

WESTERN INTERIOR FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE
REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

PUBLIC MEETING

VOLUME I

Pike's Landing
Fairbanks, Alaska
March 2, 2020
9:00 o'clock a.m.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Jack Reakoff, Chairman
Timothy Gervais
Don Honea
Tommy Kriska
Jenny Pelkola
Goodwin Semaken
Pollock Simon

Regional Council Coordinator, Karen Deatherage

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P R O C E E D I N G S

(Fairbanks, Alaska - 3/2/2020)

(On record)

CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: We're going to start the meeting and the first thing on the agenda is invocation. The Western Interior Regional Advisory Council meeting on Monday morning, March 2. So do you want to say an invocation.

Jenny, would you like to?

CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: So Pollock.

Okay, Jenny, go ahead.

MS. PELKOLA: Heavenly Father, we thank you for this day. We ask that you be with everyone here and help us Lord to go through our meetings and to make decisions that we have to make. Lord, and we just ask that you bring everyone home safely.

In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen.

CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: So meeting is called to order. And so roll call and establish quorum. And it is -- so would like to -- are you set.

MS. DEATHERAGE: So I think the Vice-Chair usually does the roll call.

CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Say again.

MS. DEATHERAGE: The Vice-Chair usually does roll call.

CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Okay. Vice-Chair, go ahead. Tim.

MR. GERVAIS: Jenny is the Vice-Chair.

MS. DEATHERAGE: I'm sorry. The secretary.....

1 MR. GERVAIS: The treasurer.....
2
3 MS. DEATHERAGE: The secretary takes
4 roll.
5
6 MR. GERVAIS: Don't let me.....
7
8 MS. DEATHERAGE: Get used to it, guys.
9
10 MR. GERVAIS: All right.
11
12 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Yeah.
13
14 MR. GERVAIS: Pollock Simon, Senior.
15
16 Pollock Simon, Senior, are you here.
17
18 MR. SIMON: Yes.
19
20 MR. GERVAIS: Tommy Kriska.
21
22 MR. KRISKA: Here.
23
24 MR. GERVAIS: Jenny Pelkola.
25
26 MS. PELKOLA: Here.
27
28 MR. GERVAIS: Jack Reakoff.
29
30 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Here.
31
32 MR. GERVAIS: Don Honea, Junior.
33
34 MR. HONEA: Here.
35
36 MR. GERVAIS: Goodwin Semaken.
37
38 (No response)
39
40 MR. GERVAIS: Goodwin was here. I
41 imagine he will be present.
42
43 Timothy Gervais -- here.
44
45 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: All right. So we
46 have quorum currently even without Goodwin. So we're
47 going to go to welcome and introduction.
48
49 So we're going to go through the room
50

1 here and we'll have introductions of our Staff and
2 guests in the room.

3

4 So Glenn.

5

6 MR. CHEN: Aloha, Council Members. My
7 name is Glenn Chen. I'm with the Bureau of Indian
8 Affairs.

9

10 MR. KRON: Good morning. Tom Kron,
11 OSM.

12

13 MR. DOOLITTLE: Good morning, Mr. Chair
14 and Members of the Council. My name is Tom Doolittle.
15 I am the acting Assistant Regional Director for the
16 Office of Subsistence Management.

17

18 MS. MCDAVID: Good morning, Mr. Chair
19 and Council Members. My name is Brooke McDavid. I'm
20 with ADF&G Division of Subsistence.

21

22 MS. MCMILLAN: Good morning. I'm
23 Jennifer McMillan with the BLM Central Yukon field
24 office.

25

26 MR. STOUT: Glenn Stout, Galena area
27 biologist, Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

28

29 MR. MATHEWS: Vince Mathews with
30 Kanuti, Yukon Flats, and Arctic Refuges in Fairbanks.

31

32 MR. ROW: Good morning. I'm Eric Row
33 from Tanana Chiefs Conference.

34

35 MS. MONCRIEFF: Hi. This is Catherine
36 Moncrieff with the Yukon River Drainage Fisheries
37 Association.

38

39 MR. REBARCHIK: Good morning. I'm Bob
40 Rebarchik. I'm the acting Refuge manager for the
41 Koyukuk, Nowitna, and Innoko Refuges, out of Galena.

42

43 MS. JULIANUS: Good morning. Erin
44 Julianus, wildlife biologist for the BLM Central Yukon
45 Field Office.

46

47 MS. OKADA: Good morning. Marcy Okada,
48 subsistence coordinator for Gates of the Arctic
49 National Park and Preserve.

50

1 MS. LONGSON: Good morning. Sara
2 Longson, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game,
3 assistant Galena biologist.
4

5 MR. MUSCHMANN: Gerald Muschmann, U.S.
6 Fish and Wildlife Service, here in Fairbanks.
7

8 MS. MORAN: Tina Moran, Deputy Manager,
9 Kanuti National Wildlife Refuge, here in Fairbanks.
10

11 MR. MOOS: Good morning. I'm the
12 acting Refuge Manager for Togiak National Wildlife
13 Refuge. My name is Kenton Moos and I'm also the in-
14 season manager for Mulchatna caribou herd.
15

16 MS. FOX: Good morning. Joanna Fox.
17 I'm the Refuge Manager for Kanuti National Wildlife
18 Refuge.
19

20 MR. HARRIS: Good morning. Frank
21 Harris, fisheries biologist, OSM.
22

23 MR. HARWOOD: Good morning. Chris
24 Harwood, wildlife biologist, Kanuti Refuge.
25

26 MR. MOSES: Good morning. Aaron Moses,
27 Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge.
28

29 MS. CONITZ: Good morning. I'm Jan
30 Conitz with Fish and Wildlife Service in Fairbanks.
31

32 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: So that's everybody
33 in the room. So now the people on the phone.
34

35 Catherine.
36

37 MS. MONCRIEFF: Yeah. Sorry about
38 that. This is Catherine Moncrieff with the Yukon River
39 Drainage Fisheries Association. And I am en route to
40 your meeting and I hope to be there right after lunch
41 in person.
42

43 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Okay. Thank you.
44

45 Next on the phone.
46

47 MS. JALLEN: Yeah. Good morning. This
48 is Deena Jallen, with the Alaska Department of Fish and
49 Game, in Anchorage. Summer season assistant manager
50

1 for the Yukon River.

2

3

CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: All right, Deena.

4

5

Anybody else.

6

7

8

MS. MAAS: This is Lisa Maas, wildlife
biologist with OSM.

9

10

CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Lisa Maas.

11

12

REPORTER: Uh-huh. (Affirmative)

13

14

CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: All right.

15

16

17

18

19

MR. ESTENSEN: Good morning, Mr. Chair.
My name is Jeff Estensen. I'm with the Alaska
Department of Fish and Game, fall season manager for
the Yukon, listening in.

20

21

22

23

MS. DAMBURG: Good morning. This is
Carol Damburg, with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service,
Regional Subsistence Coordinator.

24

25

26

CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Your last name
again.

27

28

REPORTER: Damburg.

29

30

CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Damburg. Okay.

31

32

Thank you.

33

34

Next.

35

36

37

38

39

MR. REAM: Good morning, everyone.
This is Joshua Ream, Regional Subsistence Program
Manager for the National Park Service.

40

41

CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Good morning.

42

43

Next.

44

45

46

MR. PAPPAS: Good morning. George
Pappas, OSM State Subsistence Liaison.

47

48

CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Good morning.

49

50

MR. BURCH: Hello. This is Mark Burch,

1 with the Department of Fish and Game, in Palmer.

2

3

CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Okay, Mark.

4

5

6

MR. JENKINS: Good morning, Chairman
Reakoff. Wayne Jenkins, Director Yukon River Drainage
Fisheries Association, on the phone.

7

8

9

CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Good morning.

10

11

And next.

12

13

(No comments)

14

15

CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Anybody else on the
phone.

16

17

18

(No comments)

19

20

CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Okay.

21

22

23

MS. WOODS: Good morning. This is
Brooke Woods with Tanana Chiefs Conference Hunting and
Fishing Task Force, as well as Yukon River Inter-Tribal
Fish Commission. Good morning.

24

25

26

27

CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Okay. Good morning.

28

29

Anybody else.

30

31

(No comments)

32

33

CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Okay. That sounds
like everybody on the phone.

34

35

36

So welcome to the meeting. So did -- I
hope everybody on the phone and in the room has got the
agenda. And we have -- we actually have quite a big
meeting because of the Board of Game proposals. And
there's a lot of Board of Game proposals that affect
the Western Interior Region.

37

38

39

40

41

42

And so we're going to review and adopt
the agenda.

43

44

45

And so did you want to go over some of
the highlights there, Karen.

46

47

48

49

MS. DEATHERAGE: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

50

1 This is Karen Deatherage, with the Office of
2 Subsistence Management. Thanks everyone for being
3 here.
4

5 And there are a number of additions to
6 the agenda that was printed in the meeting book. I
7 have a few copies with some red highlights on it that
8 have those additions, if you'd like a copy. I only
9 have a few. All the Council Members should have those
10 in their packets.
11

12 And starting under old business we're
13 going to do a -- or propose to do a quick review of
14 Wildlife Proposal 20-36/37.
15

16 And again this is on your agenda, the
17 second page.
18

19 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Yeah.
20

21 MS. DEATHERAGE: And Lisa Maas will be
22 calling in regarding that.
23

24 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: And what is that?
25 Special action?
26

27 MS. DEATHERAGE: It's not a special
28 action. It's a wildlife proposal.
29

30 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Oh. A wildlife
31 proposal.
32

33 MS. DEATHERAGE: That you all -- you
34 all already deliberated on this, but there's some
35 tweaks to it and so Lisa wants to.....
36

37 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Okay.
38

39 MS. DEATHERAGE:to present those
40 to you.
41

42 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: All right.
43

44 MS. DEATHERAGE: The second item is a
45 fisheries program information update. And that's under
46 new business.
47

48 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Okay.
49
50

1 MS. DEATHERAGE: It should be there in
2 red.

3
4 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Yes.

5
6 MS. DEATHERAGE: The third item is to
7 add the Tanana Chiefs Conference. They are here and
8 they are going to do a presentation under agency
9 reports.

10
11 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Okay. Good.

12
13 MS. DEATHERAGE: The fourth item is to
14 add Catherine, who's on the phone, for the Yukon River
15 Drainage Fisheries Association report.

16
17 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Uh-huh.

18
19 MS. DEATHERAGE: And then under U.S.
20 Fish and Wildlife Service agency reports there's going
21 to be a 23-year review of the East Fork, Andreafsky,
22 and Gisana -- Gisasa something river.

23
24 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: It's Gisasa weir.

25
26 MS. DEATHERAGE: Gisasa River weir by
27 Randy Brown.

28
29 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Okay.

30
31 MS. DEATHERAGE: We've added the
32 Subsistence Resource Commission to the Park Services
33 report from Marcy.

34
35 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Okay.

36
37 MS. DEATHERAGE: And the Bureau of Land
38 Management, Jen McMillan will deliver the Central Yukon
39 Field Office update. You have a copy of their report
40 in your packets. There's also copies on the table in
41 the back.

42
43 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: All right.

44
45 MS. DEATHERAGE: Under ADF&G,
46 telephonically there will be the Pitka Fork weir
47 report. There's also copies of that PowerPoint report
48 back on the table for anybody who would like a copy.
49 And there's copies for the Council Members in your
50

1 packet.

2

3 And then Tom Seaton from Fish and Game
4 is going to call and give a quick update on the wood
5 bison reintroduction program. They recently met. I
6 believe Mr. Chairman Reakoff was there.

7

8 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: I was telephonically
9 there.

10

11 MS. DEATHERAGE: Telephonically there,
12 so he might have some stuff to add.

13

14 And then the Office of Subsistence
15 Management Report will be delivered by Tom Doolittle.

16

17 Those are the additions that the
18 Council can approve or not for the agenda.

19

20 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

21

22 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: I think those are
23 good agenda additions.

24

25 Is the Anchorage BLM Office going to
26 report or is Jen McMillan going to do the report for
27 Anchorage. They normally also -- we have two
28 components of the BLM that they -- so we'll figure that
29 out later maybe. Okay.

30

31 But I -- normally we get reports from
32 the -- from Bonnie Million and various people in the
33 Anchorage office.

34

35 Go ahead.

36

37 MS. DEATHERAGE: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
38 We may see some folks from Anchorage appear tomorrow
39 because the Eastern Interior meeting starts tomorrow.
40 And so they might be sending a representative up to
41 speak to the issues down there. I have not heard yet
42 though from that office.

43

44 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Okay.

45

46 MS. DEATHERAGE: But that might be a
47 possibility.

48

49 Thanks.

50

1 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: All right. So we'll
2 add in Anchorage office if they're under BLM.
3
4 So the Chair will recognize Goodwin is
5 here.
6
7 Good morning, Goodwin.
8
9 MR. SEMAKEN: Good morning.
10
11 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: And so any additions
12 to the agenda, Council Members.
13
14 (No comments)
15
16 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: No.
17
18 MR. HONEA: Motion to adopt.
19
20 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Motion to adopt the
21 amended agenda by Don.
22
23 MS. PELKOLA: Second.
24
25 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Seconded by Jenny.
26
27 Those in favor of the agenda as
28 amended, signify by saying aye.
29
30 IN UNISON: Aye.
31
32 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Opposed, same sign.
33
34 (No opposing votes)
35
36 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Election of
37 officers. I will turn the mic over to Karen there and
38 so we're going to go through elections.
39
40 MS. DEATHERAGE: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
41 My name is Karen Deatherage again, with the Office of
42 Subsistence Management.
43
44 And as the delegated Federal officer I
45 will step in to open the floor for nominations for
46 Chair of the Western Interior Alaska Subsistence
47 Regional Advisory Council.
48
49 Okay. Thank you.
50

1 MS. PELKOLA: I nominate Jack Reakoff.
2
3 MR. HONEA: Motion to close.
4
5 MR. GERVAIS: I was just going to
6 second Jenny's motion.
7
8 MR. HONEA: Motion to close.
9
10 MS. DEATHERAGE: Thank you.
11
12 All those in favor of Jack Reakoff to
13 be elected as Chair of the Western Interior Council,
14 please signify by saying aye.
15
16 IN UNISON: Aye.
17
18 MS. DEATHERAGE: All those opposed,
19 please signify by saying nay.
20
21 (No opposing votes)
22
23 MS. DEATHERAGE: Congratulations,
24 Chairman Reakoff. I will turn the table over to you
25 now for the remaining officers.
26
27 Thank you.
28
29 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Okay. So we'll --
30 Vice-Chair position -- open the floor for nomination.
31
32 MS. PELKOLA: I nominate Tim.
33
34 MR. SIMON: Second.
35
36 MR. GERVAIS: I nominate Jenny Pelkola.
37
38 MR. SIMON: Second.
39
40 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Seconded by Pollock.
41 So we have two nominations.
42
43 Any others.
44
45 MR. HONEA: Motion closed.
46
47 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: So we'll have a tab
48 vote.
49
50

1 MR. GERVAIS: Can I speak to that?

2
3 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Go ahead, Tim.

4
5 MR. GERVAIS: Mr. Chair and Council
6 Members, I recommend that Jenny be voted into the seat
7 as Vice-Chair just based on her better knowledge of
8 subsistence and -- and that's good enough.

9
10 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Better status.

11
12 MR. GERVAIS: Better status and her
13 knowledge of the travel process and whatnot. So I feel
14 like all three of those items are significant to her
15 being the Vice-Chair. And she's really smart.

16
17 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Uh-huh.

18
19 MR. GERVAIS: And has huge traditional
20 knowledge that I don't have.

21
22 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Okay. Any other
23 comments on the nominees.

24
25 Don.

26
27 MR. HONEA: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I
28 also would agree with that. I believe over the years
29 that she has shown leadership and not only in the
30 Village of Galena, but on this Council also. And I
31 trust that she would make a good Vice-Chair.

32
33 Thank you.

34
35 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: So we have two
36 nominees. Should we have a vote yes or no on each --
37 for each candidate or how do you want to do that.

38
39 Karen.

40
41 MS. DEATHERAGE: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
42 What I might suggest is to go ahead and just have
43 everybody write the name of their choice on the yellow
44 slips.

45
46 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Uh-huh.

47
48 MS. DEATHERAGE: And hand them to me
49 and I will go ahead and read the tally.

50

1 Thank you.

2

3 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: While we're
4 gathering those I see Greg Dudgeon of the National Park
5 Service has arrived. I want to note that for the
6 record.

7

8 Anybody else arrive that I haven't --
9 that we haven't had on our -- on our guests that are
10 here tonight -- today.

11

12 (No comments)

13

14 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Do you have a
15 tabulation there, Karen?

16

17 MS. DEATHERAGE: Based on the
18 tabulation, Jenny Pelkola was elected Vice-Chair of the
19 Council.

20

21 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: All right.

22

23 MS. DEATHERAGE: Congratulations,

24 Jenny.

25

26 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Congratulations,

27 Jenny.

28

29 MS. PELKOLA: Thank you.

30

31 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: And so for the
32 secretary position I will open the floor for
33 nomination.

34

35 MS. PELKOLA: I nominate Tim.

36

37 MR. SIMON: Second.

38

39 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Any other
40 nominations.

41

42 MR. KRISKA: Motion to close.

43

44 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Motion to close.
45 With only one nomination, congratulations, Tim.

46

47 MR. GERVAIS: Thank you.

48

49 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: We'll have both

50

1 the.....

2

3 MS. DEATHERAGE: Wait. Let's go ahead
4 and vote.

5

6 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Council vote.
7 Council vote for secretary position, Tim Gervais.

8

9 Those in favor, signify by saying aye.

10

11 IN UNISON: Aye.

12

13 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Opposed, same sign.

14

15 (No opposing votes)

16

17 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: So welcome, Tim.
18 You'll do a good job.

19

20 So review and approve the -- of the
21 minutes. And those were in our packet that we got and
22 so reviewing the -- in the meeting book.

23

24 And there was a misspelling of the
25 attendees in McGrath. And that's Kevin Whitworth, not
26 Kevin Woodworth. That's the only typo I noted.

27

28 And under Pollock's comment -- Council
29 comment -- he was referring to people being harassed.
30 And that was by enforcement. That's -- I want to
31 clarify that for the record.

32

33 And that was the only thing I saw in
34 there.

35

36 Tim.

37

38 MR. GERVAIS: I'm looking for the
39 reference in here, Jack, but when we were talking about
40 the Mulchatna caribou herd again at the meeting, we had
41 a presentation from Fish and Game. But at the time I
42 didn't realize that the herd had dropped below -- I
43 need some help from either you or from the Fish and
44 Game biologist. It's called the critical population
45 threshold or something. Are you familiar with what I'm
46 getting at. It's like 20 percent of.....

47

48 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Well, there's
49 populations objectives and it was far below the

50

1 population objective of 30,000. I think it's 30,000
2 for Mulchatna. And so it's at 13,500. We had quite a
3 discussion on that and that's reflected in our annual
4 report.

5
6 MR. GERVAIS: Do you feel like it's
7 worthwhile in having that stay in the minutes that the
8 -- that population of 13 and a half thousand is below
9 the population threshold.

10
11 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Yeah. We could
12 clarify that in the minutes that the Council felt that
13 -- it's here. Mr. Reakoff concluded with his concerns
14 over the extraordinary decline of the Mulchatna caribou
15 herd down from historical 200,000 to 13,500. Mr.
16 Reakoff believes the herd will never recover if the
17 population drops below a certain level.

18
19 They get below their predator threshold
20 and they -- herds -- caribou herds have a hard time
21 coming up because they only have one calf and they
22 can't overcome the predation factor. So -- but we
23 could clarify that. That the herd is being below the
24 management objective and needed further restrictions.

25
26 And we'll go into that. I'll make a
27 report on -- as Chair on the Mulchatna, what progressed
28 with the Mulchatna caribou herd. How the Federal
29 Subsistence Board actually went into protection of the
30 herd. But we could clarify that management objective
31 is not being -- population management objective is not
32 being met.

33
34 Is that -- would that clarify that for
35 you.

36
37 MR. GERVAIS: Yeah. Thank you.

38
39 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Okay. Any other
40 additions in the minutes.

41
42 (No comments)

43
44 MS. PELKOLA: I'll make a motion to
45 accept the minutes.

46
47 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Motion to adopt with
48 amendment.

49
50

1 MS. PELKOLA: Yes.
2
3 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Do I have a second.
4
5 MR. KRISKA: Second.
6
7 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Seconded by Tom.
8
9 Further discussion on the minutes.
10
11 MS. PELKOLA: Question.
12
13 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Question's called.
14 Those in favor of adopting the minutes as amended,
15 signify by saying aye.
16
17 IN UNISON: Aye.
18
19 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Opposed, same sign.
20
21 (No opposing votes)
22
23 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Go ahead, Karen.
24
25 MS. DEATHERAGE: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
26 I did want to make a note. This is Karen Deatherage,
27 with OSM, about the minutes.
28
29 We have changed, if you've noticed, the
30 format of our minutes for two reasons. The first and
31 most important is they're now what's consider .508
32 compliant under Federal regulation, which means
33 basically they can be read by people with disabilities
34 when they're posted on the internet. And so that's a
35 very important thing that's required by the government.
36
37 The second thing is that they're a lot
38 shorter. As you probably know, we've done 15, 20 page
39 meeting minutes. We already have full transcripts of
40 these meetings that are available to anybody who wishes
41 to see them, so what we have done is just capture the
42 actions of the Councils and justifications for those
43 actions and listed the agencies that actually give
44 reports, though we don't go into details with what is
45 actually in their reports.
46
47 So I just wanted to make sure that
48 people were aware that these have been very much
49 reduced and also in compliance with the American
50

1 Disabilities Act.

2

3

Thank you.

4

5

MS. PELKOLA: I have a question for

6

Karen.

7

8

CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Go ahead.

9

10

MS. PELKOLA: What did you say the

11

first one was.

12

13

MS. DEATHERAGE: It's called a .508 compliance, where they have to be formatted in a certain way so that when they're electronically uploaded they can be read by people who have visual issues with trying to read something. So it's a certain type of publication format that works with people with disabilities.

19

20

21

Thank you.

22

23

CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Since the minutes are being compressed would it be possible to put the time of the transcript, like a notation into the minutes at certain points, if somebody wanted to -- the public wanted to look into those minutes -- into the transcripts they could look at a certain point. Have a notation like a parenthesis and like certain subjects at day two -- WIRAC day two at 1:00 p.m. or whatever.

30

31

32

Karen, would that be too hard to do or would that -- since that's how the minutes are compiled as going through those transcripts, you're listening to those or are you making notes or -- that's how the.....

