa, I thank you so much for
6 your help and all the Staff that -- it's you guys work
7 really hard. But that -- I'm good.

8
9 Thank you.

10
11 ACTING MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: All
12 right. Thanks, Della. And again this is Rebecca
13 Skinner and I am from Kodiak.

14
15 All right. Let's move on to
16 introductions in the room. And I think what I'm going
17 to do is go by agency. So I'll list off each agency.
18 If people in the room are with that agency please come
19 up and introduce yourself. And then if you're not
20 covered by the list I'm going to go through I'll get
21 back that -- get to that at the end.

22
23 So first anyone in the room from Fish
24 and Wildlife Service.

25
26 MR. GERKEN: Good morning. My name's
27 Jon Gerken, Fish and Wildlife Service. I'm the Federal
28 Fisheries Manager for you guys' regional area. I
29 reside here in Anchorage and try to get out to see you
30 guys as much as possible.

31
32 So thank you.

33
34 ACTING MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Thank
35 you.

36
37 MS. FOSADO: Good morning, Madame
38 Chair, members of the Council. I am Maria Fosado and I
39 am here representing the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
40 as the Izembek Refuge Manager. So looking forward to
41 the conversation today.

42
43 Thank you.

44
45 ACTING MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Thank
46 you.

47
48 MR. WALKER: Thank you. Madame Chair,
49 I'm Shane Walker, Planning Chief for the National
50

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1 Wildlife Refuge System in Alaska here assisting Maria
2 Fosado.

3

4 ACTING MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Thank
5 you. All right. I'm going to change my plan a little
6 bit. Is there anyone online from Fish and Wildlife
7 Service. And that includes the -- each of the Refuges
8 as well.

9

10 MR. BRADY: Yeah, hello. This is Mike
11 Brady, I'm online. I'm the Refuge Manager at Kodiak
12 National Wildlife Refuge.

13

14 ACTING MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Thank
15 you.

16

17 MS. FUJII-DOE: Hello, this is Danielle
18 Fujii-Doe. I'm the Deputy Refuge Manager for Kodiak
19 National Wildlife Refuge.

20

21 MS. WILLIAMS: Hello, Madame Chair,
22 members of the Council. My name's Alison Williams and
23 I am from Izembek National Wildlife Refuge.

24

25 ACTING MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: All
26 right. And.....

27

28 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: My name is
29 (indiscernible). I am acting Deputy Manager at Izembek
30 Wildlife Refuge.

31

32 ACTING MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: All
33 right. Is there anyone else online from Fish and
34 Wildlife Service.

35

36 (No comments)

37

38 ACTING MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay.
39 Next we'll move on to OSM. So people from OSM who are
40 in the room if you could come forward and introduce
41 yourself.

42

43 MR. LIND: Good morning, Madame Chair,
44 Council members. The name is Orville Lind, I'm the
45 Native Liaison for the Office of Subsistence
46 Management. It's good to see you.

47

48 MR. KOLLER: Yeah, good morning,
49 members of the Council. My name is Justin Koller, I'm
50

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1 your Fisheries Biologist for the Office of Subsistence
2 Management. I feel like it's been too long since I've
3 seen you all so it's really nice to be here. And
4 please if you have any questions during breaks or
5 anything like that please come find me and I'll help
6 you work through it.

7

8 Thanks.

9

10 MS. DAY: Yeah, good morning, Council
11 members. My name's Janel Day. I am the Cartographer
12 with Office of Subsistence Management. I'm fairly new
13 to the program, but I'm pretty familiar with Kodiak
14 after spending probably about six, seven years there.
15 So good to see you all and that's it.

16

17 Thank you.

18

19 DR. ROBERTS: Hello, Madame Chair,
20 members of the Council. I'm Jason Roberts. I'm an
21 Anthropologist for OSM.

22

23 MS. HOLMAN: Good morning, members of
24 the Council. My name is Kendra Holman and I am the
25 Kodiak/Aleutians Wildlife Biologist with OSM. And All
26 Council meeting photographer here.

27

28 So thank you. So I'll be in and out.

29

30 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: Hi. My
31 name's Lisa Hutchinson-Scarborough and I'm the Council
32 Coordinator for this Council.

33

34 Thank you.

35

36 ACTING MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: All
37 right. Is there anyone online from OSM.

38

39 MS. LaVINE: Yes, good morning,
40 everyone. This is Robbin LaVine, I'm the Subsistence
41 Policy Coordinator for OSM. And I thought I would do
42 you all a favor and participate online rather than in
43 person.

44

45 Thank you. Bye.

46

47 ACTING MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: All
48 right. Is there anyone else from OSM online.

49

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1 (No comments)

2

3 ACTING MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay.

4 Next will be Bureau of Indian Affairs.

5

6 MR. CHEN: Aloha, Madame Chair and
7 Council members. My name is Glenn Chen, I'm the
8 Subsistence Branch Chief for the Bureau of Indian
9 Affairs. And it's always a pleasure to attend your
10 meetings.

11

12 ACTING MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Thank
13 you. Is there anyone else from BIA online.

14

15 (No comments)

16

17 ACTING MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay.
18 Next will be U.S. Forest Service. Is there anyone in
19 the room from the Forest Service.

20

21 (No comments)

22

23 ACTING MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Is there
24 anyone online from the Forest Service.

25

26 (No comments)

27

28 ACTING MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay.
29 Next will be the Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

30

31 MS. KEATING: Good morning, Madame
32 Chair, members of the Council. My name's Jackie
33 Keating, I'm the Lead Subsistence Resource Specialist
34 for the southcentral region, of course that encompasses
35 Kodiak. Really nice to see everybody today.

36

37 MR. WILCOX: Good morning, Madame
38 Chair, members of the Council. My name is Chance
39 Wilcox, I'm with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game
40 at the Division of Subsistence. I'm the Subsistence
41 Resource Specialist for Bristol Bay, the Alaska
42 Peninsula and the Aleutians. It's great to see you all
43 again.

44

45 MS. KLEIN: Good morning. My name's
46 Jill Klein. I'm the Regional Subsistence Coordinator
47 with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Good morning.

48

49 ACTING MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Thank

50

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1 you. Is there anyone online with the Alaska Department
2 of Fish and Game.

3

4 (No comments)

5

6 ACTING MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay.
7 All right. We'll do any introductions from tribes,
8 anyone in the room.

9

10 (No comments)

11

12 ACTING MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Is there
13 any -- are there any tribal representatives online.

14

15 (No comments)

16

17 ACTING MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: All
18 right. And ANCSA corporations in the room.

19

20 (No comments)

21

22 ACTING MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: And are
23 there any ANCSA corporations online.

24

25 (No comments)

26

27 ACTING MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay. Is
28 there anyone in the room who did not get a chance to
29 introduce themselves. Please come forward and
30 introduce yourself.

31

32 MR. DUNAWAY: Hello, I'm -- excuse me.
33 I'm Dan Dunaway, I'm the Vice Chair of the Bristol Bay
34 RAC. And I'm one of the Designated Coordinators with
35 Pat and your Council on some of the funding projects.
36 Prior to 35 years in Dillingham I lived in Dutch Harbor
37 and Sand Point for -- actually I should say Unalaska, I
38 prefer that to Dutch Harbor and Sand Point for about 10
39 years as a Fish and Game Biologist.

40

41 ACTING MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: All
42 right. Thank you. And is there anyone else online who
43 has not introduced themselves yet.

44

45 (No comments)

46

47 ACTING MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: All
48 right. Then that concludes the welcome and
49 introduction section. Next item is to review and adopt

50

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1 the agenda. And again there is an updated agenda
2 that's found in the supplemental meeting materials
3 booklet.

4

5 For the agenda there -- there's a
6 couple of items that we may need to add. One is a
7 service award. I would suggest that that go between
8 number 8 and number 9.

9

10 And then if I can get an indication if
11 there is going to be a proposal from the RAC to approve
12 any letters that were discussed earlier this week, if
13 so we should have an agenda item for those. So if I
14 can just get nods of heads if anybody plan.....

15

16 (Inaudible response)

17

18 ACTING MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay. So
19 I am seeing nods of heads and approval of new letters
20 would go under action items under number 10. I would
21 suggest that that go after E. So between 10E and 10F.

22

23

24 And if -- if there's -- are there
25 additional items that people know they wanted to add.

26

27 (No comments)

28

29 ACTING MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay.
30 I'm not seeing any hands. Okay. So if we can get a
31 motion to approve the agenda with the changes noted.

32

33 MR. HOLMES: Madame Chair.

34

35 ACTING MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Go ahead,
36 Pat.

37

38 MR. HOLMES: Move to approve with
39 changes as noted.

40

41 ACTING MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Is there
42 a second.

43

44 MR. KOSO: Second.

45

46 MR. ROHRER: Second.

47

48 ACTING MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Thank
49 you. Is there any objection.

50

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1 (No comments)

2

3 ACTING MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Or I
4 should have asked, is there any discussion.

5

6 (No comments)

7

8 ACTING MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: All
9 right. Seeing no discussion, seeing no objection, the
10 agenda is approved.

11

12 All right. The next agenda item is
13 election of officers. And I think at this point I hand
14 it over to Lisa.

15

16 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: Yes. For
17 -- again for the record this is Lisa Hutchinson. I am
18 the Council Coordinator and I'm going to run the
19 election for the Chair. And then after that I will
20 take the -- the Chair will then take over for the Vice
21 Chair and the Secretary.

22

23 So under your charter we have election
24 of officers every year so we elect a Chair, a Vice
25 Chair and a Secretary. So I am now opening up the
26 floor for any nominations for Chair.

27

28 MR. KOSO: I nominated Rebecca Skinner.

29

30 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: Okay. We
31 have a nomination for Rebecca Skinner. Do we have any
32 other nominations.

33

34 MR. HOLMES: Madame Chair.

35

36 ACTING MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Yes, Pat.

37

38 MR. HOLMES: For the Vice Chair I'd
39 like to -- I've known Becky forever.....

40

41 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: Excuse me.
42 Let's wait for that. Okay. Thank you, Pat.

43

44 MR. HOLMES: Okay. Pardon me.

45

46 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: This is for
47 Chair. Thank you. Okay. Do we have any other
48 nominations for Chair for this year?

49

50

0017

1 (No comments)

2

3 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: Okay.
4 Hearing none, I guess we have a new Chair. But we have
5 to vote first I guess.

6

7 First of all, Rebecca, do you accept
8 that position?

9

10 ACTING MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: I do.
11 And -- yeah. And thank you, Rick.

12

13 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: You can
14 tell I'm a little rusty at doing this. So all those in
15 favor of having Rebecca Skinner as your Chair please
16 say aye.

17

18 IN UNISON: Aye.

19

20 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: Any nays.

21

22 (No opposing votes)

23

24 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: Okay.
25 Congratulations, Rebecca. You're now the Chair.

26

27 Thank you.

28

29 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: All right.
30 Thank you, Lisa. Okay. The next position open for
31 nomination is the Vice Chair.

32

33 Pat, you had a nomination.

34

35 MR. HOLMES: Yes, Madame Chair. I
36 haven't asked him, but I'd like to nominate Chris
37 Price. He's an executive person for the folks out at
38 Unalaska, the corporation, and coordinates an immense
39 amount of activities for the folks in the Aleutians and
40 he's a really, really bright fellow and I would hope
41 that he would accept the Vice Chair position.

42

43 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Chris, do you
44 accept that nomination.

45

46 MR. PRICE: I'm sorry, I can't at this
47 time. And I would like to nominate Natasha Hayden as
48 the Vice Chair.

49

50

0018

1 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay. Natasha,
2 do you accept that nomination.

3
4 MS. HAYDEN: Yes, I do.

5
6 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: All right. Are
7 there any other nominations for Vice Chair.

8
9 (No comments)

10
11 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay. I'm not
12 sure we technically have to vote since there's only
13 one, but we'll go ahead. Is -- all those in favor of
14 Natasha as Vice Chair.

15
16 IN UNISON: Aye.

17
18 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Any opposed.

19
20 (No opposing votes)

21
22 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: All right.
23 Seeing no opposition, congratulations, Natasha. Next
24 nominations for Secretary.

25
26 MR. KOSO: I nominate Pat Holmes

27
28 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Did you say Pat
29 Holmes?

30
31 MR. KOSO: Yes.

32
33 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Pat, do you
34 accept?

35
36 MR. HOLMES: I'd have to decline
37 because of my hearing is very poor and I just would be
38 kind of overwhelmed with that at my age. So I would
39 hope that someone else would like to take that role. I
40 did it for many years and it -- it takes a lot of work
41 if you're going to do a good job.

42
43 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Natasha.

44
45 MS. HAYDEN: Thanks, Madame Chair. I
46 nominate Coral Chernoff.

47
48 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Coral, do you
49 accept the nomination.

50

0019

1 MS. CHERNOFF: Yes.

2

3 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: All right. Are
4 there any other nominations for Secretary.

5

6 (No comments)

7

8 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay. Seeing
9 none, all those in favor of Coral Chernoff as
10 Secretary.

11

12 IN UNISON: Aye.

13

14 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Any objections.

15

16 (No opposing votes)

17

18 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: All right.
19 Seeing no objections, congratulations, Coral. And,
20 Rick, can you hit your mic to turn that off.

21

22 Thank you.

23

24 MR. KOSO: Sorry.

25

26 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: All right. So
27 thank you everyone. And thank you for those who agreed
28 to serve in these positions. Moving on to the next
29 agenda item is review and approve previous meeting
30 minutes. And it looks like this is in the supplemental
31 tab 1. So if everyone has had a chance to review those
32 is there a motion to approve the previous meeting
33 minutes.

34

35 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: Yeah, just
36 a note on that. It is -- there are two sets of meeting
37 minutes, one's in your book and one's in supplemental.
38 And the one in your book is not the correct one, it was
39 from last meeting. So make sure you're looking at the
40 one in your supplemental.

41

42 Thank you.

43

44 MR. KOSO: So move.

45

46 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Thank you, Rick.
47 Is there a second.

48

49 (No comments)

50

0020

1 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Coral, go ahead.

2

3 MS. CHERNOFF: Yeah, I'd like to make a
4 correction in the part with the Council and Chair
5 reports.

6

7 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Do you want to
8 second the motion as well then.

9

10 MS. CHERNOFF: Yes. Second.

11

12 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay. Thank
13 you.

14

15 MS. CHERNOFF: I'll second the motion.

16

17 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Thank you. And
18 then go ahead with your comment.

19

20 MS. CHERNOFF: It says member Chernoff
21 highlighted her participation in the Indigenous
22 People's Council for Marine Mammals -- oh, never mind.
23 I did say that. And that was quite old.

24

25 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Thank you. Go
26 ahead, Pat.

27

28 MR. HOLMES: Back on our minutes for
29 the last round there, there's a comment that I had a
30 discussion of obtaining reds due to the commercial
31 fishing. That's not the case, that is some type of a
32 misquote.

33

34 Thank you.

35

36 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Do you want the
37 sentence deleted or what -- how should the sentence be
38 corrected?

39

40 MR. HOLMES: Just delete difficulty of
41 obtaining reds are due to commercial fishery. Some
42 folks have difficulties obtaining reds, but that's
43 because of the decline of the stocks in Buskin River,
44 et cetera.

45

46 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay. So just
47 delete the due to commercial fisheries part of the
48 sentence?

49

50

0021

1 MR. HOLMES: Yes, ma'am.

2

3 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay. Thank
4 you. All right. Are there any other changes or
5 comments.

6

7 (No comments)

8

9 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay. Is there
10 any objection to approving the meeting minutes and this
11 would be the September 19th through 20th, 2023 meeting.

12

13 (No comments)

14

15 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay. Seeing no
16 objection the meeting minutes are approved.

17

18 Okay. The next item on our agenda is
19 the item that we added. This would be the service
20 award section and I understand that Glenn Chen is going
21 to conduct this part.

22

23 Thank you.

24

25 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: This is
26 what Glenn gets for showing up for our meetings.

27

28 Thank you, Glenn.

29

30 MR. CHEN: Good morning again, Madame
31 Chair and Council members. So today I have the
32 distinct pleasure and honor of presenting a service
33 award to one of your long term members. And while the
34 plaque says it's a 10 year award, Mr. Koso has actually
35 been on the Council since 2009. There was a short
36 break there. So that's why the award is for 10 years.
37 But yeah, Mr. Koso's been a long time member and has
38 made lots of wonderful contributions to the proceedings
39 of your Council.

40

41 I'll read a quick bio here. Mr. Koso
42 was born in Adak. He has -- excuse me, he's born in
43 King Cove, correct?

44

45 MR. KOSO: Yeah.

46

47 MR. CHEN: Apologies for that. But
48 he's from Adak. He's been on the Council since 2009.
49 His upbringing has revolved around subsisting on wild
50

0022

1 resources for food and commercial fishing for income.
2 He has served as Chair and Vice Chair and continues to
3 serve on the Board of Adak Community Development
4 Corporation and focuses on enhancing fisheries
5 infrastructure. He collaborates with organizations
6 like the Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge and
7 ADF&G to ensure sustainable access to local resources.
8 Member Koso's contributions to the Council mission over
9 the years has been invaluable thanks to his profound
10 understanding of subsistence and commercial fishing
11 tradition in the Aleutian Islands region.

12

13 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Go ahead, Rick.

14

15 MR. KOSO: Yeah, just a correction on
16 that. I did get my 10 year award from 2005 to 2015, I
17 do have that award for the 10 year already. So from
18 2015 on I've been here. So.....

19

20 MR. CHEN: Okay.

21

22 MR. KOSO: Anyway that's just a
23 correction. Thank you.

24

25 MR. CHEN: Uh-huh. Time for a photo.

26

27 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: All right. And
28 I think we're going to have the award presentation and
29 photograph right now.

30

31 Thanks.

32

33 MR. CHEN: Are you ready for a photo?

34

35 MR. KOSO: Oh.

36

37 (Laughter)

38

39 MR. KOSO: I didn't put my good suit
40 on.

41

42 (Applause)

43

44 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Rick, did you
45 want to make any other comments or are you good.

46

47 MR. KOSO: No, I'm good. Thank you.

48

49 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: All right.

50

0023

1 Thanks. All right. Moving on to the next agenda item,
2 number 9 is Council member reports. And just to be
3 consistent again I'm going to start over to my left
4 with Chris Price.

5

6 MR. PRICE: Good morning. I'd like to
7 just give a brief description of some of the
8 subsistence harvests that our community members
9 participate in. And that would be the crab, local
10 subsistence crab. We got tanner, bairdi, dungeness
11 and, you know, crab is important for the community to
12 subsist on. And of course halibut, seal, sea lion,
13 shellfish, salmon is probably our number 1 subsistence
14 food in our community on McLees Lake. And then seagull
15 eggs are -- I don't know if I ever mentioned that much,
16 but many of the Native folks enjoy seagull eggs for a
17 lot of their cooking.

18

19 We do a lot of trade and barter. Also
20 reindeer from Atka is important. We trade with other
21 communities like Nikolski and St. George and St. Paul
22 for marine mammals.

23

24 So I just want to share that today.
25 It's important for our community. We've seen
26 reductions in the crab, subsistence crab over the
27 years. It's been really at a low point for us. So I
28 just want to share that this morning.

29

30 Thank you.

31

32 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Thank you,
33 Chris. Natasha.

34

35 MS. HAYDEN: Thank you, Madame Chair.
36 Since the last time we met in King Cove some of the
37 activities that I've seen is the deer harvesting was
38 better than it had been in the last few years. There
39 has been -- there continues to be increased pressure
40 from nonresidents that are coming into Kodiak and are
41 able to access some of the remote communities via the
42 Marine Highway. And they're -- it's not subsistence
43 hunting, but I think it's called -- I mean, when you
44 are getting a hunting license and taking deer it's
45 sport hunting technically. There's a lot of that
46 that's happening which is making it harder for people
47 in rural communities to access that deer resource,
48 they're having to go further and there's just a lot
49 fewer available nearby.

50

1 This is kind of a slow time of year.
2 I've been working with the recently reestablished
3 Kodiak Island Tribal Coalition. And as a
4 representative of Native Village of Afognak on that,
5 I'm the Vice Chair. And we had applied for membership
6 into IPCOM and we did receive a -- it's called
7 associate membership. So we're looking to develop a
8 marine mammal management program or marine mammal
9 program. It is required to be eligible to be a full
10 member of IPCOM. So the Indigenous People's Council on
11 Marine Mammal Management. So looking to work with
12 IPCOM and probably looking to do either a sea otter or
13 seal study to fulfill that requirement so then we can
14 become a full voting member of IPCOM.

15
16 And, you know, otherwise it's just been
17 kind of a slow and quiet time of year for us in Kodiak.
18 The weather's always up and down, nothing too extreme
19 other than we got a lot of really pretty severe storms
20 last fall that I'd be curious to see how the -- the
21 deer population makes it through the winter.

22
23 So that's all I have. Thanks.

24
25 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Thank you. Sam.

26
27 MR. ROHRER: Thank you, Madame Chair.
28 Unfortunately I wasn't able to make the fall meeting,
29 fall meetings are always hard for me due to my work
30 schedule, but so sorry I wasn't able to be there.

31
32 But just a brief report, observations
33 on our deer population. I think -- so my observations
34 and things I've been hearing were that our deer numbers
35 are somewhat down again. Certainly there wasn't as
36 much of a recovery last winter as many of us had hoped
37 there would be. We had a fairly mild winter last
38 winter last year and the expectation was that we'd see
39 a real big bump this year in our deer numbers. And we
40 just really didn't see that and so that was a
41 disappointment. We've had a fairly mild winter again.
42 We did have quite a few storms this fall, but we've had
43 a mild winter and generally our deer are most
44 susceptible to late winters, you know, and then a late
45 spring which is really their time they really need for
46 recovery coming out of that winter. And so it's still
47 a little bit too early to tell how they're going to do,
48 but so far I think our deer are in good shape. We
49 don't have a lot of snow, we don't have a lot of ice
50

0025

1 and so they've been doing pretty good. So the hope is
2 that next year will be a little bit better.

3

4

5 And the one thing I will comment on as
6 well with seeing the increased number of deer hunters,
7 both nonresidents and folks from the rest of the State
8 coming down I think unfortunately as we continue to see
9 caribou area -- areas closed to caribou hunting,
10 there's a lot of folks that like to go caribou hunting.
11 When they can't do that they want to -- they're going
12 to go somewhere else and Kodiak's the easy solution.
13 And so we're seeing -- we're seeing those closures up
14 in western -- northern and western Alaska starting to
15 push both residents and nonresidents down to Kodiak.
16 And that's a trend that's going to continue I think
17 into the future.

17

18

So that's all I have. Thanks.

19

20

MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Thanks. Coral.