35

36

37

MS. DEATHERAGE: Thank you, Mr. Chair. This is what Tina is here for. She's the one that records those transcripts and then transcribes them.

38

39

40

CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Uh-huh.

41

42

43

MS. DEATHERAGE: They're hundreds of pages most of the time, particularly with this Council because you guys are pretty busy. And so -- but I like the idea. They're generally coded by number on the lefthand column.

44

45

46

CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Uh-huh.

47

48

1 MS. DEATHERAGE: So what we could do --
2 not doing specific numbers for everything, but for
3 example, wildlife proposals begins at number 404.....
4

5 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Right.
6

7 MS. DEATHERAGE:of page
8 whatever's on the transcripts.
9

10 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Uh-huh.
11

12 MS. DEATHERAGE: Please refer to that.
13

14 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Uh-huh.
15

16 MS. DEATHERAGE: And we can do the same
17 with the Agency Reports so that they can cite that.
18

19 I can certainly propose that we do
20 that. We have to be in compliance again with .508
21 compliance, but if it works that's a great idea.
22

23 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: I think it would be
24 good for the public and other Council Members that
25 weren't present to actually look at what the Council
26 was actually deliberating. And so that would be making
27 a notation of where those would be found in the
28 transcripts would be a good thing.
29

30 So okay. We did the -- so Council
31 Member reports. We typically go around the table here.
32

33 And so Pollock, would you like to give
34 your Council Member report.
35

36 MR. SIMON: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
37

38 Congratulations on your reelection,
39 also Jenny. Thank you for all of your time Chairing
40 this for us and Jenny.
41

42 Where I live in Allakaket it's been
43 cold since mid-December. We had to -- most of the time
44 we had weather 50 below zero off and on and for five
45 days it was 65 below. In January, peoples that live by
46 the river recorded 72 below. So that's cold.
47

48 The washeteria froze for a couple of
49 days and the water outlet froze so I couldn't get
50

1 water, but people's got a lot of water before it got
2 cold. Yesterday I came in from Allakaket. It was
3 still 40 below yesterday morning. That's a little
4 improvement from 50 below, but it is okay. We wrestled
5 with wood quite a bit. Most of my time is pack wood in
6 and keep the wood stove burning.

7
8 But there's still no caribou again this
9 year. There wasn't even caribou close to Bettles.
10 Sometimes some years there's caribou close to Bettles
11 and the young boys would go up and sometimes they would
12 go out and catch them.

13
14 The moose population, the numbers are
15 still pretty low even though it's -- the snow is deep
16 in the hills sometimes they -- most of the times they
17 come down to the river, but I never seen no -- too many
18 moose tracks around the river yet.

19
20 There was two wolves that was hanging
21 around the village most of the winter. They got two of
22 them now.

23
24 The salmon population is, I think the
25 chum salmon run is good, the summer run was good, but
26 the fall chum salmon was not too good. Sometimes you
27 just fall chum salmon end of September it's cold enough
28 it'll just -- pull it out of the river, pull out the
29 net and storage to freeze. But the king salmon
30 population numbers stayed pretty low.

31
32 But sometimes it's pretty tough times
33 and then it gets pretty cold and not everybody got
34 moose during their fall hunting, so some freezers are
35 empty of meat.

36
37 But we got a quorum of peoples here so
38 that's good. Don Honey made it, so that's good. More
39 than once he was not here but I'm glad he's here today.
40 I'm glad I'm here too, I've been here for many years.
41 I've been on here since the day one, so after the --
42 maybe I'll decide to retire, too, pretty soon since I'm
43 getting old. But I like to hear what's going on with
44 our way of life, both in the village and the urban
45 centers.

46
47 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

48
49 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: And you were

50

1 recently appointed through 2023?

2

3

MR. SIMON: Yes, Jack, thank you.

4

5

6

CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: All right. Thanks,
Pollock.

7

8

Tom.

9

10

11

MR. KRISKA: Okay. Anyway this is Tom
Kriska, from the Koyukuk area.

12

13

14

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17

Just had some -- doing this as a
Council Member report. Just things that I've been
seeing the last year. Sorry that I wasn't here during
the October meeting. I had other issues going on and
things that you've got to do, I guess.

18

19

20

21

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23

24

But a lot of concerns about just the
way things are this past -- since this past fall.
Seems like the fishing was good this summer. Everybody
got their fish and I really didn't get into the silver
salmon part. I wasn't around the village at the time,
so we got kings only.

25

26

27

28

29

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32

But anyway, just going back to the
weather conditions that really got me concerned just
riding and traveling. I do a lot riding and hunting.
We've got to do something about the wolves soon. And
it's thousands and thousands of miles and a lot of gas
money.

33

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But anyway, I just wrote here that this
year it was a real cold winter. Been cold more than
most years. Two and a half months and it's still 40
below right now. Conditions are bad traveling. And
the hardest one to -- one thing that I was told by the
old -- my grandma -- Jenny's mom there -- about the
snow. And it really is a proven fact from what I -- my
experience and what I see and what year it's going to
happen. And she told me that any time it snows twenty
inches to two foot before Thanksgiving you're going to
get deep snow that year. Because what it does is --
she said it blankets the whole state and then there's
no warm areas -- the water or anything. It just covers
the whole thing. Then all that's out there is cold
air, the temperatures, and that's when it gets cold and
a lot of snow.

1 So that's the way it is right now
2 affecting a lot of things there. A lot of moose. A
3 lot of cows are loose and their calves on account of
4 this because I do a lot of riding and on average it's
5 four feet of snow. Some places there's five feet of
6 snow where -- in those areas. A lot of the calves are
7 dying. The mothers are there trying to help them, but
8 they only can do so much. What I'm seeing is that the
9 calves are -- the snow is too deep for them and what's
10 happening is the -- I mean I go inspect the calves. I
11 just go look at them over there -- fall over and they
12 won't get up. Their mothers try to get them up. When
13 you drive close to them, she tries to get them up, but
14 there's nothing she could do. But then after she's
15 gone away and then I go back there another time and
16 just go see what's happening -- here the snow under
17 their arms right here -- it's look like a -- it's built
18 up where they -- it's this wet -- really wet, frozen
19 snow and ice under their arms or in between their legs
20 -- on their stomachs. And I think -- what I think is I
21 don't know if they get -- they catch pneumonia or what
22 it causes, but it's not good for the temperature-wise
23 of the body. So they don't want to eat because of the
24 willows -- the way the trees -- this fall they got
25 glazed with ice and it's not good feeding for the
26 moose.

27
28 They seem like they are -- I don't know
29 what comes from up above that get onto the willows that
30 cause them -- they don't want to eat after a while
31 because they have to chew through the ice to get to the
32 food. And it's kind of -- it's all over the -- from
33 where we're from -- Nulato, Huslia. I've been in that
34 area quite a bit this fall and I see a lot of that and
35 they have a lot of counts against them from this year.

36
37 What I then got -- one little comment
38 back to fishing, what I see is going -- riding up some
39 of these creeks -- the Gisasa area, the Kateel, the
40 spawning grounds. The river -- I'm kind of worried
41 about the fry or, you know, the eggs that were seeded
42 there by the fish and I don't know if the State or
43 whoever have any kind of info of what happens during
44 these years that -- anytime you see the river crown in
45 the middle in a big crack right down the center of the
46 rivers that -- for me that tells me that the -- all the
47 water is out of there and it -- what it does it
48 freezes, freezes, freezes, and it crowns up like this,
49 And all of that -- those parts of the river is

50

1 technically frozen to the bottom so there is no water
2 under there at all. All the water and any kind of
3 water that's coming down during the warm areas or warm
4 weather, it comes over the top. But for two and a half
5 months being frozen a lot of these spawning places are
6 frozen to the bottom. So I don't know what that would
7 cause, but I just want to put that out there just in
8 case -- 2020.

9
10 Anyway, then it goes to the bears. I
11 don't know. We don't -- really don't see a lot of
12 bears. I don't know what happened with those, but
13 running across the Flats kind of amazed me. There's a
14 lot more bear sign in the Flats. Just looking around,
15 but I never found any. But then there's a lot of fresh
16 sign. But I don't know if they moved off the river or
17 they were either killed by the grizzly or they migrated
18 somewhere else.

19
20 The wolves, they're having a feast over
21 our moose. They're just running up to them, jumping on
22 their back, killing at will and some of them are just
23 left there. And I don't know if they're like the bears
24 where they cover them up or if they know that they're
25 dead and they will come back later to eat them. But I'm
26 not sure it that happens, but I see it a lot. And a
27 lot of these moose are dying off. The wolves --
28 there's no even no wolf tracks around them, but the
29 foxes and lynx and all of those guys are -- got their
30 own moose to eat. So it's kind of a funny deal.

31
32 I could be talking all day, but I'm
33 going to stop there.

34
35 And there's one thing I was just -- had
36 concerns about is what's going on with the Board. We
37 had a bunch of applicants. I think it was 52
38 applicants and we still -- I still see five vacant
39 seats on our Board here. So I don't know who -- where
40 did all these applicants go but I'm concerned about why
41 is it like that when we had so many applicants in
42 there.

43
44 So that's my report for now.

45
46 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

47
48 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: All right. That's
49 all good information. So you've generally got about
50

1 four feet of snow in that whole country down there?

2

3 MR. KRISKA: Yes, Mr. Chair. It's that
4 way all over. Some places -- the boys -- we all get
5 together, we go hunting with our, even Superwides, and
6 you get into deep woods, you've got to put her in first
7 gear and don't tip your machine, otherwise you'll tip
8 it, it just drops right down and then you're stuck.
9 You have to leave it level. By the time you get out on
10 the lake whatever you're after is on the other side and
11 he's gaining ground, so I mean there's a couple of
12 times I just turned around and going to wait for later
13 on this month because I can't really do anything about
14 it.

15

16 So they know what they're doing. So
17 anyway, yeah, there's deep snow everywhere. Yep, but I
18 think a record amount this year.

19

20 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Oh, wow. Okay.
21 That's good stuff to know.

22

23 Jenny.

24

25 MS. PELKOLA: Good morning, Mr. Chair
26 and all the people in the audience.

27

28 First of all, I would just like to say
29 that we had a fire in Galena last week with a couple
30 losing their house and losing everything. But
31 thankfully we have people that are willing to help and
32 they do have a place to stay right now -- or they're
33 staying with their son, but hopefully we can get a
34 place for them in Galena.

35

36 Also, as Tom reported we do have a lot
37 of snow. And I put down snow, snow, snow. We don't
38 even have any place to put snow in our yard anymore,
39 there's so much snow. And I think we're going to have
40 either a flood or really high water because there's
41 snow all over the state.

42

43 And I was going to also bring up the
44 vacancies that we do have on our Board. And it's
45 really hard to work with very few people when you don't
46 have these other, well, right now we have seven and I
47 think we have two vacant seats right now. Or two,
48 yeah. And I really thought we were going to get some
49 out of McGrath. We would like to get some out of

50

1 McGrath and the GASH area. We don't have any reps from
2 those areas. So it would be nice if we could get some
3 reps from those areas.
4

5 Also, with the wolves. The wolves are
6 dying right in the town of Galena. They just walk into
7 town and they keel over. They're just dying. And they
8 said it was the wolves that were doing that, but you
9 don't see any wolves around. I mean they just -- I saw
10 one -- in fact, I saw two alive one day and going
11 downtown, next day they were just dead right on top of
12 the snow berm, right on the road.
13

14 And from what some of the elders did
15 say is that the trees were coated with ice and when
16 they were trying to eat they were drinking -- they were
17 just getting all that water in their system and they
18 weren't really eating, they were just getting that
19 water in their system. And it was -- they didn't have
20 any food, so it was just killing them. I don't know
21 how they know that, but that's what a couple of the
22 elders did say.
23

24 So there's just all kinds of, you know,
25 it's puzzling because they come right into town and
26 then they die. And it's sad to see because you know
27 one moose could feed a couple of families. And when
28 you see about three or four dead, well, it's sad. So I
29 don't know how our moose is going to this year. A
30 little concern there.
31

32 I think that's all I have right now to
33 report.
34

35 Thank you.
36

37 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Okay. Well, I have
38 a question for you and Tommy. How thick is this glaze
39 on these willows. Is it really thick or.....
40

41 MS. PELKOLA: Yeah.
42

43 MR. KRISKA: In a lot of places, it's
44 different in different areas.....
45

46 REPORTER: Tommy. Tommy. Thank you.
47

48 MR. KRISKA: It's different in certain
49 areas. Where the wind blows it's -- the ice is mostly
50

1 on the north side of the willow and -- or the south
2 side because the north -- blowing from the north.

3

4 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Yeah.

5

6 MR. KRISKA: But in the trees, in the
7 timber and all of that the trees are hanging over so
8 bad. I'll just tell you about one trip I had. We were
9 cutting out the Huslia Trail. I clear that trail so
10 good every year and I went there this fall thinking oh,
11 I'm just -- I'll take a ride up there. Toward Huslia
12 there's kind of Coffee Can Lake, Louie Lake, and all
13 those lakes and I thought oh, maybe I'll just chop it
14 out so far and I started chopping and that place was --
15 my little simple cruise took six hours just to chop
16 those trees out of the way and they were all ice.
17 Every time I -- I had to put on glasses because then
18 every time I would hit the tree ice would fly off of
19 them. And then the ice is anywhere from like maybe an
20 eighth of an inch to maybe three-sixteenth of an inch,
21 so that's a lot. They're all coated. All the willows
22 on the sandbars are coated.

23

24 And I think I'll just mention one more
25 thing.

26

27 That one -- after that deep snow and
28 that cold weather hit that's when those calves -- as
29 soon as they were walking through that deep snow and
30 that cold weather hit, that's -- a lot of the time
31 those calves just keeled over that night. I think they
32 froze to death because of being wet. Because that one
33 night from Nulato to -- or my camp there was like about
34 six of them. Just they were moving around one day and
35 then -- I went up there and it was 42 below and they
36 were just in the creek, can't get up or nothing.

37

38 I mean I drove right by them, but
39 there's nothing you can do. The mother just stood off
40 to the side and she just kind of walked off after a
41 while.

42

43 So thank you.

44

45 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Yeah. That was from
46 a rain back in October or.....

47

48 MR. KRISKA: Actually, it was one of
49 the weirdest things I ever seen. There was no rain.

50

1 There was -- this caused from that cold weather, frost.
2 Then it warmed. Then it glazed. Then it cold weather
3 frost again. That's how it built up. It was no rain
4 involved. It was the cold and the moist in the air
5 that -- because there was a little bit of glaze on
6 them. You know how you put something outdoors and it
7 will get frost on there. That's how it built up during
8 that two and a half months of cold weather. It wasn't
9 rain. It was frost and I -- I don't know. When it
10 started snowing I guess it warms enough for it to just
11 like it melts. And then that's how it built up.

12
13 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Uh-huh.

14
15 MR. KRISKA: There was no rain involved
16 in it. It was kind of the -- one of the weirdest
17 things I've seen.

18
19 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: That's an
20 interesting thing.

21
22 MR. KRISKA: Yep.

23
24 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: We had a lot of rain
25 in the -- we had an inch and a quarter of rain on the
26 28th of October.

27
28 MR. KRISKA: Yeah.

29
30 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: That made all the
31 willows wet, but it just ran off because it was really
32 warm out.

33
34 MR. KRISKA: Yep. Yeah. Because it
35 was good after that. But I don't know. I don't know
36 what -- I mean that's what I seen.

37
38 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: That's a real
39 concern. That sounds really bad. That sounds
40 horrible.

41
42 So Don, you got a report.

43
44 MR. HONEA: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Good
45 morning, everybody in the room and those listening and
46 such.

47
48 Pollock brought up an interesting thing
49 here. Some of the meetings I, because of weather those
50

1 of you that's, you know, Kenton, and you guys that live
2 in Galena, you know how hard it is to get into Ruby
3 sometimes. So I'm glad our coordinator was able to get
4 me up here Saturday because sure enough -- and this is
5 for the powers that be, I mean I am actually willing to
6 bring myself up here a day later because I mean if you
7 look at it, I was -- out of Ruby they cancelled the
8 flight yesterday. So if I got up here like today I
9 would miss this entire day, and it's only a two-day
10 meeting, so it's kind of a moot point to even -- and
11 it's really hard to get online, to be on my cell and
12 stuff like that. And it's just not a.....

13

14 But I also have concern with the non-
15 appointees on the Board. I don't like this not being
16 able to have any reps from Aniak, from McGrath, from
17 the GASH area. It just -- I don't know. I don't know
18 the reasoning for it, but it seems like it's seven of
19 us and it's hard to get a quorum. And so I'd really
20 like that to be maybe put in our Council review or
21 something like that and to consider that.

22

23 And I really appreciate Tom's comments
24 and Jenny's comments on the moose population. And
25 Glenn Stout is in the audience, he was at our Ruby AC
26 and mentioned the wolf kills the -- the moose kills
27 whatever between Ruby and Galena when he came up to our
28 meeting.

29

30 And also on the flight on Saturday
31 between Ruby and Tanana they flew kind of low because
32 we had to stop in Tanana. And I could see some of the
33 moose bunching up for -- against the wolves. Outside
34 of Novi, Bering Slough, if anybody knows where that is.
35 Below Bible Camp and up toward the hills there, the
36 Bible Camp, the Kokrines, the Big Eddy area. It's
37 really -- it's really -- toward the mountains it really
38 get deep snow. And I just feel for those moose that
39 I've seen up to my camp the other day where you try to
40 run away on the islands and stuff and you just, you
41 know, feel for them.

42

43 But anyway, I just -- I'm thankful for
44 the elections and I feel comfortable with the
45 leadership. And it's good to be here and I just -- I
46 just hope that we could accomplish something in the two
47 days that we're given.

48

49 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Well, thanks so much

50

1 for being here and willing to travel a day early. And
2 I appreciate OSM bringing Don in because those places
3 like Ruby, Anvik, on the hills they get socked in and
4 they're not coming. So I appreciate OSM being on top
5 of that issue.

6

7

So Goodwin, you got a report.

8

9

MR. SEMAKEN: Yeah. Thanks. Good to
10 be back. I missed the last meeting, but I read up on
11 it.

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So like Don was saying, it's pretty
tough on the moose down there. I don't know what's
going on below Kaltag because it's 120 miles to
Grayling, so -- and nobody even trapping so -- and snow
and so I imagine there's a lot of woods. But they --
anyway, they got three wolves between Kaltag and
Nulato. My grandsons, they go to school at Nulato High
School, so they go back and forth. And they ran into
three at Halfway and one got away, but they killed two.
And somebody else got one there.

A lot of moose on the island there at
Halfway. They're all gathering up on the island
because the snow is so deep. We seen one trying to
cross the other day at Old Kaltag and it took all day
before he made it across the river.

So I think that's my concern.

So if they could, you know, do a survey
on the count down that way it might be helpful.

That's all I have to say.

CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Okay. Thank you.

Tim.

MR. GERVAIS: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Tim
Gervais.

I'd like to congratulate Jack and Jenny
on their election stuff. I'm glad to have you guys in
those positions. It's one of the main objectives of me
being on this Board, other than to have high quality
fish and wildlife management, is to learn from your
guys' experience and observations on what's going on in

1 your areas. It's good information and it's good to --
2 good knowledge for me to pick up.
3

4 The first item I have is this moving of
5 the meeting date from February to March. I use this
6 poorly worded phrase. I would like whoever is in
7 charge of making the meetings happen on the scheduled
8 date to try more harder. It's -- I make a lot of
9 effort to adjust my fishing schedule to meet the
10 meetings and March is -- March is almost always a busy
11 fishing month for me, so it's a lot of extra work and
12 sometimes an economic burden to either delay or cancel
13 some of my fishing to meet the change of the meeting
14 date. So it seems like with the amount of lead time we
15 have in selecting these meetings dates that we can get
16 them -- put it approved in the register or whatnot on
17 time, I think that's a reasonable request to hold the
18 meetings on when we plan.
19

20 Second item I have is -- so we have a
21 census year going on and I was just looking up some
22 data. 1970, 50 years ago, population of Alaska was
23 302,000. And then I got another figure for 1918 [sic],
24 there was 737,000. So just in that 50-year span we had
25 a population growth of two and a half times of the
26 state, which is pretty incredible. It's actually -- to
27 me it's one of the most significant factors that's
28 going to affect our subsistence activities into the
29 future, is just growing population of the state. I
30 don't have any data on what the mix is between rural
31 and non-rural, but my sense is it's going in the -- in
32 a direction of Alaska being a more rural state. So
33 what this -- I encourage all the rural communities to
34 work hard and be counted. I know it's counterintuitive
35 or not traditional to try to put a lot of information
36 out to the government about who you are or how many
37 people are living in a certain place, but the way the
38 government's set up right now is a lot of stuff is
39 based on population counts. And going into the future
40 there's just going to be increased demand for this
41 rural, undeveloped habitat we have and increased demand
42 and scrutiny over the resources, the fish and the moose
43 and the bears. So just be aware on all our development
44 issues, whether it's mining or road building or trains,
45 it's just the world is going to be a more crowded place
46 and Alaska is going to be a more crowded place and what
47 you have right now with the Federal subsistence
48 priority, it's going to -- it gives those rural
49 residents extra rights that the majority of the
50

1 population doesn't have and that's going to increase
2 the amount of animosity towards the subsistence users.
3 And the commercial interests are going to just want to
4 put in more mines, potentially dams or whatever, so
5 there's just going to be increasing species pressures
6 from a human standpoint.
7

8 So a lot of people are seeing this
9 heavy snow year, colder weather. I think a lot of
10 what's driving the moisture into the Western Interior
11 Region was lack of ice formation in the Bering Sea in
12 the fall and it put a lot of extra moisture into the
13 system. Right now the ice extent in the Bering Sea is
14 a little more traditional or more average for what it's
15 been like in the last 20 years with the colder weather.
16 That ice edge -- from some of my fishing and personal
17 interests I've been trying to do some study on marine
18 food webs to try to figure out why some species are
19 doing well and other species are doing bad. And that
20 sea ice edge is a real critical item. It's
21 complicated. But it has a lot to do with plankton
22 production, the phytoplankton, and zooplankton
23 production and it changes the whole food web in the
24 ocean.
25

26 So when you have these summers with a
27 lot of heat and the sea ice is retreating really far
28 north, that ice edge -- the actual linear distance of
29 that ice edge is quite a bit smaller and you get a lot
30 of -- a lot less -- they call it prime production, but
31 what it really is is just energy from the sun's -- it's
32 creating algae, these phytoplankton, which are kind of
33 like plant, plant organisms are growing by eating the
34 algae and collecting the sunlight. Like it's a
35 photosynthesis. And so now we have a situation where
36 these sea ice retreats are really, really far north in
37 the summer and then not this -- well, it was late in
38 the fall, but now it's normal, but in the other
39 preceding two years we had pretty -- a pretty north sea
40 ice edge in the Bering Sea. And so it's changing a lot
41 of that ecosystem in ways that nobody's really sure of.
42 And where that comes into effect for us in the Western
43 Interior is the salmon habitat, sheefish to some extent
44 in the marine ecosystem. So it got me wondering that
45 -- well, one other point I'd like to make. The Gulf of
46 Alaska is in a starvation event from a warm water event
47 from 2014, 2015, and 2016. The cod stock is like 18
48 percent of what it should be and then we've had
49 problems with sockeye salmon production because they're
50

1 a zooplankton feeder.

2

3 But this year because of -- it's partly
4 temperature driven and a -- but the majority of it is
5 driven by high winds and winter storms is what mixes up
6 the ocean and keeps it cool. And if they can keep it
7 cool then we have the right kind of plankton growing
8 and being created. And so if it's too warm you get a
9 different type of plankton which it decreases the
10 nutritional content available to the upper levels of
11 the food chain.

12

13 And that has a second, the warm water
14 has a second event that happens where it just increases
15 -- all these species are, except for the whales are --
16 and seals, marine mammals, they're cold blooded, so
17 when you have warmer water temperatures their metabolic
18 rate increases and so they need more food. So you get
19 a situation where if there's less plankton production
20 and increased energy demand or food demand by all the
21 upper level parts of the food chain and so it creates
22 these starvation events for sea birds, cod, sockeye
23 salmon.

24

25 So I was thinking of how NOAA and North
26 Pacific Management Council is managing these Federal
27 fisheries and they go off this theory; maximum
28 sustained yield. Maximum sustained yield is largest
29 average catch that can be captured from a stock under
30 existing environmental conditions. But now because of
31 the warming of the oceans and the atmosphere I think
32 it's worthwhile at this point for this Council to draft
33 a letter to Chris Oliver with NOAA and to the North
34 Pacific Fisheries Management Council saying hey, we
35 have all these incredible warming events going on in
36 the ocean and in the atmosphere and the best available
37 science -- even though there's people that have studied
38 hard and worked hard at their jobs is basically people
39 don't understand how these warm events are changing the
40 marine ecosystem because it's all -- it's changing too
41 fast for the animals to adapt and it's changing too
42 fast for the scientists to get a grip on what the
43 affects are. And a lot of the effects don't fleece
44 themselves out for sometimes years or five year period
45 or ten year periods. So in this letter I would like
46 the Council to ask NOAA and North Pacific Management
47 Council to reevaluate that managing to a maximum
48 sustained yield needs to be a more conservative
49 management approach because there's a lot of strange

50

1 things happening in the ocean that we don't have
2 historic experience with.
3

4 We have some proposals coming up. They
5 have to deal with a fair chase on hunts. We will talk
6 about this specifically on the certain proposals, but I
7 would encourage the Council to adopt a position of not
8 trying to ease the burden of the hunter in a lot of
9 these proposals. Because when you have regulations
10 that don't require the hunter to act in a traditional
11 hunter's mentality and skill level, their skill level
12 drops and that -- it just has a spiraling effect where
13 the hunters are not as good of hunters as they
14 traditionally would. Then there's going to be more
15 wounded animals, less ethical harvesting techniques,
16 and dangerous situations.
17

18 Like we had this situation last month
19 where, or in January, the kids from Nunam Iqua were out
20 driving around on their Snow Go on a -- I think it was
21 a Sunday, they saw a fox, they decided they wanted to
22 harvest the fox, but they didn't have a -- I don't
23 think they had a gun with them, so they decided to run
24 the fox over with their Snow Go. And they proceeded to
25 do that, but the fox -- the snow was deep enough the
26 fox was not getting killed. And then eventually after
27 this fox pursued event unfolded the weather turned
28 really bad, and the Snow Go got stuck, the kids didn't
29 know which way they needed to go and they ended up
30 having to get rescued by a search and rescue team, but
31 not until the next day.
32

33 So that's just one isolated example of
34 how where if they were -- if they were really on it and
35 they were carrying their rifle with them when they
36 first went out and saw it, they could have harvested
37 that fox real simple and been back home in time for
38 dinner without having the whole search and rescue scene
39 with the village.
40

41 On traveling to one of these meetings I
42 saw an Alaskan Spirit magazine, it's the Ravn Air
43 magazine. And they had an article about this TV show
44 that's on PBS Kids called Molly of Denali. And last
45 month my two girls were watching it, they're six and
46 eight and I ended up watching two of the episodes with
47 them. And it's a show produced by a lady named
48 Princess Johnson, she's a Gwich'in and then two of the
49 Native advisors on it is Rochelle Adams from Fort Yukon
50

1 and Beaver and Dewey Hoffman, who has -- at one point
2 was from Ruby. And I was impressed with -- even though
3 it's like a children's show, but they bring up a lot of
4 subsistence issues. In the particular episodes I saw
5 they were harvesting salmon eggs in Sitka and they were
6 eat -- they were -- the family lives somewhere in the
7 Interior, somewhere near the base of Denali, and they
8 were eating muktuk that they had traded with and just I
9 think the character creates a nice role model for the
10 young kids growing up in the Bush. And it puts kind of
11 pretty much a good introduction to subsistence to the
12 rest of the nation and maybe the world, you know, based
13 on whatever happens. They were watching it on YouTube.
14 I don't know what's -- how available it is not the Arc
15 system. But I've seen a lot of crappy shows.....

16

17 (Laughter)

18

19 MR. GERVAIS:or there's a lot of
20 crappy shows on subsistence lifestyle in Alaska and
21 this was nice to see. This one was nicely done and you
22 might be -- it will be worthwhile going into the future
23 that people understand that people are harvesting
24 plants and game and fish resources to feed themselves.

25

26 Last meeting, last year Jack had sent
27 out an article on salmon sharks eating king salmon.
28 That study that he's referring to I believe was funded
29 by the trawl fleet, the Bering Sea Aleutian Island
30 trawl fleet. They, from time to time, will sponsor
31 research work and in the Alaska universities or
32 University of Washington. They have a big marine
33 biology fisheries research group. And definitely --
34 because I started doing some studying on the salmon
35 sharks. And a few things on them. They've been -- the
36 species have been around for over a million years, they
37 think. They're migratory and they're a warm-blooded
38 shark, which is pretty rare. So due to that one
39 million years of existence or evolution I'm not seeing
40 where the salmon shark is directly responsible for
41 decline of king salmon since 1997, 1998. May have an
42 effect, though one thing I will say in support of the
43 study that the salmon shark is -- does have a predation
44 effect on the salmon as approximately 700 million pink
45 salmon are being released by the hatchery system in
46 Prince William Sound. So just let's go over that
47 number again. 700 million salmon are being released on
48 an annual basis as smolts to go out.

49

50

1 So potentially having that -- they call
2 it -- they still call it enhancement and that's what it
3 was initially meant to be. It was supposed to be a
4 supplemental program to develop the commercial fishery
5 more, but now it's morphed and evolved into this
6 program where it's really the hatchery salmon is the
7 primary driver of that commercial fishery.
8

9 And these pink salmon, they eat a lot
10 of food. 700 million of anything would eat a lot of
11 food, but pink salmon are really fast growth salmon
12 species. They're completing their entire life cycle in
13 two years. So they are just -- they're kind of like
14 cod in that they are just eating everything that they
15 can. So I think partially because of this starvation
16 in the Gulf of Alaska these -- a lot of these 700
17 million pink salmon haven't been surviving in the ocean
18 because there's just not enough food for them to eat
19 and grow. And maybe over the course of the last 20
20 years there's been enough growth in the salmon shark
21 population to develop a high level of predators, high
22 level of -- high number of salmon sharks. And since
23 these fish aren't showing up in Prince William Sound
24 like they were five, six, seven years ago. Maybe these
25 salmon sharks are migrating further west.
26

27 I know where I commercial fish in
28 Chignik in the summer, I'm seeing a lot of salmon shark
29 out there. I don't know how they're doing out in the
30 Bering Sea, which at this time I think that's where a
31 lot of the Yukon and Kuskokwim salmon are spending
32 their marine years, but maybe these surplus salmon
33 sharks, they can't get enough to eat in Prince William
34 Sound and other -- there's other -- Southeast Alaska
35 has a big hatchery program. Kodiak has one hatchery.
36 Maybe these salmon sharks, I mean they do an annual
37 migration from California to Alaska, so it's not that
38 hard to think that they would just -- if there's no --
39 not enough food or groceries for them to eat in Prince
40 William Sound that they may move further west and north
41 to try to feed themselves.
42

43 But my stance from my best available
44 analysis, personally, is that the decline in the king
45 salmon we've had over the last 23 years for the Yukon
46 is from the Bering Sea, Aleutian Island trawl fleet.
47 And just the fact that they're out there dragging large
48 nets through the water 10 months out of the year, that
49 they are just removing a certain segment of the
50

1 population every year and by the time those fish are
2 five, six, and seven years old they've had several
3 encounters with commercial fishing gear and it reduces
4 their number.

5
6 But it's all unknown at this point, but
7 I am continuing to pay attention to the salmon shark
8 situation and I do understand that what we are seeing
9 right now for king salmon populations on the Kuskokwim
10 and the Yukon is not acceptable and I would -- I want
11 this Council to continue to take actions and make
12 communications that support the return of king salmon
13 to their mid-1990s level of population.

14
15 There was a new story I heard somewhere
16 in Eastern Fairbanks or North Pole area where they --
17 this Pfast, we talked about this a little bit in the
18 last meeting and there's another story about it this
19 winter where this certain neighborhood ended up having
20 to have bottled water shipped in for their drinking and
21 cooking needs because it's contaminated with these
22 Pfast chemicals which are from the aqueous film forming
23 foam from the firefighting foam producing chemicals
24 they used on the military bases and the big airports.

25
26 I would like this Council to request
27 that we talk to.....

28
29 Karen, help me out. What's the name of
30 the lady with the Fish and Wildlife Service that deals
31 with toxicology and environmental contamination.

32
33 MS. DEATHERAGE: The sea grant woman
34 does that.

35
36 MR. GERVAIS: Okay. I will try to
37 research this lady's name, but I would like at least
38 the annual report topic or something even more earlier
39 that discusses how -- what's the prevalence of Pfast
40 chemicals at Galena Air Force Base and potentially
41 McGrath or some of those military installations that
42 were between McGrath and Ophir, those Air Force radar
43 studies.

44
45 Go ahead, Tommy.

46
47 MR. KRISKA: I think there's a lady in
48 the crowd raising her hand on your question.

49
50

1 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Go ahead, Joanna.

2

3 MS. FOX: I believe you're referring
4 probably to Angela Matz. And she works for the
5 Fairbanks Fish and Wildlife field office in Fairbanks,
6 but she's actually living in Anchorage now. I'm pretty
7 sure that's who you're talking about.

8

9 MR. GERVAIS: Okay. And so she's with
10 the ADF&G?

11

12 MS. FOX: She's with the U.S. Fish and
13 Wildlife Service.

14

15 MR. GERVAIS: U.S. Fish and Wildlife
16 Service.

17

18 All right. So Mr. Chair, I would
19 request that this Council gets more information on
20 what's the hazards of this Pfast chemicals for these
21 specific military and airport locations in the Western
22 Interior Region.

23

24 Okay. In our Ruby AC meeting there was
25 concern from the public about moose antler hunting for
26 money. Most of the people in the community are
27 concerned that it's creating a bad situation where a
28 small number of individuals are hunting on their
29 harvest ticket or proxy hunting in a manner that
30 because they're getting paid for the antlers on a per
31 pound basis they're targeting trophy bulls. So what
32 this scenario is creating is turning a subsistence
33 hunter into a trophy hunter.

34

35 And generally as we know, subsistence
36 hunters will take a smaller bull for higher quality
37 meat and to keep the breeding bulls undisturbed and
38 allow the genes of a grown bull to be passed on to the
39 next generation; however, the -- it's -- we've also
40 heard of some other situations occurring in other parts
41 of the community, so -- or other parts of the Region --
42 so it may be an issue that we need to address, but it's
43 definitely having creating some discontent in our
44 community over it. And I could say from this period
45 when I was working as a guide in Unit 17 on the Upper
46 Nushagak, that a 50 inch, four brow tine restriction
47 for non-residents hunters, the State regulation, or
48 State resident regulation was not that 50 inch, four
49 brow tine. But there was a period from '97 to 2003

50

1 what -- what happened is these -- this four brow tine
2 per guide is always a safer moose to harvest because
3 you don't have to worry about judging length of the
4 distance. However, because that area was not a
5 subsistence area and it was a -- or non-resident -- I
6 mean not by regulation, but just by geography it was
7 only a place -- it was far enough up the river that you
8 wouldn't tra -- you couldn't afford to travel there for
9 subsistence activity. But over the course of my time
10 there we started seeing really large bulls. 58, 60, 61
11 inch bulls that only exhibited three brow tine
12 characteristics because that DNA genetics for the four
13 and multiple brow tine moose was taken out of the
14 population.

15
16 So I think it's a serious matter to
17 address and it's not going to be an easy one because
18 when you're -- if somebody's selling their antlers for
19 money it could be a substantial source of income for
20 that household. So anyways, just want the Council to
21 be aware that it's happening in multiple communities
22 and you need to start talking with your people in your
23 tribes and figure out which way you want to go with it.
24 But it's definitely having an effect on the moose
25 population.

26
27 The second item brought up in the Ruby
28 AC meeting was the over harvest of king salmon in the
29 subsistence -- under subsistence regs. And where I
30 feel like a family or a group of families in a fish
31 camp should be able to process 20 to 50 king salmon,
32 there is reports of families or groups harvesting 200,
33 300 or 400 king salmon and then that salmon entering
34 the customary barter and trade market. So this is
35 another issue that's difficult. This is a kind of
36 situation that develops in a situation where there's
37 not good commercial harvesting opportunities available,
38 so people are using a subsistence reg or tradition to
39 generate income when it may be in excess to the point
40 where it's damaging the resource.

41
42 The other issue with it is if these
43 people are doing this high harvest rates of king salmon
44 -- the 300 or 400 fish per camp, they may be inclined
45 not to report it correctly because they don't want to
46 draw attention to their high harvest rate. So I would
47 be interested from hearing from just other Board
48 Members, people in the public, Tanana Chiefs, and YRDFA
49 also if they're interested in coming to terms with this
50

1 king salmon over harvest.

2

3 The one good point or silver lining to
4 this is that at this point there is enough salmon that
5 these people are able to harvest salmon at this level
6 and still meet escapement goals, so that puts in a
7 better place salmon-wise than we were eight years ago.
8 But it's similar -- like I was talking about with the
9 antler hunting that it's benefitting a few people at
10 the expense of the -- but it has detrimental effects on
11 the population and to the other subsistence harvesters.

12

13 The Red Devil Mine down near where
14 Dennis was from -- they're -- I believe it's the BLM is
15 putting out a remediation plan and the comment period
16 is opening up sometime in March and I hope that this
17 Council can take a look at that plan and put in some
18 comment for it.

19

20 When Kenton and the Togiak Refuge do
21 their presentation on caribou, Mulchatna Caribou Herd,
22 I would like to get some information about an article
23 -- a radio story I heard down in Dillingham this summer
24 where they talked about effects of fire on the Nushagak
25 Peninsula and this one fellow was talking about
26 sometimes depending on the severity of the tundra fire
27 that the reindeer moss might take up to 100 years to
28 regenerate.

29

30 So we're going to see I think in 75
31 we're going to have a wildlife proposal that deals with
32 utilizing fire to improve habitat and I just want to
33 collect as much information as we have on different
34 instances of what happens to the feed plants when they
35 have a fire.

36

37 And then my final thing -- and I'm
38 sorry I took a lot of everybody's time here.

39

40 I was reading a book about a fellow
41 that was traveling in Alaska in 1868. This was one
42 year after the U.S. paid Russia for Alaska. And just a
43 few notes about what was going on at that time.

44

45 The main settlements in the Middle
46 Yukon River were Nulato, which was a Russian fort,
47 trading post. There was another big village of 300
48 people at Novicarget (ph), the mouth of the Nowitna
49 River, which is exactly where Don's dad has a Native

50

1 allotment. There's a woodcut carving showing that
2 area. It's pretty interesting to see where these
3 settlements were and what kind of subsistence
4 activities the people were taking in those days.
5

6 Another big settlement of 300 people,
7 well, I guess it wasn't really a settlement, but it was
8 a trading they had like around June 20th and it was
9 right at the mouth of the Tanana River where it meets
10 the Yukon. And I don't know if it's on the -- where
11 Tanana is or on the south side of the river, but they
12 would meet there and there would be traders from --
13 English traders coming down from Fort Yukon to trade
14 guns and salt and knives for furs, and then the
15 Russians were coming up from Nulato, but this
16 particular year the Russians got there three days late
17 and so most of the furs went to the Hudson Bay Company
18 from that point or for that year.
19

20 This fellow that wrote this book, he
21 also stated that there was no moose down river of
22 Nulato. It was all up river. Both the Russians and
23 the English and the Natives, they were utilizing their
24 dogs for finding and helping with hunting of game. And
25 then I couldn't tell exactly where this one settlement
26 was, somewhere around Bishop Mountain or Koyukuk, the
27 guy was talking that the Indians there were very proud
28 of who they were and this one guy's main statement is
29 of course we're so good because we're Yukon Indians.
30

31 So just interesting to see what was
32 happening in our neighborhood 150 years ago.
33

34 And that's it.
35

36 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Okay. Thanks for
37 your extensive report, Tim.
38

39 And you referred to writing a letter to
40 Chris Oliver to NOAA about the warming effect on
41 multiple species. Did you want to make a motion to
42 draft and transmit that letter, and would you be
43 willing to work with Karen on that, the content?
44

45 MR. GERVAIS: Okay. Mr. Chair, yes.
46 I'd like to draft a letter over this evening and
47 discuss it with the.....
48

49 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Karen's got --
50

1 Karen, do you want to make a statement?

2

3

MS. DEATHERAGE: Yeah. Thank you.

4

5

6 I'm very sorry, but I just want to make
7 sure the Council understands that we have very limited
8 resources right now at OSM. And as far as drafting a
9 letter this evening, if you recall I'm going to be up
10 probably till all hours of the night drafting up the
11 Board of Game letter, or the comments which must be in
12 by the end of this week.

13

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And my recommendation for something like this, because it's a very broad statement that you're making and I think we can get a lot of information and we can get a lot of input, but I would recommend you include this issue in the annual report and any other issues of that nature. Because that's going to stimulate (1) getting the agenda set up so we can have people report to you on the issues, and (2) getting feedback from different agencies on what they're seeing out there and what they can recommend the Council can do.

So these are just a couple of things, but -- and I apologize because we can usually do a ton of things, but I'm concerned about getting this Board of Game proposal comment letter in by the end of the week.

Thank you.

CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Right. Right. Good point.

Tim.

MR. GERVAIS: Okay. Now that you bring that up, Karen, that.....

CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Tom.

MR. DOOLITTLE: Sure. Through the Chair. I support the sanity of my own Staff obviously.

MS. DEATHERAGE: Thank you.

MR. DOOLITTLE: But also, yeah, there's

1 ones that have certain time constraints and then if
2 also the Council, you know, is looking at letters that
3 they want to form, they consensually put together kind
4 of what the outline and approve that you, through the
5 Chair, can also do that at a later date. So think
6 about what the timing is because I think that's what
7 Karen's big concern is is that she can't generate four
8 letters in a week. She can do the ones that are
9 timely, but if there's one that absolutely needs a
10 letter, you know, then again making sure you guys gel
11 over that and be able to kind of put it together in
12 letter form for a later time.

13
14 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Where I was going
15 was strictly to be promulgated later after the meeting.
16 We're going to have a sort of an outline of the letter
17 for the Council's approval.

18
19 And so knowing that, your statement
20 now, Tim. So can you promulgate the letter tonight.
21 You write the letter and the Council approves it and
22 then you don't have to do anything with it.

23
24 MS. DEATHERAGE: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
25 I think that's very nice and if Tim could do that.

26
27 And then secondly just to keep in mind,
28 too, that we've had to squish all of these Council
29 meetings into one month and so a lot of our Staff is
30 going to be out and about doing it, myself included, so
31 that when we do a review back in the office of these
32 letters that also is going to probably take more time
33 than normal because everybody is going to be stretched
34 out.

35
36 And so this is just the way of the
37 world right now and we're doing the best that we can,
38 so if the Council can set priorities on these things
39 and give us the time to do it, we'll be able to get
40 that done.

41
42 Thanks.

43
44 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: But I do agree with
45 Karen that -- her statement, that putting it into the
46 annual report, the topic, to get the Federal
47 Subsistence Board aware of that so that we can -- but
48 also if you would like to have a letter transmitted
49 after this because we're under huge time constraints

50

1 with this whole Board of Game meeting really close to
2 the State.

3

4 So how would you like to proceed, Tim.

5

6 MR. GERVAIS: Okay. Mr. Chair, with
7 your consent -- the other Council Members consent --
8 Karen's consent.....

9

10 (Laughter)

11

12 MR. GERVAIS: I would like to put
13 together a draft. Review it with you folks in case you
14 have any questions about it and then recommend that a
15 lot of content from the draft be included as an annual
16 report topic. But I could further refine the draft
17 after hearing your feedback on it to give Karen a ready
18 to print, with OSM approval, letter to Oliver. Just to
19 get it to Oliver and the North Pacific Management
20 Council because I just think they need a little push
21 that things are not the way they used to be and there's
22 national standards that are not being met and we need
23 to say hey, even though we're small, even though,
24 we're, in their opinion, a low economic value to what
25 we're doing with subsistence, we're still important and
26 we still want the -- the way these national policies
27 are taking out, they need to realize that whatever
28 happens, subsistence fishing and the Kuskokwim or the
29 Yukon is all as important as what's going on in Dutch
30 Harbor.

31

32 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: So I think that the
33 tack should be that you feel that the letter should be
34 submitted to Ms. Chris Oliver [sic] before the Federal
35 review process of the annual report. We'll include the
36 issue in the annual report with the primary bulk of
37 your draft statement. And then we write -- you submit
38 the letter, Karen can -- we can send the letter to
39 Chris Oliver -- Miss or Ms. or Mister, I'm not sure.

40

41 MR. GERVAIS: Mister.

42

43 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Mister.

44

45 MR. GERVAIS: Mr. Chris Oliver.

46

47 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Mr. Oliver.