21

22

23

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So if anybody has any horns, hides,
skulls, porcupine, wherever you are in the State I'll
take them. And I like to include food in that too. We
just received some kelp relish this morning that I'm
looking forward to trying.

I also -- I'm the Chair for region's
AMBCC in Kodiak. And for the past about 25 years the
road system has been closed to us while the rest of the

0026

1 island is open for -- we had to be 500 feet offshore.
2 So for the past four years we've had a road area
3 opening for migratory birds in the spring, migratory
4 bird and egg harvest. That was implemented kind of as
5 a trial run to see -- people were afraid that there was
6 going to be -- since it was the road system that there
7 was going to be a lot of pressure on hunting. So we
8 did a permit system and harvest reports and the numbers
9 have been pretty low, I think between 40 and 60 hunters
10 in the last four years. So this year -- right now we
11 have a proposal in and we'll take it up at our April
12 17th and 18th meeting here in Anchorage for AMBCC to
13 just open without permitting or harvest reports.

14

15 And I think that's all I have. I'm
16 looking forward to salmon season and hopefully we'll
17 have enough salmon in the Buskin that we'll be able to
18 subsistence gather there.

19

20 Thank you.

21

22 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Thank you.

23 Brett.

24

25 MR. RICHARDSON: Good morning. Brett
26 Richardson from Unalaska. We're not doing a lot of
27 subsistence currently as the weather and the winter is
28 a big issue, but I'll talk a little bit about last
29 summer. The salmon runs were pretty good I believe.
30 The -- we got -- you know, got to our escapement goals
31 earlier than planned and so the reds were plentiful,
32 pinks and then later in the summer silvers. I believe
33 everybody got a lot of fish last year and was pretty
34 happy. There were a few issues with, you know, legal
35 harvest, some dumping I believe of -- I think they were
36 pinks. And I think we had a little bit more law
37 enforcement presence last summer which was good. There
38 were some citations given out so hopefully that ends.
39 Looking forward to this coming summer season. Halibut
40 last year was a little bit better than previous years.
41 Crab, I think tanner and dungeness is what I'm seeing a
42 lot of. I don't see any king crab at all. And as far
43 as shellfish goes my main concern with that would be
44 PSB. I don't know how far that range extends, but, you
45 know, there's -- could be some more outreach on that
46 danger for anybody trying to harvest within -- I'm not
47 exactly sure what that range would be, but it's not
48 advisable at this point. We had a fatality a few years
49 ago.

50

1 The weather last year was great for the
2 most part as good as it can be. There was a lot of
3 opportunities to collect fish. It has seemingly
4 expanded into late summer when we start to get the
5 winds coming out a little bit early into August. And,
6 you know, we get quite a bit of heavy fall storms and
7 heavy winds throughout the fall. This winter has been
8 particularly challenging from time to time. Thankfully
9 we were able to get out for this meeting. And I
10 believe last year we had quite a bit of snow, quite of
11 ran as well. There was flooding on the hill I live on.
12 And that actually contributed in a positive way to the
13 berry harvest being phenomenal this year, the
14 blueberries and salmonberries, mossberries and my
15 family's favorite the nagoonberries are just all over
16 the place which is kind of a rarity. We do that
17 harvest religiously every summer and get as many
18 mushrooms as possible.

19

20 The -- things are -- you know, as far
21 as those items go apart from the crab and the shellfish
22 subsistence wise in Unalaska, things are looking okay.

23

24 Thank you.

25

26 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Thank you. Pat.

27

28 MR. HOLMES: Thank you, Madam Chair. I
29 wanted to compliment Coral, pardon me, brain lapse
30 there, when I've had a chance to get to the AMB -- the
31 migratory bird meetings in Kodiak, she has really led
32 the way to solving problems as they existed for a long
33 time. And I think improving the access on the road
34 system, particular on emperor geese was marvelous. I
35 know Eddie Opine before he passed complimented that
36 that was really swell even though he -- kind of being
37 he's a little limp for stomping around in the mud, but
38 I think a lot of people have been benefitted by doing
39 that. So hats off to you.

40

41 I think one thing that we haven't
42 really looked at and discussed, Patty and I went out
43 this fall to kind of some of our old favorite berry
44 places when our sons, you know, 40, 45 years ago used
45 to go up on Pillar. And I think that we've seen or I
46 have observed and thinking back to my college days on
47 plant communities that the warming has really increased
48 the growth and the distribution of alders. And so
49 places where we used to berry pick are 400 feet in
50

0028

1 elevation lower than where they used to be. The alders
2 have grown up 10, 15 feet high up on the mountains
3 where it used to be we'd pick our alpineberries. And I
4 think that's all over the island. And I've noticed
5 where I go on the road system, I know the Refuge is
6 concerned about elderberries and that deer eating them
7 affect the bears. But I've noticed displacement of
8 some of the older elderberry plants that I've seen for
9 years are being out competed by the alders and other
10 brush. And spruce trees are incredibly more dense and
11 so there's been a whole change in the botany and the
12 plant distribution in Kodiak and I think that affects
13 people as well as deer and other critters as far as
14 their access to bears -- berries.

15
16 And one thing I wanted to comment
17 earlier on is that I -- my role and I think all the
18 rest of us is I always try before the meetings to copy
19 the agenda or the website for the RAC meetings to the
20 NVA and to Sun'aq and anybody else I can think of just
21 so that the word gets out that what we're doing and
22 where we're going, try to call folks and ask them what
23 their concerns, like Ronnie Lind at Karluk. Waiting
24 for Mr. Gustoferson to call me back because he was
25 going to do some questions on the increasing harvest of
26 does and fawns and most of the folks I talked to on
27 that issue traditionally think that that's not a good
28 idea. I hope this next year I'm going to try to work
29 with -- talk -- chat with the tribes and villages on
30 this transporter issue and maybe even the State guide
31 association because I think there needs to be some kind
32 of restrictions, licensing, access permits for
33 transporters from off island because our guides are
34 pretty square shooters, they help out, they distribute
35 food. I mentioned Paul Chernavak bringing me a box of
36 meat every year because I can't get out and get it.
37 And it's all frozen nicely. And I think that our
38 professional people in that regard are just as caring
39 as the elders and folks I know in the villages and our
40 community.

41
42 So I'll be quiet, but a lot of things
43 to think about for the future.

44
45 Thank you, Madame Chair.

46
47 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Thanks. Jeff.

48
49 MR. WASLEY: Yeah, just a few notes

50

0029

1 from the Cold Bay area this past year. I think it was
2 like a cooler than average summer and I think that
3 mostly had the berries down in general. Some of the
4 species might have been okay, but I know the
5 salmonberries were way down.

6
7 On a more positive note the fishing, we
8 got sockeyes back at least to some extent in Mortensens
9 Lagoon which had been really down the last three, four,
10 five years. But I didn't personally go down there, but
11 I know some folks that did well on sockeyes. And then
12 the sockeyes up at Swan Lake seem to be holding their
13 own which is good. I thought our silvers in the fall
14 were decent to good on all the local creeks.

15
16 The ptarmigan appear to be pretty
17 stable. Saw quite a few young ones. Both the brant
18 and emperors seem to be much better than the year
19 before. Saw quite a few young birds so they had a
20 fairly decent hatch it seemed like. I think overall
21 our cacklers are still down compared to 10, 20 years
22 ago. And it just seems like it gets -- their number
23 are falling every year.

24
25 Halibut seemed good. I didn't get out
26 too much, but when we did we usually had some success.

27
28 The caribou numbers are good on the
29 peninsula. It sounds like they don't come down towards
30 Cold Bay as much as they used to, but I know folks that
31 get out and hike around a bit and put some effort in
32 and have some good success.

33
34 Overall the fall was really good for us
35 for us, it was mild. That switched about mid December
36 and that's kind of when we end things down there
37 anyway. But it's been pretty cold since then, but
38 looking forward to see what this next year brings us.

39
40 Thank you.

41
42 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: All right.
43 Thanks. And then just a reminder that because we have
44 people online if you can get close to your mic, because
45 I think you were probably coming in pretty faint. But
46 just a reminder to everyone.

47
48 Rick, go ahead.

49
50

0030

1 MR. KOSO: Yeah, hi. I'm Rick from
2 Adak. And in Adak -- I'll just give a little bit of a
3 history here. When we received our land exchange from
4 the military we were able to secure 10 percent of
5 golden king crab through ACDC which is Adak Development
6 Corporation. And so that we were approximately two to
7 300,000 pounds every year that we were able to harvest
8 which we have a boat catch for us and the percentages
9 go back to ACDC which is the Adak Community which is
10 the -- we had to form ACDC because to get that crab we
11 had to form a nonprofit organization through the city.
12 So we do get 10 percent of the overall catch on the
13 golden king crab in Adak. And then on the pea cod we
14 did have through ACDC in all of our fishery meetings we
15 were able to secure a delivery of a certain percent of
16 the catch which because the fish plant went down the
17 last few years we're not able to do that. And then
18 also in the halibut we formed a CQE which is a
19 community quota equity which allowed us to buy 15
20 percent of the halibut catch which we maxed out in
21 Adak. So ACDC now we own about 180,000 pounds of
22 halibut that we lease to the individuals in town,
23 residents to catch. And then we also do sablefish, we
24 own a hundred -- we bought into about 160,000 pounds of
25 sablefish which are also able to secure 15 percent of
26 the catch is what we're able to buy. And so we got
27 about 160,000 pounds of sablefish which we do lease out
28 to boats to catch or people in town to catch. And
29 bring in some money for the deal.

30
31 And right now we're working on salmon,
32 we're hoping to get a plant going. I mean, the big
33 plant is pretty much shot, we're not going to be able
34 to use that. So we're looking at putting in a small --
35 a small building and starting a small plant to do the
36 crab and just our fish that we have through ACDC is
37 enough to keep it going. So we're working on that. We
38 have people coming out as a matter of fact on Wednesday
39 this next week to look through it and see what it's
40 going to take.

41
42 And then we've been working on -- like
43 I say the fish plant. So outside of that, you know, as
44 far as the subsistence part of it goes, this is more of
45 the commercial part of it, but it all reflects back to
46 the subsistence. We don't have a problem as far as I
47 know as far as people going out and getting their
48 subsistence quotas if necessary for both salmon,
49 halibut and pea cod or whatever they want to get. So
50

0031

1 because we don't have a lot of people there right now
2 Adak is -- because we lost our school and a lot of the
3 economic work we had there were -- the school is closed
4 now and so that really hurts the community. So we're
5 building it back up, hoping to get the plant going and
6 hopefully to get some more families out there and then
7 maybe get the school back on. So it's a chore, but
8 we're coming along and we only got like 30 people left
9 in Adak right now so it's a pretty tough situation for
10 Adak, but so subsistence is really not a problem for
11 people to go out and get their harvest.

12

13 So that's about all. Thank you.

14

15 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Thanks. Della,
16 are you still on.

17

18 REPORTER: She's on here.

19

20 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay. I'll go
21 ahead and give my update and then I'm not sure if Della
22 will be able to get back on to give an update.

23

24 REPORTER: No, she's here.

25

26 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: So a brief
27 update for Kodiak and this is -- I'm going to focus
28 more on the commercial part because the -- a lot of the
29 communities in our region are dependent or heavily
30 dependent on commercial fisheries. And so changes in
31 commercial fisheries do have pretty big community
32 impacts and can really drive population and what
33 happens in our communities. So since the September
34 meeting in Kodiak we did get an announcement that
35 Trident announced they were going to sell the Kodiak
36 plant. The Kodiak plant is actually three different
37 facilities plus they own -- they bought out another
38 processor that's not adjacent to their operations.
39 They own an apartment building, they own gear yards, et
40 cetera. So that was a pretty big announcement from
41 Trident and I think we're just waiting to see if
42 they're going to get a buyer and how that's going to
43 play out. And I think at this point there's still a
44 question as to whether they're going to operate in the
45 summer for the salmon fisheries or not.

46

47 At the same time or around the same
48 time we also heard that Peter Pan in King Cove was not
49 going to open for A season. This does have impact for
50

0032

1 some of the fishermen in Kodiak. I think it obviously
2 impacted fishermen out in the King Cove, maybe Sand
3 Point area as well.

4
5 So and then across all the commercial
6 fisheries, the markets are down. So last fall we had a
7 lot of the processing plants close early. This
8 obviously has economic ripples that go out through the
9 community. And this wasn't just in Kodiak it was
10 throughout ports in Alaska, the processors were closing
11 early.

12
13 In regards to the deer and transporter
14 issue, I will share that the Kodiak Fish and Game
15 Advisory Committee does have a transporter working
16 group that is discussing the transporter activity issue
17 and the concerns that have come up in the community
18 about local -- access by locals to deer and the concern
19 that in -- that there has been increased transporter
20 activity. And that's creating -- it may not be
21 impacting the island wide deer population, but it's
22 creating kind of locals sinks that if you have your
23 favorite spot you may go there and you can't actually
24 get deer because it's being used more heavily by
25 transporters and their clients.

26
27 And if anyone has questions or wants to
28 get involved in that they can contact me and I'm happy
29 to add you to the distribution list for that.

30
31 So that's my update. I guess, Della,
32 are you back online.

33
34 MS. TRUMBLE: Yes, I am. Thank you.
35 I'm sorry about that. I hit a button and disconnected
36 myself. I guess first we'll start off with that I
37 think this past fall and winter we've had lots of
38 storms. Shashaldon has kept us on our toes, she's been
39 pretty fairly active this past four or five months.

40
41 And then caribou wise there's been some
42 harvest, but not a lot. Again the weather has been a
43 big factor in the distance, not only that, the cause I
44 think in having to travel to try to harvest caribou.

45
46 We've been very fortunate -- I've
47 fortunately have been working close with one of the
48 guides, Rod Shue, who's been very good about having his
49 clients clean and quarter the caribou and then calls me
50

0033

1 and flies it in and drops it off in King Cove. And
2 they do an exceptional job. I mean, I've been working
3 with him on this probably the last five years. And I
4 can't say enough for the quality and the care that they
5 take when they do this. He was able to give -- I think
6 three times that he flew in with caribou and was able
7 to get almost -- I think almost all the elders 55 and
8 up did get -- were able to get caribou. So that in
9 itself helps a lot.

10

11 I think bird wise I don't -- that was
12 fairly pretty slow.

13

14 I think I'd like to talk a little bit I
15 think about the issues around Peter Pan. That was a
16 pretty hard issue to take for the local fishermen to
17 not be able to have a market. And they've tried it and
18 Sand Point was -- would not take any of the product.
19 So that left the guys in King Cove pretty much standing
20 with no market basically until hopefully this summer
21 that won't -- will resolve itself.

22

23 The one issue I think with the crab
24 that helped the fishermen a bit was that someone --
25 Trident did purchase some of the crab in Unisea out of
26 Dutch Harbor so at least that gave them a little bit of
27 a market to be able to harvest whatever they had for
28 the crab on season.

29

30 Recently Peter Pan did have a small
31 fire this last week. Fortunately their -- it was
32 electrical and their sprinkler system took care of
33 that. So they were able to get it -- the fire
34 department in King Cove get that out still which we're
35 fortunate to have to -- that they were able to take
36 care of that.

37

38 Other than that I think that pretty
39 well covers my report.

40

41 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: All right.
42 Thank you, Della.

43

44 MS. TRUMBLE: Oh, wait. I do have one
45 more thing. First I'd like to thank the
46 Kodiak/Aleutians for the letter that was sent on the
47 road. I think that was very well written and I
48 appreciate the efforts that went into that. The second
49 thing is the letter from Bristol Bay. We very much
50

0034

1 appreciate that and the quality and the information
2 that was sent them. That was very much appreciated and
3 we thank you.

4

5 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: All right.
6 Thank you, Della. Okay. Moving on to the next agenda
7 item which these are going to be action items. Before
8 we jump in just so -- for planning purposes I do plan a
9 break around 10:00 o'clock. And at that time during
10 the break we are going to capture another picture
11 because Rick was not here when we took the picture
12 earlier this morning. So Lisa said now that Richard's
13 here we have to redo the photograph. So when we break
14 sometime around 10:00, it may be a little before or a
15 little bit after depending on the agenda items, first
16 thing as soon as the break starts let's gather for the
17 picture and then you'll have time for a little bit of a
18 break after that.

19

20 Okay. So the first agenda item for
21 action items is to review and approve the FY2023 annual
22 report. And I will hand this over to Lisa.

23

24 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: Thank you,
25 Rebecca, members of the Council. So in the last
26 meeting we had -- so ANILCA established the annual
27 reports as the way to bring the regional subsistence
28 uses and needs to the Secretaries' attention. The
29 Secretaries delegated this responsibility to the Board
30 and Section 805(c) deference includes matters brought
31 forward in the annual report.

32

33 So the annual report provides the
34 Councils an opportunity to address the Directors of
35 each of the four Department of Interior agencies and
36 the Department of Agriculture, Forest Service in their
37 capacity as members of the Federal Subsistence Board.
38 The Board is required to discuss and reply to each of
39 the issues in the annual report and to take action when
40 within the Board's authority. In many cases if the
41 issue is outside of the Board's authority the Board
42 will provide information to the Council on how to
43 contact personnel in the correct agency. As agency
44 directors the Board members have the authority to
45 implement most of the actions which would affect the
46 changes recommended by the Councils even those that are
47 not covered in Section 805(c). The Councils are
48 strongly encouraged to take advantage of this
49 opportunity.

50

0035

1 So we always talk about this during our
2 fall meeting and you guys came up with various topics.
3 And if you look in your meeting book on page 16 that's
4 what I just read about kind of the background on that.
5 And on page 18 is your annual report replies. And so
6 they have been reviewed and you guys have seen them,
7 but if you'd like me to go through the different topics
8 I can and then we can see if you want to accept or make
9 any modifications. This year we're not going to add
10 any new topics. If you have new topics we'll just add
11 them to the next annual report.

12

13 So how would you like me to proceed?

14

15 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: All right. So
16 just to clarify the choices are if there's small
17 changes or clarifications Council members would like to
18 make to this that's okay, but we will not be making
19 substantive new additions.

20

21 (No comments)

22

23 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay. I did
24 have one looks like a typo correction on number 3 in
25 the title sentence. Concerns regarding exclusion from,
26 right now it says form. Yeah.

27

28 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: Okay.

29

30 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: All right. Are
31 there any other clarifications or small changes that
32 Council members wanted to make to our draft annual
33 report which is found on page 18 of the meeting
34 materials book which is the blue cover book.

35

36 MR. HOLMES: Madame Chair.

37

38 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Pat, go ahead.

39

40 MR. HOLMES: I don't have any changes,
41 but I would like to compliment the author on the
42 precision in which the report was put together and the
43 letters, it -- just right to the point.

44

45 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: And then, Lisa,
46 I guess a question. This is listed as an action item,
47 do we need to vote on it again?

48

49 (No comments)

50

0036

1 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: We do. Okay.

2

3 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: Yeah, we
4 just need to vote if you approve this annual report
5 with your addition -- typo change. And then we -- then
6 it'll get forwarded on.

7

8 Thank you.

9

10 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay. Is there
11 a motion to approve our FY2023 annual report.

12

13 MR. HOLMES: Move to accept.

14

15 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Thank you, Pat.
16 Is there a second.

17

18 MR. RICHARDSON: Second.

19

20 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Thank you. Is
21 there further discussion.

22

23 (No comments)

24

25 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: All right. And
26 is there any objection.

27

28 (No objection)

29

30 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay. Seeing
31 and hearing none the annual report is approved.

32

33 Okay. The next agenda item is to
34 readdress wildlife proposal WP24-11, the Kodiak deer
35 harvest which proposed to eliminate the antlerless deer
36 restriction in unit 8. And I think we will hear some
37 words from OSM Wildlife, Kendra Holman.

38

39 MS. HOLMAN: Good morning, Madame
40 Chair, members of the Council. So I know we have a
41 couple of new members. I am not going to do a full
42 review of this analysis, most of the Council heard it
43 in the fall, but for kind of a little bit of a reminder
44 and our new members here this can be found on page 22
45 of your booklet. So this proposal was to eliminate the
46 wording in the deer regulation for unit 8 to eliminate
47 the antlerless harvest. Antlerless deer may be taken
48 only between October 1st and January 31st.

49

50

0037

1 This Council voted -- excuse me. OSM's
2 preliminary conclusion was to support this proposal as
3 it was written. This Council actually voted to change
4 the regulation from three deer to four deer and leave
5 the antlerless regulations in there. So the wording
6 that was voted on by this Council is on page 34 of your
7 meeting book. And the wording for the original
8 proposal I should have said is on page 23 if you'd like
9 to see that.

10

11 So why I'm here today regarding this is
12 while the Councils are able to propose what they would
13 like, one of the considerations that has to be taken
14 through all of this is that -- sorry, I thought I had
15 my verbiage right here and now it's gone. So a
16 reasonably educated person of the public -- because
17 this is a public process a reasonably educated person
18 of the public needs to be able to have seen the
19 modification and be able to say expect it. Maybe it's
20 been discussed at some point in time other than just at
21 this RAC meeting just for an example. So the
22 modification that this RAC made, that this Council
23 made, was not something that falls into that criteria
24 because of the public process. So the Federal
25 Subsistence Board would not be able to adopt the
26 modification that the Council came up with.

27

28 So we wanted to give the RAC the
29 opportunity to revise if you would like, you can take
30 no action and leave it as it is if you would like, but
31 we wanted to make sure that you as Council members were
32 all aware of this. So you like I said can take that
33 opportunity if you would like to rediscuss or remodel.

34

35 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Thank you. So I
36 do see a couple of hands. And I was going to ask if
37 anyone had questions on what Kendra just explained and
38 what the options are in front of us. So I will take
39 Pat and then Natasha.

40

41 MR. HOLMES: Yes, thank you, Madame
42 Chair. I would disagree with whether or not the public
43 had adequate information because I know I spoke with
44 the tribes, lots of people in town. It was also
45 discussed at the Fish and Game Advisory Committee. I
46 believe there's been highlights on compute -- what do
47 you call it, computer comments, favorites, whatever.
48 But what we were trying to do is address the problem of
49 outfitters and taking of deer. But also there's been a
50

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1 major disregard or the State from what I read totally
2 disagrees with that. I've talked to two Ph.Ds that
3 specialize in bears and deer and all those
4 interrelationships that feel that right now increasing
5 the harvest of does, right now it's a tenuous position
6 for the deer population, some places are up, some are
7 down. But I think that that is -- if we have the doe
8 harvest, that's why we took comments earlier, it's
9 going to probably reduce that.