48

49 So would that be okay, Karen?

50

1 MR. GERVAIS: Wait. Let me make a
2 comment before you okay.
3

4 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Okay. Go ahead.
5

6 MR. GERVAIS: How about this. Since
7 being one of the younger members on this Council not
8 aware of all the nuances of how it supposed to occur,
9 why don't I just write the letter. I'll do the draft,
10 the information to be included in the annual report and
11 then as far as the actual letter to Mr. Oliver, I can
12 do that as a private citizen. And then that's one way
13 I can communicate with him and the Council about this
14 topic and from two different angles.
15

16 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Okay. Then you can
17 refer in your private citizen comment that this was
18 forthcoming from the Western Interior Council and the
19 Federal Subsistence Board process, the same concern as
20 a seated member on this Council.
21

22 MR. GERVAIS: Okay. And then this
23 discussion reminded me one comment I forgot to have in
24 my report that having this meeting moved back into
25 March puts it in a situation again where we're
26 providing not on time comments to the -- either Board
27 of Fish or Board of Game.....
28

29 (Teleconference interruption -
30 participant put phone on hold - redialing in)
31

32 MR. GERVAIS:So this is the -- at
33 least the second, maybe the third time this has
34 happened, so I would like to -- that's another
35 significant reason why it was bad to move the meeting
36 from February to March. Because we're not getting our
37 votes submitted as on time public comment to the Board
38 of Game.
39

40 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: We'll be discussing
41 why this meeting was moved back and to address those
42 concerns because nobody was really happy about that.
43

44 So if you could come up with the draft
45 language for the annual report tonight to be included
46 into the annual report, that would be great.
47

48 MR. GERVAIS: Okay.
49
50

1 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Okay. So we will
2 address that when we get to the annual report.
3

4 So we've covered most of the Council.
5 I have a Chair report to give, but we've been on the
6 clock here for about an hour and 45 minutes, so we'll
7 take a 15-minute break. We've got a lot of work to do,
8 I want Council Members back here at 11:00 o'clock
9 sharp. That means the entire Council back here at
10 11:00 o'clock sharp.

11
12 (Off record)

13
14 (On record)

15
16 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: So we're back on
17 record. And Karen identified a couple of special -- or
18 some special action requests that need to be inserted
19 into our agenda.

20
21 And so where you like to place those,
22 Karen. Go ahead.

23
24 MS. DEATHERAGE: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
25 This is Karen with OSM. We have three additions to add
26 to the agenda likely tomorrow depending on time.

27
28 The first would be that we received
29 three special action requests for the Kuskokwim River.
30 Copies of those special action requests are on the back
31 table. At this point it's under the Chair's discretion
32 as to whether or not to ask for public comments. There
33 will be a public hearing on this issue, but the Council
34 will need to provide comments at this meeting if they
35 want them submitted for the special action.

36
37 The second special action received last
38 week or late last week was regarding the Mulchatna
39 Caribou Herd and the Togiak Refuge manager is here and
40 can explain that to everybody. And again this is the
41 opportunity for the Council to submit comments on that
42 special action request because they won't be meeting
43 until after the request has been deliberated by the
44 Board.

45
46 And the third item is the Yukon River
47 2020 outlook. Fish and Wildlife Service would like to
48 report on that under the agency reports for U.S. Fish
49 and Wildlife Service.

50

1 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

2
3 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Okay. Yukon River
4 outlook.

5
6 MS. DEATHERAGE: 2020 outlook.

7
8 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: 2020 outlook. And
9 the Mulchatna special action request should be under
10 new business, Karen, and an addition to that?

11
12 MS. DEATHERAGE: Mr. Chair, in the past
13 we have done special action requests later in the
14 meeting under agency reports.

15
16 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Oh. Under
17 agency.....

18
19 MS. DEATHERAGE: So if you would like
20 to put it there you can or you can put it under new
21 business. Whichever your preference.

22
23 Thank you.

24
25 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Okay. We'll put it
26 under -- that should be under U.S. Fish and Wildlife,
27 correct? These special action requests under U.S. Fish
28 and Wildlife Service agency report?

29
30 MS. DEATHERAGE: My recommendation is
31 just to have a topic called special actions.

32
33 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Okay.

34
35 MS. DEATHERAGE: And cover both of
36 those, you know, just prior to agency reports. Or
37 after agency reports might be better because you might
38 be getting more information that will be helpful in the
39 decisions.

40
41 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Okay.

42
43 MS. DEATHERAGE: So I would recommend
44 after agency reports for both the Kuskokwim and the
45 Mulchatna Caribou Herd special actions.

46
47 Thank you.

48
49 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Okay. And so that
50

1 would be right at the end.

2

3 Okay. And so we'll have to make an
4 addition to this agenda. The Chair will entertain a
5 motion to insert at the end special actions for
6 Mulchatna and Kuskokwim and then the -- under Yukon
7 River -- under U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Yukon
8 River 2020 outlook.

9

10 MS. DEATHERAGE: Uh-huh.

11

12 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: And do we have a
13 motion to that effect.

14

15 MR. GERVAIS: So moved.

16

17 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Tim.

18

19 Do we have a second to that.

20

21 MR. SIMON: Second.

22

23 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Seconded by Pollock.
24 Further dis -- Don -- Tom, we have a motion on the
25 table. The motion is to add special action requests to
26 the end of our agenda. And there's one for the
27 Kuskokwim and for the Mulchatna Caribou Herd and then
28 there is a Yukon River outlook for 2020 under agency
29 reports -- U.S. Fish and Wildlife.

30

31 There's a motion on the table. Motion
32 by Tim, seconded by Pollock. Those are insertions into
33 the agenda because we just found out about those things
34 -- or became aware of them.

35

36 So discussion on that.

37

38 MR. SIMON: Question.

39

40 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Question's called.
41 Those in favor of those additions to the agenda,
42 signify it by saying aye.

43

44 IN UNISON: Aye.

45

46 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: So we have the Chair
47 report, and that would be me. And then we're going to
48 go into public and tribal comments.

49

50

1 MR. SIMON: Jack.

2
3 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Pollock.

4
5 MR. SIMON: Yes, Mr. Chair. Thank you.
6 I have a quick comment on some of the concerns that Tim
7 brought up about this, the meeting that was cancelled
8 for February, if it was just one meeting, but due to
9 past issues of meetings, we're in March now and the
10 meetings for me is kind of getting crowded. In two
11 weeks time I have to come to Tanana Chiefs meeting and
12 there's Federal meeting, and sometimes we go to dog
13 race too, so, Mr. Chair, that's something to think
14 about in the future.

15
16 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

17
18 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: We're going to be
19 discussing that issue when we have the OSM report, I
20 think, is when we're actually going to talk about that
21 and the appointments and some of the issues that this
22 Council is having with some of how this -- our process
23 has been working.

24
25 So we're going to go into the Chair's
26 report. And I'll give my report and then we're going
27 to go to public comments. And I've had one request
28 already from PJ, who would like to speak to us from the
29 public.

30
31 So the Mulchatna Caribou decline was a
32 real issue at our last meeting down in McGrath and I
33 was on a Chair-to-Chair conference call with Bristol
34 Bay Regional Advisory Council and the YKDelta Regional
35 Advisory Council chair previous to the Federal
36 Subsistence Board meeting. And the Federal Subsistence
37 Board was going to meet on Wildlife Special Action
38 request 19-07, which was to reduce the bag limit from
39 two caribou to one caribou, which did absolutely
40 nothing when the herd was basically in half of what it
41 had been.

42
43 So this Council felt that there needed
44 to be winter restrictions on the Mulchatna Caribou
45 Herd. I appreciate the help of the YKDelta's Chair,
46 Ms. Rogers, she worked well with our Council, fully
47 understood the overharvest problem, that there is
48 under-documentation of overharvest, and she was
49 integral in driving forward to the Federal Subsistence

50

1 Board that there needed to be restrictions on the
2 winter hunt.

3
4 The Federal Subsistence Board took
5 action and that was in a -- I was on a conference call
6 and they took action to appoint an in-season manager
7 from the Togiak National Wildlife Refuge to monitor the
8 herd and to eliminate cow caribou harvest. One of the
9 issues they did was eliminate cow caribou harvest.
10 Have some bull harvests.

11
12 But under assessment -- the in-season
13 manager is here. Is Kenton around. Oh, he's back
14 here.

15
16 So they actually took action to -- by
17 the Federal Subsistence Board and eventually caribou
18 harvest was eliminated in winter. That was on January
19 1 or 15. January 1. January 1 they closed the season
20 down for caribou on the Mulchatna because the herd is
21 in such dire straits. And the snow depth was getting
22 to the point where the communities were going to go out
23 and decimate that herd. We have to stop that.

24
25 And YKDelta was very supportive.
26 Bristol Bay seemed to be confused about what was going
27 on. They got hoof rot. Well, that was 22 years ago.
28 There's all kinds of -- they had all kinds of
29 misperceptions. They didn't understand. That was one
30 of the issues that I worked on.

31
32 We had a Gates of the Arctic
33 Subsistence Resource Commission in November. We
34 discussed the Board of Game proposals and some of those
35 recommendations will come to this Council from the
36 Gates of the Arctic Subsistence Resource Commission.

37
38 Koyukuk River Advisory Committee met in
39 mid-December and we met here in Fairbanks. And we went
40 through the Board of Game proposals that affected the
41 Koyukuk River drainage. And so those recommendations
42 are also going to be included in our deliberations on
43 the Board of Game proposals.

44
45 I participated in the bison work group.
46 I'm not exactly sure what they call it. And I
47 participated in that telephonically. And going all
48 through the biological data, the phone call was really
49 poor, but they introduced bison into Shageluk on the
50

1 Innoko Flats in this region at the urging of this
2 Council. They were asking. They came to our meeting
3 and asked do you want bison in this region, we goes yes
4 and what do we do to get them here. So we worked with
5 the 14J -- with the -- wrote letters to the Regional
6 Director to get the Endangered Species Act to designate
7 them as an experimental population. That's the only
8 way they were going to be accepted by the land owners,
9 which is the way on the various land owners so that
10 they're not -- wouldn't impede any kind of development
11 on the lands. And so that got passed.

12
13 So they put them out on the Innoko
14 Refuge and the population is basically -- it's a
15 marginal habitat. The Innoko and Koyukuk Flats are
16 habitat, but it gets deep snow and deep snows in late
17 springs highly affect those bison just like they do
18 moose.

19
20 The core population, the historical
21 record of bison is in the Yukon Flats and to where they
22 have way less snow. That's where the bison -- that's
23 the last recorded oral history, was 200 years ago in
24 the Yukon Flats. And so I commented that they actually
25 need to diversify the population by having two
26 locations. One in the Yukon. And they need to work
27 with that, but this bison call was strictly about the
28 bison for Shageluk and they're talking about
29 reintroducing some bison into that. So we'll get into
30 that also later.

31
32 The conditions -- I worked with Bob --
33 I have a hard time with his name, the Refuge Manager
34 for Koyukuk, Nowitna and Innoko.

35
36 MR. HONEA: Rebarchik.

37
38 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Rebarchik. And I
39 went over the data, the discussion for the Koyukuk
40 winter moose hunts in 21D and 24D. The bull/cow ratios
41 are poor. The population's had a downturn. We had
42 deep snow last year, another deep snow, no, we cannot
43 have a winter hunt.

44
45 The State hunt for the Kaiyuh Flats --
46 that is still to be announced. And so Glenn Stout is
47 here and will tell us the status of that hunt.

48
49 The Upper Koyukuk River, the status of

50

1 the Upper Koyukuk River. There was lots of wolves this
2 last fall. I don't know what happened to the wolves.
3 They disappeared. I drove all the way down here. I
4 saw one wolf track, no, I seen an old wolf track. From
5 Wiseman all the way down the Yukon River I only seen
6 two wolf tracks. One was going from east to west. The
7 other was going west to east up in the Jim River
8 drainage. I don't know what -- there was a lot of
9 wolves in the -- I know a big pack went west into the
10 Gates of the Arctic Park, I haven't seen them for
11 months now. I'm trapping wolves. I'm out all the
12 time. I'm looking for wolf tracks. The wolves went to
13 where there's caribou is what I think. They think they
14 went northwest towards caribou. And we had rain on
15 snow in October. The end of October we had an inch and
16 a quarter of rain and it glazed the ground. Well, the
17 caribou aren't going to go to that. They have to dig
18 down through the snow and they're not going to dig down
19 to hard ground. So the Porcupine Caribou Herd came
20 towards us and then it went back. And the wolves seem
21 to have gone away from our area.

22
23 In the Upper drainage around from the
24 Brooks Range into the mountains the snow is about 40
25 inches down there by Coldfoot into the south and it
26 keeps getting deeper and deeper as you move down. It's
27 deep down towards -- and it's really deep down towards
28 Allakaket. In the mountains we had deep snow on top of
29 the hills and the sheep were doing really bad, from the
30 middle of September until the middle of November the
31 sheep were doing horrible. Then we had literally
32 hurricane force winds that closed Atigun Pass. The
33 trucks were stacked up and it just ripped that snow off
34 the tops of the mountains. Except I came two months
35 too late. I only saw one sheep cross Wiseman Creek and
36 usually there's a wintering ground to the north of
37 Wiseman Creek and I only saw one sheep move to the
38 north, an adult ram. The sheep are doing really bad on
39 the south side, but they're doing better than they did
40 last year.

41
42 To the upper drainages the snow is
43 less. As you get up into the upper Dietrich River
44 valleys the snow is considerably less up in there, so
45 those sheep would be doing a little bit better, but
46 they still had a real hard winter last year.

47
48 The North Slope at the Brooks Range is
49 almost the opposite. It's in the snow shadow. There's
50

1 very little snow in the Atigun Valleys. And the most
2 Central Arctic and Teshekpuk caribou are up into the
3 upper drainages of the Atigun and Anaktuvuk drainages.
4 So people in Anaktuvuk Pass are catching caribou right
5 now and they didn't have caribou migration this fall.
6

7 We still have lots of rabbits. And the
8 rabbit, the hare population has been high and -- but
9 we've had the deep snow years and various factors and
10 so the hare population is not actually crashing, it's
11 sort of like going down slowly. There are a lot of
12 lynx in the Brooks Range. A lot of lynx. And all of
13 the lynx -- normally when there's -- lynx migrate into
14 the Brooks Range they come in real skinny. And I'm
15 getting a few of those migrants coming in, but I didn't
16 see any lynx tracks to the south of the Brooks Range
17 yesterday at all as I drove down here. Most of the
18 lynx are up in the mountains and they're having six to
19 eight kittens per litter. That's what the -- that's
20 the University of Alaska who has got GPS collars on
21 lynx and they've having six to eight kittens per
22 little. They're having lots of kitties. All of the
23 lynx -- most of them are a lot of work. They're really
24 fat. The lynx are eating super well and all of them --
25 most of the lynx, three-quarters of them are so fat
26 they're just greasy. And anybody that's fleshed one of
27 those, that's not the funniest. That means the lynx
28 are going to have big litters again. They're having
29 really -- the GPS collars showed that lynx went on top
30 of the mountains and it's my opinion that -- there have
31 been documented killing adult sheep and adult caribou,
32 it's my opinion that they spend a lot of time with GPS
33 telemetry on top of the mountains, I think they're a
34 predation factor on Dall sheep.
35

36 The one sheep that came through -- came
37 to a lynx in one of my traps. And what did that sheep
38 do. It charged that lynx and hit in the head and there
39 was blood all over the place. The dark blood like you
40 get a broken nose. The lynx -- it must have knocked it
41 out. The sheep jumped up and down on that -- because
42 the lynx couldn't get away from it. Lambs and ewes,
43 lynx will kill those. And apparently this sheep had
44 had experience with lynx enough to where it attacked
45 that lynx in the trap.
46

47 I thought it was cool. I took a lot of
48 pictures.
49

50

1 MS. DEATHERAGE: Jeez.

2

3

(Laughter)

4

5

6 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: So that high lynx
7 population is not that good of a thing for a declining
8 sheep population. They had a lynx there with a GPS
9 collar that was killed, stomped to death on the
10 Dietrich River in the summer of 2018. And they says
11 nothing ate it, well, it's all busted up, what did
12 that. I says that's a cow moose. It tried to get the
13 calf and the cow moose went after it and killed it.
14 Lynx are a predacious animal, so don't underestimate
15 lynx and predation on Dall sheep and caribou.

15

16

17

18

19

We've got lots of wolves still.
They're not around, but they're not gone from the
picture.

20

21

22

So we have a lot of Board of Game
proposals. That's going to be a major focus.

23

24

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And so I again will reiterate what most
of the Council has been saying, we're really upset that
we're not getting the appointments out of Washington,
D.C. It's not OSM, it's not the Federal Subsistence
Board that approves the nominations, it's Washington,
D.C. has got to start making the appointments to the
Subsistence Resource Commissions and to the Councils.

31

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33

34

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36

They're under statutory requirements.
They have .808 and .805 of ANILCA. They have to adhere
to the statutory requirements. That's a problem.
Washington, D.C. is not adhering to the statute. So
that puts us at a huge limitation on the effectiveness
of this Council.

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So that will be my report right now.

Not quite as long as Tim's, but.....

(Laughter)

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45

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CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: So any questions.

Don.

MR. HONEA: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I
wanted to add something on the agenda.

1 I mean I would have previously done
2 this, but bringing up Council Member Tim's report on
3 that and with concerns from other members and myself, I
4 would like it at some point to bring up the taking of
5 moose for the harvest. If there was a way to do that
6 -- to put it on the agenda or speak toward that effort.

7

8 Thank you.

9

10 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Taking moose.....

11

12 MR. GERVAIS: Antlers.

13

14 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Well -- oh. For
15 antlers.

16

17 MR. HONEA: Yeah. Exactly. I mean Mr.
18 Chair, that -- we discussed it at the Ruby AC and it's
19 a huge problem for our area. And if you look in the
20 State regs there the Lower Yukon has got the same
21 problem. And if I could author a proposal that would
22 -- exactly the same sentiments. And Tim and I and Ed
23 -- we all discussed this and this is coming from a
24 community member that's concerned about this. This has
25 been going on for the last couple of years and it just,
26 you know, maybe it's the enforcement of it or
27 something. So I would really like at some point to
28 discuss this.

29

30 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: That kind of an
31 issue would have to be -- that would have to be a
32 proposal process submitted to the Federal Subsistence
33 Board.

34

35 MS. DEATHERAGE: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
36 Are you not referring to the State though, Don? When
37 you discussed this with me you were talking about a
38 State Board of Game proposal?

39

40 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Go ahead, Tom.

41

42 MR. KRISKA: I think the confusion in
43 this whole process you guys are talking about is two
44 different departments. The confusion that's causing a
45 lot of these problems is in between the State and the
46 early opening of Federal, you know, that Federal
47 opening they have before the State. Like they have the
48 Federal opening from the 22nd to August 1st or
49 something like that and then the 25th to the 30th they

50

1 extend that hunt through Federal -- only on Federal
2 lands. But technically right there I'm not sure if
3 anybody in the crowd that's from the Federal side. And
4 the confusion for what I see in the whole thing is that
5 the State will enforce the regulations for the
6 subsistence hunt to have the antlers cut, but I'm not
7 sure that the Federal Department enforces that.

8
9 So I think that's where the big
10 confusion is.

11
12 So the people, some of them, figure
13 they don't have to cut the horns, and that's where the
14 problem is coming out. The way it is, I'm just going
15 to say it so everybody will hear it, there are some
16 people out there that do proxy hunting, okay. Say
17 they're hunting for other folks, so they are allowed to
18 shoot -- some folks will hunt for, I don't know many
19 they can hunt for, but they hunt for five or six
20 different people. Well, those people don't want those
21 horns, so -- but these people are abusing their -- the
22 whole thing. And it kind of -- and sooner or later
23 it's going to become a bigger problem because it's
24 happening not only in the Ruby area, but other areas
25 where the Federal subsistence hunt is allowed.

26
27 So we just need to have the Federal to
28 enforce that law and have someone out there or either
29 -- I don't know how to go about this, but that this is
30 where it's go -- it is right now. There's just too
31 many local hunters and some of them are not even local,
32 I mean they're -- of race, I should say, but they're
33 shooting, they're targeting the big 60, 70 inch because
34 there's a person here in town that will buy these
35 antlers for a price if they can get it there. And they
36 can get it there because there's no law. You can't
37 even stop it coming from Wrights.

38
39 So this is what I want to say there.

40
41 And it's a big issue.

42
43 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Thank you.

44
45 MR. GERVAIS: Mr. Chair.

46
47 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Go ahead.

48
49 MR. GERVAIS: Tommy, well can you talk

50

1 right now about how communities like Koyukuk and
2 Nulato, what's the pulse of the -- what's people's
3 attitude towards the sale of the antlers. Is it -- do
4 they like it because it creates income or are they --
5 they don't like it because it's targeting the trophy
6 bulls.

7
8 MR. KRISKA: Well, just talking to a
9 lot of them out there and it's a confusing thing. And
10 I'm not for it because what's the use of having State
11 regulations and Federal regulations if you're going to
12 sell those antlers or if it's -- if that's what they're
13 looking for. In the first place, they're out there for
14 subsistence use of the moose. And then you start
15 saying okay, and then everybody gets together and then
16 Glenn has a bigger job than he has already. And then
17 anybody in the State as well.

18
19 So I would say for me to enforce the
20 laws and keep it as subsistence hunt rather than going
21 after the antlers. Because you go after those antlers
22 you're just as good as any one of those wolves out
23 there, you're going to kill at will.

24
25 So that's just what I think.

26
27 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Well, the discussion
28 is about sale of antlers. Whether it's State or
29 Federal. There's a Federal subsistence hunt in 21B in
30 the Novi. We could make a Federal proposal to make it
31 illegal to sell antlers on that Federal hunt. We could
32 make a proposal to close that or we could make a
33 proposal -- but this is -- we're not in call for a
34 proposal. Talking about a proposal right now at this
35 meeting is -- this is the wrong time to be doing that.

36
37 MR. KRISKA: Okay.

38
39 MR. GERVAIS: Okay.

40
41 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: When they call for
42 proposals later is when we need to talk about that.
43 But that's a good issue to bring up and keep firmly
44 focused in our mind. But we could make a proposal to
45 the Board of Game and the Federal Subsistence Board to
46 close the sale of antlers for moose in Unit 24, 21 to
47 you can't sell moose antlers from those game management
48 units. There's places where you can sell bear skins
49 and there's places where you can't sell bear skins.