10

11 And I think that a lot of the
12 suppositions that were in the statement supporting the
13 antlerless deer were not supported by data. We asked
14 for data, we didn't get it. It's just well, our
15 general observations on our browse examinations while
16 we're out hiking indicates that there's been no major
17 change so -- in the browse so therefore the population
18 is not necessarily in a bad way. I've heard from folks
19 in the villages and places where they say that some of
20 the places they go that the deer population is way
21 down. And many years ago we had a modification through
22 the Federal Council to provide for folks, particularly
23 rural villages, for a late season deer hunt after
24 December for antlerless deer. And that's when folks
25 would generally if they're in the remote part of the
26 island would go and shoot a few does. But in talking
27 to the elders, particularly the last two that I
28 mentioned that passed away, traditionally and my
29 impression I've gotten from those folks is that they
30 really don't like to hunt does and fawns particularly
31 during the fall and that expanding this hunt for that
32 is just totally unacceptable to those people.

33

34 Thank you, Madame Chair.

35

36 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Thank you.

37

38 Natasha.

39

40 MS. HAYDEN: Thanks, Madame Chair. My
41 question is so what you were describing as the
42 insufficient ability for the public to have opportunity
43 to understand and weigh in on the proposal or the -- as
44 we -- as we modified it; is that correct?

44

45 MS. HOLMAN: This is Kendra. So
46 essentially I -- well, so we worked with our Solicitor
47 on this to make sure because we had -- this was not the
48 only proposal we had questions on regarding this issue.
49 This was the one that through those conversations came
50

50

0039

1 out as no, this is -- this one a well educated and
2 informed member of the public would not have predicted
3 or seen the modification coming that the RAC made to
4 increase the deer to four and remove -- and retain the
5 antlerless language. So because of that that is why we
6 are letting you know that the Subsistence Board --
7 Federal Subsistence Board would not be able to agree
8 with what the Council has said.

9
10 So hopefully that answers your
11 question.

12
13 MS. HAYDEN: It does. That was just --
14 that was just a clarifying question. My question is
15 that if we were to take up this proposal and make the
16 same modifications that we made last fall in King Cove,
17 would that be considered sufficient for the Board to
18 make a ruling on this.

19
20 MS. HOLMAN: So from my understanding
21 no. At this point I would have to verify that with our
22 Solicitor again, but my understanding is no.

23
24 MS. HAYDEN: Is there anyway for you to
25 get that information because I think -- well, it's
26 critical on whether or not I would even consider taking
27 this proposal up for consideration today. If it is not
28 going to be -- if the Board doesn't -- is not able to
29 take it up as we modified it previously, if we were to
30 do that again today and they still can't take it up,
31 that has -- that is a very critical factor on how I
32 would like to proceed with this.

33
34 MS. HOLMAN: So through the Chair. So
35 the best way to explain this would be at this point I
36 can message the Solicitor and get a confirmation, but
37 from our conversations essentially it hasn't gone
38 through the public process as well and whether that was
39 through the State public process or through our public
40 process. So just as an example to try and help this,
41 we had another proposal that this discussion happened
42 on as well, however we were able to go back and there
43 was letters that had been written by the Council in
44 support of their modification when the State had made a
45 similar change. There was OSM comments based on what
46 we had heard from that Regional Advisory Council. So
47 there was prior to the proposal time frame, so prior to
48 this regulatory process and this public process that
49 had been discussed. So at this point we have not had
50

0040

1 that come forward to the public and have them had a
2 chance to review this and get the information on this
3 during the regulatory process or prior to this public
4 regulatory process, if that helps you out, Natasha.

5

6 MS. HAYDEN: Yeah. Thank you.

7

8 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: All right. And
9 I do see Pat's hand. I'm going to ask a couple of
10 questions because I'd like to focus in on whether to
11 get to a point where I can get a nod of heads or
12 something to see if we even want to take this up. So
13 if we do not take this up today and our amended
14 proposal goes to the Federal Subsistence Board, so they
15 know we don't support the original one because we put
16 forward a different alternative, are they likely to
17 view that -- are they likely to view that as we don't
18 support the original one and they won't approve the
19 proposal -- the original proposal or are they going to
20 be kind of confused and say well, we're not sure and
21 then approve the proposal that we think is a bad idea
22 according to our previous discussion?

23

24 MS. HOLMAN: So I can't guarantee and
25 what -- how the Board will be interpret it. I can --
26 so I have no idea how they would interpret it. That is
27 a possibility as far as the Board options realistically
28 at this point it would be for the -- you know, the
29 Board would adopt or not adopt this proposal. So
30 realistically I can't tell you what they would say or
31 how they would interpret it. I don't want to try and
32 read in to.....

33

34 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay. I can
35 rephrase. So but what you can do or what Staff can do
36 when this comes up at the Federal Subsistence Board is
37 convey the nature of our discussion at the last meeting
38 and the nature of whatever discussion happens here
39 today?

40

41 (No comments)

42

43 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay. Thank
44 you. I did have Pat's hand and then I'll go to you.

45

46 Pat, go ahead.

47

48 MR. HOLMES: Becky pretty much phrased
49 what my question was is if we leave it down on the
50

0041

1 table is it going to revert back to the proposal from
2 the Staff to increase the doe harvest because in my
3 mind and our Council and everybody we've talked to are
4 against it. I have a question for you. Before this
5 decision was made did OSM get negative comments from
6 the Kodiak Refuge that they wanted to proceed with the
7 increased doe harvest period regardless and that they
8 disagreed with the Council's comments?

9

10 MS. HOLMAN: So through the Chair. No,
11 the Refuge had no part in this conversation. It
12 happened after the Council's meeting. I believe they
13 were informed that this would be happening, but they
14 were not part of the conversation. This was their
15 proposal originally. The Refuge is the submitter of
16 this proposal. But as far as them having a say in how
17 all of this played out they did not, no.

18

19 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: All right. Go
20 ahead.

21

22 MR. VICKERS: Thank you. This is Brent
23 Vickers from Office of Subsistence Management. I'm
24 going to sit in for Robbin today since she's not
25 feeling well, but she's still online listening. So
26 first off to answer your question, Ms. Hayden, we are
27 checking in on it. she's trying to contact our
28 Solicitor right now because one of the main things is
29 that this is -- now that this proposal's up for review
30 again right now that might -- we're seeing if that's
31 giving it sufficient time in the Solicitor's opinion
32 for the public to be able to weigh in now that it's at
33 a public meeting once again. So we are checking in to
34 see if he believes that that's sufficient enough for
35 the Board to take your modification of the increased
36 harvest.

37

38 And as -- shoot, now what's the second
39 thing. As far as your question, Chair Skinner, the --
40 on the Board's interpretation of you not taking this
41 up, it's just to directly address -- even though if you
42 don't act on it we will summarize your concerns and
43 deliver those. We're not -- I -- everything you're
44 saying here is completely valid and I really think that
45 the Board needs to know why you are concerned about
46 this and those will be put into the justification for
47 you not -- and however you decide also to justify you
48 not taking action if you want to put it in your own
49 words.

50

0042

1 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: All right.
2 Thank you. So I just wanted to make a few comments.
3 So leading up to today I did go back and review the
4 meeting transcript from the fall meeting. And reading
5 through the transcript it was clear that -- well, one,
6 that we understood putting forward our proposal, you
7 know, that might be -- there might be an issue that the
8 public wasn't properly noticed, et cetera, we chose to
9 go ahead with our proposed amendment. And it was -- I
10 think it was pretty clear what the concerns were about
11 the increasing the opportunity for antlerless harvest.
12 So if nothing else I would, you know, ask or I guess
13 expect that the -- those comments from the fall meeting
14 will be carried forward. I think Pat highlighted and
15 reiterated a lot of that today. So that was number 1.
16 Number 2 as far as this issue properly noticed so that
17 a personal could reasonably understand this could be an
18 -- what we did could be anticipated.

19
20 I feel like the bottom line was
21 increasing harvest opportunity and there's various ways
22 you can do that. We chose one that was, you know, not
23 specifically listed out, but the whole point was to
24 increase harvest opportunity. So in my opinion it's
25 entirely -- it should have been entirely foreseeable
26 that this was one way to do it.

27
28 My second issue is from the -- thinking
29 back to the data and the analysis, I can't imagine any
30 additional data that would be available in a second
31 analysis to support the -- you know, the amendment that
32 we put forward. So I feel like all of the information
33 that was to be had was available to the public and
34 reviewed by the RAC. And we just chose a different way
35 to get at the increased harvest opportunity. So I
36 understand your attorney is saying nope, didn't meet
37 public muster. I'm just saying my opinion or my view
38 of that is a little bit different.

39
40 Sam, go ahead.

41
42 MR. ROHRER: Thanks. Through the
43 Chair. Yeah, I just want to point out the same thing.
44 If the standard is a reasonably well informed member of
45 the public, well, I'm a reasonably well informed member
46 of the public, anyone in Alaska who is reasonably well
47 informed goes to Board of Game meetings, Board of Fish
48 meetings, Subsistence Board meetings, routinely
49 proposals are changed in similar ways. So anytime you
50

0043

1 have a proposal like this there's going to be a chance
2 someone's going to want to raise or lower those
3 numbers. The Boards act on that all the time. So it's
4 hard to understand how this violates the APA. Anyway
5 regardless of that that decision's been made.

6
7 I think to your question, Rebecca,
8 while supporting with modification and relying -- just
9 leaving the vote from last fall counting and relying on
10 Staff to communicate that we were opposed, it -- you
11 know, the summary that the Subsistence Board is going
12 to have is still going to say that we support with
13 modification and then they're going have to have an
14 explanation, well, we really don't support and so on
15 and so forth. It -- I think it would be cleaner and
16 send a clearer message to the Board to just vote it --
17 to take a new vote and oppose -- just outright oppose
18 it. And then in the future if we want to submit our
19 own proposal to raise it to four deer in the next
20 wildlife cycle we could do that. We could let it
21 stand, take no action on it like you've suggested and
22 rely on Staff to communicate or we could just vote in
23 opposition and send a clear message.

24
25 So those seems like our two options.
26 Thanks.

27
28 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Kendra.

29
30 MS. HOLMAN: So Sam is absolutely
31 correct in what he was saying. I also wanted to note
32 that if you look on page 34 there is a summary of the
33 discussion that happened at the first Regional Advisory
34 Council. An additional summary of this discussion and
35 all of this information put forward will be added to
36 the analysis before it goes to the Federal Subsistence
37 Board. So this discussion will be captured in that
38 summary, but just for everybody's knowledge an
39 additional one will be added in there. So this
40 information will be -- but everything you indicated as
41 far as options for resubmitting or anything like that
42 are absolutely correct.

43
44 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: All right. So
45 just to make sure we're on the same page can somebody
46 talk through if we go Sam's route I assume we'd need a
47 motion to reconsider or can someone just briefly go
48 through what that means, how that works so that the
49 Council understands what could potentially happen.

50

0044

1 MS. HOLMAN: So essentially you just
2 need to repute out a motion and start like you would for
3 a new proposal. There would be no difference.

4
5 MR. VICKERS: Brent Vickers, Office of
6 Subsistence Management. Just a quick update. We're
7 still trying to contact Ken Lord so if you -- you know,
8 one option for you is potentially wait a little bit on
9 this meeting and -- because he is working, we're just
10 waiting to get back -- him to get back to us today.

11
12 Also Council member Rohrer is it?
13 First of all I think that's -- what was said about the
14 reasonably -- you have such a valid point and it's I
15 think pretty poorly worded to imply that you're not
16 reasonably informed sitting here, a member of the
17 public. So sorry that that's worded that way and we're
18 going to work on rewording that. But nonetheless to
19 build on what you were suggesting as opposition,
20 another option for you would be to take your
21 modification as a special action request, to submit
22 that and then that would go in for the upcoming hunting
23 seasons until the next regulatory cycle where you could
24 submit a new proposal that -- whatever you wanted to
25 do. If -- that's another option for you to -- you
26 know, if you wanted -- let's just say if you want the
27 five deer, to oppose the antlerless and to submit a
28 special action request for five deer. And then that
29 would hold out to the next cycle and then submit a new
30 proposal would be one option for you to take.

31
32 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: So my sense is
33 that the main concern of this group is that we do not
34 like the antlerless option, we feel that that would not
35 be in the best interest of the deer population or
36 subsistence users. I think we're slightly less
37 concerned about increasing the harvest for antlered
38 deer.

39
40 Okay. So question, does the RAC want
41 to wait to see -- we can table this and see if we hear
42 back from the solicitor or if that's not going to make
43 a difference to how people want to proceed we can
44 entertain a motion probably from Sam. So thoughts
45 around the table.

46
47 MS. HAYDEN: I've got a question.

48
49 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Natasha.

50

0045

1 MS. HAYDEN: Just clarifying, Madame
2 Chair. Tabling it until later in our meeting today?

3
4 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Yeah, tabling it
5 until later today.

6
7 MS. HAYDEN: So I would propose that we
8 table it in our meeting for -- until later today. I'm
9 not sure in the agenda where it would make sense to
10 take up if we would just give the agency an opportunity
11 to let us know when they get an answer to the question
12 from the Solicitor.

13
14 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay. Thanks.
15 Yeah, I think we could just -- we could attempt to take
16 it up -- let's do it after the new letters discussion.
17 So it would occur immediately prior to the future
18 meeting dates.

19
20 I'll take that as a motion. Is there a
21 second to tabling this until immediately before future
22 meeting dates.

23
24 MR. ROHRER: I'll second.

25
26 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: All right.
27 Thanks. Is there any further discussion.

28
29 (No comments)

30
31 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay. Is there
32 any objection to that.

33
34 (No comments)

35
36 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay. Seeing
37 none, this item is tabled pending feedback from the
38 Solicitor on our questions.

39
40 And it is 9:52. The call for the
41 Federal fish and shellfish regulatory proposals, how
42 long will that item take?

43
44 (No comments)

45
46 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: But it's more
47 than eight minutes?

48
49 (No comments)

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1 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay. All
2 right. Well, let's go ahead and take our morning break
3 now. Again we're going to do the photo first so if the
4 RAC members could gather in this general area by the
5 front we'll get the photo taken and then take a break.
6 And let's come back at let's say 10:05.

7
8 Thanks.

9
10 (Off record)

11
12 (On record)

13
14 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay. Make your
15 way back to the table, we'll get started here shortly.

16
17 (Pause)

18
19 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay. If we can
20 have the RAC members come back to the table we'll go
21 ahead and get started.

22
23 All right. And we will be moving on to
24 item C, call for Federal fish and shellfish regulatory
25 proposals. And this will be OSM Fisheries, Justin
26 Koller.

27
28 MR. KOLLER: Okay. Good morning,
29 Madame Chair, members of the Council. My name's Justin
30 Koller, I'm your Fisheries Biologist with Office of
31 Subsistence Management. Also in the back of the room
32 is Jason Roberts. He's your Anthropologist so he'll be
33 able to fill in where I can't when you have questions.

34
35 So just to recap the fish regulations
36 from the 2023/2025 regulatory cycle are in effect as of
37 last Friday. The regulation books are being printed
38 now and an electronic copy is available on the Federal
39 Subsistence Management Program website. And as a
40 reminder the following.....

41
42 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: I'm sorry, could
43 you move the microphone a little bit closer to
44 yourself.

45
46 MR. KOLLER: Can do.

47
48 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Thank you.

49
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1 MR. KOLLER: So as I was saying the
2 fish regulations from the 2023/25 regulatory cycle are
3 in effect as of last Friday. And as a reminder the
4 following regulatory changes were made in your region.

5

6

7

8 In the Aleutian Islands area the Board
9 removed the fishing closures on Adak and Kagalaska
10 Island freshwaters. On the Alaska Peninsula area the
11 Board removed the fishing closures on Russell Creek and
12 Trout Creek. And in the Kodiak area the Board removed
13 the fishing closure in Women's Bay and modified to
14 allow rod and reel only and set harvest limits. The
15 Board removed the fishing closure on a portion of
16 Federal public waters at the mouth of the Buskin River
17 and established a rod and reel only fishery. And the
18 Board removed the fishing closures at Afognak Bay on
19 Afognak Island freshwaters and Little Kitoi Bay.

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Moving on to this cycle. This is an announcement for the call for Federal fisheries proposals for the 2025 through 2027 regulatory years. The Federal Subsistence Board will accept proposals to change Federal regulations for the subsistence take of fish and shellfish in Federal public waters. This includes changes to the seasons, harvest limits, methods and means and customary and traditional use determinations. The window of opportunity to submit proposals will open soon and remain open for 60 days. The Council may develop proposals now and they will be submitted by your Coordinator during the comment period. Others may also submit proposals to change Federal subsistence fisheries regulations by submitting them to the regulations.gov website or sending a hard copy to the Office of Subsistence Management. And a news release describing this process is coming out soon and will be available on our website.

The proposals that we receive will be analyzed by OSM Staff and presented to the Council during your fall meeting at which time the Council can make recommendations to the Board on each proposal. The proposal analyses and Council recommendations will be presented to the Federal Subsistence Board for their action during the January, 2025 fisheries regulatory meeting.

So that's my update on the call for Federal fisheries proposals. And we're ready to see if

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1 you have any proposals right now or I can answer
2 questions regarding the proposal cycle.

3

4 Thank you.

5

6 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: All right. Are
7 there any questions.

8

9 (No comments)

10

11 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: I'm not seeing
12 any questions. So, I'm sorry, you probably just had
13 this, but just for clarity is this the RAC's only
14 opportunity timewise to put forward a proposal from the
15 RAC?

16

17 MR. KOLLER: Madame Chair, yes, that's
18 correct. This Council meeting would be the time that
19 the Council as a whole would submit these proposals.
20 And also I did the recap on the closure review being
21 rescinded just so -- as a reminder that some of those
22 closure reviews when they were rescinded reverted to
23 our area wide regulations. And so that may include
24 gear types that may not -- gear types like gillnets and
25 seines that may not be the best for certain locations
26 such as Russell Creek and Trout Creek. So now would be
27 the time to shape those regulations and maybe provide
28 some specific gear types or harvest limits and so
29 forth.

30

31 So just as a reminder. Thank you.

32

33 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay. Thank
34 you. And even if the RAC doesn't put forward proposals
35 individuals can put forward proposals and then the RAC
36 would have a chance to review those at our next RAC
37 meeting.

38

39 Okay. And then -- and I do see Coral's
40 hand. Just a reminder that I think we did leave
41 closures in place in Unalaska because the community at
42 that point wasn't -- wanted to do some more thinking
43 about what would work best. So this might be a good
44 cycle -- because the closure review's is going to come
45 up again this might be a good cycle if there were
46 community based regulatory proposals that would be in
47 lieu of just a full rescinding the closure. And that's
48 something we talked about during the previous meeting.

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1 Coral, go ahead.

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Coral, go ahead.

MS. CHERNOFF: So my question is for the RAC. I'm interested in removing the -- removing the need to get a permit for subsistence in the area. So I don't know if that's something that -- I'm feeling like since this is the cycle maybe if people would be interested in talking about that and how we might do that, if I need to put a motion on the table to discuss that or put that up for a vote.

MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Pat, go ahead.

MR. HOLMES: If you want to put a motion up before discussion or could I discuss now?

MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: I think let's go ahead and have a little bit of discussion. So if you have a -- something to say go ahead.

MR. HOLMES: Okay. Well, I think the reason that we have permits is so that they can keep track of the number of users and what their harvest is. Kodiak it's easier to get your permit from the State than it is from the Federal government. You have to go to the Federal office, show them multiple IDs to show that you are the person that you are to get their permit on Federal lands and waters. On the other side at the State I can just call in and say hey, I'd like to renew my permit and they mail it to me. And if I should happen to catch too many fish all I got to do is call in and say gee, I got a bunch of fish, I'm taking them over to the Salvation Army or to some other place. And so on that side it's more flexible having the permit than it is on the Federal side because they can't really make those exceptions to accommodate. It's good to have that option, but I think in a lot of places on the island I don't think the State even bothers, they wait until the Subsistence Division does their surveys, you know, to get that, but I think it's kind of an important thing to have.

MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Coral.

MS. CHERNOFF: Yeah, I don't know how deep we want to get into this discussion, but as Pat has noted that was one of my reasons is that it is a barrier for subsistence. He's noted that the State, it's much easier to do, he calls up whatever. I think

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1 it's a barrier for Federal subsistence, I think it's a
2 barrier for the villages and that is one of my reasons
3 I'd like to remove that barrier. And also we have
4 received -- there's such a low number, 2021 there was
5 18 permits issued by the Refuge, 2022 there was 17
6 issued by the Refuge, 2023 there was 20. I think the
7 number is so low that -- and if there's nothing that
8 necessitates getting those harvest numbers I just think
9 the barrier is really more of a reason to remove it.

10

11 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay. Pat, I do
12 see your hand. Before we have more discussion I'd
13 rather get a motion on the floor, but a question first.
14 Is not having a permit required, is that within the
15 scope of what we can propose within the fisheries
16 regulatory cycle, is that fair game basically.

17

18 MR. KOLLER: Yeah, Madame Chair, there
19 are other areas that do not require a Federal permit so
20 I believe that is in -- yeah, that's in play.

21

22 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay. So,
23 Coral, if you want to put a motion on the floor and
24 then we'll have further discussion on whatever your
25 motion is.

26

27 MS. CHERNOFF: Thank you, Madame Chair.
28 Yeah, I'd like to put a motion on the floor to remove
29 the -- to eliminate permits for the Kodiak area for
30 fishing.

31

32 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay. And we're
33 talking about Federal subsistence.....

34

35 MS. CHERNOFF: Fishery permits.

36

37 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay.

38

39 MS. CHERNOFF: Yes.

40

41 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: All right. Is
42 there a second.

43

44 MS. HAYDEN: Second.

45

46 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay. And is
47 there discussion.

48

49 MS. HAYDEN: Madame Chair.

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1 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Natasha.

2

3 MS. TRUMBLE: Madame Chair, this is
4 Della.

5

6 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay. Let's
7 take Natasha, Della and then Pat.

8

9 MS. HAYDEN: Thanks, Madame Chair. I
10 just wanted to -- this is a clarifying question for
11 fishing permits. Is that for salmon explicitly or is
12 that for all finfish, shellfish, does it all.....

13

14 MS. CHERNOFF: Through the Chair. That
15 is for all fishing in -- for Federal subsistence
16 qualified users on Federal use areas.

17

18 MS. HAYDEN: In Kodiak?

19

20 MS. CHERNOFF: Yeah. Thank you.

21

22 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay. Della and
23 then Pat.

24

25 MS. TRUMBLE: Just maybe a question and
26 a comment. I guess my -- well, maybe more of a
27 comment. I think my -- well, I'm looking at this in
28 the respect that, you know, having those permits and
29 having to get them and then of course reporting if you
30 harvest, I think, you know, if you're not going to have
31 a process that you get a permit then it -- does that
32 open a door to whomever, is there a way that you're
33 going to regulate that. The other piece of it I think
34 is in times of a shortness of a species or in this case
35 something -- you know, but the Buskin has been closed
36 for a few years, I -- those numbers when you're
37 reporting from those permits I think helps determine
38 that there is a need for subsistence use. And if
39 you're going to try to create a number or a harvestable
40 number amount those permits in my mind would help. And
41 maybe I'm missing something here, but that's what I
42 wanted to add to the discussion.

43

44 Thank you.

45

46 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Thanks, Della.
47 Pat.

48

49 MR. HOLMES: Yes, Madame Chair. I can

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1 appreciate Coral's comments. The thing on the permits
2 particularly in relation to Federal permits for folks
3 that are getting them in Kodiak, I've been involved in
4 this for a long time, I even got busted one time for
5 leaving my net in. And that was like 45 years ago
6 because they had changed the regs that night. But the
7 thing is is that -- like Della says it provides
8 documentation of your use, it provides information on
9 the fishery. And the key thing is when that permit
10 started to be issued by the Refuge what I saw
11 personally was back in the '70s the Advisory Committee
12 back before ANILCA and all this stuff, they had quite a
13 discussion about people cheating and not reporting
14 things, fishing at night when it was closed because
15 they couldn't have enforcement, there's so many people
16 that fish at the mouth of the river the community was
17 really worried about just potential overharvest and
18 cheating. And myself, a lot -- a fair number of those
19 people that went and got the Federal permit did that so
20 they could get out and get the set where I fish off of
21 Maluten's Rock to get there before me. They -- because
22 you have to wait until 6:00 on the State regs and you
23 have to stop at 9:00 at night. And so that allowed
24 broader time for other folks to cheat. A few people
25 and granted some folks do fish fair and square, but
26 myself I just think it's really important, it's kind of
27 a fisheries and management tool since we've been doing
28 that, since before statehood.

29

30 Thank you, Madame Chair.

31

32 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Thank you. Are
33 there additional -- Sam, go ahead.

34

35 MR. ROHRER: Thank you. Through the
36 Chair. Yeah, I can't support this proposal. It -- and
37 there's a couple reasons why although I do appreciate
38 you bringing it up for discussion. But I guess my
39 number 1 issue is if you're not required to have a
40 permit how does enforcement know who is who. So
41 enforcement stops you, you say I'm a Federally-
42 qualified subsistence user, I don't need a permit, how
43 do they know that you're who you say you are, how do
44 they know you're not from Anchorage, how do they know
45 you're not a nonresident. Without having that permit
46 to show them they have no documentation to actually
47 know that you're allowed to be there.

48

49 The second reason, if we want the best

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1 managed fisheries in the world which I think we do,
2 it's important to keep track of harvest, it's important
3 to have data for our managers to actually look at and
4 manage. And so I think anytime we're collecting data
5 that's a good thing, we need to encourage that. And if
6 you don't have data we don't know what's going on out
7 there.

8

9 And then I guess the last thing is and
10 I think Pat spoke briefly to this, but I'll reiterate.
11 Long term documentation of use is important. Oh, no,
12 it was Della I think said this. But long term
13 documentation of use is important particularly down the
14 road if we get into a time that's shortage, if we don't
15 have records of what subsistence use has been it makes
16 it harder to argue for opportunity if we get into a
17 position where the fisheries have to get closed and
18 users eliminated. So I think it's important to
19 document that use, I think it's important for law
20 enforcement to know who's who when they -- when they
21 find them on the rivers or out on the waters and I
22 think it's important to have the best information for
23 our managers. So for those reasons I wouldn't support
24 this.

25

26 Thanks.

27

28 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Coral.

29

30 MS. CHERNOFF: I'll talk some more.
31 Yeah, I think subsistence does not require that there
32 be permits in place. There's many places in Alaska
33 that also do not require permitting. Again I'll say
34 that U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Kodiak
35 National Wildlife Refuge has provided us with the
36 numbers of permits since 2015. And they are very low
37 and they are in our book on page 56. So I won't go
38 through the years, but from 2015 there was 19, 51, 56,
39 30, 43, 28, 18, 17, 20. I think it is not a
40 requirement to be kept track of to be a subsistence
41 user. Everyone on the road system who has been there
42 for a year is qualified. As Pat said there is a --
43 sorry to mention, as it's been said here it is a little
44 bit more -- well, it is more of a barrier to -- as
45 opposed to what some people think is the State is
46 easier to get. I think it is a barrier and I believe
47 that permitting is required for the whole island so the
48 other barrier is permitting for the villages. I know
49 people say you can go online, it's not always that easy
50

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1 to get internet. There's -- it's not always that easy
2 for people to have knowledge of how to use the
3 internet. So it eliminates that barrier. I know
4 people who already, you know, they'll get out and get
5 160 fish. Well, what they're doing right now is
6 illegal. I don't want to see that be illegal for
7 people. I don't think -- I think they have been --
8 people in the villages have been collecting and
9 subsisting for 10,000 years and I don't think that they
10 should be made to fish illegally or should enforcement
11 go out there that anybody get in trouble for simply
12 trying to exist and eat.

13

14 I think I also look at sport fishing.
15 You know, we say that there's a limit to sport fishing,
16 but there is no limit to how many sport fishermen are
17 allowed to come to the Buskin or any other of our
18 systems and fish. So essentially to me that's
19 unlimited. And that take is probably equal to if not
20 more. Also around the State on the fish and game
21 wildlife, they do harvest surveys so there is data from
22 that.

23

24 And then I had one more thing. Maybe
25 it'll come back to me.

26

27 Thank you.

28

29 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Natasha.

30

31 MS. HAYDEN: Thank you. I am
32 appreciative of all of the comments and points of view
33 on this. I want -- first of all before I got on the
34 RAC I didn't know there were some -- a difference
35 between the State subsistence permit and the Federal
36 subsistence permit. And I'm born and raised in Kodiak,
37 my family's been there for thousands of years. I mean,
38 I had no idea. And so that in itself is a barrier,
39 that somebody like myself whose family have been in the
40 area for, you know, millennia, doesn't know that that
41 system is in place. I'm in agreement that -- I mean,
42 for a couple of things. You know, I know our meeting's
43 short today so we don't have a lot of time to dive into
44 this, but I'm supportive of this in theory for us to
45 take a deeper look at it.

46

47 One thing is is that there is no
48 enforcement. There's no enforcement. I had a Fish and
49 Wildlife give -- do some enforcement when I was gutting
50

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1 my fish down at the filet table in the harbor and I
2 could show my ID show where I live which would
3 demonstrate that I am eligible as a Federally-qualified
4 subsistence user. So to me that's not really a reason
5 to not explore this because the enforcement thing is --
6 yeah, it's -- it's not as consistent or robust as it
7 would need to be for it to be a reason to not look into
8 this.

9

10 In addition, you know, when we're
11 talking about subsistence priority and feeding
12 ourselves and our families that -- I mean, I don't have
13 a lot of faith that the management system that we have
14 now is going to exist in a hundred years. And I don't
15 believe that 20 permits -- that there was only 20
16 individuals that fished for subsistence purposes in
17 2023/2024 as is reflected by the numbers. What I think
18 is that like myself I get the State subsistence permit
19 and that's where I document my catch. And so if in a
20 hundred years hopefully we still have a fishery,
21 subsistence fishery, and that it's going to be managed
22 on data that's collected in this manner, that that's
23 going to be a -- excluding a huge proportion of the
24 people who are pursuing their fish for the purpose of
25 subsistence.

26

27 I -- I mean, I have a lot more thoughts
28 about this. I would support it. I mean, I am --
29 actually I'm -- I do have a clarifying question --
30 another clarifying question about the proposal. If we
31 were to approve this proposal would it be in the
32 proposal book for review this fall, like what is the
33 process?

34

35 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Justin, would
36 you like to speak to that.

37

38 MR. KOLLER: Sure. Through the Chair.
39 Yeah, all the proposals that you put forward today will
40 be analyzed by OSM and made -- and the analysis will be
41 made available in the fall for review and consideration
42 again by this Council so you can make a recommendation
43 to the Board.

44

45 MS. HAYDEN: Okay. Thank you. So are
46 we doing discussion as well before taking a vote?

47

48 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: This is the
49 discussion.

50

1 MS. HAYDEN: This is the discussion.
2 I'd be supportive of it for analysis purposes for us to
3 take a look at. And we have the opportunity in the
4 fall if we don't think that that is, you know, what we
5 would like to see going forward then we are able to
6 make that decision after getting some information and
7 analysis.

8
9 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay. Thanks.
10 Coral had a couple chances to speak so far, is there
11 anyone else who hasn't spoken yet? Pat has also had a
12 couple chances. Anyone -- Chris -- I'm going to take
13 Chris -- I'm going to do Chris, my -- I'm going to do
14 -- let's go to Chris and then we'll go from there.

15
16 MR. PRICE: Yeah, this is a -- it's a
17 pretty interesting topic to say the least. We have
18 some communities, you know, Atka, Nikolski, St. George,
19 St. Paul, they-- I don't think there is permitting at
20 all there. I'm not sure about Adak on some of that
21 stuff. Unalaska that's why we have the State
22 subsistence permits, everyone's in agreement that
23 that's the -- for McLees and for in the bay to use the
24 State permitting system as our tool to document, you
25 know, who's fishing and the take, the amount. And the
26 way that I understand it it's 25 fishper person, per --
27 and then per household. So that means, you know, say
28 there's four people in your household, that's 25 per
29 person, that would be a hundred person -- a hundred
30 fish per household. And then if you got all hundred
31 fish you can go back and get another permit, you can
32 add it. So but I'm kind of -- I'm really trying to
33 understand what Coral's getting at I think is -- it's
34 an important -- it's important because we're only
35 talking about salmon in Unalaska anyway, only salmon
36 permitting. We do have halibut on subsistence, but we
37 don't permit seagull eggs I don't think, we don't
38 permit -- you know, we do have the bird -- bird
39 hunting. But I don't know, do we per -- you know, fox
40 hunting, do we have permits for that stuff. So it's
41 pretty -- it's kind of this hodgepodge of management
42 where it's usually -- it seemed like the community
43 themself is really self regulating for the most part.

44
45 But what I wanted to bring up, we did
46 have a commercial fisherman that did get cited last
47 summer. And what they -- the commercial fisherman put
48 his net out at McLees Lake to harvest salmon and he was
49 -- I think he was a rural resident, he's from Homer,
50

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1 but anyway that -- you can't put a net out on a
2 commercial boat so we found that out and he got a
3 pretty hefty fine and got all his fish taken away.

4

5 So I think there's important aspects of
6 the permitting, but I think every community has a
7 different approach to that. So I would be interested
8 in learning about what possibly could be done here, but
9 I would think that every community's going to have a
10 different approach.

11

12 Thank you.

13

14 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: All right.

15 Thanks. Brett.

16

17 MR. RICHARDSON: Thank you. I support
18 continued permitting for salmon. And I guess I have a
19 clarification to ask for. As Christ stated in Unalaska
20 we go through the State system for salmon and that's
21 been going on for several years. I recently just spoke
22 to a local ADF&G representative and got the last 20
23 years of sockeye, silver, pink, whatnot, taken out of
24 McLees. And it's pretty informative, it shows you who
25 filed for a permit and who turned in their permit at --
26 I believe it's October 31st is the deadline. And it --
27 you know, it varies from 50 to 60, 70 percent, but
28 there's always well over, you know a hundred permits
29 requested every year. And I think that's good
30 information.

31

32 The clarification is for I guess the
33 Kodiak area. Are all fish go through the Federal
34 system or any through the State, can anyone talk to --
35 both. So you could.....

36

37 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: They each have a
38 system.

39

40 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay. If
41 there's going to be a response it needs to be into the
42 microphone so that everyone can hear. And actually for
43 the response to that question, Justin, do you have a
44 response to that?

45

46 MR. KOLLER: Yeah, through the Chair.
47 There are State and Federal subsistence permits in the
48 Kodiak area. Kodiak is unique in the fact that it has
49 pretty extensive marine waters that are under Federal
50

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1 regulation. And so you can get Federal permits for a
2 larger area in the Kodiak area.

3

4 MR. RICHARDSON: Okay. Thank you.

5

6 MR. KOLLER: Yeah.

7

8 MR. RICHARDSON: I also have a SHARC
9 card and I'm just reading the FAQ right here where it
10 says do I have to report my subsistence harvest. And
11 it says NOAA Fisheries strongly encourages SHARC
12 holders to report their subsistence harvests when
13 requested for a government survey. So it doesn't seem
14 like that's any kind of annual requirement. I've had a
15 SHARC card for five years, nobody's ever contacted me.
16 I would be happy to report my harvest, but again I
17 think the State system is a little bit more diligent
18 and I would support continuing that at least in my
19 area.

20

21 Thank you.

22

23 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Justin, go
24 ahead.

25

26 MR. KOLLER: Thank you very much.
27 Through the Chair. I just had a quick comment in
28 response and that's the SHARC program is kind of
29 separate from our Federal program that we have going on
30 right here for Federal subsistence. And we do have a
31 requirement in Federal regulation that you must return
32 your harvest annually and you'd be ineligible to
33 receive one the following year if you didn't have a
34 good excuse for not turning one in. So just wanted to
35 clarify.

36

37 Thank you.

38

39 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: All right.
40 Thanks. So I'm going to go to myself and then Rick
41 because he hasn't spoken yet. And then I have Pat and
42 Coral. And just a reminder since we do have such a
43 short meeting today if you can try to keep your
44 comments to new stuff that hasn't been stated yet.

45

46 My comment is that I am not going to
47 support this motion. I appreciate reducing barriers, I
48 do appreciate the angst around kind of forcing
49 subsistence users to report their harvest when that
50

0059

1 doesn't happen the same way on the sport side and the
2 limits just work differently on the sport fishing side.
3 That being said having worked in the fish and wildlife
4 -- not worked in, but having worked within and had
5 exposure to fish and wildlife resource management, I do
6 think data is very important whether that's the data
7 for how many permits were issued or data that gets
8 reported back. And so at this time I just -- I don't
9 support getting rid of the permit.

10

11 So I'm going to go to Rick and then Pat
12 and then Coral and then if there's no other comments
13 we'll probably take a vote at that time.

14

15 Rick.

16

17 MR. KOSO: Yeah. No, I can't support
18 this either. And in Adak we had some problem with --
19 like I said with the internet and stuff because a lot
20 of people didn't have the internet. But it was very
21 easy, you picked up the phone and you called Cold Bay
22 or you called wherever to get a permit and they were
23 very helpful. They would fax it to you, if you didn't
24 have a fax they would give you -- fax it to the school
25 or to the city office and you could pick it up there.
26 But they were very helpful. I never had any problem.
27 I had plenty of problems with the internet in Adak. So
28 but telephones work just fine and we never had any
29 problem getting our permits through the telephone
30 system. So I'm not in support of this motion.

31

32 Thank you.

33

34 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Thanks. Pat and
35 then Coral.

36

37 MR. HOLMES: Just to answer a couple
38 questions of Coral's. For Kodiak on the villages, some
39 of the places are not on Federal waters and the State,
40 I don't know how they do it now, but they used to when
41 I was working for them, we'd deal with the local VPSO
42 to be able to be in the village to give out the
43 permits. And so it provided access for harvest let's
44 say at Karluk because those waters are Native and
45 they're not Federal. And so things get really sticky.
46 And generally I think the Department and westward
47 region tries to be as flexible as they can as Rick's
48 pointed out on providing for people to do that. Some
49 of the locations they don't even require a permit, they
50

0060

1 just rely on the Federal -- on the State Subsistence
2 Division as a data source and I think they're probably
3 the primary data source for the Federal government in
4 most places is the Subsistence Division. And so I can
5 understand that it would be nice not to have to bother
6 with that, but then the questions of enforcement, who
7 looks at the length and size of the net. And I've been
8 out on the Buskin many, many more than I've lost here.
9 And you'll have the State Troopers either fly over,
10 stop by in a skiff, Fish and Game seasonal Biologist or
11 technicians from -- hired interns from the high school
12 and they tuddle by and they take a look at your net,
13 see how you're doing. And it's not a simple thing, but
14 it's something that has evolved since Statehood in
15 Kodiak and it seems to me that it works.

16

17 Thank you, Madame Chair. And I'll
18 probably not support it.

19

20 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Thanks. Coral.

21

22 MS. CHERNOFF: Yeah, I think it's a --
23 I remembered what I was going to say before. Alaska
24 Department of Fish and Game has a -- it might be on
25 their website or I can't remember, there's a paper on
26 subsistence that I've seen before that where commercial
27 take is 98.6 percent or something like that of the
28 total take. So when we're looking at total take of
29 salmon, but that's for the whole State, and like .9
30 percent of the whole State subsistence take is --
31 amounts to .9 percent. So the kinds of numbers that
32 we're talking about having to keep track of is so
33 totally low.

34

35 And then the second thing I want to say
36 is just I -- I guess I asked for the RAC to consider
37 bringing this forward. I think it's something that,
38 you know, if we don't bring it forward then -- well, I
39 was hoping that the RAC would bring it forward. You
40 know, we don't have to agree with it or disagree with
41 it today, but just put it on the table to the public
42 has an opportunity to weigh in on it and it brings it
43 up for discussion.

44

45 Thank you.

46

47 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: All right. So
48 I'm not seeing any more hands. We'll go ahead and
49 proceed to the vote. I will note that even if the RAC
50

0061

1 does not vote to approve this as a proposal it can
2 still be submitted by an individual and get into the
3 proposal book for public consideration and RAC
4 consideration at our next meeting.

5

6 Okay. So seeing no other hands up
7 we'll go ahead and do.....

8

9 MS. TRUMBLE: Madame Chair.

10

11 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Oh, sorry. Go
12 ahead, Della.

13

14 MS. TRUMBLE: I would recommend maybe
15 that you do a roll call vote on this.

16

17 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Yeah, I was just
18 having a side conversation with Lisa about that. Okay.
19 Let's go ahead and proceed to a roll call vote.

20

21 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: Thank you,
22 Council. And correct me if I'm wrong on the proposal
23 that Coral made was a motion to eliminate Federal
24 permits for -- on Kodiak Island for any types of
25 fishing of all species of Kodiak or something like
26 that. Was that your intent?

27

28 MS. CHERNOFF: Yes.

29

30 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: Yes, she
31 said that was. Okay. So we're going to do a roll call
32 vote. I'm going to start with Rebecca Skinner.

33

34 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: No.

35

36 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: Della
37 Trumble.

38

39 MS. TRUMBLE: I will have to say no
40 because I think right now in times of global warming
41 and all that we've heard on potential changes that it's
42 more important than ever to keep track of what we are
43 harvesting and by whom.

44

45 Thank you.

46

47 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: Thank you,
48 Della. We'll go with Natasha Hayden.

49

50

0062

1 MS. HAYDEN: Yes.

2

3 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: Sam Rohrer.

4

5 MR. ROHRER: No.

6

7 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: Rick Koso.

8

9 MR. KOSO: No.

10

11 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: Jeff
12 Wasley.

13

14 MR. WASLEY: No.

15

16 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: Pat Holmes.

17

18 MR. HOLMES: No.

19

20 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: Chris
21 Price.

22

23 MR. PRICE: No.

24

25 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: Brett
26 Richardson.

27

28 MR. RICHARDSON: No.

29

30 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: Coral
31 Chernoff.

32

33 MS. CHERNOFF: Yes.

34

35 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: Okay. I
36 have 10 sitting Council members. We have eight nos and
37 two yeses so the motion fails.

38

39 Thank you.

40

41 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: All right.
42 Thank you. Are there any other proposals that Council
43 members want to bring forward.

44

45 MS. CHERNOFF: Madame Chair.

46

47 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Is that an
48 actual hand? Coral, go ahead.

49

50

0063

1 MS. CHERNOFF: Yes. I am interested in
2 the Kodiak area except for -- except for maybe the
3 chinook salmon in Women's Bay. No, I guess except for
4 in the Women's Bay area. I am interested in removing
5 or I'm interested, I don't know if we should have a
6 discussion or if I should make a motion again, to have
7 no annual limit for the harvest area in the road
8 accessible area and the -- well, the Kodiak area
9 remainder already has no annual limit. And my
10 reasoning.....

11
12 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Wait. Hold on.

13
14 MS. CHERNOFF: Yep.

15
16 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: So let's go
17 ahead and make sure the motion is clear and you have a
18 second and then you can speak to your rationale. So
19 can you restate what your motion is, what are you
20 proposing to change.

21
22 MS. CHERNOFF: Yes. I am proposing a
23 motion to have no annual limit in the road accessible
24 zone east of the line from Craig Point south to western
25 most point of Saltery Cove including the inland waters
26 of Spruce, Woody Island and Long Islands.

27
28 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay. So to
29 orient everyone you're looking at page 53 of the
30 regulation book and you're looking at that bottom table
31 whereas right now the harvest limit is 25 and you're
32 looking to change that to no annual limit, right?

33
34 MS. CHERNOFF: Well, I'll discuss that
35 at -- the limit is actually not 25. You can get
36 additional permits. So I would like to just remove
37 that and list it as no annual limit.

38
39 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay. So to
40 make sure we're clear the motion is to -- if you're
41 looking at page 53, to make it no annual limit for both
42 of those lines. This is for salmon and you can see the
43 associated areas in that table. Is there a second.

44
45 MS. HAYDEN: Second.

46
47 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: All right. Is
48 there discussion. Coral, go ahead.

49
50

0064

1 MS. CHERNOFF: Thank you. Through the
2 Chair. Yeah, my idea is just that I'm interested in
3 simplifying regulation so that there are no barriers.
4 So essentially right now there is no annual limit, it
5 just limits you to 25 per permit holder. And then
6 additional 25 salmon and then you can also go back and
7 get additional permits. So I would just like to reduce
8 that barrier of having to go back and get additional
9 permits. And I would just like the regulation to read
10 no annual limit.

11
12 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Further
13 discussion or questions. Natasha.

14
15 MS. HAYDEN: I got a question. I don't
16 know, Coral, if you have the answer to this or not, but
17 maybe OSM has an answer for why the difference between
18 the two areas, why there's the limit on the road system
19 area and no annual limit outside of the road system
20 area. Is that because of scarcity of resources,
21 population density or other -- is there other reasons
22 why that exists the way it is now?

23
24 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Justin, go
25 ahead.

26
27 MR. KOLLER: Yeah. Through the Chair,
28 Ms. Hayden. Yeah, it has to do with access and just
29 being on the road system and closer to the population
30 center of the Kodiak archipelago that there is an
31 annual limit there and not elsewhere.

32
33 MS. HAYDEN: Madame Chair.

34
35 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Natasha, go
36 ahead.