50

1 So the Board of Game and the Federal
2 Subsistence Board could make that as a regulation, but
3 that would have to be a whole proposal to the Board of
4 Game and to the Federal Subsistence Board, but that's
5 not at this meeting. So we'll put that on the agenda
6 -- it's a good discussion point, but it's not a good
7 point to be talking about it.

8

9

Karen.

10

11

12

MS. DEATHERAGE: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
Appreciate that clarification.

13

14

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16

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19

I did want to let you know that there
was a Proposal Number 13 at the Board of Game meeting
this last cycle for the Western Region that prohibited
the sale of antlers from moose harvested in Unit 18,
and that proposal did fail the Board of Game.

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21

22

23

24

We can find out a little more
information about why and the justification for that so
that you can have that available at a future meeting.
To understand where the Board's thoughts are on that.

25

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Thank you.

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CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Okay. That's good
to know.

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But go ahead, Tom.

MR. KRISKA: Just a little
clarification on that one. I'm not saying that they're
not allowed -- not to let them sell the horns. I'm
just saying that they're not cutting these horns like
they should be. They can sell them all they want, but
what they're doing is -- is you get a better dollar's
worth when you're not cutting the antlers. That's the
problem there.

That's all I want to say on that one.

CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Well, the cutting --
the antler thing is for the Koyukuk Controlled Use
Area. The rest of Unit 21B or anywhere else -- they
don't cut the antler.

MR. KRISKA: Oh. Oh, I see. Oh.

1 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: No. They're not
2 cutting antler over there.

3
4 MR. KRISKA: Okay.

5
6 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: They're only cutting
7 antler in the Koyukuk Controlled Use Area. That's
8 where the antler cutting thing is. That's the stretch
9 of the trophy value.

10
11 MR. KRISKA: Okay.

12
13 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: That's not the
14 subsistence hunt. That's not the draw permit.

15
16 MR. KRISKA: Oh. Oh, okay.

17
18 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: But I think we've
19 gone.....

20
21 MR. GERVAIS: Mr. Chair.

22
23 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Tim, one more
24 comment, but we've got a lot of stuff to do and we're
25 not going to keep -- this is not the time to be talking
26 about this.

27
28 Go ahead.

29
30 MR. GERVAIS: Okay. Karen has informed
31 me that there is.....

32
33 MS. DEATHERAGE: Maybe.

34
35 MR. GERVAIS:there is an active
36 Board of Game proposal in this cycle that is regarding
37 the sale of antlers.

38
39 MS. DEATHERAGE: Yeah, for cutting.

40
41 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: For this meeting.

42
43 MS. DEATHERAGE: I don't know if it's
44 for.....

45
46 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Glenn, come on up to
47 the mic. Go ahead, Glenn.

48
49 MS. DEATHERAGE: It's Proposal 108,

50

1 required trophy destruction of moose antlers.....

2

3 REPORTER: Karen. Karen, turn on your
4 mic.

5

6 MS. DEATHERAGE: Proposal No. 108.
7 Require trophy destruction of moose antlers taken from
8 Unit 21E, under RM836 and establish check stations.
9 This is a proposal that is on the list for the Council
10 to deliberate for the Board of Game.

11

12 One of the things you could do if the
13 Council chose to is to ask for an amendment to this
14 proposal to include other game management units if you
15 so choose.

16

17 Thank you.

18

19 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Do you have a
20 comment, Glenn.

21

22 MR. STOUT: Yeah, Mr. Chair. Glenn
23 Stout, Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

24

25 Just to correct something, the RM834
26 permit also requires antler destruction and that
27 includes all the lower portion of 21 Bravo.

28

29 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Oh, really.

30

31 MR. STOUT: And all of 21D and 24D.
32 The difference is that Tommy's talking about there is
33 under the Federal and State regs -- the Federal reg
34 says that you will use the State permit, which is the
35 RM834. So under the hunt conditions of that permit you
36 would be required to cut antlers. But it's from that
37 26th to the October 1st, it's a Federal permit.

38

39 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Uh-huh.

40

41 MR. STOUT: During that portion of the
42 hunt at the end of the season it's not required to have
43 antler destruction.

44

45 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: So we can make that
46 proposal also. And.....

47

48 MR. HONEA: Last comment.

49

50

1 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Go ahead, Don.

2

3 MR. HONEA: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

4 Yeah. Last comment here.

5

6 I don't see any confusion. RM834 --
7 whatever that he says, I could be out there. I could
8 harvest six moose, which is what somebody is doing.
9 And then they could -- and that's the general hunt,
10 September 5th to the 25th, and then I could go up to
11 the Nowitna and get another couple more not knowing
12 that, you know, not saying that I already harvested
13 this much. That is the problem. The lack of
14 enforcement of this thing.

15

16 And, you know, what I'm saying is maybe
17 in the future we will -- I'm just trying to find some
18 -- help me out here. I'm just trying to find some
19 method, some means to curb this.

20

21 Thank you. That's all.

22

23 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: I appreciate Glenn's
24 clarification. I was unaware that there's trophy
25 destruction in 21 Bravo.

26

27 For the future proposal, I think
28 something that the Council should think about is that
29 it make it not legal for proxy hunters to receive
30 antler from the proxy and they may not sell those.
31 That would eliminate the primary issue, is proxy
32 hunting going -- getting a lot of proxies and shooting
33 up a whole bunch of moose and receiving all the antler.

34

35 Would that address the issue.

36

37 Tim.

38

39 MR. GERVAIS: Potentially. When I was
40 making my report I realized there's pros and cons to
41 either side of the issue and what I really wanted was
42 to hear what your guys' opinion and experience is and
43 have you communicate with your communities or tribes
44 and come back.

45

46 So potentially that sounds reasonable
47 from my perspective, but does it meet the needs of
48 subsistence hunters in general. I mean one point, if
49 you're going to be a proxy hunter for an elder, you're

50

1 going to spend whatever, \$100 to \$300 on fuel. You're
2 not going to ask an elder to give you \$300 to do your
3 hunt, so maybe the sale of the antler is helpful, but I
4 don't -- I'm just -- at this point I'm not saying
5 what's correct or not, but what you're saying is, would
6 definitely cull the practice. So it would meet that.
7 I just don't know what the -- that there's potential
8 down side of making it illegal.
9

10 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: It's something to
11 consider and deliberate for a future proposal. When
12 the call for proposals for State and Federal proposals,
13 then we discuss this whole issue. But right now, we're
14 just blowing smoke and we're wasting time.
15

16 So we need to move on in this agenda.
17

18 So we're two, it won't go into this
19 part of the agenda because it's just not -- there's no
20 more discussion on it, we've spent a lot of time on it.
21 It is an issue, I identify this as an issue but there's
22 ways that that can be identified. One would be that we
23 make a Federal proposal to eliminate -- have antler
24 destruction in the Federal season in 21B -- would be
25 one of the proposals. Then a statewide proposal to
26 address that issue.
27

28 We're coming to public and tribal
29 comments.
30

31 PJ, do you want to come up to the mic
32 there and give some comments to the Council.
33

34 MR. SIMON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
35 Members of the Board. My name is Pollock Simon,
36 Junior. My Athabascan name is (In Athabascan). It
37 means his arrow doesn't miss. I'm from Allakaket,
38 Galena.
39

40 I want to say a few comments today
41 about sheep season in the Brooks Range. And I
42 conversed with my dad, Pollock Simon, Senior. For the
43 record, that's my dad right there. Jack Reakoff,
44 Chairman, we've chatted quite a bit. We share the same
45 interest in conservation of our renewable resources in
46 the Brooks Range. And today one of the topics I'll
47 talk about, Mr. Chairman, is the populations of Dall
48 sheep in the Brooks Range.
49
50

1 There's a lot of snow this year just
2 like last. A long, cold winter. And I believe by --
3 if this Board has any merit and power or sway in the
4 decision of the Alaska Board of Game proposals that we
5 weigh against -- the Board weighs against the extension
6 or starting of an archery only Dall sheep hunt. And I
7 say that with great earnest. I'm also a -- trying to
8 be a hunting guide, but also I'm a plumber. I'm a
9 construction worker -- a hunter. I go out there. I
10 hunt. I fish. I trap wolves, martin, wolverine. I
11 love it out there just like everybody else. But I
12 think if we open another season it's going to conflict
13 with local users.
14

15 As we understand, Mr. Chairman, there's
16 a lot of Alaska Native land up there. Doyon Limited
17 land in the Brooks Range. And to create something like
18 that it would be on their honor to harvest sheep on
19 Doyon Limited lands. We have transects on, townships
20 on both sides of the Haul Road deep into sheep country.
21 And I believe if we open up a season for sheep or
22 extend the season for sheep we're bypassing a time and
23 tested law or rules that has sustained these sheep
24 population over many years.
25

26 And I've been paying attention to the
27 Bering Sea, free of ice. The last couple of years --
28 two, three years we've got a lot of snow, I think from
29 snow saddles from the west coast.
30

31 April 13th I was 30 miles from
32 Anaktuvuk at 4,400 feet with a snowmachine with some
33 boys from Allakaket. We were trying to get fresh food
34 as our freezers had been depleted. We were looking for
35 sheep. We saw eight inches of snow at 4,400 feet where
36 usually there would be barren ground, windblown
37 grasses. We didn't see any sign of Dall sheep. We saw
38 maybe a little band tracks over in the other valley.
39 We did see a lot of lynx tracks and the thought did
40 come to our minds as wow, you know, maybe they're
41 eating carcasses or something.
42

43 I also hunt with the Allakaket and
44 Alatna boys, the Alatna River. That's a hunt that's
45 thousands of years old. And the Brooks Range, the John
46 River, Koyukuk River, my dad hunt the Wild River in his
47 younger days, Glacier River Valley. That's where
48 Allakaket people hunted for millennia.
49
50

1 I think extending Dall sheep seasons
2 will conflict with, what do you call it, recruitment.
3 I think the devastating winters that we had the last
4 two years is going to decimate the sheep population or
5 further decline the sheep population. And I believe
6 that there's equal access, saying that, there's got to
7 be a balance. It's like Allakaket. We live next to
8 Bettles. There is a ton of air transporters and guides
9 all these years. Our unwritten rule was don't take too
10 much. There will be nothing left.

11
12 And a few years ago I sat in on the
13 sheep hunters, Dall Sheep Hunters Working Group, and I
14 sat next to the Chairman of the Board of Game Ted
15 Spraker. There was an ocean of guides out there in
16 airplanes, Super Cubs, guiding agencies, transporters,
17 they were all yelling every time allocation or
18 whatever, you know, how much sheep's available for
19 guides. Everybody got in an uproar. And I turned to
20 Mr. Spraker, I said I'll just state the obvious here,
21 I'm Alaska Native. Then I said we can work together
22 Mr. Spraker with Alaska Natives or we can decimate
23 every single species in Alaska till there's nothing
24 left. And I said look at your constituency fighting
25 over a few sheep.

26
27 So I just made that point to him.
28 Working together is probably the greatest thing we've
29 done up to now and then we start opening more -- more
30 -- more openings for hunting any species. There's a
31 good balance right now.

32
33 And also the Kanuti, back home on the
34 Koyukuk River climate change has curtailed hunting. It
35 gets too hot in the fall time, the moose do not move
36 around until later in the season. The Koyukuk River
37 people, there's not a lot of us, we don't shoot 200
38 moose, 100 moose, 400 moose; we take what we need and
39 then we pass out to our people. We pass out food to
40 people who they don't have a mother, they don't have a
41 -- or they don't have a dad or they don't have both.
42 Tough people who are having a tough time in a tough
43 country.

44
45 And if I may, looking at the State
46 proposals, I hope that there's a controlled use area on
47 the Kaiyuh Flats. I think the Koyukuk River Controlled
48 Use Area that has really -- that has really protected
49 our moose for everybody. And that's created a safe
50

1 haven.

2

3

4 I talked to a gold miner from Tok and
5 quite frankly, Mr. Chairman, he told me thank God for
6 Federal in-holdings. Anywhere in the State it's a
7 free-for-all. Just a mass hunt. People going right,
8 left, caribou running back and forth, moose running
9 back and forth, he was saying thank God there's Federal
10 lands. So it's working with all our Federal
11 constituents sitting in the audience, thank you for
12 your protecting all of our resources.

13

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13 But there's a balance. Like I said,
14 it's got to be held. We can't open up the Haul Road
15 for vehicle use. That's going to decimate all of the
16 animals.

18 You think about it, Mr. Chairman, next
19 year we will have 5,000 to 7,000 more personnel at
20 Eielson Air Force Base. Nothing wrong with the
21 military. They have equal access to hunting, but
22 that's going to put more hunting pressure on all of us.
23 We will have to address that at some point.

25 I talked about the Kanuti Controlled
26 Use Area a few years ago. There were 70 bulls per 100
27 cows in the Kanuti River canyon. Last year we drove
28 through, there was not much moose and unfortunately
29 it's another tough winter this year. Really tough.
30 The calves are -- they're going to abandon their calves
31 or abort the unborn, that's what happens in a tough
32 winter. The wolves, they're eating pretty good right
33 now.

35 I talked about the Dalton Highway
36 Corridor Management area. I hope this Board strongly
37 opposes that. There's a good balance. The BLM lands
38 along that, correct me if I'm wrong, that's BLM lands,
39 Federal public lands. Tourists come here. They find
40 that. Taking a picture of a wolf, a moose, a bear just
41 as valuable as taking picture of nothing.

43 I talked about the sheep hunting
44 season. I hope that this Board weighs in on the
45 State's statutes of the Board process that don't have
46 -- we can't afford any more hunting seasons for Dall
47 sheep.

49 And I'll read something here that -- I

1 see my people here that are on the Board, but also I
2 see a lot of non-Native people. And here's something
3 Theodore Roosevelt wrote in 1902.

4
5 Here is your country. Cherish these
6 natural wonders. Cherish the natural resources.
7 Cherish the history and romance as a sacred heritage
8 for your children and your children's children. Do not
9 let selfish men or greedy interests skin your country
10 of its beauty, its riches or its romance.

11
12 That's one of the most profound things
13 I've read.

14
15 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Yes.

16
17 MR. SIMON: And just like our elders,
18 as Alaska Native people we take what we need. We don't
19 take much. We respect the law. But it seems every
20 year you almost have to have a lawyer to go out hunting
21 as an Alaska Native person trying to feed our family.
22 High levels of American standard English are fighting
23 against us in every little loophole or one word. I'm
24 not going to let that stop our access to our renewable
25 resources. As Alaska Native people and we've been
26 there for thousands of years, we're still there, and
27 we've worked well with the Federal and State agencies
28 and I think -- I firmly believe in my heart that if we
29 open up any more hunting seasons, extending hunting
30 seasons, it's going to decimate the populations.
31 They're already having enough -- a tough time here.

32
33 That's my testimony. I will take any
34 questions if you want and respect all that you do.

35
36 Thank you.

37
38 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Thanks so much for
39 your comments, PJ.

40
41 Questions for PJ, Council Members.

42
43 (No comments)

44
45 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Seeing none. Thanks
46 so much.

47
48 MR. SIMON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
49 Members of the Board.

50

1 MS. PELKOLA: Yes, I do.

2
3 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Oh. Go ahead,
4 Jenny.

5
6 MS. PELKOLA: I just want to thank you
7 for that report, PJ. I think it's very important that
8 we have our own people come to the mic and speak on our
9 behalf, too. We're all trying, you know, very hard to
10 help our people, too, and to obey the laws. And I
11 would like to see in the future where the State and the
12 Feds and our tribes get together and work harder in
13 trying to preserve our natural resources.

14
15 Thank you.

16
17 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Thanks, Jenny.

18
19 Tom.

20
21 MR. KRISKA: Yeah. Thank you, PJ, for
22 your comments and that. This really gave me something
23 to think about. And I wish there was more guys like
24 you, younger guys like you that came to this Board for
25 your testimony because now I'm thinking man, we're
26 going into Board of Game and I'm going to another
27 department here after this to kind of testify toward
28 the Board of Game and I'm sort of stuck in the middle
29 of a little bit of things that I'm going to have to do
30 some footwork before I even get there because of the
31 way some of the things that with the Middle Yukon
32 Advisor trying to put me up onto the Board of Game.

33
34 But like I said, I wish there was more
35 guys like you that would testify to this Board before
36 we go to the Board of Game because that's where it is,
37 and instead of con -- in the past we've had a little of
38 confusion and things, for me, and I really thank you
39 for that.

40
41 So I wish your -- you see your buddies
42 out there. We have another day tomorrow.

43
44 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: All right.

45
46 PJ.

47
48 MR. SIMON: Yes. Thank you very much,
49 Mr. Kriska, Mrs. Pelkola.

50

1 And I just want to say also that as
2 Alaska Natives we've worked well in the past with the
3 State. Area biologist Glenn Stout has IM program in
4 24B a few years ago and working -- it shows that you
5 were working with the tribes and we really supported
6 that project. It culled down the number of predators.
7 It did not wipe them out, but it dropped down the
8 number of predation on moose and moose calves and also
9 Dall sheep and caribou. So we've demonstrated that we
10 work well with State agencies. And I'd like to thank
11 the State of Alaska for that program also.

12
13 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Tim.

14
15 MR. GERVAIS: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
16 Thanks for your good testimony, PJ. Can you provide
17 the Council with some information on what the
18 subsistence harvesters in Allakaket are seeing
19 regarding salmon and whitefish?

20
21 MR. SIMON: Climate change, Mr.
22 Gervais.

23
24 MR. GERVAIS: Gervais.

25
26 MR. SIMON: Gervais. Has altered our
27 fishing schedule. I'm also -- my dad sitting right
28 here, he's 80 years old, God bless him, he's had dogs
29 for 65 years and I used to go up to the Alatna to purse
30 seine, to beach seine for whitefish -- five species of
31 cisco and I'd bring along a handful of boys. We'd go
32 out there and we'd catch 500, 600 in one scoop. We'd
33 save some for the hounds in wintertime, but we'd pass a
34 lot out for the elders.

35
36 In recent years the fall rains have
37 turned to sometimes all summer or all of August, so the
38 fish, the salmon swim underneath the -- the salmon swim
39 underneath the nets in the fall time. And when you --
40 late fall when all of the rivers are blown out, we
41 don't have those key eddys to beach seine. So that has
42 altered and made it tougher for our people, especially
43 with \$7.50 a gallon of gasoline.

44
45 A lot of people don't have jet boats
46 like I do at home, so they -- you know, when we say --
47 we joke around, well, this is a three prop trip. And
48 because you go and you stay on step as far as you can,
49 bang the hell out of your prop, switch it out and then
50

1 you save one good -- half good prop idling back down
2 with your catch.
3

4 And the salmon -- it's been hot. Look
5 at the 22 miles above Allakaket, there's the Henshaw
6 salmon weir. That used to be 300,000 chum and I think
7 last year it was 40,000, so something is going on. I
8 don't know if it's the smoltification process or it's
9 at the Henshaw or Area M fishery or in the ocean or the
10 rivers are getting too hot, but that's what we're
11 seeing. We're having a tougher time to put away
12 whitefish.
13

14 We don't get that good salmon. We get
15 salmon. We still eat it, but it's not as good as the
16 Kaltag salmon or Nulato salmon. You know, but we still
17 eat it. That's our food. We live in a remote area and
18 everything has to be flown in. And, you know, we
19 portion just like everybody else, our foods and when we
20 don't have enough it's a little tougher.
21

22 We get high waters in the fall, high
23 waters in the spring, and that has hampered our
24 abilities to live out our -- how we live.
25

26 MR. GERVAIS: Thank you.
27

28 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Don.
29

30 MR. HONEA: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Yeah.
31 PJ, I was just wondering, you know, and thank you for
32 that testimony. It's really good for somebody like
33 yourself to come up and -- because I know you've --
34 extensively you and your father hunted that area and
35 stuff.
36

37 And so I was just wondering is this --
38 is your -- you know, is this -- are we looking for --
39 would you like more restrictions on the Haul Road or
40 the corridor or something like that? Is that the
41 general thing here? Because, you know, I'm from Ruby
42 and I don't know what's happening in McGrath or
43 Allakaket or especially the Haul Road, and I'm just --
44 you know, the gist of your thing here is you're looking
45 for more maybe protection or something like that for
46 the Haul Road or for Kanuti or for the area in general.
47

48 Thank you.
49
50

1 MR. SIMON: Yes. Through the Chair to
2 Mr. Honea.

3
4 Yes. My personal stake in this is I
5 hunt the Haul Road a lot. I trap up there. My
6 grandfather William William died at 95. He lived along
7 the Jim River for 26 years prior to the Haul Road. So
8 it's conservation. There's other trappers. There's
9 non-Native trappers up there. We get along pretty
10 good. You know, we chat it up. We probably don't like
11 each other, but we wave at each other. So there's a
12 good balance.

13
14 I think just keeping it as it is is
15 probably the best thing. There's, you look up there,
16 you'll see a lot of the Asians that come here for the
17 hospitality industry, for Fairbanks, they want to see
18 wolves and moose and caribou and they take pictures.
19 They travel halfway across the globe to go up the Haul
20 Road to see these animals.

21
22 I go up there mainly just to hunt,
23 fish, and trap. Breathe the cold air of the deep
24 woods. And I wouldn't want that to change for anyone.
25 Alaska residents, Alaska Natives, I wouldn't want that
26 to change. I think conservation of renewal resources
27 is key.

28
29 And also I happen to be Vice-Chairman
30 at Doyon Limited, so one thing I know -- and I'm sure
31 the area biologists can relate to this, and the Federal
32 biologists, you go into something. You look at the top
33 line, you look at the bottom line, and that's our take
34 away at the end of the day. You manage, whether it's
35 money, renewable resources or people.

36
37 In managing our resources, that should
38 be the greatest thing we should do as Alaska residents.
39 Once a population gets so far down and beaten down,
40 models have shown an ecology of North American moose.
41 I read that whole book. Is it takes a long time for
42 moose populations to rebound after a tough winter,
43 predation, human harvest, all of the below and the
44 models have shown it takes forever for a population to
45 come back. With a lot of wolves, deep snow, it's going
46 to be tough on the renewable resources.

47
48 And I strongly urge this Board, with
49 our collective wisdom, to protect our renewable
50

1 resources.

2

3

Thank you, Mr. Honea.

4

5

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

6

7

CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: I appreciate your
8 comments on the Board of Game proposals that we will be
9 deliberating later on in this meeting.

10

11

My question for you as a Doyon board
12 member Vice-Chair, does Doyon take a position on any of
13 the Board of Game proposals that would affect their
14 lands?

15

16

MR. SIMON: Mr. Chairman, I think if we
17 bring this topic up to the 13 member board that it
18 would. We own 12 and a half million acres. We're the
19 fourth largest land owner in America. We own surface
20 and sub-surface rights. And we have equal -- we have
21 access under State law or Federal law and we have not
22 looked at this.