37
38 MS. HAYDEN: I think that for -- I
39 think this is very interesting because if subsistence
40 has a priority and even if there's more subsistence or
41 Federally-qualified subsistence users on the road
42 system, if they have a need then why are we -- why is
43 that constrained. It's constrained for biological
44 purposes which I don't really see because it's managed
45 on escapement. And so if there -- if everybody is --
46 who's eligible is catching what they need and then
47 they're not getting escapement then it would shut down,
48 correct? So why are we limiting -- and I think also
49 this is just -- it's almost like a housekeeping thing
50

0065

1 because there's no -- there really isn't any annual
2 limit if everybody's eligible -- able to go in and just
3 get another permit anyway, you know. So in practice
4 there's not really a limit, right?

5

6 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Did you need to
7 say something or no.

8

9 MR. KOLLER: Yeah.

10

11 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Go ahead.

12

13 MR. KOLLER: Yeah. Through the Chair.
14 Yes. There is really no limit in practice, you can go
15 in and get another permit if necessary. So and again I
16 think, you know, the -- this regulation has been on the
17 books for a really long time, probably since it was
18 brought over from State regulation. A lot of our
19 regulations at the outset of the program were brought
20 over from State regulations and haven't been changed
21 since. So that -- that's sort of the history there of
22 where it came from. And the reason that it's there is
23 just because of access. And really the primary spot
24 that we're talking about is the Buskin River. And so
25 access -- you know, it's the most population fishery
26 right there in Kodiak. So that's why there was some
27 sort of limit on there and the fact that it was carried
28 from the State.

29

30 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Sam.

31

32 MR. ROHRER: Through the Chair.
33 Thanks. This is a -- it would be a question for you I
34 guess. So I'm a little unsure how -- so our fishing --
35 our fish limits, you know, it's on page 53, but it also
36 jumps over to page 54 and so I'm -- I guess I'm unsure
37 how your proposal affects.....

38

39 MS. CHERNOFF: It doesn't.

40

41 MR. ROHRER: Well, what -- why doesn't
42 it. How it's worded why doesn't it affect the -- I
43 know you excluded chinook, but the second part other
44 the salmon other than chinook salmon, why does that
45 proposal not include that?

46

47 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay. So Sam's
48 question is why is that not included. I think Coral
49 says reread the motion. I guess after Sam's question I

50

0066

1 am not actually sure what the motion is because I
2 thought the motion only applied to the table on the
3 first page and now I'm confused whether it also is
4 attempting to include Women's Bay which was the new
5 regulation we approved a couple meetings ago. But,
6 Coral, if you can clarify.

7

8 Thanks.

9

10 MS. CHERNOFF: Thank you. Through the
11 Chair. My motion was just to make the harvest limit no
12 annual limit in the road accessible zone. And if need
13 to say excluding Women's Bay, but because Women's Bay
14 is listed out on its own I didn't feel the need to
15 include that. So my motion is just to remove or change
16 that harvest limit to no annual limit in the road
17 accessible zone, northeast Kodiak Island, east of the
18 line from Craig Point and on and on.

19

20 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Yeah. And then
21 I think Justin wanted to add -- go ahead.

22

23 MR. KOLLER: Thank you. Through the
24 Chair. Yeah, I think we have it, I think you explained
25 it really well. This -- the Women's Bay is separate
26 and really that description that we're reading in the
27 road accessible zone, I mean, ideally that would say
28 other than Women's Bay, the marine water. So my
29 apologies.

30

31 Thank you.

32

33 MR. ROHRER: Thank you. Yeah, that
34 explains it. I didn't -- I was struggling to
35 understand what the difference between those two areas,
36 but yeah, that makes sense.

37

38 Thank you.

39

40 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Pat.

41

42 MR. HOLMES: You might want to include
43 in your definition the one on page 55 for the Buskin
44 River mouth area. And just in terms of distribution of
45 king salmon up on the northeast end of the island other
46 than the few that are coming by from southeast and from
47 British Columbia most of them right around town are
48 from the -- Kodiak Regional Aquaculture has been doing
49 a -- kind of a public service and they release a few
50

0067

1 chinook smolt over in Monashka Bay. So that's about
2 the only place. They used to have good kings in the
3 Buskin when they were planting them there, but they
4 dropped that. And so impact is probably going to be
5 not very significant.

6
7 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: All right. I'm
8 not seeing any -- Sam, go ahead.

9
10 MR. ROHRER: I'm sorry. I really hate
11 to drag this out, but I'm still not clear on the
12 difference between the road accessible zone, the last
13 portion of that description says the Federal marine
14 waters of and around Women's Bay. And then when you
15 jump to page 54 it alsolists Women's Bay. So I'mnot --
16 I'm just not getting what the -- what the difference
17 between those two things are. And if.....

18
19 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: So the.....

20
21 MR. ROHRER: And -- well, sorry. Just
22 let me -- so what I really want to know is for gillnet
23 -- for the folks who are gillnetting off of the Buskin
24 River what part of this are they falling under?

25
26 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: So the reason
27 it's separate and Justin can clarify if this is
28 incorrect, but previous to our marathon closure reviews
29 that we did a few meetings ago Women's Bay was closed.
30 We rescinded the closure. Part of that was we -- at
31 that same time we approved regulations had different
32 harvest limits than just regular Federal subsistence
33 harvest limits for the Kodiak wide region. So that's
34 why Women's Bay is pulled out separately because we
35 actually approved separate regulations that have
36 different parameters for Women's Bay. So the way I'm
37 viewing this is on page 53 you have that table that
38 tells you how things generally work in Kodiak. When
39 you turn the page there's more specific break outs for
40 how specific areas may be treated differently. That's
41 how I'm looking at it.

42
43 And, Justin, if that's incorrect or if
44 you want to add anything else to the explanation.

45
46 MR. KOLLER: Through the Chair. That
47 was a good explanation and honestly I can understand
48 your confusion, Mr. Rohrer. But and yes, it could be
49 worded a little bit better in this regulation, but
50

0068

1 Women's Bay is separate and has its own separate limits
2 that were set by the Board on the recommendation of
3 this Council last cycle. So the Buskin River, this
4 first road accessible zone limits apply to the Buskin
5 River area.

6
7 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Coral, go ahead.

8
9 MS. CHERNOFF: So I want to thank Sam
10 for reading that very, very closely. So what can we do
11 to clarify that, does that come in the form of a
12 proposal? Because I also think, you know, if we who
13 are really familiar with it are confused and I did not
14 catch that before then I think we should fix it and I
15 don't know how to go about doing that.

16
17 MR. KOLLER: Yeah, through the Chair,
18 Ms. Chernoff. I believe that's an administrative fix
19 that we can do. We know the Council's intent, it's
20 very clear from the Council meeting and what the Board
21 action -- what the intent was. So we can fix that in
22 this next round of regulatory cycle.

23
24 Thank you.

25
26 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: All right. Are
27 there any additional comments or questions before we
28 move to a vote.

29
30 (No comments)

31
32 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay. So as a
33 good Chair I'm going to restate the motion. And I find
34 it easiest to refer to page 53. So if you're looking
35 at page 53 of the new subsistence fish and shellfish
36 harvest regulations, the motion is to basically have no
37 annual limit for the Kodiak area except for Women's
38 Bay. So right now that bottom table it breaks out the
39 road accessible zone from the Kodiak area remainder.
40 The motion would just lump all those together and have
41 no annual living for everything except if you turn the
42 page four areas that are called out separately like
43 Women's Bay.

44
45 Is everyone clear what the motion is?

46
47 MR. HOLMES: Madame Chair.

48
49 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Pat, go ahead.

50

0069

1 MR. HOLMES: You were talking about
2 chinook?

3
4 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: No, we are --
5 well, we could be. We are talking about and I'll -- I
6 guess I'm looking to Justin. We're talking about
7 salmon that is subject to subsistence harvest.

8
9 Justin, go ahead.

10
11 MR. KOLLER: Through the Chair. Yes,
12 that's correct.

13
14 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Sam.

15
16 MR. ROHRER: And this is going to go --
17 depending on how we vote on it this is going to go to
18 OSM, be analyzed, we'll have a report back for our fall
19 meeting to relook at this; is that correct?

20
21 MR. KOLLER: Yes. Through the Chair,
22 Mr. Rohrer. That's correct.

23
24 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay. Are there
25 any other questions.

26
27 (No comments)

28
29 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay. If we
30 could do a roll call vote.

31
32 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: Okay.
33 We're going to do a roll call vote on what Rebecca just
34 cited on the proposal that Coral made. Okay. We'll
35 start with Jeff Wasley.

36
37 MR. WASLEY: No.

38
39 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: Patrick
40 Holmes.

41
42 MR. HOLMES: No.

43
44 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: Rick Koso.

45
46 MR. KOSO: I'm going to abstain. I
47 don't know enough about it to make an educational vote
48 on it so I'll abstain from this.

49
50

0070

1 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: Sam Rohrer.

2

3 MR. ROHRER: I want to what Rick did.

4 I'm still a little -- I -- I'm -- I think I'm a no.

5 Yeah, no.

6

7 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: Okay.

8 Christopher Price.

9

10 MR. PRICE: I'm kind of with Rick where

11 if it's Kodiak I try not to really vote unless I've got

12 a pretty good consensus of what Kodiak wants. So and

13 I'm not really clear what Kodiak wants on this one so I

14 am going to abstain as well.

15

16 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: Rebecca.

17

18 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Yes.

19

20 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: Della

21 Trumble.

22

23 MS. TRUMBLE: I'm going to abstain

24 also. I'm a little confused on this issue. I fully

25 don't understand it.

26

27 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: Okay.

28 Brett.

29

30 MR. RICHARDSON: Yes.

31

32 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: Natasha.

33

34 MS. HAYDEN: Yes.

35

36 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: And Coral.

37

38 MS. CHERNOFF: Yes.

39

40 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: Okay. We

41 have four yeses and three nos and three abstains. So

42 what does that mean?

43

44 (No comments)

45

46 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: I'm getting

47 a thumbs up. That means it passed. Okay.

48

49 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: All right. Are

50

0071

1 there any further fishery proposals Council members
2 would like to put forward.

3

4 (Laughter)

5

6 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Coral, go ahead.

7

8 MS. CHERNOFF: Possibly. I was reading
9 in here, in the regulation book for trout, herring and
10 bottomfish. But I couldn't find a definition in the
11 back for bottomfish. So I'm confused about making a
12 proposal because I'm not sure what all is included in
13 that. Is it maybe in the front?

14

15 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Justin, go
16 ahead.

17

18 MR. KOLLER: Through the Chair. Stand
19 by one moment, let me take a look.

20

21 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay. So Justin
22 is still -- Justin can continue to look for that.
23 Natasha, you had your hand up.

24

25 MS. HAYDEN: Yeah. Well, I mean, I
26 think that this is kind of a housekeeping thing as well
27 because it's got chinook salmon and salmon other than
28 chinook under trout, herring and bottomfish in that
29 table. So I don't know if it's just a formatting thing
30 or there's some -- something I don't know about salmon
31 and its relationship to what's listed.

32

33 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Yeah, and just
34 to clarify that's not listed under trout, herring and
35 bottomfish. It's the -- if you're going to redo this
36 table the focus should really be that it -- they're
37 calling out the separate geographic area of Women's
38 Bay. So salmon and chinook within Women's Bay is kind
39 of the exception.

40

41 Coral, go ahead.

42

43 MS. CHERNOFF: Yeah, found -- found
44 the definition in the back, it's under groundfish. And
45 it means any marine fish except halibut, osmerids,
46 herring and salmonids. So I have no further proposals.

47

48 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Thank you. Are
49 there any additional proposals.

50

0072

1 (No comments)

2

3 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay. See.....

4

5 MS. TRUMBLE: Madame Chair.

6

7 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Go ahead, Della.

8

9 MS. TRUMBLE: Just maybe a -- I think
10 it's -- I don't know if it's a housekeeping thing. We
11 had set the issue with the -- or set the subsistence
12 salmon in Cold Bay, but I think we didn't ever set any
13 regulations on like the daily harvest limits or
14 anything. When would we be able to take that up or
15 should I try to work with somebody, one of the Staff
16 members to have something to present in our fall
17 meeting?

18

19 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: So the timing of
20 this is for RAC generated proposals. They have to
21 happen today. This is our only opportunity when we
22 come together as a group before the deadline. So if
23 the RAC wants to put forward a proposal it has to
24 happen today. That being said there is opportunity for
25 individuals to put forward proposals. So any
26 individual member of the RAC or individual of the --
27 any members of the public could put forward regulatory
28 proposals that would end up in the proposal book and
29 then the RAC would consider those at the meeting when
30 we consider all of the proposed regulations. So short
31 answer if you want a RAC generated proposal it has to
32 be done today, but that's not the only opportunity for
33 a proposal to be submitted, it would just be submitted
34 on an individual basis. And I will say that when I
35 worked on Kodiak specific proposals OSM Staff was able
36 to help with that so you're not completely on your own.

37

38 Does that answer your question?

39

40 MS. TRUMBLE: Yes, it does. I just
41 need to -- I'll check with Robbin and I'll figure it
42 out.

43

44 Thank you.

45

46 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay. All
47 right. Well, I'm not seeing any other proposals or
48 questions. That concludes this agenda item. And again
49 as I just said reminder to Council members and the
50

0073

1 public, you will be able to individually submit
2 proposals so this wasn't the -- you know, the last
3 chance for individuals to submit.

4
5 Moving on to the next agenda item,
6 develop priority information needs for the FRMP,
7 solicit volunteers to develop the PINs. And this will
8 be Justin Koller and OSM Anthropology Dr. Jason
9 Roberts.

10
11 MR. KOLLER: Thank you, Madame Chair.
12 Once again this is Justin Koller, Fisheries Biologist
13 with the Office of Subsistence Management. The mission
14 of the Fisheries Resource Monitoring Program is to
15 identify and provide information needed to sustain
16 Federal subsistence fisheries. The Monitoring Program
17 also supports meaningful involvement in fisheries
18 management by Alaska Native and rural organizations and
19 promotes collaboration among Federal, State, Alaska
20 Native and local organizations. OSM is currently in
21 the final phase of the 2024 Monitoring Program funding
22 cycle. The Federal Subsistence Board met in early
23 February and approved the final Monitoring Program
24 monitoring plan.

25
26 With this cycle coming to an end it's
27 time for the Council to begin developing priority
28 information needs for the 2026 Monitoring Program call
29 for proposals. Priority information needs or PINs for
30 short are an important component of the Monitoring
31 Program. They outline knowledge gaps and local
32 concerns related to subsistence fisheries and guide
33 what projects are submitted for consideration. We are
34 asking for volunteers from this Council and the Bristol
35 Bay Council to meet by telephone this summer to
36 identify knowledge gaps and information for management
37 of subsistence fisheries. The draft list of priority
38 information needs that's developed by the volunteers
39 will be presented to the Councils for final approval
40 during the fall meetings later this year.

41
42 So this is not an action item, we're
43 merely looking for volunteers that would like to help
44 develop priority information needs for the southwest
45 region for the next cycle.

46
47 And that's the update, Madame Chair.
48 And I can take questions or accept volunteers.

49
50

0074

1 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: All right.
2 Thanks. And would Jason like to introduce himself for
3 the record.

4
5 DR. ROBERTS: Thank you, Madame Chair.
6 For the record my name is Jason Roberts.

7
8 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Thank you.
9 Okay. So are there volunteers for -- Council members
10 who want to participate in the PINS development
11 process.

12
13 Pat, go ahead.

14
15 MR. HOLMES: Yes, Madame Chair. I've
16 been doing this for many years and have done quite a
17 bit of coordinating with the Bristol Bay group. And
18 because we're lumped into the same bureaucratic
19 location, but we have so many similarities. And I
20 think Dan Dunaway, the Vice Chair, was one of the folks
21 that I was chatting with before and we've come up with
22 some pretty good programs to try to find out -- or
23 request for programs to try to find out what's going
24 wrong with our salmon stocks and other critters. So I
25 would like to continue in that role, please.

26
27 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Are there any
28 other volunteers.

29
30 (No comments)

31
32 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: I would like to
33 volunteer. And, Lisa, are you noting these down?

34
35 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: Yes.

36
37 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay. Thank
38 you. All right. So Pat and Rebecca. Anyone else?

39
40 Brett.

41
42 MR. RICHARDSON: Yes.

43
44 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Natasha and
45 Brett. Go ahead.

46
47 MR. WASLEY: Can I ask how much time
48 like you would expect out of us for this?

49
50

0075

1 MR. KOLLER: Yeah. Through the Chair,
2 Mr. Wasley. It's not a very big time commitment. We
3 usually do one meeting by telephone for maybe an hour
4 or two. And then possibly a follow-up meeting if we
5 need to, but very little time commitment, just need
6 your input on brainstorming areas of information needs.

7
8 MR. WASLEY: Thank you. Yeah, I'd --
9 I'll volunteer.

10

11 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: All right. And
12 Jeff. And then I guess for the new people do you --
13 are you familiar with the FRMP and do you understand
14 how the PINs feed into that process or do you -- was
15 the explanation sufficient, do you want a little more?

16

17 MR. PRICE: I.....

18

19 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Chris, go ahead.

20

21 MR. PRICE: Yeah, so this -- I didn't
22 see it in the packet where we were talking about the
23 FRMP. Is it in here or this part they were talking
24 about?

25

26 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Unh-unh. This
27 is literally just soliciting volunteers to be on.....

28

29 MR. PRICE: Okay.

30

31 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER:that joint
32 group with Bristol Bay since we're within one FRMP.....

33

34 MR. PRICE: Okay.

35

36 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER:area.

37

38 MR. PRICE: Okay. I gotcha. And is
39 there any other grants they're going work on or just
40 this, the FRMP?

41

42 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: This is specific
43 to the FRMP.

44

45 MR. PRICE: Okay. Thanks you.

46

47 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Pat, go ahead.

48

49 MR. HOLMES: A question for OSM.

50

0076

1 Probably 20 years ago or so used to be a representative
2 of each of the RACs in the evaluation process when it
3 came to judging projects that spun -- spun off for the
4 proposals. And that was dropped. And I just wondering
5 if that perhaps might be reconsidered sometime so that
6 you have local knowledge. Case in point was before
7 McLees Lake and Unalaska got their funding at one point
8 the decision was made that oh, gee, Fish and Game will
9 fund that because it's in their turf. And what
10 happened was is that it wasn't, it was being funded
11 with a different grant before. And so we went for a
12 year or two years out there with absolutely no
13 monitoring of the escapement through that weir. And
14 since then we -- folks out there and I did a lot of
15 arguing too have gotten a really viable program going,
16 but it's hanging on threads for funding. And so I
17 would think that having somebody from each RAC to look
18 at things, sometimes the bureaucrats here in Anchorage
19 don't have a clue on what's going on out in the
20 villages and remote communities. So if they're making
21 decisions like that they ought to at least either come
22 back to the RAC or have a RAC person involved in those
23 discussions.

24

25 Thank you.

26

27 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: All right. And
28 we're going to put a pin in that. This agenda item was
29 specifically to take volunteers for the joint working
30 group with the -- with Bristol Bay. I note it is 11:16
31 and we still have some pretty substantial items to get
32 through.

33

34 Okay. So for volunteers for this
35 group, Lisa, do you mind running through that again to
36 make sure we captured everyone.

37

38 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: Yes. Thank
39 you, Madame Chair. We have Pat Holmes, Rebecca
40 Skinner, Brett Richardson, Jeff Wasley and Natasha
41 Hayden.

42

43 MS. HAYDEN: You could take me off
44 there, please. With.....

45

46 Thanks.

47

48 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: Okay.
49 We'll do that. Thanks.

50

0077

1 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: All right.
2 Okay. I'm not seeing any additional comments or
3 questions on that, that concludes agenda item D.

4

5 Next agenda item is 10E, Federal
6 Subsistence Board additional public members proposed --
7 proposed rule. And it's in supplemental tab 2. So
8 again this a proposed rule to add I think it's three
9 additional public members to the Federal Subsistence
10 Board that would be nominated by tribes. I think
11 discussion earlier in the week specified they wouldn't
12 have to be tribal members, but they would be nominated
13 by tribes. And this is an opportunity for the RAC to
14 submit comment on this if we want, otherwise certainly
15 as individuals anyone can submit public comments to the
16 proposed rule.

17

18 And do we have somebody to give more
19 report on this or is that it?

20

21 (No comments)

22

23 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay. All
24 right. Is there -- what is the will of the Council.

25

26 Natasha, go ahead.

27

28 MS. HAYDEN: Thanks, Madame Chair. I
29 would make a motion to submit a letter in support of
30 this proposed rule.

31

32 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Is there a
33 second.

34

35 MR. PRICE: Second.

36

37 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: All right. Is
38 there discussion. And by discussion I think we should
39 try to capture the bullet points of what's in the
40 letter so that Lisa can draft something.

41

42 MR. HOLMES: I think the -- Madame
43 Chair. Excuse me.

44

45 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Pat, go ahead.

46

47 MR. HOLMES: I think the points that
48 you raised in the letter that you wrote and, you know,
49 the fact that we were -- our region was totally left
50

0078

1 out and.....

2

3 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Oh, I'm sorry,
4 Pat. That's not.....

5

6 MR. HOLMES: I'm sorry. I don't want
7 to -- I beg pardon.

8

9 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay. Yep. All
10 right. Natasha, did you have -- other than the RAC
11 supports it, did you have additional bullet points you
12 want included in the letter?

13

14 (No comments)

15

16 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: I have some if
17 you want to.....

18

19 MS. TRUMBLE: Madame Chair, this is
20 Della.

21

22 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER:think about
23 -- okay. Actually I'll go to Della while you.....

24

25 MS. HAYDEN: Yeah, go ahead and go to
26 Della.

27

28 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay. Della, go
29 ahead.

30

31 MS. TRUMBLE: I'm sorry. I was losing
32 my voice. I don't know if this is the proper place for
33 this, but during the course of the discussion I realize
34 this -- the way this is written in the Register is
35 basically appointed by the tribes. But I was -- would
36 be fully supportive if there's a way that the three
37 members maybe are representing a number of regions so
38 there's a little better balance to representation for
39 these three members is what I would like to recommend.

40

41 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay. Is there
42 any disagreement from RAC members to including that.

43

44 (No comments)

45

46 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay. All
47 right. I see agreement with that. I -- so during the
48 discussion, the group -- the large All RAC discussion
49 earlier in the week there was -- so repeating what
50

0079

1 Della just said that I understand the proposed rule is
2 worded the way it is, but there is a suggestion to
3 somehow either pull those three members if I understood
4 correctly from the RACs or have the ability for the
5 RACs to nominate or comment on the three proposed
6 members. So the way I understood that or the benefit I
7 saw to that is hopefully you'd be getting people who
8 are familiar with -- already familiar with the Federal
9 Subsistence Management Program and process and the RAC
10 process and the Council process. I personally think
11 that that's a good idea. I guess I'm not -- it could
12 look a number of different ways. I don't -- I'm not
13 super strong on exactly how it looks. But when I heard
14 that comment made earlier in the week it really
15 resonated with me. And I can flesh out something more
16 specific or does this RAC.....