23

24

I understand there's Doyon in-holdings
25 between Bettles and Pump 5. I know there's in-holdings
26 on both sides of Coldfoot and Wiseman. So we have not
27 yet looked at this. I can't make a -- without talking
28 to the board of directors I can't make a statement.
29 But just a generalized comment that it hasn't been
30 discussed, but it probably can or it should in the
31 future.

32

33

CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Okay. This is my
34 personal question about whether -- and I think that
35 would have quite a bit of weight as far as regarding
36 the various proposals that may affect Board of -- Doyon
37 land by the Board of Game.

38

39

MR. SIMON: Yes. And if I may add that
40 a lot of Doyon shareholders, we have 20,122
41 shareholders, about 8 to 10,000 live here in the
42 Fairbanks area and a lot of them go up and hunt sheep
43 in the Doyon in-holdings, so that's why I urge the
44 State of Alaska not to extend any new season or archery
45 season because it -- I can't prove it, but there's a
46 lot of trespass. I'm not up there saying, hey, you
47 know, you're not a shareholder. You don't belong on
48 these lands. I'm just not there.

49

50

1 But I did go to Emma Dome this year and
2 on Doyon in-holdings and that was a 14-hour round trip
3 walk, and just on a personal note, one of the things on
4 the Koyukuk River for us is we go on a sheep hunt by
5 ourselves and we go up and we go in, we hunt, and we
6 walk back out. We go on a sheep hunt by ourselves.
7 That's a rite of passage. So that's what I did this
8 fall. It was a good hunt, beautiful area. Yeah. I'd
9 like to see it that way.

10

11 And like I said before, Mr. Chairman,
12 I'm also a hunting guide. And I recognize that, you
13 know, there's got to be a balance. I'll just keep
14 saying, balance, there's got to be that balance. If we
15 tip it too far to one side then we'll decimate
16 populations.

17

18 2015 there was 14,989 non-resident
19 hunters in Alaska. And this past year I think it's
20 over 20-something thousand. So you're going to see
21 more hunting pressure and I think sound management by
22 biologists who have a stake in the matter as Alaska
23 residents, as hunters of non-Native and Native people,
24 that we all have a stake in this, that if we don't
25 protect our resources we'll lose it all.

26

27 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

28

29 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Okay. Appreciate
30 your comments, PJ. Thanks for always coming to our
31 meetings.

32

33 Do we have any other public or tribal
34 comments.

35

36 (No comments)

37

38 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Any TCC comments.

39

40 (No comments)

41

42 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: None. Okay. All
43 right. Just asking.

44

45 Anybody else in the room from public
46 have comments.

47

48 (No comments)

49

50

1 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: So don't see
2 anybody. And I see 12:00 o'clock, Karen, should we
3 break for lunch?

4
5 MS. DEATHERAGE: I'm always good on
6 that one.

7
8 (Laughter)
9

10 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: So we can break for
11 lunch and come back at 1:00 o'clock on the record.
12 We've got a lot of agenda. This book and this agenda
13 doesn't look too big, but if we're looking at this book
14 here, this is included in this meeting, there's a lot
15 of Board of Game proposals that affect this region. So
16 we're going to break for lunch. We'll be back at 1:00
17 p.m.

18
19 (Off record)

20
21 (On record)

22
23 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: So we're going to
24 bring the meeting back to order. And don't know what
25 happened to Pollock and Goodwin, but it's after 1:00.
26 It's 1:10.

27
28 So the people on the phone are waiting.
29 Everybody's waiting, so we're into new business.
30 Fisheries Resource Monitoring Program. Wait a minute.
31 Oh, wait a minute. I'm looking at the wrong agenda.

32
33 Let's see. Okay. We're on WP20-36,
34 37, right. Okay. Wrong agenda and that's Lisa. Are
35 you on the phone?

36
37 MS. MAAS: Yes. This is Lisa.

38
39 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Okay. You can go
40 ahead with your presentation.

41
42 MS. MAAS: All right. Thanks, Mr.
43 Chair, Members of the Council. For the record, my name
44 is Lisa Maas. I'm a wildlife biologist in the Office
45 of Subsistence Management. And you all should have two
46 pieces of paper in front of you. One that says
47 clarification on the Western Interior Council's
48 recommendation on 20-36 and the other a map.

49
50

1 Do you guys have both those pieces of
2 paper.

3
4 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: We do have them. Go
5 ahead.

6
7 MS. MAAS: Okay. All right. So first
8 off, on 20-36 the Council considered this proposal at
9 their meeting in the fall, but you all did not
10 explicitly consider the requirement for a State
11 registration permit in the Koyukuk Controlled Use Area.
12 So just, you know, for full -- make sure, you know,
13 we're completely clear on the Council's recommendation
14 for that part of the proposal I wanted to bring it to
15 the attention of you all now.

16
17 So basically as of now, you know,
18 hunters under Federal regulations can just use a
19 harvest ticket in that Koyukuk Controlled Use Area and
20 this part of the proposal would require the use of a
21 State registration permit. And the proponent who was
22 the Koyukuk/Nowitna/Innoko National Wildlife Refuge
23 states that requiring a State registration permit
24 simplifies regulations by aligning State and Federal
25 permitting and reporting requirements. And it also
26 provides a reliable way for users to obtain permits and
27 report harvests.

28
29 So that's kind of the rationale behind
30 that requirement of the State registration permit.

31
32 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Okay. Understood.

33
34 And so any questions about what the --
35 we need a motion to amend the language for Proposal
36 WP20-36. So this would align with State regulations.

37
38 MR. GERVAIS: So moved.

39
40 MS. PELKOLA: So moved.

41
42 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Moved by Tim.
43 Seconded by Jenny.

44
45 Discussion. I feel this is completely
46 warranted. A mis-sight by the Council at our fall
47 meeting and appreciate you pointing this out to us.

48
49 And any discussion on the proposal.

50

1 Tom.

2

3 MR. KRISKA: Yeah. This proposal --
4 this is for the hunt or the -- the hunt. On this --
5 this one right here -- okay.

6

7 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: This was basically
8 your proposal that we were deliberating in the fall and
9 we overlooked that there's a State registration permit
10 in there.

11

12 MR. KRISKA: Okay.

13

14 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: So this would align
15 with the State.

16

17 MR. KRISKA: Right.

18

19 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Using the State
20 registration permit.

21

22 MR. KRISKA: Okay. Okay. Yeah. So
23 that's -- we were just thinking if we could have moved
24 that date back to like November. Is that what you're
25 talking about. To move the date of the hunt back to
26 around the November area, the first part of December
27 rather than having it in the March. Because the way
28 the hunt is, is you're shooting the moose in March, the
29 winter is almost over. So what's the -- you know, you
30 don't have the -- you don't -- you're not using that.
31 What we wanted to do was have the meat during the
32 winter months rather than having it in the spring.

33

34 MS. MAAS: Through the Chair.

35

36 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Go ahead, Lisa.

37

38 MS. MAAS: Yeah. So, Tommy, that part
39 of the proposal was considered by the Council at its
40 fall meeting.

41

42 MR. KRISKA: Okay.

43

44 MS. MAAS: The only issue that the
45 Council is discussing right now is the State
46 registration permit in the Koyukuk Controlled Use Area.

47

48 MR. KRISKA: Okay. I see it.

49

50

1 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: So we did discuss
2 the full component of the.....
3

4 MR. KRISKA: Okay.
5

6 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF:of the
7 proposal. And this is just how -- what kind of piece
8 of paper the hunters are supposed to have when they're
9 hunting.
10

11 MR. KRISKA: Okay. Okay.
12

13 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Which is using the
14 State registration permit.
15

16 MR. KRISKA: Yep. Fine with me.
17

18 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: And so we have a
19 redundant proposal before the Board of Game basically
20 for the early winter component also.
21

22 MR. KRISKA: Okay.
23

24 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: So.....
25

26 MR. HONEA: Mr. Chair.
27

28 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Oh, go ahead, Don.
29

30 MR. HONEA: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
31

32 I was -- I guess that the issue here to
33 me, correct me if I'm wrong, that the winter hunt
34 that's on paper now has to be resubmitted on a yearly
35 basis.
36

37 Is that correct, Lisa? And so is that
38 what we're looking at?
39

40 MS. MAAS: Yeah. So Don, all
41 antlerless moose seasons under the State have to be re-
42 authorized each year by the Board of Game, but the
43 issue right now is only about requiring the State
44 registration permit in the Koyukuk Controlled Use Area.
45

46 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: So is that clear to
47 the Council. Basically it aligns us. A housekeeping
48 thing to align with State regulations that are in
49 place.
50

1 MR. KRISKA: Yeah.

2
3 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Any further
4 discussion.

5
6 (No comments)

7
8 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Do we have a
9 question.

10
11 MS. PELKOLA: Question.

12
13 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Question's called by
14 Jenny. Those in favor of amending the language for
15 Proposal WP20-36 as presented in yellow before the
16 Council and delineated by map, signify it by saying
17 aye.

18
19 IN UNISON: Aye.

20
21 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Opposed, same sign.

22
23 (No opposing votes)

24
25 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: So thanks so much,
26 Lisa.

27
28 MS. MAAS: Okay. Yeah. Thanks, Mr.
29 Chair.

30
31 So the other part for the 36, 37 update
32 is if you look at the map, and I'm sure you recall in
33 the fall you modified the December hunt area for Unit
34 21B and we didn't have, you know, great maps at the
35 meeting, so you just kind of gave a general
36 description. And so since then I've had time to
37 actually come up with the full hunt area descriptor, so
38 that's what this map delineates. Is that -- I guess
39 it's not cross-hatched, but just the, you know, black
40 lined area is in that -- in writing it says that
41 portion of Unit 21D southeast of the Yukon River and
42 south of and including the Kaiyuh Slough and Goring
43 Creek drainages.

44
45 I think -- I just wanted to make it
46 clear with the Council like that's the complete hunt
47 area descriptor that delineates the area that would
48 only be open during the December portion of the hunt.

49
50

1 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Yes, that's -- I
2 appreciate you.....

3
4 MS. MAAS: 21D.

5
6 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF:presenting this
7 in map form because it was sort of a convoluted
8 description. And I appreciate your drawing this all
9 out onto the map. We wanted to eliminate the area
10 towards the Koyukuk and Galena upstream from Nulato
11 because of the low bull/cow ratio in the northern
12 portion of the hunt area and for the December hunt.

13
14 So.....

15
16 MS. MAAS: Yeah. So it's up to you all
17 whether you want to, you know, like officially adopt
18 this hunt area descriptor or I mean I thought it could
19 also inform your comments on Proposal 59 to the Board
20 of Game. And then, you know, I'll present it to the
21 Federal Subsistence Board in April. You kind of have a
22 full hunt area descriptor that we know exactly where
23 you're talking about versus the general area.

24
25 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Okay. The Chair
26 will entertain a motion to adopt the map as presented,
27 which delineates our language from our fall October
28 meeting in McGrath.

29
30 MR. HONEA: Second.

31
32 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Moved by Tim.
33 Seconded by Don.

34
35 Or did you move?

36
37 MR. HONEA: Yes.

38
39 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Moved by Don?

40
41 MR. GERVAIS: Yeah. I'll move. But
42 I've got a question after we get it on the table.

43
44 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Okay. Discussion.

45
46 Go ahead.

47
48 MR. GERVAIS: So do we want the map to
49 just be hash marked on the Federal lands and not have

50

1 hash marks on the State land.

2

3 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: It's the area that
4 would coincide with the State hunt. So if the Board of
5 Game adopts the fall component. So that would -- and
6 they adopt this map here also. So this actually
7 applies to the State and the Federal proposal. That's
8 their co-proposals before both regulatory boards.

9

10 MR. GERVAIS: All right. Then it's
11 good as it is.

12

13 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Okay. Any
14 discussion on the map.

15

16 Look good to you, Tom?

17

18 MR. KRISKA: Uh-huh. Yes. Question.

19

20 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Question's called.
21 Those in favor of adopting the map for presenting to
22 the State Board of Game and the Federal Subsistence
23 Board, signify it by saying aye.

24

25 IN UNISON: Aye.

26

27 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Opposed, same sign.

28

29 (No opposing votes)

30

31 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: I appreciate
32 clarification there, Lisa. Anything else?

33

34 MS. MAAS: No. That's all.

35

36 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Okay.

37

38 MS. MAAS: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

39

40 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: All right. Thanks
41 so much.

42

43 So we're moving down in the agenda to
44 new business. Alaska Board of Game proposal
45 deliberation, which is quite an involved -- oh. That's
46 first.

47

48 Are we going to do the Fisheries
49 Monitoring as B or are we going to do the State

50

1 proposals first?

2

3 MS. DEATHERAGE: State proposals, then
4 the fisheries proposals.

5

6 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Okay.

7

8 MS. DEATHERAGE: Okay. If that's.....

9

10 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Well, the State
11 proposals are going to take like a long time.

12

13 MS. DEATHERAGE: That's why we need to
14 get it over with.

15

16 (Laughter)

17

18 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Okay. So we can do
19 that.

20

21 And so we're going to move into the --
22 that would be this, this cheat sheet here.

23

24 Karen.

25

26 MS. DEATHERAGE: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
27 This is Karen Deatherage.

28

29 The first thing I'm going to have to
30 ask you to do -- if you wish. I've got a PowerPoint in
31 the back that -- that you do have the information on.
32 First of all, this sheet that has nearly 60 proposals
33 on it, there's copies back in the back on the table if
34 you need some. And then there's also in everybody's
35 packet a copy of a grid that shows where the Koyukuk,
36 the GASH, the Middle Yukon, and the OSM and the McGrath
37 AC's all voted, how they voted on these proposals at
38 their recent meetings, just to give you an idea of who
39 supported and who opposed them. So it might be helpful
40 to you during your deliberations.

41

42 And again you can either move from
43 there and kind of look this way, if you'd like. And so
44 that people can see on the Board.

45

46 I'm going to type the positions and the
47 justifications right on the sheet to make sure it's
48 clear.

49

50

1 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Okay.

2

3 MS. DEATHERAGE: Okay.

4

5 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: So I need a working
6 surface. I'll just stay right here.

7

8 MS. DEATHERAGE: Okay.

9

10 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: And then.....

11

12 MS. DEATHERAGE: You've got the
13 information in front of you.

14

15 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Okay. So we're
16 going to work.....

17

18 MS. DEATHERAGE: But your head's in the
19 way.

20

21 (Laughter)

22

23 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Let me slide --
24 let's slide over just a tiny bit.

25

26 MS. DEATHERAGE: I think you're good.
27 Okay. Yeah. You're good.

28

29 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: We can't read.

30

31 MS. DEATHERAGE: I'll fix it.

32

33 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: How's that.

34

35 MS. DEATHERAGE: Okay.

36

37 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: So we're going to
38 slide over just a tiny bit here. I'll move that over.

39

40 And so we'll take them in chronological
41 order starting with Proposal 44.

42

43 And who's going to present the
44 proposals. We're working with the State of Alaska,
45 who's going to present the proposals.

46

47 MS. DEATHERAGE: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

48

49 Given the sheer number of proposals, my

50

1 recommendation is I certainly would be happy to read
2 out what the proposal is and then perhaps ask the
3 Council members to look at the positions taken by the
4 AC's and the OSM. And if there's any specific
5 questions about why the AC or the OSM may have
6 supported or opposed these proposals, I can take a
7 couple of minutes and read that to you.

8

9

CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Uh-huh.

10

11

12

13

14

MS. DEATHERAGE: As far as any analyses
or anything like that, we don't have any of that
information because these are Board of Game proposals.

15

16

Lisa, are you still on the phone?

17

18

(No comment)

19

20

21

22

23

MS. DEATHERAGE: We also have Glenn
Stout and some other folks available to answer any
specific questions that you might have from Fish and
Game on these proposals if you're interested.

24

25

CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Is.....

26

27

MS. DEATHERAGE: I think Joshua.....

28

29

CHAIRMAN REAKOFF:Josh here?

30

31

32

MS. DEATHERAGE: He was going to be on
the phone.

33

34

Joshua, are you on the phone?

35

36

(No comment)

37

38

CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Okay.

39

40

41

42

MS. DEATHERAGE: Because he was going
to be available as well, according to Fish and Game.
So maybe Josh will join us later.

43

44

Thanks.

45

46

CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Okay. So.....

47

48

MR. HONEA: Mr. Chair.

49

50

CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Oh. Don.

1 MR. HONEA: Yeah, Mr. Chair.

2

3 On Proposal 44, what it's asking for is
4 for a fall season. We already have a spring and a
5 summer season on there. And speaking to Jim Simon, he
6 was going to clarify why this is on there and not
7 brought before -- why it's a hunting and fishing issue
8 and not brought before a group like the Migratory Bird
9 Commission.

10

11 Jim is not here, so if you would like
12 to hold off on that one and maybe he could clarify it,
13 but I have no problem with it myself.

14

15 Thank you.

16

17 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Okay. We'll table
18 that Proposal 44 until we get -- if we have Jim Simon,
19 which would have further information on that.

20

21 The next proposal would be Proposal 45.
22 Prohibit the undulant urine as scent lures. And that's
23 Proposal 45.

24

25 Does everybody have the proposal book.
26 I brought my book.

27

28 And did you have a book also there,
29 Tim? Or.....

30

31 MR. GERVAIS: No. But I can look it
32 up.

33

34 MS. DEATHERAGE: Mr. Chair. In
35 everybody's.....

36

37 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: No. No. No, it
38 would be this book. It's in the proposal book. The
39 purple book.

40

41 MR. HONEA: Okay.

42

43 MS. DEATHERAGE: There are several
44 copies on the table of these specific proposals
45 outlined on the table for people to share. I did send
46 it to everybody via email, but this is what we have
47 available at the meeting to share. They're pretty
48 thick.

49

50

1 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Okay. Well, I got
2 my book.

3
4 MS. DEATHERAGE: Jenny I think has one
5 in her hand. And maybe you could share that or Jack
6 could share his book with Jenny and she could give
7 those guys one there.

8
9 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Do you have a book,
10 Tom?

11
12 MR. KRISKA: Yeah.

13
14 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: You've got a book?

15
16 MS. PELKOLA: Yeah.

17
18 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: And Tim's got a book
19 over there.

20
21 MS. DEATHERAGE: Okay.

22
23 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Do you need the
24 proposals. Oh, you're going to share over there.

25
26 MR. HONEA: Uh-huh.

27
28 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Yeah. So we're good
29 here. I got my book.

30
31 And so this proposal would prohibit the
32 use of moose, caribou, reindeer urine as scent lure in
33 Interior and Eastern Arctic Region as well. GASH would
34 like to propose adding moose urine and reindeer urine
35 to the list of banned scent lures used in hunting in
36 Interior and Eastern Arctic Region. This should be
37 statewide proposal, but as Region 3 meeting this may
38 help prevent the introduction of chronic wasting
39 diseases to Alaska.

40
41 What issue would you like. The chronic
42 wasting disease is destroying the cervid populations in
43 the Lower 48 and Canada and this is a disease we do not
44 want in Alaska, which is a prionic disease. The
45 disease can be transmitted through urine, which is
46 commonly used as a scent lure. Commercial moose urine
47 is available for sale in addition to other cervid urine
48 lures.

49
50

1 This is a prionic thing. This is a
2 errant protein that cannot be destroyed by cooking or
3 any other way. This is something we do not want to get
4 in Alaska because it causes a neurological impairment
5 and the animals basically waste away and die.

6
7 So I'm supportive of this proposal.
8 And so is anybody on the phone.

9
10 (No comments)

11
12 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Let's see. How are
13 we going to do this. I presented the proposal.
14 Reports on the Board consultation with tribes and ANCSA
15 corporations. Wasn't there any tribal consultation for
16 these proposals.

17
18 Karen.

19
20 MS. DEATHERAGE: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
21 My recommendation is that because these are Board of
22 Game proposals and outside the jurisdiction of the
23 Federal Subsistence Board, we don't really need to
24 follow the protocol for regular Federal wildlife
25 proposals.

26
27 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Okay.

28
29 MS. DEATHERAGE: However, it's up to
30 the Chair's discretion to see if there are any public
31 comments from people on the phone or here in the room
32 that might help the Council make this decision.

33
34 Thank you.

35
36 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: So is there anybody
37 in the room who would like to comment to this proposal.

38
39 (No comments)

40
41 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Is there anybody on
42 the phone who would like to comment to the proposal.

43
44 (No comments)

45
46 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Public comments.

47
48 (No comments)

49
50

1 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Agency comments.

2

3 (No comments)

4

5 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Does the Department
6 of Fish and Game have a position on this proposal.

7

8 (No comments)

9

10 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Have you discussed
11 this proposal, Glenn or -- 45?

12

13 MR. STOUT: I think Mark is on the
14 phone.

15

16 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Oh, Mark.

17

18 Mark, are you on the phone? Burch?

19

20 MR. BURCH: Mr. Chair, I am on the
21 phone. I don't have any specific comment at this time.

22

23 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Okay.

24

25 MR. BURCH: Thank you.

26

27 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: So this is a GASH
28 proposal, Grayling, Anvik, Shageluk, Holy Cross. And
29 the concern is introduction of a disease in -- this
30 type of disease into Alaska. And just like goats in
31 mountainous country conveying pasteurellas and diseases
32 to Dall sheep this would preclude introducing a prionic
33 disease into Alaska.

34

35 And so is there any Council Members
36 feelings on this.

37

38 MR. HONEA: Yeah.

39

40 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Go ahead, Don.

41

42 MR. HONEA: Thank you, Mr. Chair. We
43 had discussed this at the Ruby AC and it's something
44 that's not customarily or traditionally used and so I'm
45 going to vote no on it. And I -- you know, it goes
46 without saying that to use any kind of lure on that --
47 even though it's not within our region -- I mean it is
48 within our region, but it's not something that we do,
49 so we voted no on it.

50

1 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: You voted -- you
2 opposed -- you supported the proposal opposing the use
3 of this.

4
5 MR. HONEA: Well, no. I mean we
6 supported it.

7
8 MS. DEATHERAGE: Yes.

9
10 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Okay. Right.
11 Right. So I'm supportive of the proposal. I feel --
12 I've read about prionic diseases and how dangerous they
13 are and we do not want to introduce these by bringing
14 -- that's how that's conveyed is through feces and
15 urine, is my understanding.

16
17 Is that correct, Sara?

18
19 MS. LONGSON: Which one?

20
21 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Prionic diseases are
22 conveyed through urine and feces?

23
24 MS. LONGSON: Those are two -- yeah.
25 Those are the.....

26
27 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: The two vectors.