17

18 Go ahead, Natasha.

19

20 MS. HAYDEN: Thanks, Madame Chair. In
21 the proposed rule, page 14010 on the far right column,
22 it says to be responsive to the request by defining the
23 requirements used for the selection of the Board Chair,
24 increasing number of public members to the Board
25 including voice for Federally recognized tribal
26 governments, certain -- sorry. I'm going to skip a
27 word, proposed that like be required to possess
28 personal knowledge of and direct experience with
29 subsistence uses in rural Alaska. Further propose
30 adding public members to the Board will be required to
31 possess personal knowledge of and direct experience
32 with subsistence uses in Alaska including Alaska Native
33 subsistence uses, will be nominated -- I'm trying to
34 see if it says anything about ANILCA. Lastly
35 consistent with Title VIII. Okay. Yeah. I think that
36 that is -- it could be interpreted that that's not
37 captured in this proposed rule. I'm trying to see if
38 including people who are familiar with the Board
39 process. And I have a question for Staff about what
40 the process is now for the public members appointment
41 and if -- you know, what opportunity exists for RACs to
42 comment on -- you know, if that's already part of the
43 process or if it needs to be explicitly included in
44 recommendations for these new seats.

45

46 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: Don't you
47 have a -- doesn't Staff sort of have a talking -- some
48 talking points on that. Could you address that, Brent.

49

50

0080

1 Thank you. Brent Vickers is going to
2 come up. Thank you.

3
4 MR. VICKERS: I kind of got diverted
5 because someone was saying something else about the
6 proposed rule and I was looking (indiscernible - away
7 from microphone). Brent Vickers, Office of Subsistence
8 Management. If you could please repeat that question.
9 Sorry, my attention got diverted for something else on
10 this proposed rule.

11
12 MS. HAYDEN: Chair Skinner suggested
13 that we include a bullet point about having the
14 nominees either having served on the RAC or be a member
15 of a RAC or be -- you know, have the RACs have an
16 opportunity -- and/or have -- the RACs having an
17 opportunity to, you know, review the candidates and,
18 you know, provide recommendations based on the RAC
19 experience and the individual candidates. Does that
20 already exist in the process that the Secretary follows
21 for the public members of the Board, like is that
22 something that's already included. Do we or would we
23 be asking for something that is in addition to or
24 specific to these new seats that doesn't already exist?

25
26 MR. VICKERS: I -- thank you. I
27 understand your question. I believe it does not
28 already exist. As far as I know and from what others
29 have told me it does not already exist. Other Councils
30 have put in -- already recommended what you are talking
31 about, that the nominated Board members have experience
32 with Councils or -- in some way. The last Council
33 meeting I was at they said have had some experience
34 sitting on the Council was what they recommended. But
35 so this has already been recommended and I don't
36 believe it's already part of the process for the
37 existing public members.

38
39 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Natasha, go
40 ahead.

41
42 MS. HAYDEN: Sorry. This is my motion
43 so, I mean, I -- my thoughts about that are is that if
44 that doesn't exist already for the other public members
45 I'm not really sure why we would want to have that as
46 an additional hurdle for these seats. I am supportive
47 of it being included if it is the will of the Council
48 that that is, you know, a must have for us to be in
49 support of this proposed rule. But I don't really see
50

0081

1 why we would put that condition on these new seats when
2 it doesn't exist for the three existing seats.

3

4 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Brett.

5

6 MR. RICHARDSON: Thank you. You could
7 just say something like RAC experience preferred rather
8 than required.

9

10 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Coral, go ahead.

11

12 MS. CHERNOFF: Yeah, after listening to
13 the previous All Council meeting and sitting in on some
14 other Councils' meetings, I think I agree that those
15 three members come from the RAC. I think -- when I
16 think about in my area if other people were to be
17 chosen I don't know that -- like by tribes, I don't
18 know that there's -- well, I guess we're already
19 involved in this process. Like we know OSM, we know
20 how this works, we know how -- we've already been
21 selected in the manner that's been asked. I just think
22 that would be a good system. I think quite a few of
23 the RACs have asked for it to be that way, like being
24 really familiar with their area and their communities.
25 And I just agree with that method is choosing from the
26 RACs while also covering -- making sure all areas of
27 Alaska are covered from north to south.

28

29 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: I can't tell
30 with partial hands. Is your hand up or not up?

31

32 MR. ROHRER: Yeah.

33

34 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay. Sam and
35 then Chris.

36

37 MR. ROHRER: Thanks. Through the
38 Chair. Yeah, I -- it's -- when -- I'm -- when this
39 rule first came out I wasn't very happy, that I was --
40 I was pretty frustrated. It -- I like the -- I'm fine
41 with adding public -- more public seats to the Federal
42 Subsistence Board and I'm fine with those being pulled
43 from the RACs, actually I think that's a good idea. I
44 was -- I wasn't crazy with the -- being that those
45 three seats were going to be seats recommended by
46 tribal entities and here -- and here's the reason. The
47 1992 record of decision for subsistence management for
48 Federal public lands in Alaska, it's a mouthful I know.
49 The record of decision said that 71 percent of
50

0082

1 Federally-qualified subsistence users in Alaska were
2 nontribal members. And I've seen new numbers since
3 then that are a little bit -- that aren't quite that
4 drastic, that maybe it's more like 50 percent more
5 recently. But there's a lot of Federally-qualified --
6 I mean, regardless the facts remain there's a lot of
7 Federally-qualified users who aren't tribal members.
8 And so it feels like that excludes a lot of folks who
9 could be good Board members from being considered. If
10 you pull it from the RACs that's a different story.
11 And so I'd support it. Now I'm not saying that I'm not
12 going to support it, I just -- I'm not -- I'm just not
13 thrilled with it. So wanted to put that out there.

14

15 Thanks.

16

17 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Thanks. Chris.

18

19 MR. PRICE: Thank you. I never really
20 understood why we got left out of that original
21 consultation, did we ever -- I missed the -- yeah, I
22 missed the meeting in King Cove. It's a difference
23 of.....

24

25 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Are you looking
26 for responses.....

27

28 MR. PRICE: No.

29

30 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER:as to why
31 we got left out?

32

33 MR. PRICE: Yeah, well, we never -- I
34 never got a -- understood that, but it -- I guess that
35 doesn't matter at this point. But it does say the
36 Secretary can appoint these seats. And I just would
37 like to see regional fairness where -- because if you
38 had one region that had all the seats it could pit
39 regions against each other. And I wouldn't think that
40 would be a good thing. So, I mean, in general I
41 support it, but needs to be understood a little bit
42 better. It seems it could be -- it's just up to the
43 discretion of the Secretary and then could end up
44 getting political and that would not be good.

45

46 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Natasha.

47

48 MS. HAYDEN: Thanks, Madame Chair. I
49 just want to comment on the information provided by my
50

0083

1 colleague. In 1971 there were no Federally recognized
2 tribes. So I don't know what the population
3 demographics were, but I would guess that probably 95
4 to 98 percent of the people that were Federally-
5 qualified subsistence users were tribal -- were
6 citizens of tribal nations, but were not considered to
7 be so within the Federal government tribal recognition
8 structure. And so I agree and understand that or I
9 understand and I agree that there is a perceived -- you
10 know, this is a perceived way of excluding certain
11 members of -- that are Federally-qualified for
12 subsistence use. But there's already three seats for --
13 that are -- that are -- that have no consideration for
14 whether or not they're tribal citizens. So I just
15 wanted to provide some clarification about the -- you
16 know, as a tribal council member that's the evolution
17 of tribal recognition in the United States and so I
18 think that those numbers are -- in fact I know that
19 those numbers are not -- they're not accurate.

20

21 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: So let me
22 restate kind of where I see where we are and then I'm
23 going to go to Sam. So we have a motion to do a letter
24 of support for adding three new public members to the
25 Federal Subsistence Board and then we started having
26 discussion about what -- you know, kind of bullet
27 pointing what we want in that letter. And the two
28 things that have been suggested so far is the concept
29 that the three new members should be -- should have a
30 fair regional distribution so they shouldn't all come
31 from the same region and/or it should be I guess -- I
32 think that's probably the most clear statement. So
33 that there's a fair distribution across regions. And
34 then secondly.....

35

36 MS. TRUMBLE: Madame Chair.

37

38 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Let me finish
39 this and then we'll go to online. And then secondly
40 that the -- the members either be pulled from the RACs
41 or have RAC experience and/or be vetted by -- earlier
42 in the week it was proposed as vetted by the RAC Chairs
43 or the RACs. So and then in discussion today it sounds
44 like there's been support voiced for having those three
45 individuals come from the RACs. And I'm comfortable
46 with that, that captures well enough. So the two
47 concepts again is regional fairness and two, that the
48 three members be pulled from the RACs or have RAC
49 experience.

50

0084

1 And then, Della, were you trying to
2 jump in.

3
4 MS. TRUMBLE: Yeah, just to -- and a
5 comment in regard to what I stated. If you look at the
6 regions as a whole, the 10 regions Statewide, You have
7 to look at us, the Kodiak/Aleutians, we are on the
8 very, very minority. And that's why I strongly -- one
9 of the reasons I strongly support these three people
10 having -- representing regions so we get a little more
11 balance.

12
13 And I just wanted to add that comment.

14
15 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: It -- the line
16 was not completely clear. Did you say that the
17 Aleutians -- that our region is significantly
18 underrepresented, is that what you said?

19
20 MS. TRUMBLE: Well, I think if you
21 looked at the whole, if you had a balance of three
22 members that are not -- I think that are fairly more
23 northerly I don't know that we would be really fairly
24 represented. That was my concern with them not being
25 representing regions, one person representing two or
26 three regions.

27
28 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay. Thank
29 you. Okay. So we have a proposed letter of support,
30 we have two potential bullets and then I will kind of
31 take a nod of heads if people are generally okay with
32 those two bullets, but I said I'd go back to Sam.

33
34 So Sam.

35
36 MR. ROHRER: Thank you. Through the
37 Chair. Just -- I did want to correct myself because,
38 Natasha, you raised a good point. It -- I misquoted
39 that record of decision, it didn't say tribal members
40 it said non-Native or it said 70 percent were non-
41 Native, that was the term it used. So, but I also
42 recognize there was different areas included in what
43 was considered subsistence areas and not. But I also
44 want to comment that you raised a really good point,
45 there are three other public members that can be
46 anyone. So that's a good point and part of why I've
47 been conflicted on this.

48
49 Thanks.

50

0085

1 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Lisa.

2

3 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: Yeah, I
4 don't know if this is appropriate for me to point out
5 that if you guys want -- this is something that's my --
6 you wanted to address. If you look on page -- on the
7 Federal rule which is on page 14012 under section 4,
8 it's under the oversight responsibility and
9 ratification requirements. So this might be a -- I
10 think it's just something you want to just be aware of
11 is that consistent with the Title VIII the Secretary's
12 proposed clarifying that the Secretary of Interior and
13 Secretary of Agriculture with respect to a unit of the
14 National Forest System retains the authority to modify,
15 disapprove, stay, or expressly ratify any action taken
16 by the Board which they do anyway. But anyway the
17 Secretary's also proposed to incorporate requirements
18 for ratification under the proposal recognizing that
19 the Board may need to act quickly in response to
20 changed circumstances. Temporary special actions of
21 the Board will not become effective for 10 calendar
22 days or any longer period specified by the Board when
23 taking the action, allowing for the Secretary to
24 approve or modify or disapprove, stay or expressly
25 ratify the actions for emergency special actions and
26 CFR. Anyway that's something that, you know, may be a
27 concern, it's just that it's kind of a limited amount
28 of time that if you would want to -- anyway.

29

30 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay. So we do
31 have a member that has to leave for a noon meeting and
32 a break has been requested, but I'd like to wrap up
33 this item. So again we have on the floor a motion for
34 a letter of support for the rule. So everything that's
35 in this proposed rule we're supporting unless we make a
36 comment otherwise. So the two otherwise comments that
37 we've been discussing around the table is one, to have
38 this concept of regional fairness with these three
39 members that are appointed, two is that the three new
40 members come from the RACs or have experience with the
41 RACs. So those are the two specific points that we're
42 going to elaborate on in our letter. So generally
43 around the table is there a nod of heads that these two
44 points are okay for the letter?

45

46 MR. HOLMES: Go for it.

47

48 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay. Is there
49 anything else that the Council wants to include in the
50

0086

1 letter, noting that if we don't specifically comment on
2 it it's going to sound like we support what's in the
3 proposed rule. So if there's anything anyone's
4 concerned about in the proposed rule this would be the
5 time to bring that up.

6
7 (No comments)

8
9 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay. I'm not
10 seeing anything else. Is there -- all right. Is there
11 any objection.

12
13 (No comments)

14
15 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay. Not
16 seeing any objection that motion passes.

17
18 All right. Let's go ahead and take a
19 brief break because someone has to leave at noon. So
20 five minutes. Okay. A quick five minute break, please
21 do be back at five minutes because I'm going to start
22 with whoever's in the room.

23
24 Thanks.

25
26 (Off record)

27
28 (On record)

29
30 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay. If we can
31 get Council members back up to the table. All right.
32 So just to go through some logistics and set some
33 expectations, we can be in this room until 1:00 p.m.
34 and then we're going to have -- so we have to be
35 wrapped up by 1:00 p.m. which is one hour and 10
36 minutes. We still have to go through the letters so
37 these would be the proposed joint All Council letters
38 that they were handed out about half an hour or 40
39 minutes ago to -- around the table, I think there were
40 five of them. So we can decide to pick up one or more
41 of those or not pick up any to approve as a Council.
42 We also have to revisit the WP24-11, this is the Kodiak
43 deer harvest, that should be fairly quick because we
44 got clarification that based on all of our discussion
45 so far what we proposed can stand and if the Federal
46 Subsistence Board wants to approve our amendment to
47 your proposal it would be perfectly fine. So that's
48 going to be fairly short. We have to do the future
49 meeting dates, select some meeting dates for 2025. And
50

0087

1 then we do have an update on the Izembek potential land
2 exchange so I definitely want to leave time for that.
3 So we have to get through those items and be done by
4 1:00 p.m. And also Chris is going to be leaving us
5 shortly and I think member Koso has already left.

6
7 Okay. So the next item that we're up
8 to are -- Sam, go ahead.

9
10 MR. ROHRER: I was just going to make a
11 proposal.

12
13 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Go ahead.

14
15 MR. ROHRER: Okay. I would propose --
16 all of our council members should have in front of them
17 a well written letter on salmon and kind of referencing
18 the trawl letter that was discussed yesterday.....

19
20 MS. HAYDEN: This one.

21
22 MR. ROHRER:and the day before.
23 It's the single page or.....

24
25 MS. HAYDEN: Right here.

26
27 MR. ROHRER: Yeah, single page. That
28 letter was written -- put together by Rebecca Skinner
29 and I would recommend -- I would propose that we send
30 this letter in lieu of signing the other letter that
31 got passed around and worked on two days ago.

32
33 MR. HOLMES: I'll second that.

34
35 MR. ROHRER: And if I may I can speak
36 to my motion.

37
38 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: I'm sorry.

39
40 MR. ROHRER: I.....

41
42 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Did you.....

43
44 MR. ROHRER: Can I speak to my motion?

45
46 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Yeah, did you
47 get a second?

48
49 MR. ROHRER: I did.

50

0088

1 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay.

2

3 MR. ROHRER: Mr. Holmes.

4

5 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Yes, please go
6 ahead.

7

8 MR. ROHRER: This is a better letter
9 and more support -- and more represents folks from our
10 region. And so for those reasons I support this new
11 letter.

12

13 Thank you.

14

15 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: All right. And
16 note, Della, I did email you a copy of it as well.

17

18 All right. Is there discussion.

19

20 MS. TRUMBLE: I didn't receive it. You
21 maybe have gotten an older email address of mine.

22

23 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Did you say you
24 did not receive it?

25

26 MS. TRUMBLE: No, I think Lisa was
27 going to resend.

28

29 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay. Yeah, I
30 did send it to your gmail one. I apologize that that
31 didn't go through. But yeah, Lisa will attempt to
32 resend that.

33

34 Natasha, go ahead.

35

36 MS. HAYDEN: Thanks, Madame Chair. Can
37 we just have a few moments to read through it, I just
38 got it?

39

40 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Yes, let's take
41 a couple of minutes, we'll get a copy of the letter to
42 Della and people can read through the letter.

43

44 (Pause - reading letter)

45

46 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: All right.

47 Coral.

48

49 MS. CHERNOFF: Thank you, Madame Chair.

50

0089

1 Yeah, I support our letter and I want to thank you for
2 including more things that pertain to our region. And
3 I also like that it's more of an action letter than the
4 All Council's one that we -- the trawl letter that we
5 were asked to sign on to. We're actually asking for
6 meetings to happen rather than I think the other one
7 was asking for guidance in all kinds of areas.

8

9 And so I'm in favor of signing on with
10 this letter from our RAC.

11

12 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Natasha.

13

14 MS. HAYDEN: Thanks, Madame Chair. I
15 am -- I wish I would have had this earlier to read. I
16 -- there's some things that are in the All RAC letter
17 that I don't see that are included. And I think the
18 first one is Solicitor opinion with Secretarial review.
19 And, you know, it explicitly talks about bycatch and
20 intercepting salmon on other species. I -- instead of --
21 instead of me like going through element by element of
22 the letter, I would be supportive of us submitted a
23 letter on behalf of our RAC that -- that this letter
24 that I just received, but I would not be supportive of
25 doing it in place of the All Council letter.

26

27 I -- earlier Della mentioned about us
28 not having very much representation. You know, we're
29 not going to get any of our priorities moved forward
30 without the assistance of others from around the State.
31 And, you know, if we have an opportunity to be
32 supportive of a letter that is coming from even the
33 majority of the other Councils from around the State,
34 then I would like to see us do that. So I would not be
35 supportive of us doing this letter instead of the All
36 Council. I would be supportive of us submitting a
37 letter on behalf of our RAC in addition to the All
38 Council letter.

39

40 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: I guess I'll
41 look to Sam. Sam, did you -- I can't remember when you
42 made your motion was this in place of is it in addition
43 to?

44

45 MR. ROHRER: It -- my motion was in
46 lieu of. So if someone wanted to make a -- you know,
47 amend my proposal, but my proposal was to send the
48 letter you authored in lieu of signing on.

49

50

0090

1 Thank you.

2

3 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Pat.

4

5 MR. HOLMES: The second would approve
6 the proposed change.

7

8 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay. So just
9 to clarify the motion on the floor is to send the
10 revised letter that was handed out in lieu of the All --
11 the All Council letter. So that's the motion on the
12 floor.

13

14 Natasha.

15

16 MS. HAYDEN: Thanks, Madame Chair. So
17 I would like to propose an amendment to -- instead of
18 sending it in lieu of the All Council member letter,
19 but in addition to from our Council.

20

21 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Is there a
22 second.

23

24 MR. HOLMES: Second.

25

26 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: All right. Is
27 there discussion.

28

29 Coral, go ahead.

30

31 MS. CHERNOFF: Yeah, I just want to
32 clarify that like you mean in addition to signing our
33 support for their letter?

34

35 MS. HAYDEN: Yes.

36

37 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: All right.
38 Further discussion.

39

40 Go ahead.

41

42 MR. ROHRER: Do we have a copy of the
43 All Councils' letter?

44

45 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Yeah, those
46 should -- it should have been handed around. It was
47 earlier this morning like an hour ago. It was a stack
48 of four or five pieces of paper.

49

50

0091

1 MR. ROHRER: Is that this one?

2

3 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: Yeah.

4

5 MR. ROHRER: Okay.

6

7 MR. HOLMES: Just a little note.....

8

9 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Go ahead.

10

11 MR. HOLMES:and the -- I strongly
12 support this, our revised one. I sat in on the fish --
13 one of the long, long fish discussions and they did
14 make some significant changes that I think for the most
15 part didn't bugger things up from our perspective. And
16 I really agree with Natasha's political strategy on
17 this. And we're sending ours in as a more precise
18 expression.

19

20 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: All right. More
21 discussion.

22

23 Sam.

24

25 MR. ROHRER: Yeah, thank you. I don't
26 think I would vote for that amendment. There's -- I
27 like the letter that you put together, it's short, it's
28 concise, it makes a couple clear asks. The All Council
29 letter -- letter has 10 substantial asks and I just
30 need more time to work through those. I'd certainly
31 like to hear from our community on them. We have -- we
32 have fishermen, we have subsistence users in our
33 community that are going to be affected by this and
34 will have opinions on it. And I want to hear -- we
35 represent them and I need to be able to hear what they
36 say. So I -- I don't know that I -- I don't know that
37 I would want to see our Council sign on to the All
38 Council letter.

39

40 Thank you.

41

42 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Coral, go ahead.

43

44 MS. CHERNOFF: Yeah, I just want to say
45 for myself I probably won't be supporting the
46 amendment. Although I can support -- you know, I
47 support the idea of what they're trying to do, I did
48 have in my original just a couple of things that just
49 didn't -- weren't clarified enough for me. And I feel
50

0092

1 like the draft, our draft letter, addresses those
2 things in a more specific way. So I will be voting our
3 letter, but not supporting their letter.

4

5 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: All right.
6 Further discussion.

7

8 (No comments)

9

10 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay. So we
11 will take a vote on the amendment. So the amendment is
12 to sign on to the All RAC letter in addition to our --
13 the letter that was handed out today. So if there's no
14 further questions or discussion we'll go ahead and vote
15 on the amendment. And is everybody clear what we're
16 voting on right now?

17

18 (No comments)

19

20 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay. All
21 right. I guess let's go ahead and do a roll call.

22

23 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: Okay. Roll
24 call vote. Start with Coral.

25

26 MS. CHERNOFF: No.

27

28 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: Would you
29 mind turning your speaker on.

30

31 MS. CHERNOFF: No.

32

33 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: Thank you.
34 Rebecca.

35

36 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: No.

37

38 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: Natasha.

39

40 MS. HAYDEN: Yes.

41

42 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: Brett.

43

44 MR. RICHARDSON: No.

45

46 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: Let's see,
47 Rick had to leave so he's not present. Patrick.

48

49 MR. HOLMES: I'm going to have to back

50

0093

1 up and say no as well and go with what we're doing,
2 your letter.

3

4 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: Jeff.

5

6 MR. WASLEY: No.

7

8 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: Sam.

9

10 MR. ROHRER: No.

11

12 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: And, Della.

13

14 (No comments)

15

16 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: Okay.
17 Della, did we lose you?

18

19 REPORTER: She's on here.

20

21 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: But we have.....

22

23 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: Yeah,
24 anyway it passed. If Della can give her vote or is she
25 gone, but anyway it -- it failed, one, two, three,
26 four, five, six, six nos and one yes. And then Rick is
27 not here.

28

29 MS. TRUMBLE: I'm sorry, I stepped.....

30

31 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: Okay. I'm
32 sorry.

33

34 MS. TRUMBLE:I stepped away.

35

36 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: Sorry,
37 Della.

38

39 MS. TRUMBLE: So I'm assuming you were
40 taking the vote.

41

42 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: Yes, I'll
43 have Rebecca maybe repeat what we're voting on. Sorry.

44

45 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Yeah, we were
46 voting on an amendment. The amendment was to -- in
47 addition to sending the letter that was passed out and
48 that was emailed to you to also sign on to the All
49 Council bycatch letter. And so the orig -- Sam's
50

0094

1 original motion was to do our letter in lieu of the All
2 Council letter. The amendment was to do both. And
3 then we were taking the vote on the amendment.

4

5 MS. TRUMBLE: Thank you. I think I
6 need to vote no. I had some major concerns with the
7 letter that was written as a whole. There were areas
8 that I can fully understand and I also understand
9 there's a process not only from each of the various
10 agencies that people go through and I fully understand
11 why some of these things are being done and what the
12 reasoning behind it is. But the one thing that
13 concerned me more is that the recognition between
14 science and different other factors just -- I felt like
15 they were overriding some of these things. I support
16 working and doing things that -- but I think the manner
17 of which you go through needs to be -- flow to public
18 process.

19

20 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: Okay. So,
21 Della, your vote was no on supporting the two letters
22 combined.

23

24 (No comments)

25

26 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: Okay.
27 Thank you.

28

29 MS. TRUMBLE: That's correct.

30

31 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: So the mot
32 -- okay. So the motion fails.

33

34 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: All right.
35 Thank you. Okay. Back to the main motion which is to
36 approve sending the -- what I'm going to call the KARAC
37 letter, the one that was handed out this morning, that
38 motion is on the floor. Is there further discussion or
39 further amendments.

40

41 Natasha.

42

43 MS. HAYDEN: Thanks, Madame Chair. I
44 am not supportive of this. And I just want to go on
45 the record that -- I'm trying to think of a way to say
46 this in a positive, that I -- well, I think that if
47 there was an intention to submit a letter that was
48 completely different than what had been discussed ad
49 nauseam amongst all of us, that it would be coming from
50

0095

1 the All RACs, that it would have been really respectful
2 to have brought all of us in on this instead of just
3 presenting it to us last minute and then making a
4 motion to make a vote on it. I am not supportive of
5 it, I think if we were going to put the effort into
6 making a better letter that it would have been better
7 if we would have worked on that together.

8

9 I'm very frustrated in that us as a
10 region -- I mean, and this is the Subsistence Regional
11 Advisory Committee, this is a subsistence process. And
12 that we are making -- we're presenting something that
13 we think is best for our region that is -- was brought
14 up by the need -- the subsistence need of others across
15 most of the State. And we're not going to get support
16 for things that are important to us and it's even
17 highlighted to me even more so after our last
18 discussion about tribal representation on the Board in
19 that we've been working -- the indigenous people of our
20 region have been working for decades to try to get some
21 relief in marine mammal management and access to those
22 resources to no avail. And it's going to continue on.
23 It's going to continue on. And, you know, I mean, if
24 we're just going to continue to pursue what is best for
25 us in our region that's what we're going to get, you
26 know. And this is just really -- I'm just really
27 disappointed in how this is going right now, that this
28 is the approach that we think is best for us and our
29 region in alienating ourselves away from an opportunity
30 to advocate for subsistence for the rest of the State.

31

32 So thanks.

33

34 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Lisa.

35

36 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: Yes, for
37 the record, this is Lisa, the Council Coordinator. So
38 I just wanted to show this is an option the Council
39 might have because I know some of the other RACs have
40 done it, is you could take the All letter and modify
41 it. You could like -- if there's a portion in there
42 that you don't like you could say we -- you know, we
43 support it. So I think a lot of these RACs are going
44 to be kind of rewriting some of their -- you can -- a
45 modified version of that. So that's just also an
46 option too.

47

48 Thanks.

49

50

0096

1 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Yeah. Thanks,
2 Lisa. And just to note, that's exactly what I did. So
3 I started off with the All Council letter and that was
4 the basis for my letter. So my letter is not
5 completely different, it is somewhat different, but it
6 was based on what is in the All Council letter. But
7 yeah, thank you.....

8
9 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: Okay.

10
11 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER:for sharing
12 how this kind of unprecedented process has worked this
13 week.

14
15 Sam, go ahead.

16
17 MS. TRUMBLE: Madame Chair.

18
19 MR. ROHRER: Through.....

20
21 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Let's take Sam
22 and then we'll go to Della.

23
24 MR. ROHRER:through the Chair.
25 So, Lisa, how many -- how many RACs if you know this
26 number, how many RACs have approved sending the letter
27 as written and if individual RACs have come up with
28 their own modifications is -- what's the process going
29 to be to -- I mean, somehow you got to put all those
30 into one letter that all the RACs then look at again or
31 is the conclusion that everyone's going to be sending
32 their own letter and there will no group letter?

33
34 Thank you.

35
36 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: That is an
37 excellent question, Sam. I'm not really sure how this
38 worked out. My under -- the only -- I'm also Northwest
39 Arctic and they just approved it as was, accepted that.
40 I believe that we'll be -- each of the RACs will have
41 to revise the letter so you'll have the same kind of
42 general themes, I mean, you could do the joint letter
43 or one that's -- but the themes are going to be very
44 similar. So they sort of like complement that -- that
45 you have your own because not every region like has
46 something that's a concern or there might be something
47 that you are not -- you know, like -- that you don't
48 like in that. So I believe you can just write your own
49 letter like Rebecca proposed and then that it would
50

0097

1 complement the general session letter that -- I can
2 find out before -- from somebody else.

3
4 Thanks.

5
6 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: All right. Sam
7 and then Della.

8
9 Sam.

10
11 MR. ROHRER: Just a real quick follow-
12 up. So what I'm hearing is is we're going to --
13 there's not going to be one big All Council letter.
14 Well, there's not if we don't sign it. They'll be a
15 nine Council letter, but it sounds more like it's going
16 to be a just a whole -- just a pile of letters from
17 different Councils, that's it's not going to be one big
18 letter that a large majority have signed on to. I
19 mean, that's what I'm hearing.

20
21 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Yeah, I'm not
22 sure. And I -- I'm not sure that that can actually be
23 answered because I think -- my sense is everyone is
24 kind of grappling with exactly how this works. Based
25 on discussion earlier in the week it was my
26 understanding that because the All Council meeting had
27 adjourned on Tuesday and that part of the meeting was
28 done all of the discussion that happened Wednesday was
29 more what I would call informal discussion. There was
30 no official action. So whatever official action to
31 approve letters would occur would have to occur in each
32 individual RAC meeting and that there may be a process
33 like an attempt to take what each RAC has approved and
34 put it into one big letter and there may be some, you
35 know RAC Chair vetting of that, but I think it's really
36 going to depend on what comes back. So I think we can
37 hear what we think might happen, but I literally think
38 it's not clear what's going to happen.

39
40 Go ahead, Brent.

41
42 MR. VICKERS: This is unprecedented.
43 Sorry, Brent Vickers, Office of Subsistence Management.
44 This is unprecedented, this is an All Council thing.
45 I'll just share what I know or I've heard other
46 Councils have done. I heard that the Western Interior
47 and Bristol Bay supported the letter as written I
48 believe. And I know that the Eastern Interior added
49 some comments and are supporting sending that letter.
50

0098

1 So from what I understand each is maybe sending their
2 own letter, maybe as written, maybe with comments
3 adjusted. So it's up to you guys.

4

5 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: All right.
6 Thanks. I'm going to go to Della.

7

8 MS. TRUMBLE: Madame Chair.

9

10 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Della.

11

12 MS. TRUMBLE: Thank you, Madame Chair.
13 I guess I just want to add that in general the idea and
14 the concept is, you know, subsistence as priority is a
15 major factor. I think it's unfortunate that the
16 process that was used happened. I think when they had
17 all Council meeting to discuss this letter it would
18 have been I think more appropriate to go to various
19 sections down the line in that letter and various
20 regions to speak to it and if any changes could have
21 been made an agreed upon as a whole might have been a
22 little better process. But since we're past that my
23 question is if we agree, but also send a letter
24 attached, is there a process to be able to even
25 possibly just the Chairs being able to meet to go back
26 through what is being submitted.

27

28 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: Della, I
29 will find out for you. That sounds like a great idea
30 and I wouldn't -- I don't know if it's -- I would
31 imagine that all the Chairs could get together and talk
32 about it, but let me find that out.

33

34 Thanks.

35

36 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay. Are we --
37 I'm looking at the time again. Are we ready to vote on
38 this letter.

39

40 Pat, go ahead.

41

42 MR. HOLMES: Here's a question. Could
43 we -- Natasha's raised a point that the -- you know,
44 the letter that you've worked on and with all our
45 comments doesn't address marine mammals. Is there a
46 possibility we could put in the aquatic section one
47 sentence onto one of these paragraphs that would
48 address there's concerns about that they should be
49 working with marine mammals?

50

0099

1 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: So I will say
2 because Chris had raised the concern about halibut and
3 potentially having it in this letter. My response to
4 him was that this -- I really tried to focus this
5 letter on salmon because salmon is under the
6 jurisdiction of the Federal Subsistence Board. So
7 we're asking them to go outside of their jurisdiction a
8 lot anyway, but at least it's related to a species that
9 they manage. The halibut they don't manage and marine
10 mammals they don't manage. So I was really trying to
11 be fairly cut and dry. I think that's a separate
12 letter. I mean, it's a valid point, but I think it's a
13 separate letter from how I was looking at this. Did
14 you have.....

15
16 MR. HOLMES: Yeah.....

17
18 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER:I'm sorry,
19 go ahead.

20
21 MR. HOLMES:I think that's wise,
22 that would be the way to approach it. Our next meeting
23 is going to be coming up, we could -- you know.....

24
25 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Yeah.

26
27 MR. HOLMES:we should be
28 addressing marine mammal issues, we've argued about it
29 a long time, many years. But we do need help on that,
30 but it would be separate.

31
32 Thank you, Ma'am.

33
34 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Brent, go ahead.

35
36 MR. VICKERS: Brent Vickers, Office of
37 Subsistence Management. I'd go back on what I said
38 before, I was incorrect. I just got corrected.
39 Bristol Bay actually decided -- voted to not send a
40 letter. So they're not sending the fishers there. I
41 thought that might be helpful for you guys.

42
43 Thank you.

44
45 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: All right.
46 Thank you. Okay. Is there any discussion before we
47 vote.

48
49 (No comments)
50

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1 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay. Can we do
2 a roll call vote on this one as well. And the motion
3 is to send the letter that was passed around this
4 morning.

5
6 Thanks, Lisa.

7
8 MR. HOLMES: Does it need a second?

9
10 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: Coral
11 Chernoff.

12
13 MS. CHERNOFF: Yes.

14
15 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: Rebecca.

16
17 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Yes.

18
19 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: Della.

20
21 MS. TRUMBLE: Yes.

22
23 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: Natasha.

24
25 MS. HAYDEN: No.

26
27 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: Brett.

28
29 MR. RICHARDSON: Yes.

30
31 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: Chris.
32 Chris stepped out. Sam.

33
34 MR. ROHRER: Yes.

35
36 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: Rick's
37 gone. Let's see, Pat.

38
39 MR. HOLMES: Yes.

40
41 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: And, Jeff.

42
43 MR. WASLEY: Yes.

44
45 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: Okay. we
46 have -- it passed anyway unanimously. So seven yeses.
47 Not unanimously, seven yeses and one no and then there
48 were two absent.

49
50

0101

1 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: All right.
2 Thank you. So there are three.....

3
4 MS. TRUMBLE: Madame Chair.

5
6 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Sorry is that
7 you, Della.

8
9 MS. TRUMBLE: Yes, thank you, Madame
10 Chair.

11
12 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay.

13
14 MS. TRUMBLE: Maybe as a possible
15 recommendation is that -- recommend that that, you
16 know, possibly all Chairs at the Federal Board would
17 (indiscernible - distortion) and to get together to
18 discuss these not only the letters that were sent
19 individually by various regions or and then going
20 through that whole letter as a whole.

21
22 The other piece I think is of major
23 importance is the educational piece, the getting this
24 information out to all the tribes in the State. And
25 there's 220 some tribes that need to be looking at this
26 document because they need to weigh in on this also.

27
28 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: All right.
29 Thank you, Della.

30
31 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: And this is
32 Lisa again for the record. I just -- anyway I talked
33 to our policy coordinator, Robbin LaVine, anyway just
34 regarding the question if all Council Chairs could get
35 together I guess, what are the FACA requirements. And
36 she said it is possible, but it just -- we can't
37 guarantee it because it takes quit a bit of work to get
38 those together. But it looks like it's possible. So
39 and it's -- so if we wanted to include that
40 recommendation in -- put that with the letter we write
41 do you think or is that a separate motion?

42
43 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Della, do you
44 want to include that.....

45
46 MS. TRUMBLE: Actually I would like to
47 make -- yeah, to include that as a motion.

48
49 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay. And is
50

0102

1 there a second.

2

3 MR. HOLMES: I'll second.

4

5 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay. And then
6 just to clarify I think this is more of a procedural
7 ask so this isn't part of the letter, this is more the
8 procedure of what's going to happen after the RAC
9 meetings end today and trying to get the Chairs
10 together. So this is more of a recommendation or ask
11 to OSM/Federal Subsistence Board.

12

13 Okay. Are there questions or more
14 discussion on the motion.

15

16 Coral, go ahead.

17

18 MS. CHERNOFF: Yeah, I guess we had --
19 we ran through the letter in All Councils meeting and
20 people did have an opportunity to speak. And I guess I
21 would just ask Della what would be the purpose -- I
22 don't know if I can ask. Like I'm just wondering what
23 would be the purpose of bringing the Chairs together
24 and then what would happen, like is that just for the
25 Chairs to edit the letter which I guess I'll have to
26 say I'm opposed to. We've all had the opportunity to
27 publicly say what we wanted about the letter and then
28 we have publicly here decided as a RAC, we've made out
29 comments and voted on the letter here. So I'm -- I
30 guess I will not be voting for this when maybe Della
31 can clarify what she is asking or the reason for that
32 ask.

33

34 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Della.

35

36 MS. TRUMBLE: Thank you. Through the
37 Chair. Yeah, thank you. Through the Chair. I'm
38 looking more as an educational piece. I've looked --
39 you know, what other regions have sent in their letter.
40 This is a public process and maybe this gets taken care
41 of at the Federal Board level because all the Council
42 Chairs are available at that level. Because and so
43 that's kind of what I'm wondering is, you know, what
44 other pieces are there and maybe there's something
45 there that we can use too, but that was the main reason
46 is one is wondering, you know, who was voting and how
47 and if there were letters sent what -- what did they
48 say and share our letter.

49

50

0103

1 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Yeah, I guess to
2 me this seems -- it's very much a process issue. I
3 think the way things get done is important and it --
4 you know, it would have been much better to Natasha's
5 point for the RAC to work -- you know, have time to
6 work through this letter which we didn't because it
7 wasn't even done being drafted until last night. But
8 by the same token we literally didn't get the All
9 Council letter until we were sitting -- or I wasn't
10 sitting, I was on the phone, but other people were in
11 the room when the letter was handed out Wednesday
12 afternoon in the midst of discussion. So process wise
13 I do think it could have been and it should have been a
14 longer process where everyone had a better opportunity
15 to give input and to really have an opportunity to hash
16 out these issues. And so Della -- I'm hearing Della's
17 request or recommendation, I'm interpreting it as a
18 desire to have a better process for the RACs to
19 communicate with each other, however that happens, if
20 it's through an all RAC meeting or if it's through more
21 interaction with the Council Chairs, but having that
22 opportunity for discussion an dialogue and really
23 hashing out some of these issues because I agree that
24 did not happen to the highest level that it could have
25 this week.

26
27 So that being said there is a motion on
28 the floor. Do we want to go ahead and take a vote on
29 that motion or in the alternative we do have the
30 discussion on the record even if -- so regardless of
31 what happens with the motion we still have the
32 discussion on the record.

33
34 (No comments)

35
36 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: I'm not seeing
37 any more hands. I guess let's go ahead and take a --
38 is there -- is there objection to Della's motion or do
39 we need to do a roll call vote.

40
41 MS. CHERNOFF: Roll call.

42
43 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: All right.
44 Let's do a roll call vote.

45
46 Lisa.

47
48 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: Okay. So
49 again the roll call vote is just to add the opportunity
50

0104

1 for all the Chairs to -- the RAC Chairs to be able to
2 talk about these issues in this letter. So I will
3 start with Brett.

4

5 MR. RICHARDSON: No.

6

7 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: Jeff.

8

9 MR. WASLEY: No.

10

11 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: Patrick.

12

13 MR. HOLMES: No.

14

15 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: Sam.

16

17 MR. ROHRER: I wanted to -- I don't
18 think it's going to do any good, but yes, that's fine.

19

20 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: Okay.

21 We're taking that as a yes.

22

23 Chris. Oh, Chris is gone too. Let's

24

25 see.

26

27 Coral.

28

29 MS. CHERNOFF: No.

30

31 MR. HOLMES: Madame Chair.

32

33 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Wait until after

34

35 the vote.

36

37 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: Della.

38

39 MS. TRUMBLE: Yes.

40

41 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: And,

42

43 Rebecca.

44

45 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Yes.

46

47 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: Natasha.

48

49 MS. HAYDEN: No.

50

51 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: Okay. We
52 have five nos and three yeses so it fails.

0105

1 Thank you.

2

3 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Thank you. Pat,
4 go ahead.

5

6 MR. HOLMES: I was just going to say
7 I'm a yes, but it doesn't matter. My hearing was off
8 as to what we're voting for. So.....

9

10 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: You were a
11 yes?

12

13 MR. HOLMES: Yes.

14

15 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: Okay. So
16 we have five nos and -- or four -- five nos and --
17 geez, maybe I'm getting hungry. Sorry about that.
18 Okay. So now we have a tie so now what do we do?

19

20 MS. TRUMBLE: What did you say, through
21 the Chair, Lisa?

22

23 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Go ahead, Della.

24

25 MS. TRUMBLE: Lisa, what did you say
26 your vote was?

27

28 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: Okay. Now
29 it's four yeses and four nos and there's a couple
30 people that are -- stepped out so I guess it -- that
31 means it fails; is that correct?

32

33 MS. TRUMBLE: The motion fails.

34

35 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: Okay.
36 Thank you.

37

38 MS. TRUMBLE: Yeah, motion fails.

39

40 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: Thank you.

41

42 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay. So we
43 have about 30 minutes left. Again we're going to need
44 to talk about meeting dates. We need to deal with the
45 Kodiak deer proposal. We have the update on the
46 Izembek potential land exchange and then there's three
47 other potential all Council letters that we could sign
48 onto or take action on. So does anyone want to make a
49 motion to support or sign on onto either to the letter
50

0106

1 or concept, any of the other three letters that were
2 handed out?

3

4 (No comments)

5

6 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: I'm not seeing
7 anyone -- anyone's hand going up.

8

9 Oh, Coral, go ahead.

10

11 MS. CHERNOFF: Thank you. I'd like to
12 make a motion to support the -- what is it, the letter
13 that determines appropriate rate of pay for Councils.

14

15 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay. Is there
16 a second.

17

18 MR. RICHARDSON: I'll second.

19

20 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay. Is -- so
21 just to orient everyone this is the two page letter, so
22 it's two pages stapled. It looks like a formal letter
23 with the address at the top and the address bar, et
24 cetera, and it basically covers or discusses
25 compensation to Council members for attending RAC
26 meetings. So is there discussion on this letter.

27

28 Coral, go ahead.

29

30 MS. CHERNOFF: Yeah, I'd just like to
31 say I think it's a fair ask. We are asked a lot of our
32 time and expertise and not only do we put in time at
33 meetings, we can put in a considerable amount of time
34 outside of the meetings also. So I just think it's a
35 fair ask.

36

37 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: All right.
38 Thank you. Further discussion.

39

40 (No comments)

41

42 MR. HOLMES: Call for the question.

43

44 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: All right.
45 There's been a call for the question. We'll go ahead
46 and -- is there any objection.

47

48 (No comments)

49

50

0107

1 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay. Seeing no
2 objection we will then go ahead -- that means we'll
3 sign on to the all Council letter regarding Council
4 compensation.

5
6 Okay. Does anyone want to make motions
7 regarding the other two letters. One was the caribou
8 letter which is talking -- basically bullet points.
9 The other one had to do with Council correspondence.

10

11 (No comments)

12

13 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay. I'm not
14 seeing interest in bringing either of those forward.
15 Okay. So that takes care of this agenda item. The
16 next agenda item is revisiting the wildlife proposal
17 24-11, Kodiak deer harvest. And I understand that we
18 were waiting for feedback from the Solicitor and/or
19 others and I think we do have some updated information.

20

21 Go ahead, Kendra.

22

23 MS. HOLMAN: So through the Chair.
24 Kendra Holman, Wildlife Biologist with OSM. So we have
25 not -- did we actually here -- we didn't hear back from
26 the Solicitor, right, we did not hear back from Ken?

27

28 MR. VICKERS: Yeah, we did. Sorry.

29

30 MS. HOLMAN: Okay.

31

32 MR. VICKERS: This is Brent Vickers,
33 Office of Subsistence Management. Sorry to put you
34 guys to the axle on this whole thing, wrap you around
35 everything. I -- there's been -- it's been agreed upon
36 by the Director, by our Solicitor and everyone that
37 that has been sufficient, we've covered all the bases.
38 Because it was brought up at this meeting that gave
39 every -- the general public plenty of time to look from
40 last meeting to this meeting. You can continue with
41 your motion.

42

43 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: All right.
44 Thank you. So where that leaves us procedurally is
45 that our -- this proposal had come before the RAC
46 previously, the RAC amended it and approved the amended
47 proposal. That amended proposal can now go to the
48 Federal Subsistence Board and there's nothing standing
49 in the way of the Federal Subsistence Board approving
50

0108

1 and implementing the regulation as we -- as we're
2 putting it forward as amended. Is that correct?

3

4 MR. VICKERS: Thank you. Yes, I am
5 confirming with that. The Solicitor who was being very
6 cautious to begin with is -- now feels very comfortable
7 with your proceeding with that modification.

8

9 Thank you.

10

11 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay. Great.
12 So we -- there's no action needed then because our
13 previous action is going to be allowed to carryforward.