28
29 MS. LONGSON: Yep.

30
31 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: So yes.

32
33 So I'm fully supportive of Proposal 45.

34
35 Discussion.

36
37 Karen.

38
39 MS. DEATHERAGE: Mr. Chair, would you
40 be interested in me reading the OSM position on any of
41 these proposals?

42
43 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Oh, sure. Yes.

44
45 MS. DEATHERAGE: Because they made an
46 important point about this one.

47
48 The OSM was neutral on this proposal.
49 They support preventing the transmission of disease to
50

1 maintain healthy wildlife populations; however, to be
2 truly effective a similar proposal needs to be
3 submitted to the Federal Subsistence Board.

4

5 Thank you.

6

7 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Uh-huh. And we
8 should make note in the next cycle to do exactly that.

9

10 So further discussion on the proposal.

11

12 (No comments)

13

14 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: It's a pretty clear
15 and straightforward proposal.

16

17 MR. HONEA: Call for the question.

18

19 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Question's called.

20

21 Those in favor of Board of Game
22 Proposal 45 to make it unlawful to use moose and other
23 urines in Alaska for a scent, signify it by saying aye.

24

25 IN UNISON: Aye.

26

27 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Those opposed, same
28 sign.

29

30 (No opposing votes)

31

32 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: The proposal is
33 adopted -- supported.

34

35 So next Proposal 46, intensive
36 management for bears. Establish intensive management
37 program for bears across the Interior and Eastern
38 Arctic Region as follows. Under intensive management
39 for other preys harvested by hunters in other areas.
40 Commission of Alaska Department of Fish and Game may
41 authorize predation control to recover depleted prey
42 populations under Alaska State Statute whatever. And
43 the Board of Game may adopt regulations for similar
44 purposes under Alaska Statute 16.05.255. Either of
45 these authorities are listed under the programs.

46

47 We Alaskan residents, et cetera, et
48 cetera. We Alaskan residents are concerned for the
49 safety of our children and food security and our

50

1 wildlife resources and sustainability of future uses.
2 We would like to recommend that the Alaska Board of
3 Game adopt appropriate regulations to begin intensive
4 management of bears across the State for both brown and
5 black bears.

6
7 I will leave it up to your legal teams
8 and division staff. I recommend that each unit give
9 recommendations and modifications in assistance with
10 the language to ensure that the needs are being
11 appropriately met through the State for predator
12 control in intensive management areas. Areas of more
13 intensive concern are rural areas with higher
14 subsistence economies.

15
16 I would also like to request that you
17 allow local residents to help with this management
18 because we know that the band for labor outweighs the
19 number of employees and we're to help your discretion
20 and volunteers. The goal is to reduce predation rates,
21 allow humans to take more ungulates while maintaining
22 sustainable populations of predators. There has been
23 an elevated issue heard throughout the State of Alaska
24 -- state of bears becoming problems with specifically
25 brown bears.

26
27 A discussion has to be brought about
28 during the multiple Advisory Committee meetings,
29 Federal Subsistence Regional Council meetings, and the
30 Federal Subsistence Board. These programs are
31 designated to reduce predation by wolves and bears and
32 increase moose, caribou and deer that are needed for
33 resource of Alaska.

34
35 Other species should be added to this
36 is salmon, if possible. In all areas where are salmon
37 used as a main diet these ungulates are now in --
38 ungulates are in search of food. Predators. That
39 would be the predators -- bears. Because of the
40 declining salmon in spawning grounds.

41
42 Bears are moving into urban areas and
43 rural communities and putting human lives at risk and
44 the personal harvest to wanton waste.

45
46 Basically the proponent, Alissa Rogers,
47 which is Chair of the YKDelta RAC is wanting to
48 establish an intensive management program for bears
49 across the Eastern Interior and Eastern Arctic Regions.

50

1 And the -- let's see here. 46.

2

3 Did the OSM take a position, Karen?

4

5 MS. DEATHERAGE: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

6

7 If you look at the grid it doesn't
8 appear that any of the AC's or OSM took a position on
9 Proposals number 46 through 50. The reason this may
10 have happened is because these are looking at Interior
11 and Eastern Arctic Regions as a whole, so you can
12 imagine these issues would be quite complex. Because
13 when we generally look at issues like predation control
14 and non-resident hunting and things like that, you look
15 at them by unit numbers.

16

17 And so the Council may consider, if
18 this conversation gets complex on all of these, to put
19 these towards the end or they may consider to go ahead
20 and discuss them now, but none of the AC's or the OSM
21 took a position on these that I'm aware of.

22

23 Don Honea may have a different
24 perspective from the Ruby AC because I didn't have that
25 information.

26

27 Thank you.

28

29 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: I see.

30

31 MS. DEATHERAGE: You see.

32

33 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: So.....

34

35 MR. GERVAIS: Jack, can I.....

36

37 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Go ahead, Tim.

38

39 MR. GERVAIS:make a motion to
40 adopt 46.

41

42 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Sure. You can make
43 a motion if you would like.

44

45 MR. GERVAIS: Okay. I make a motion to
46 adopt Proposal 46.

47

48 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: As written?

49

50

1 MR. GERVAIS: Yes.

2

3 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Okay. Do we have a
4 second to that.

5

6 MR. SIMON: Second.

7

8 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Seconded by Pollock.
9 Discussion on -- as presented in many meetings,
10 including the last Koyukuk River Advisory Committee
11 meeting, bear predation is one of the major
12 suppressions of the moose population. You know, wolves
13 eat moose, but bears kill lots of moose calves and
14 black and brown bears are a major predation factor on
15 moose.

16

17 So this would support the idea of --
18 and it would give the Board of Game a record that the
19 Western Interior Council is concerned about the bear
20 population numbers pressing moose population. I'm
21 talking for justification.

22

23 Do we got comments.

24

25 MR. GERVAIS: Yeah. Thank you, Mr.
26 Chair.

27

28 As Karen indicated, this proposal is
29 really generic in what it's stating and I have no idea
30 what the bear population in Eastern Arctic Region is so
31 I can't support or oppose any kind of intensive
32 management per there. I know in Unit 21 we have a
33 shortage of black bears. This proposal doesn't make a
34 distinction between grizzlies or black bears.

35

36 The proponent states that she is
37 concerned with wildlife resources and food availability
38 and bears, both grizzly and black bears represent both
39 wildlife resources and food, so I'm not aware of any
40 communities that are having a problem with bears
41 attacking a community to make a public safety thing.

42

43 So because this proposal is written so
44 broadly, it doesn't specify what regions, doesn't
45 specify what types of bears and doesn't match up with
46 my experience on the current bear populations in the
47 region that I'm familiar with, I can't support it. And
48 I would request the Council doesn't support it either.

49

50

1 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: The second paragraph
2 says both brown and black bear. So you've identified
3 the issue that Unit 24 -- the black bear portion --
4 southern portion of Unit 24 and 20 -- portions of 21
5 have low numbers of black bears. And a lot of members
6 have commented that brown bears are digging those black
7 bears out of dens and preying on the black bears.

8
9 So it is a broad brush. And you're
10 correct.

11
12 There are areas where black and brown
13 bears are extremely high and especially brown bears.
14 And it was discussed in the Koyukuk River about the
15 brown bear population being really high in the northern
16 part of Unit 24. But predator control is a -- that's a
17 -- you know, it is a real broad proposal. It should
18 have been more refined to specific areas that she was
19 talking about.

20
21 So I oppose the proposal primarily
22 because it doesn't actually delineate where this is
23 going to happen and it's too broad of a proposal. I'm
24 going to oppose the proposal, but I do think that there
25 are areas where it has merit.

26
27 MR. GERVAIS: Well, I would support any
28 Council member putting in substituted language if
29 there's a specific area they want to go with an
30 intensive management program.

31
32 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Yeah.

33
34 MR. GERVAIS: But I certainly can't
35 support an intensive management program for any kind of
36 bear in the Interior Eastern Arctic Region. That's not
37 appropriate.

38
39 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: It would have to be
40 a completely different proposal. When they had
41 intensive management in Unit 24B, brown bears and bears
42 were off the table as far as intensive management.
43 Only wolves were in the intensive management program,
44 whereas bears were the primary suppressor of the moose
45 population in 24B.

46
47 So this has to be a completely
48 different, new proposal is what it actually has to be.
49 So discussing that proposal to that point.

50

1 Any further comments.

2

3

Tom.

4

5

6 MR. KRISKA: I have a comment on that
7 one. Some of the proposal -- it would help, like you
8 said, in some areas. And around the Huslia Koyukuk
9 area this would help, but then I don't want to
10 jeopardize other areas that it would affect, so that's
11 -- like you said, I think it needed to be rewritten or
12 revisited.

12

13

14

CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: It would have to be
specific. You know, like in Huslia Koyukuk area they
need to have brown bear reduction.

15

16

17

MR. KRISKA: Yep. Yep.

18

19

20

CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: That's what they
need to have.

21

22

MR. KRISKA: Not the black bear.

23

24

25

26

27

28

CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: But up there by
Hughes on the Upper Koyukuk black bear numbers are
really low. Hugh Bifelt told us at a meeting that he
went to 56 black bear dens and he only found two live
ones.

29

30

31

MR. KRISKA: Yep.

32

33

34

35

CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: So the numbers of
black bears in certain portions of the unit are really
low. But this is kind of a -- something that needs to
be delineated to specific areas.

36

37

38

39

So we have a proposal in our proposals
here to increase the bag limit at Unit 24 to two brown
bears.

40

41

42

43

44

45

46

47

48

49

MR. KRISKA: Yep. To tell you a little
story about many years ago when the grandpas regulate
this stuff themselves without any departments anywhere
doing this. They said back in those days, it was
probably 50 years ago they had these issues with the
brown bears, so they all got together and they walked
after the brown bears in the fall with four to six
inches of snow to get them and to get rid of them.

50

1 This one they followed for three days.
2 And in the three days, from the time they started after
3 it, they run across 11 black bear killed. The grizzly
4 bear just tore them all to holes, killed them and
5 buried them. So he killed 11 black bears in the three
6 days. So that's one of the things that in our area it
7 needs to be done, but then, you know, they want to pick
8 the other -- it needs to be a different proposal.

9
10 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: It does need to be a
11 different proposal and it has to be specific to
12 specific areas.

13
14 But I will remind the Council, for
15 those Council members that were there when Sidney
16 Huntington, right before he died at 100 years of age,
17 sat before this Council and he says you have to control
18 these brown bears, these grizzlies, they're going to
19 eat all the black bears, then they're going to eat all
20 the moose and they're going to control your lives.
21 That's a quote. He says they're going to control your
22 lives.

23
24 MR. KRISKA: Yep.

25
26 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: And he was trying to
27 talk the young guys into harvesting more of these brown
28 bears. That's what he was doing. When Sidney talked
29 everybody like listened.

30
31 MR. KRISKA: Yep.

32
33 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: He knew what he was
34 talking about.

35
36 But this proposal is way too big and
37 not specific as to which kind of bears. So that's
38 enough discussion with that one.

39
40 Those in -- got a question on Proposal
41 46.

42
43 MR. HONEA: Question.

44
45 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Question's called.

46
47 Those in favor of Proposal 46, signify
48 it by saying aye.

49
50

1 (No aye votes)

2

3 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Opposed, same sign.

4

5 IN UNISON: Aye.

6

7 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: So I think we can
8 kind of go over the -- pass over these proposals that
9 basically don't really affect the subsistence use.

10

11 Proposal 52. Establish a draw permit
12 for non-resident sheeps. That doesn't affect us. So I
13 don't feel that that should be visited by this Council.

14

15

16 Establish an archery only registration
17 hunt in Proposal 53.

18

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1 this proposal.

2

3 There's very hunters, non-resident
4 hunters that would climb sheep hills when they're 60.
5 I will. I do.

6

7 (Laughter)

8

9 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: But I don't hardly
10 run into many people half my age that can keep up with
11 me. But I'm kind of a fluke.

12

13 (Laughter)

14

15 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: But there's not very
16 many non-residents that actually go sheep hunting when
17 they're that age. So I don't feel it's a big issue
18 that this Council should spend a bunch of time on.

19

20 Establish a draw permit for sheep.
21 That's number 52. Establish an archery only
22 registration hunt for sheep.

23

24 Proposal 53. Let's look at that one.
25 And.....

26

27 MR. GERVAIS: I make a motion to adopt
28 Proposal 53.

29

30 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Yeah. This is a --
31 Tim makes a motion to adopt Proposal 53.

32

33 Do we have a second to that.

34

35 MS. PELKOLA: I'll second.

36

37 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Seconded by Jenny.

38

39 And so this is exactly what PJ was
40 discussing. That we don't -- there's no warrant to
41 increasing the amount of hunting opportunity for sheep
42 in the Brooks Range, and that would be Unit 24, 25, 26,
43 and 26B and 26C.

44

45 Sheep populations in the Brooks Range
46 have taken a real beating since 2012, '13. In the last
47 year Arctic Slope sheep populations are doing a little
48 better, but they had a huge decline in sheep population
49 in 26B and 20 -- basically we lost all of the lambs in

50

1 2013, all the yearlings. They hardly produced lambs
2 the next year. There is no room for expanding an
3 archery season August 1 to August 9. I am opposed to
4 the proposal.

5

6

Any other discussion.

7

8

Pollock.

9

10

MR. SIMON: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

11

We've been hunting sheep for generations. My
12 grandfather did and so did my father and I did and now
13 my sons are hunting. But there seems to be a decline
14 in sheep populations, if you go up John River and go up
15 Alatna River, they have to hike a long ways to find
16 sheep. So earlier my son was saying do not extend the
17 sheep hunting or increase for non-residents because
18 there isn't that much sheep.

19

20

Thank you, Mr. Chair.

21

22

CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Thanks, Pollock.

23

24

So further discussion on the pro.....

25

26

Don.

27

28

MR. HONEA: Yeah, Mr. Chair. Thank
29 you. I think -- you know, this is my opinion.

30

31

These ones about the sheep and stuff
32 and the actual taking of them -- it's interesting the
33 authors is the Bow Hunters Association or something.
34 You know, so I, myself as a Council member, I don't
35 know the take or whether it's better. I mean I just
36 don't know how close you can get to these. It seems
37 kind of -- you know, I respect your opinion more on
38 this than some of them -- whether you want to take them
39 out or not -- because I don't know anything about this.
40 And it's interesting.

41

42

So a question here. If it was bow
43 hunting only, then a rifle is out of the question. I
44 mean.....

45

46

CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Yeah. It's bow and
47 arrow only. Archery only, but it increases more
48 harvest opportunity. And so the sheep in the Brooks
49 Range -- maybe the Alaska Range, maybe the Wrangells

50

1 can tolerate because they hardly had no snow last year
2 whereas we go pounded in snow. Where all the snow went
3 is up there.

4
5 Our sheep have been taking a beating
6 for years and the sheep in the southern part of Alaska
7 -- they may have opportunity to have this season. But
8 not in the Brooks Range. And I am opposed to the
9 inclusion of all that area within the Brooks Range.
10 That's why I'm opposed to it. There's no more
11 opportunity. And especially on the Dalton Highway
12 corridor. We have intensive hunting there.

13
14 So do we have a question on this
15 proposal.

16
17 MR. KRISKA: Question.

18
19 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Question's called.

20
21 You had one more comment, Tim.

22
23 MR. GERVAIS: Yeah. I have a comment.

24
25 Yeah. What you're saying, Jack, is in
26 alignment with what you've been saying for the last
27 three years on tough winters for the sheep. And I
28 would oppose this proposal on the basis -- or
29 justification you said where the population can't
30 withstand an allocation of this sort for another season
31 at the time.

32
33 And also I respected PJ Simon's comment
34 that he doesn't feel the community of Allakaket would
35 be in support of having this additional hunting season
36 put in place.

37
38 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Thanks for those
39 comments.

40
41 Question's called.

42
43 Those in favor of Proposal 53, signify
44 by saying aye.

45
46 (No aye votes)

47
48 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Opposed, same sign.

49
50

1 IN UNISON: Aye.

2

3 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: So Proposal 54, re-
4 authorize the brown bear tag fee exemption in Units 12,
5 19, 20, 21, 24, 25, 26B, and 26C. This is an Alaska
6 Department of Fish and Game proposal. And the Koyukuk
7 River Advisory Committee supported that because there's
8 resident hunters would have to have \$25 tag and we have
9 lots of brown bears. And so we support resident
10 hunters not having to have the locking tag, the \$25 tag
11 before taking brown bear.

12

13 MR. HONEA: Motion to adopt.

14

15 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Motion to adopt
16 Proposal 54.

17

18 Do we have a second.

19

20 MR. SIMON: Second.

21

22 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Seconded by Pollock.

23

24 Those in favor of Proposal 54, signify
25 by saying aye.

26

27 IN UNISON: Aye.

28

29 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Opposed, same sign.

30

31 (No opposing votes)

32

33 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: So 56. So this is
34 Proposal 56. Establish a minimum distance requirement
35 for trapping around dwellings in the Interior Arctic
36 region as follows. No trapping within one mile of a
37 house, cabin, dwelling or mailbox.

38

39 I want there to be a regulation that
40 prohibits a trapper from setting traps within one mile
41 of any house, cabin or dwelling. I am tired of these
42 road hunters that set traps and catch dogs and cats
43 near our homestead and neighbors.

44

45 The Koyukuk River did not -- basically
46 they didn't look at this proposal, but the Council.....

47

48 MR. GERVAIS: Jack.

49

50

1 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Go ahead.

2

3 MR. GERVAIS: The Ruby AC took action
4 on it and opposed it.

5

6 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Okay.

7

8 MR. GERVAIS: Opposed the restriction
9 of the one-mile limit from house and dwelling.

10

11 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Okay. So Ruby's
12 actions aren't reflected here, but you were there, so
13 that's good. So Ruby opposed, the McGrath AC opposed,
14 and the GASH opposed. So with motions on the table --
15 do we have a motion on the table to adopt?

16

17 REPORTER: No.

18

19 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Not yet.

20

21 Do you make a motion to adopt?

22

23 MR. GERVAIS: A motion to adopt

24

25 Proposal 56.

26

27 MS. PELKOLA: Second.

28

29 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Seconded by Jenny.

30

31 MR. GERVAIS: May I make a comment, Mr.

32

33 Chair.

34

35 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Go ahead. Please

36

37 do.
38 MR. GERVAIS: Yeah. I find it's common
39 in our area 21B -- 21D for people to have their --
40 start trapping within -- well, in your yard or
41 immediately start your trap line right off the back
42 side of your trapping cabin or your place. So while I
43 understand the author's intent that they don't want
44 dogs and cats caught in the traps, which is a
45 reasonable thing to expect to a trapper -- the trappers
46 in those regions should be respectful of that or hope
47 they would, but for a lot of rural Alaska it's common
48 practice and certainly efficient to just start trapping
49 right out of your yard and not have to travel a mile
50 before you can start trapping.

51

1 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Thanks for those
2 comments.
3

4 A lot of old-timers put a martin trap
5 on the back of their cabin because if martin come to
6 your cabin and then they climb up on the cabin you
7 catch martin right off the back of the house. Trapping
8 cabins. This is a broad thing within a house or a
9 cabin. And it's refer -- they're talking about road
10 hunters or trappers. So this, again, is too broad of a
11 proposal. This does not -- maybe it's applicable in
12 Fairbanks or somewheres, but not the entire Interior
13 region.
14

15 Other comment, Tim, or.....
16

17 Go ahead.
18

19 MR. KRISKA: Yep. I think as well as
20 the -- one of the proposals we went through earlier,
21 this needs to be re-written itself because like you
22 said there's a lot of us that we trap right out our
23 door from our cabins. I mean you drive out to the
24 cabin 20 miles already. You're 20 miles from town and
25 then I have to go another mile to set a trap. I think
26 this thing needs -- this thing I think I should --
27 whoever wrote this -- or if they wrote it for the
28 village city limits. I'm not sure.
29

30 So that's my comment on that.
31

32 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Yeah. So it's --
33 basically the proposal is targeting road system
34 trappers and this is not applicable to the area
35 described in the proposal.
36

37 So further comments on the proposal.
38

39 (No comments)
40

41 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Do we have a
42 question.
43

44 MS. PELKOLA: Question.
45

46 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Question's called by
47 Jenny.
48

49 Those in favor of Proposal 56, signify
50

1 by saying aye.

2

3

IN UNISON: Aye.

4

5

CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Opposed, same sign.

6

7

(No opposing votes)

8

9

CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: So we're going to go
10 to Proposal.....

11

12

MS. PELKOLA: Did you miss 55?

13

14

15

16

17

CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Yeah. 55 is not on
our list here. Let's see. What is that. That's 12
and -- it's Unit 12 and 20.

18

19

20

21

22

23

So Proposal 57. Galena Management
Area. Okay. So this is Proposal 57 will allow
residents to take game from a boat under power in Unit
21, as follows. A motor driven boat may be used as
follows for residents of Unit 21.

24

25

26

What would you like the Board to address and
why.

27

28

29

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33

34

35

The Middle Yukon Advisory Committee
would like to allow residents to shoot from a boat
under power in Unit 21. AC believes that shooting
while under power helps keep the boat stable and also a
safety issue since turning the boat off completely
while you are flowing river is dangerous. The AC
believes harvest opportunities will be lost if they are
not allowed to shoot from a boat under power.

36

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So then we amended the language to

1 allow slow forward progress in the Koyukuk River
2 Advisory Committee's meeting. And I would like to
3 amend the proposal to -- if we're going to make a
4 motion to adopt, that it's with amended language for
5 slow forward progress.

6
7 MS. PELKOLA: I'll make a motion to
8 adopt the proposal.

9
10 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: As amended?

11
12 MS. PELKOLA: As amended.

13
14 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: By the Koyukuk River
15 Advisory Committee?

16
17 MS. PELKOLA: Yes.

18
19 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Okay. We have a
20 motion to adopt with amended language for slow forward
21 progress.

22
23 Do we have a second.

24
25 MR. SIMON: Second.

26
27 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Pollock.

28
29 MR. SIMON: Second.

30
31 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Seconded by Pollock.

32
33 Discussion on that.

34
35 Tim.