14

15 Okay. The next action item or the last
16 action item is future meeting dates. So we'll need to
17 confirm the fall, 2024 meeting dates and location and
18 then select meeting dates and locations for winter,
19 2025 and fall, 2025.

20

21 Okay. So the meeting date calendar
22 just for people to open up is in the meeting materials,
23 the blue cover book, starting on page 68 or sorry, 67.
24 So page 67 shows the fall, 2024 Regional Advisory
25 Council meeting calendar. We are currently scheduled
26 for September 4th, 5th and 6th in Unalaska. So what we
27 would need to do for this -- the first meeting is
28 confirm that we are still okay with those dates and
29 that location.

30

31 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: Yes, you
32 just need to vote if you're going to support that date.

33

34 Thank you.

35

36 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay. So I'd
37 look for a motion to confirm that those meeting dates
38 and that location is still acceptable to the Council.

39

40 MR. HOLMES: I'd like to move that we
41 stay with the position we had before, meet in Unalaska
42 September 4th through the 6th. And from having worked
43 out there if we get later in September there's a high
44 potential of being caught in a big monsoon out there.
45 It comes every year in the middle. So let's go for
46 what we got.

47

48 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Thank you. Is
49 there a second.

50

0109

1 MS. CHERNOFF: Second.

2

3 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Thank you. Is
4 there any discussion.

5

6 (No comments)

7

8 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: All right. And
9 is.....

10

11 MS. TRUMBLE: Madame Chair.

12

13 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Go ahead, Della.

14

15 MS. TRUMBLE: Madame Chair, Rebecca,
16 can you hear me?

17

18 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Yes, we can hear
19 you. Go ahead, Della.

20

21 MS. TRUMBLE: I just have a question.
22 Lisa, did you have a issue with these dates and that is
23 -- that's basically my question as the Coordinator.

24

25 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: Yes, Della.
26 Yes, Della, I do have a personal conflict for that
27 week, but we've -- OSM will be able to find a
28 Coordinator to cover for me if I am unable. It's
29 probably a good likelihood I will not be there.

30

31 Thank you.

32

33 MS. TRUMBLE: That's all I had, Madame
34 Chair.

35

36 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: All right.
37 Thank you, Della. All right. Is there any objection
38 to the motion.

39

40 (No comments)

41

42 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay. Seeing
43 and hearing none the 2024 fall meeting dates are
44 confirmed.

45

46 Next we need to select winter, 2025
47 meeting dates and location. So if you turn the page
48 you'll see the calendar that gives the window that we
49 have to schedule the dates. And then, Lisa, do we have
50

0110

1 -- did some of the Councils already choose dates that
2 we need to mark out?

3

4 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: Yes,
5 there's -- as the Councils are selecting their dates I
6 have an updated calendar here. So we don't -- we can't
7 have more than two Council meetings in a week because
8 of our -- it's just too much for Della, Sam and also
9 our court reporter if they're going to be involved.
10 But anyway that's out standard no more than two. So
11 the week of February 18th is full, there's two Councils
12 that week. There's two Councils scheduled for the week
13 of February 24th. And other than that there's -- it's
14 all open, there's one Council scheduled in some other
15 weeks, but we -- you could choose any of those other
16 weeks.

17

18 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay. Does
19 anyone want to propose meeting dates and location. And
20 I guess just for the winter meeting do we have -- I
21 think recently that's been held in Kodiak, is that kind
22 of a standard winter location?

23

24 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: Yes, that's
25 been the common trend yes, usually, one in your region
26 and one in the other region. So.....

27

28 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Pat, go ahead.

29

30 MR. HOLMES: I would like to move that
31 we do February 25th to 28th or whatever number days.

32

33 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: We can't, we
34 can't do that week. That week already has two Council
35 meetings scheduled, right?

36

37 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: Yes, the
38 week of February 18th, that week and then the next week
39 are -- we already have two Council meetings. It would
40 have to be after -- starting like the week of March
41 3rd.

42

43 MR. HOLMES: Well, let's.....

44

45 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: And anytime
46 after.

47

48 MR. HOLMES: Okay. How about that week
49 of March 3rd, wherever it works out.

50

0111

1 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay. So I
2 think the motion is the week of March 3rd in Kodiak, is
3 that your motion?

4
5 MR. HOLMES: Yes.

6
7 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: All right. Is
8 there a second.

9
10 MS. CHERNOFF: Second.

11
12 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: All right.
13 Thank you. Is there discussion.

14
15 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: And I would
16 like to get some more definitive dates. So typically
17 for travel and everything it's probably better for you
18 guys to have it in mid week, but it's up to you. If
19 you want to have it like 5th and 6th of March or.....

20
21 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Pat, did you
22 have a preference as to specific dates?

23
24 MR. HOLMES: Not really. We could do
25 it 5th to the 7th if that seems to be the style of
26 doing it.

27
28 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay. Brett.

29
30 (No comments)

31
32 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: All right. So
33 the 5th through the 7th or the 5th and 6th would be
34 the actual official meeting days?

35
36 (No comments)

37
38 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay. All
39 right. So the motion is March 5th and March 6th which
40 is a Wednesday and a Thursday in Kodiak for the winter,
41 2025 meeting.

42
43 MR. HOLMES: Does that bugger it up for
44 the folks from Unalaska because I know your plane
45 schedule is really weird?

46
47 (No comments)

48
49 MR. HOLMES: Okay.

50

0112

1 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: All right. Is
2 there any further discussion.

3
4 (No comments)

5
6 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: And is there any
7 objection.

8
9 (No comments)

10
11 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay. So the
12 winter, 2025 meeting dates will be the 5th -- March 5th
13 and March 6th in Kodiak.

14
15 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: Madame
16 Chair.

17
18 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Go ahead.

19
20 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: It was just
21 brought to my attention that our Wildlife Biologist
22 Kendra would not be available that week, but we could
23 have another Wildlife Biologist fill in for us. But
24 that's just to throw that out there.

25
26 Thank you.

27
28 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: (Indiscernible -
29 away from microphone).....

30
31 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: That's not a
32 problem.

33
34 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: We can get another
35 Wildlife Biologist.

36
37 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay. All
38 right. Thank you.

39
40 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: (Indiscernible -
41 away from microphone).....

42
43 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: All right. The
44 next set of meeting dates we need to choose is the
45 fall, 2025 and this would be the calendar on page 69.
46 So does anyone have a proposal for meeting dates and
47 location.

48
49 Oh, sorry. What do -- what Councils
50

0113

1 have already scheduled.

2

3 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: Okay. So
4 the weeks not available would be the week of October
5 6th and the week of October 27th.

6

7 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Pat, go ahead.

8

9 MR. HOLMES: I was wondering if we
10 couldn't make another try. We've tried before in
11 getting to some of the villages on the island. I was
12 wondering if it might be available to utilize something
13 at Larsen Bay in the fall and if Sam is out running a
14 skiff he can throw his clients out and run to the
15 meeting and say I agree, I object, but just to try it
16 out. They certainly have a humongous facility there,
17 it's all closed down, but, you know, maybe the tribal
18 office.....

19

20 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Did you specify
21 dates on that?

22

23 MR. HOLMES: No, Ma'am. Whatever what
24 might be the most flexible for Sam because that's his
25 position on the Council is guide and sport. And so it
26 would be nice if we could somehow finagle it that --
27 where it might work for him.

28

29 MR. ROHRER: Yeah, fall -- thanks for
30 that, Pat. Fall's always hard for me. But I at least
31 try to call in for it. That last week of September,
32 first week of October is probably as good as any for me
33 for my schedule to try for. But certainly don't plan
34 it around just my schedule. I can call in or try to
35 call in if I'm available.

36

37 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: So I'll make a
38 comment and then go to Lisa. I'm not available the
39 week of September 29th. But, Lisa, what were you going
40 to say.

41

42 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: I just
43 wanted to remind the Council that we have -- that OSM
44 has hub communities that are approved. So it doesn't
45 mean that we can't request a non-hub community like in
46 King Cove we were able to go. It's just we need to run
47 that through -- get approval for funding through our
48 office to do that. So what I was recommended is we
49 could choose Larsen Bay and then we need to have maybe
50

0114

1 a backup of a hub community. So we -- I'll do whatever
2 I can to make it work, but it's just to let you know
3 that Larsen Bay's not a hub community.

4

5 Thank you. So the hub communities to
6 remind you are Kodiak, Unalaska and Cold Bay. And
7 that's all

8

9 Thank you.

10

11 MR. HOLMES: How about our hub
12 community alternate would be Kodiak and that's probably
13 where we'll end up. And Sam can phone us there if he
14 can't phone us at Larsen Bay.

15

16 Thank you.

17

18 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay. And does
19 the week of September 22nd -- Sam, it sounded like it
20 doesn't really matter what week. So.....

21

22 MR. ROHRER: Yeah.

23

24 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay. Natasha,
25 go ahead.

26

27 MS. HAYDEN: I would propose we do it
28 that -- the week of September 15th instead.

29

30 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay. So
31 proposal on the floor is the week of September 15th and
32 we'll narrow down the dates if we get that far, in
33 Larsen Bay is our first choice. If Larsen Bay -- if
34 we're not allowed to meet in Larsen Bay then we would
35 meet in Kodiak.

36

37 So is -- does anyone have scheduling
38 problems with that week of September 16th or September
39 15th.

40

41 (No comments)

42

43 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay. And then
44 we need to narrow down specific days. Do we want to go
45 with the Wednesday and Thursday again, so September
46 17th and September 18th?

47

48 (No comments)

49

50

0115

1 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay. So does
2 someone want to make a specific motion for September
3 17th and 18th, 2025, first choice in Larsen Bay, backup
4 hub community of Kodiak.

5
6 MR. HOLMES: I make that motion.

7
8 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Thank you, Pat.
9 Is there a second.

10
11 MS. CHERNOFF: Second.

12
13 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Thank you. And
14 is there any further discussion.

15
16 (No comments)

17
18 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay. And is
19 there any objection.

20
21 (No comments)

22
23 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay. Thank
24 you. So that concludes our action items. I do want to
25 then skip ahead to make sure we get this update. The
26 update on the Izembek potential land exchange.

27
28 MS. FOSADO: Good afternoon, Madame
29 Chair, members of the Council. For the record I'm
30 Maria Fosado, I'm the Izembek Refuge Manager.

31
32 MR. WALKER: And I am Shane Walker.

33
34 MS. FOSADO: He's with our Division of
35 Planning. So I'm here to provide an update on the
36 potential land exchange. We did brief the Council on
37 the potential land exchange involving Izembek National
38 Wildlife Refuge lands at the fall RAC meeting. At that
39 time we provided additional information on the project
40 schedule as well as invited the RAC to provide comments
41 on how the potential action may or may not impact
42 subsistence.

43
44 The Service did receive two letters,
45 one from the Bristol Bay RAC and one from the
46 Kodiak/Aleutians RAC. So thank you for those comments.

47
48
49 Since last fall we have met regularly
50

0116

1 with the City of King Cove, King Cove Corporation, the
2 Agdaagux Tribe, Native Village of Belkofski, excuse me,
3 and the Aleutians East Borough. In addition to that we
4 have brought on multiple government agencies to act as
5 cooperating agencies and we've met with them throughout
6 the winter. The cooperating agencies include the U.S.
7 Army Corps of Engineers, the Environmental Protection
8 Agency, the State of Alaska, Aleutians East Borough,
9 City of King Cove, Agdaagux Tribe of King Cove and the
10 Native Village of Belkofski.

11

12 The proposed timeline that was shared
13 at last fall's meeting outlined that the Service would
14 be publishing a draft environmental impact statement
15 and would hold a 45 day public comment period at that
16 time. The timeline has since changed. We're not ready
17 to publish an updated project schedule at this time.
18 However as soon as the project schedule is updated
19 we'll share that new information with specific mention
20 of public -- of the public comment period and any
21 relevant information pertaining to subsistence
22 hearings. And we'll share that information with the
23 RAC and as well as with the public.

24

25 Lastly I wanted to share that we have
26 been building a project website and that will be housed
27 on the Izembek National Wildlife Refuge webpage. And
28 that project website will hold any relevant information
29 as it pertains to this supplemental environmental
30 impact statement process. So we have gone ahead and
31 the 2013 environmental impact statement has been loaded
32 to the website so that it -- in its entirety. So that
33 can be viewed from that platform. And I'm happy to
34 provide that link to the Council Coordinator and she
35 can hopefully do me the favor if distributing that to
36 the Council members as well.

37

38 So with that I'll try and keep it short
39 and, Shane, is there anything that you would like to
40 add?

41

42 MR. WALKER: No, thank you.

43

44 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Since you are
45 here and you waited patiently can you just tell us a
46 little bit about what your specific role is in this
47 process since this is I think -- it's the first time
48 I'm seeing you. It may be the first time most people
49 at the table are seeing you.

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0117

1 Thank you.

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4 MR. WALKER: Yes, Madame Chair. I
5 attended the fall meeting by telephone, but I am the
6 Chief Planner in the region for the Refuge system. So
7 I handle the more difficult projects. And therefore
8 I'm the project manager for this supplemental
9 environmental impact statement working with Maria and
10 the other managers in Fish and Wildlife Service. And I
11 specifically oversee the contractors that are helping
12 write this with -- for the Fish and Wildlife Service.

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Any other questions about my role?

MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: All right. Are
there any questions either about his role or the status
update in general.

MS. TRUMBLE: Madame Chair, this is
Della.

MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Yep, go ahead,
Della.

MS. TRUMBLE: Thank you. And thank
you, Maria, for that report. And again I'd like to
thank Kodiak/Aleutians and Bristol Bay for their
letters. Very much appreciated.

MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: All right.
Thanks.

Pat, go ahead.

MR. HOLMES: I have a small question.
I tossed it out a while back to the folks in Anchorage.
I don't know if I worded it right because I'm getting
kind of old and fuzzy, but I notice that on the
suggested location for the road is the lower proposal
rather than the upper one. And so that would have more
interaction as far -- with the -- some of the critters
of concern. But there's a section of the road that's
described that's on the Refuge side just north of the
Cold Bay City and there's another section of it that's
over on the King Cove side. And, you know, I don't
have the tools anymore, but using fingers it looks like
maybe about three-sevenths of the road as proposed is
not in the wilderness. And I asked somebody if they
could clarify that or let me know what portion is in

0118

1 the wilderness or not because it looks like there's a
2 significant part that's not.

3

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5 MS. FOSADO: Through the Chair. Thank
6 you for the question, Council member Holmes. I don't
7 have the specifics on the exact distance and exact
8 location of the road so I'm afraid I cannot answer that
9 question today and I apologize for that.

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MR. HOLMES: Oh, yeah, it doesn't have
to be the actual distance, but I guess the question is
is if what's described in all the discussions is the
whole length or is it just that little piece or the
piece that's in the wilderness? That's basically it.

MR. WALKER: Through the Chair. The
discussion is the road through Izembek National
Wildlife Refuge and that does include Izembek
wilderness area. So connecting the two roads from King
-- Cold Bay and then King Cove side. And most of it --
and a good portion of it is through the wilderness.

MR. HOLMES: Okay. My point is is the
parts that aren't in the wilderness, you know, there's
road there right now and some of the discussions --
maybe this is the wrong time. I'll just give you a
phone call.

MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: All right.
Thanks. And you may have said this, but I got a note
to ask for a clarification on public hearings. Did you
say those have not been scheduled yet or they have been
scheduled -- are there any public hearings scheduled?

MS. FOSADO: Madame Chair, members of
the Council. So we will be holding public comment
periods on the draft environmental impact statement.
Those -- the project timeline that we shared at last
fall's meeting, we had identified those for spring of
2024. However that timeline has been pushed back. So
we will be scheduling them and they have not -- we
don't have any exact dates to provide at this time.

MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Okay. And
that's for public comment. Do you know if there will
be public hearings that are part of that or do people
have an opportunity to ask for public hearings to be
held when the announcement comes up?

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1 MR. WALKER: Chair, this is Shane
2 Walker. You and the other Councils provide feedback on
3 the interest of having subsistence hearings. So we
4 will be -- during are typically handled during public
5 comment period which we will probably have if we follow
6 the same process as last time we'll have open houses or
7 public comment period where we're visiting many
8 communities. And there has yet to be a decision as to
9 whether or not we will be holding subsistence hearings
10 in coordination with those public meetings.

11
12 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Right. Thank
13 you for that clarification. Are there any further
14 comments or questions.

15
16 Coral, go ahead.

17
18 MS. CHERNOFF: The project timeline
19 that isn't happening in 2024, the new -- I guess in my
20 experience when a project timeline is moved there is
21 always a date on it. And so one question would be why
22 isn't there a date on it. And then two is are we
23 looking at three months, six months, a year, two years,
24 like what -- can you give a general timeline?

25
26 MS. FOSADO: Through the Chair, Council
27 member Chernoff. Maria Fosado for the record. So we
28 have the ultimate goal of providing a final
29 environmental impact statement by December of 2024. So
30 that is the final, the end of the process. Well, I
31 should rephrase. Not the end of the process, but
32 that's when we have to have the environmental impact
33 statement delivered. And you are correct in that it
34 would be ideal to be able to provide exact dates or
35 updates as to how exactly the rest of the process will
36 play out between now and the end. Unfortunately like I
37 said I can't provide that and that is basically we've
38 come across process questions and we're trying to be --
39 work through it as efficiently and as quickly as we
40 can. But until we're able to get some of those process
41 questions answered it has impacted the schedule. So
42 we're just working through it internally.

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44 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: All right.
45 Thank you. Any further questions.

46
47 Pat, go ahead.

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49 MR. HOLMES: I'm wondering and I
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0120

1 probably can guess, but will there be any options once
2 you have your rough draft that you're sending off to
3 the honchos to review where we might at least take a
4 look and see what you're planning and send that
5 information to our Council?
6

7 MS. FOSADO: Through the Chair, Council
8 member Holmes. So once the draft environmental impact
9 statement is published that will be open to the public
10 for review and comment and that 45 day public comment
11 period is associated with that specific review of the
12 draft environmental impact statement.
13

14 Does that answer your question?
15

16 MR. HOLMES: I guess so.
17

18 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: All right. Are
19 there any further questions or comments.
20

21 (No comments)
22

23 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: All right.
24 Thank you guys very much.
25

26 Okay. So it's 12:56. I did say we
27 needed to end by 1:00. I just want to double check is
28 -- with Lisa or anyone else, is there anything else on
29 the agenda that we need to cover or that we should
30 cover.
31

32 MS. HUTCHINSON-SCARBROUGH: I think we
33 did a really good job. Thank you so much everybody for
34 your time and it looks like Sam might have a comment.
35

36 Thank you.
37

38 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Sam, go ahead.
39

40 MR. ROHRER: Will we have time for very
41 brief closing comments?
42

43 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Yeah, let's go
44 ahead if you want to make closing comments let's go
45 ahead and do that right now.
46

47 Thank you. And you can lead off.
48

49 MR. ROHRER: Okay. Thank you. I'll
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0121

1 lead off then. Closing comments. I just wanted to
2 take a moment to thank Della for all of her years on
3 the Council. I think, Della, you'll still be there for
4 the fall meeting it sounds like. So but you've Chair
5 for not all the time I've been on this Council, but for
6 most of the time. You've done a great job, I've
7 appreciated getting to know you and having you as
8 Chair. And so anyway thanks for all your hard work and
9 as being Chair.

10

11 So just wanted to say that. That's
12 all.

13

14 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Yeah. Thank
15 you, Sam, and I definitely second and third and fourth
16 that. I really appreciated an opportunity to work with
17 Della and get to know her over my years on the KARAC.

18

19 Does anyone else want to make
20 additional closing comments.

21

22 Pat, go ahead.

23

24 MR. HOLMES: Well, I really appreciate,
25 this is my second All Council meeting. It's great to
26 get together with some folks that I haven't seen in 10
27 years, getting together with folks that helped us out
28 when we were arguing the rural/nonrural in Kodiak. We
29 would have had a difficult time with that without
30 interacting with the other Councils and folks in the
31 other communities.

32

33 And I would like to thank the Refuge
34 folks bailing us out when we had no place to stay in
35 Cold Bay. That is the most luxurious place that I have
36 ever spent. I've -- quonset huts, tents, hiding behind
37 a truck, but that was beautiful. And so I hope I don't
38 get you angry at me to exclude that option in the
39 future.

40

41 Thank you.

42

43 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: All right.
44 Thanks, Pat. Does anyone else want to make closing
45 comment.

46

47 Coral, go ahead.

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49 MS. CHERNOFF: I just would like to

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0122

1 thank our Council Coordinator and all the Staff that's
2 here. Really appreciate and certainly recognize all of
3 the work that you put in.

4

5 Thank you, everyone.

6

7 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Natasha.

8

9 MS. HAYDEN: Thanks, Madame Chair. I
10 just want to echo my colleagues' comments, sincere
11 gratitude to OSM Staff, our Council Coordinator, all
12 the work that goes into pulling off a meeting like
13 this, bringing, you know, dozens if not hundreds of
14 people in from all over the State. And, you know,
15 after -- the first one after the pandemic which is also
16 like new territory. Thank you very much and I'm
17 excited about this upcoming year. I'm really happy
18 that we have the full Council, I mean, this is really
19 great, we've got some additional -- our new members
20 from out -- from the western area and that's exciting
21 to me. So welcome and thank you very much.

22

23 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: All right. Does
24 anyone else have closing comments.

25

26 MS. TRUMBLE: Madame Chair, this is
27 Della.

28

29 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Go ahead, Della.

30

31 MS. TRUMBLE: Thank you. I just want
32 to thank everybody for their thanks number 1. And I
33 unfortunately was -- like I would have been happy to be
34 there and see everybody in person. And hopefully I
35 will, we'll be able to get to Unalaska/Dutch Harbor
36 this fall and get to the last meeting.

37

38 I also wanted to thank Lisa and
39 everybody and all the Council members for their -- this
40 meeting that -- I think the Statewide meeting as a
41 whole, there was a tremendous amount of information. I
42 did sit through all the fish and then the -- and the
43 caribou. There was some good, really good
44 presentations and it's unfortunate that we can't --
45 couldn't do this something like once every five years.

46

47 But with that, thank you.

48

49 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: All right.

50

0123

1 Thanks, Della. All right. I'm not seeing any more
2 hands. Is there a motion to adjourn.

3

4 (No comments)

5

6 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Oh, we want to
7 keep meeting.

8

9 MR. RICHARDSON: I move to adjourn.

10

11 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Thanks is there
12 a second.

13

14 MR. ROHRER: Second.

15

16 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: All right. Any
17 objection.

18

19 (No comments)

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21 MADAME CHAIR SKINNER: Seeing none, the
22 meeting is adjourned.

23

24 (Off record)

25

26 (END OF PROCEEDINGS)

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