36
37 MR. GERVAIS: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

38
39 That's encouraging to hear that amended
40 language because as -- well, just for the record, I
41 believe the Ruby AC supported this proposal as written
42 in the book, with myself dissenting because -- at the
43 time I was dissenting because I've seen duck hunting
44 practice where people are driving down sloughs on step
45 with a shotgun hunter in the front of the boat and then
46 another person driving and they're racing up and down
47 the sloughs and shooting the ducks. And then coming
48 back 15 or 20 minutes later and trying to pick up the
49 ducks, like they're not even stopping to pick up the

50

1 ducks at the time. And so to me what happens is -- in
2 that situation it's just really -- so just not -- not
3 ethical hunting, in my opinion.
4

5 The one issue -- I like the Koyukuk
6 Advisory Committee's amendment other than is there any
7 way to -- slow forward progress seems like hard to
8 enforce or it could lead into this fast hunting where
9 just shooting a rifle or shotgun from any kind of
10 moving vehicle is always a compromise or is compromised
11 from correct shooting practice anyways just because
12 you're not on a stable platform.
13

14 I think what the Koyukuk amendment does
15 is good, it gets it to the point where they're just
16 trying to maintain the stability of the boat. And I
17 would just hope that if it passed in that manner that
18 that would take care of the issue.
19

20 I just feel that moving in the
21 direction of taking game from a boat under power is --
22 potentially could be interpreted poorly by some people
23 or create some kind of hazard, but what you're saying
24 with slow forward progress to me -- to a reasonable
25 person it makes sense. We know what you're trying to
26 say. Hopefully the user, the end user, subsistence
27 user, sport hunter would abide by the reasonable
28 interpretation of that. I just don't know how
29 enforceable that language is in a court of law.
30

31 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Would you prefer to
32 delineate it further as slow forward progress, off
33 step, and motor at idle?
34

35 MR. GERVAIS: Yeah. That sounds good
36 to me.
37

38 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Would you like to
39 do.....
40

41 MR. GERVAIS: What do -- how about some
42 of you other folks.
43

44 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Other discussion.
45

46 MR. GERVAIS: Let's get some language
47 that is agreeable to the group.
48

49 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Tom.
50

1 MR. KRISKA: So I think one of the
2 issues where it came up like that, there's a lot of the
3 rivers that we hunt on, the Gisasa, the Kateel River
4 and in some of the places when you get way up there,
5 their current is like ten miles an hour and if you let
6 off the throttle or anything it becomes a liability
7 issue. Then whatever you went up there in the first
8 place for is going to be not there anymore because
9 you're going to start making noise and everything like
10 that.

11
12 And then another deal, you know, having
13 boats and -- you know, way long, long time ago they
14 used to be paddling and they never had these issues.
15 But ever since that we were introduced to 25, 50, 60,
16 200 horse or whatever, it became -- you learn -- and a
17 lot of different curves in the way life goes in the way
18 we live. And a lot of it is they become trained on
19 there from kids on their own, growing up to -- and
20 maybe -- I know they're -- they're pretty good shots.
21 And for me -- if I had to stop and didn't take the shot
22 when I was there, you stop and waste all that time
23 slowing down and doing everything like this -- well,
24 actually you just said to slow down and that's --
25 that's what the -- just keep the boat stable and toward
26 what you're doing and the shot goes off.

27
28 But then I would support it because
29 it's like any one of you. The way you grew up and the
30 way times change. And it's more effective to hunt this
31 way in some places. I guess some other places you're
32 in a truck or you're in a four-wheeler and everything
33 else, but you have to stop because there are bumps and
34 all that, but a boat is way different.

35
36 And a lot of the reason is that.
37 That's why it came up. It's just more stability.

38
39 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: So you would be
40 supportive of amending the Koyukuk language to have the
41 boat off step, at idle, with slow forward progress?

42
43 MR. KRISKA: Well, I would probably --
44 possibly say something like that because once you put
45 it in neutral you'd best not even have visited the
46 whole thing because it's going to be stopped and you're
47 going to be floating back down wherever anyway if
48 you're in neutral. So.....

49
50

1 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: At idle forward.
2
3 MR. KRISKA: At idle forward, yep.
4
5 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Uh-huh.
6
7 MR. KRISKA: Okay.
8
9 MR. GERVAIS: Yeah. You're proposing
10 or you're saying in forward or reverse idle, not --
11 you're not -- well, you're not specifying -- you're
12 just specifying that it's at idle.
13
14 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Well, it.....
15
16 MR. GERVAIS: Not in gear.
17
18 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: The Koyukuk River
19 Advisory to allow slow forward progress with the motor,
20 which the idea was that you come off step, you come
21 down to idle.....
22
23 MR. KRISKA: Yep.
24
25 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF:and you're just
26 -- you're just holding the boat in the current or
27 just.....
28
29 MR. KRISKA: Holding it, yeah.
30
31 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: And keeping it
32 moving forward, which then it -- you don't have the
33 wave come up behind you.
34
35 MR. KRISKA: Yep.
36
37 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: And you're not
38 rocking all over the place. So you'd have this slow
39 forward progress.
40
41 So you want to clarify it further. So
42 we could clarify it for the Board more precise; off
43 step, motor at idle forward, with slow progress.
44
45 MR. GERVAIS: I would strike the
46 forward. Just say off step at idle. Would you say
47 slow progress?
48
49 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Slow forward
50

1 progress.

2

3 MR. KRISKA: I think what it's meaning
4 is not to let the wake come up behind you because once
5 that wake come up behind you, you're all over the
6 place.

7

8 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Right, uh-huh.
9 Pollock.

10

11 MR. SIMON: Yeah. I just wanted to
12 comment on duck hunting. When we were duck hunting in
13 the slough some days there's a creek, it was around the
14 corner, we're not going full speed and there's a duck
15 sitting there and the time to shoot is now. If you
16 stop the motor, slow down a little bit and wait to
17 shoot the duck's going to get away.

18

19 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Uh-huh.

20

21 MR. SIMON: So when you're going the
22 same speed as you've been going forward, is you stop,
23 slow down the motor, the boat's going to drop down and
24 it's going to be kind of tippy. When we leave the
25 village to go duck hunting we have no food on the
26 table, that's why we are out there. If we don't shoot
27 at the right time we will go home with nothing.

28

29 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

30

31 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: And this proposal is
32 unlawful method of taking game, so this is not actually
33 talking about water fowl or small game or anything
34 else. It's talking about taking -- well, I guess small
35 game would be included in that.

36

37 Jenny.

38

39 MS. PELKOLA: I'm not a duck hunter,
40 but I respect what Tommy said about the boat and, you
41 know, and also Pollock because they're experienced
42 hunters, so I would support it, with the language
43 for.....

44

45 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: With amended
46 language?

47

48 MS. PELKOLA: Yeah.

49

50

1 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: So would you like to
2 make a motion to amend the language further.

3
4 Tim, go ahead.

5
6 Go ahead, Karen.

7
8 MS. DEATHERAGE: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

9
10 Sorry for the interruption, but I just
11 -- Mr. Doolittle recommended that the Council consider
12 looking at what's called a slow, no wake language
13 because that's apparently in regulation already. And
14 it's understandable and it might fulfill the concerns
15 that you have with this proposal.

16
17 Thank you.

18
19 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Okay. Slow. I
20 haven't heard that term.

21
22 So Tom, you want to comment on that.

23
24 MR. DOOLITTLE: Yeah.

25
26 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Doolittle.

27
28 MR. DOOLITTLE: Yeah. This is Tom
29 Doolittle, for the record.

30
31 Many times as you all know dependent on
32 boat size is where you can control your boat. So me
33 and my little draft with a three horse, you know,
34 trucking in on something is going to be totally
35 different than if I had an 18-foot boat with a 150
36 horse on it. The main thing is is that what you're
37 talking about is being at a speed where you can control
38 it and that you're not waving back and forth. And so
39 in many places like when you're going into boat harbors
40 or whatever there may be a slow, no wake regulation.
41 And slow, no wake was just, you know, what you could
42 control that boat speed at.

43
44 So a controllable speed is -- and slow
45 has always been the -- been the -- kind of the nebulous
46 and hard to enforce term, but it was about maintaining
47 control of that boat at the minimum speed. If you're
48 too slow with a big boat, as you know you'll wave all
49 over the place. But that big boat you're going to have
50

1 to be going at a little bit faster speed to keep it
2 under control to be a stable shooting platform versus a
3 smaller boat, let's say a canoe-sized boat, which you
4 could -- you know, you could again be quite a bit
5 slower, but again it's all dependent on hull size of
6 the boat and motor.

7

8

That's all I was getting at.

9

10

CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Yeah.

11

12

And Tom Kriska.

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MR. KRISKA: Okay. Now just going back
to that, and I'm glad you said that because maybe
that's where a lot of the non-resident hunters that did
go up the Koyukuk River 20, 30 years ago, every one of
those guys, they leave their camps, they usually go
upriver. And it was just a method that everyone else
-- monkey see, monkey do. They learned that.

22

(Laughter)

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MR. KRISKA: And then they go about 30
miles in the evening and they -- what they do is they
idle back down the river. And everybody does that now.
They idle back down the river. Even the -- I'll just
say non-resident hunters, even them, where you're
camped out there's like moose. A lot of us Natives
won't take a big antlered moose, but a lot of the non-
residents will. But you see them. Well, we all see
them.

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They're still under power with their
boats under the same regulations and they're not
stopping their boats because if you -- like you pull
the throttle off the boat is going to go out of whack
and then the -- like the moose can run off anyway if
you don't -- but they keep it under throttling and they
just -- they're not going fast, probably three, four,
five miles an hour and kind of pull right up to the
moose. Keeping their boat straight at it so the guy
can take a shot. And if you don't do it from over a
half a mile away, that's a bad shot. I wouldn't do it.
But, you know, a lot of the time you can come right up
to a moose within a couple of hundred yards on low idle
and it -- it's been -- even non-residents been doing
this for 20, 30 years from -- a lot of the time we see
it and probably where a lot of it got picked up from,

1 too.

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CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Thanks for those comments.

So did you want to amend the language, Tim, having all this discussion?

MR. GERVAIS: Well, I wanted some clarification from Tommy on what's -- which language do you like better.

Do you like the Koyukuk Advisory Committee language, the slow forward progress or do you like the language -- I'm going to -- I'm going to not promote the no wake movement because as your boat's slowing down, if you wait for it to make no wake that could be quite a while, that could be five or eight seconds. Your animal might be in the woods or bushes by then.

At this point in the dis -- and then like the rivers that Tommy's talking about, these headwaters, streams, you know, that's not an environment I've hunted moose in very much. I guess I've done it a little bit in Unit 17 with outboard jet boats. But I think no matter what we come up with -- and I'm okay with you guys voting for it, but for me, personally, I think this idea of using your boat as a hunting platform is dangerous and a poor procedure because of the unintended effects of it, somebody figured out a loophole in it and some kid or somebody's brother getting their head shot off because somebody was standing up or didn't even know that somebody else was lining up their sights on a moose in a boat. It's just -- it's too dynamic of a situation.

CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: I will tell a story -- I will tell a story about that. A friend of mine was hunting with a boat. They shut the motor off and this one hunter was looking at the moose and the boat was actually turning in the current and he was totally focused on looking at the moose and right before he pulled a trigger a person in the boat's head came in -- right -- so they actually were spinning in the current and they didn't realize that.

MR. GERVAIS: Uh-huh.

1 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: And they almost shot
2 the person in the boat.

3
4 So completely power off can be just as
5 dangerous as a.....

6
7 MR. GERVAIS: Or more.

8
9 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: More dangerous than
10 a boat -- a stable movement towards the target with the
11 shooter in front of the boat is far safer than somebody
12 that's shooting out of the middle of the boat with the
13 boat turning in the current completely shut off.

14
15 Tommy.

16
17 MR. KRISKA: Okay. So I guess for me
18 to see the -- what do you guys -- the non-Natives or
19 the hunters, that they already have this little law in
20 play where they slow down to no wake movement and the
21 way the Natives and everybody else is doing it on the
22 Koyukuk River is similar. It's just written different.
23 There's -- I mean there's a no wake I'm sure that they
24 slow down to whenever they see something.

25
26 And like us, we don't -- we always --
27 before we go out or hunt, we plan, too, so we know who
28 the shooter is and they're out in front so nobody else
29 gets shot. And we do a lot of gun safety, too, so
30 we're not -- we're not people crossing over. And it
31 happened like that before where, not only with his
32 story, but I seen it happen and it happened with a lot
33 of other hunters that they were just floating.

34
35 But I would -- you know, just as long
36 as the boat is stabilized, I'm okay with that. Just so
37 that gun is pointing that way, the boat is pointing
38 that way, what you're shooting at is that way, and it's
39 not -- you're not drifting everywhere or in a wake and
40 waves and whatever.

41
42 But it look like this no wake -- it's
43 already there, so I don't see a problem.

44
45 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Well, what the
46 current regulation is, I'm looking at the Federal reg
47 book. I don't have the State reg book. But take --
48 it's illegal -- it's not legal to take wildlife from a
49 motorized vehicle when moving or from a motor driven
50

1 boat when the boat's progress from the motor's power
2 has not ceased. That means if you take the power off,
3 you've got to stop.

4

5 MR. KRISKA: Right.

6

7 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: The boat has to
8 completely stop. Well, you've gone through the wake.
9 The moose is long gone.

10

11 And so that's what Middle Yukon is
12 talking about. They're talking about they want to be
13 able to come off step, or the idea that was conveyed of
14 the Koyukuk River Advisory, some people were concerned
15 about the speed of that boat and so that's why we came
16 down to a slow forward progress. We could define that
17 further as no wake or whatever you would like.

18

19 Tim.

20

21 MR. GERVAIS: Yeah. So thank you for
22 that, Mr. Chair.

23

24 So Tommy, what you're talking about
25 with the non-resident hunters idling down the river, to
26 my knowledge that's illegal as of then and now. And
27 based on the State reg which is pretty identical to
28 what Jack's reading.

29

30 So if you guys are going to move
31 forward with this, which there's benefit to do, doing
32 that, to being able to -- to take the game with a slow
33 forward progress. And if you're going to vote on it I
34 would leave it. I'm not going to make an amendment to
35 change the language other than what Jenny said.

36

37 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Uh-huh.

38

39 MR. GERVAIS: I want it to stay with
40 the slow forward progress, but just for my individual
41 seat on this Board I'm not going to support it because
42 I think if you're going to be moose hunting you're
43 going to get on land and do it. And I don't want the
44 waterways and sloughs and rivers to be turned into like
45 a road hunting scene where everybody's just moving
46 along, chambered up, ready to shoot anything that
47 moves. That's not a good environment for the people in
48 the boat. That's not a good environment for the people
49 already in the forest. It's not a good environment for

50

1 the people coming around the bend.

2

3 So I'm going to oppose anything other
4 than what the current reg is, but I would encourage
5 this Council, if you're going to take action to support
6 Middle Yukon that you adopt it only with the language
7 as modified with the Koyukuk Advisory Committee.

8

9 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Okay.

10

11 Karen, you had a comment.

12

13 MS. DEATHERAGE: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

14

15 Are you interested in hearing briefly
16 what the State regs are?

17

18 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Yes, please.

19

20 MS. DEATHERAGE: The State regs read
21 that a motor driven boat or motorized land vehicle;
22 unless the motor has been shut off and the progress
23 from the motor's power has ceased. In Units 1
24 through.....

25

26 MS. KENNER: Just say except.

27

28 MS. DEATHERAGE: Except.....

29

30 MS. KENNER: Except.

31

32 MS. DEATHERAGE:except in Units
33 23 and 26 to take caribou and Unit 22 to position
34 hunters to select individual wolves for harvest. And
35 the third is under the authority of a permit issued by
36 the Department.

37

38 So at this point I don't see a
39 definition in the overall State regs.

40

41 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Okay.

42

43 MS. DEATHERAGE: There might be
44 specific ones, but there's no definition in the overall
45 State regs about a running boat and what position it
46 needs to be in.

47

48 Thank you.

49

50

1 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Well, that's what
2 Middle Yukon is addressing.....
3

4 MS. DEATHERAGE: Yeah.
5

6 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF:is that they
7 feel that -- their proposal was the Committee would
8 like to allow residents to shoot from a boat under
9 power in Unit 21. The AC believes that shooting while
10 under power keeps the boat stable and also safety
11 issues since turning a boat motor off completely while
12 you're floating down a river is dangerous.
13

14 That's what Tommy was talking about.
15

16 The AC believes that harvest
17 opportunities would be lost if they're not allowed to
18 shoot from a boat under power.
19

20 So it's my opinion that that's a very
21 common practice to shoot from moving boats, I don't
22 care who you are, it's my opinion that that's what
23 happens. And it's my opinion that it should be defined
24 for young hunters. You can't be rolling up to the
25 moose under full power. You've got to be off step.
26 You've got to be moving forward. Slow forward
27 progress.
28

29 So you would like us to maintain the
30 Koyukuk River Advisory's amendment to allow for slow
31 forward progress of the motor in Unit 21.
32

33 MR. KRISKA: Yes.
34

35 MS. DEATHERAGE: Which language is it?
36

37 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: It would be
38 basically.....
39

40 MS. DEATHERAGE: Idle with slow
41 progress, because I.....
42

43 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Allow off step.
44 Allow slow forward progress with basically the motor at
45 idle. So that the boat comes off step, it's got slow
46 forward progress and that allows for a stable platform.
47 That was a fairly extensive discussion by the Koyukuk
48 River Advisory.
49
50

1 So that would be the amended language.
2 How would we do that amendment, we have to make a
3 motion to that.
4
5 Karen.
6
7 MS. DEATHERAGE: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
8 I would recommend that. Thank you.
9
10 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: So would you like to
11 make that motion, Tommy?
12
13 MR. KRISKA: Yes. Well, I would just
14 make a motion to adopt the proposal as is, with the
15 recommendation to idle and forward motion.
16
17 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Yeah. Amend to slow
18 forward progress with the motor at idle.
19
20 So that's the amended language.
21
22 MR. HONEA: Question.
23
24 REPORTER: No, Jack, you need a second
25 first for this amendment.
26
27 MR. HONEA: Oh, okay.
28
29 REPORTER: Thanks.
30
31 MR. HONEA: Second.
32
33 REPORTER: Thanks, Don.
34
35 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Second, okay, thanks
36 Don. A second to the motion.
37
38 Those in favor of the motion -- the
39 amended language -- signify by saying aye.
40
41 MS. PELKOLA: What motion did I make.
42
43 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: To adopt the
44 proposal.
45
46 MS. PELKOLA: Oh.
47
48 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: And so we're
49 amending the proposal for this language here, so we
50

1 need a vote on the amended language.

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So those in favor of the amended language as portrayed on the overhead -- signify it by saying aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.

CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Opposed, same sign.

MR. GERVAIS: Aye.

CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: And so now the entire Proposal 57 to allow taking in Unit 24.....

MR. HONEA: 21.

CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Or correction --- 21 -- of game from a boat that's under slow forward progress with motor at idle, signify by saying aye.

MR. GERVAIS: Wait. You lost me, Jack.

MR. HONEA: You lost me too.

MR. GERVAIS: I thought we just voted on amended language for 57.

CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Yes. Well, this is the -- I just said we're voting on.....

MS. PELKOLA: Is this, we added that one?

CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: No. It's just Unit 21.

MS. PELKOLA: Okay.

CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: So, no, we've cleared up the amended language, I was just kind of giving the overall proposal now.

So Proposal, as amended. We'll just say that. Proposal, as amended.

Those in favor of Proposal 57, as amended, signify by saying aye.

1 IN UNISON: Aye.
2
3 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Opposed.
4
5 MR. GERVAIS: I thought we just voted
6 on the amended proposal.
7
8 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: No. No. We voted
9 -- the motion -- we.....
10
11 MS. DEATHERAGE: We did.....
12
13 MR. GERVAIS: Or did you -- we just
14 voted on the amended language.
15
16 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: The amended
17 language. We had to amend the proposal. The proposal
18 was not amended as far as I know.
19
20 MS. DEATHERAGE: Mr. Chair, the
21 original.....
22
23 REPORTER: Karen, mic.
24
25 MS. DEATHERAGE: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
26 This is Karen. The original motion was to adopt
27 Proposal 57, as amended. So it was all encompassing.
28
29 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: By the Koyukuk River
30 Advisory.
31
32 MS. DEATHERAGE: As amended by the
33 Koyukuk River.
34
35 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Okay.
36
37 MS. DEATHERAGE: And then you amended
38 the amendment, right.
39
40 REPORTER: Yes.
41
42 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Okay.
43
44 MS. DEATHERAGE: So I think you're fine
45 with your vote. Again this is not as formal of a
46 process because it's a Board of Game proposal letter.
47 So I think we've got the clear language and it's -- and
48 you can call the question.
49
50

1 Thank you.

2

3 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Well, the issue was
4 slow forward progress of the motor.

5

6 MS. PELKOLA: Yeah.

7

8 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: The amended language
9 is at idle.

10

11 MS. PELKOLA: Yes, it was more amended.

12

13 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: That was the amended
14 language that we just voted on.

15

16 MS. PELKOLA: Right.

17

18 MS. DEATHERAGE: Right?

19

20 REPORTER: Right, yes.

21

22 MS. DEATHERAGE: You added idle.

23

24 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: We added, at idle.

25

26 So that's not exactly what the Koyukuk
27 River said. It's.....

28

29 MS. DEATHERAGE: We added idle.

30

31 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: We added add idle.
32 So now we're voting on the main motion, which we did,
33 and you voted opposed to the main proposal, as amended,
34 on the board -- on the overhead.

35

36 So.....

37

38 MS. PELKOLA: So we're good.

39

40 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: We're good, right.

41

42 MS. DEATHERAGE: I'll make it work.

43

44 (Laughter)

45

46 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: We're at Proposal
47 58. Establish a controlled use area in the Kaiyuh
48 Flats in Unit 21D. And this 58.....

49

50

1 MR. HONEA: Motion to adopt.

2
3 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Motion to adopt by
4 Don.

5
6 MR. SIMON: Second.

7
8 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Seconded by Pollock.

9
10 This is the Middle Yukon Advisory
11 Committee's proposal. Establish a controlled use area
12 for the Kaiyuh Flats in Unit 21D, as follows. To
13 establish the Kaiyuh Flats Controlled Use Area to
14 include the use of aircraft for moose hunting for the
15 portion of Unit 21D that coincides with the boundaries
16 of RM833 registration hunt area.

17
18 Hunt area: 21D, that portion south of
19 the south bank of the Yukon River downstream of the
20 upriver entrance of the Kaiyuh Slough and west of
21 Kaiyuh Creek. Middle Yukon Advisory Committee
22 submitted a map with this proposal, which is available
23 at the Board of Game website.

24
25 What's the issue you'd like the Board
26 to address. Local moose hunters' access to the Kaiyuh
27 Flats portion of Unit 21D compete with hunters using
28 boats and airplanes. With an increasing number of
29 moose in the Kaiyuh Flats and low bull/cow ratios in
30 the northern portion of Unit 21D, hundreds would likely
31 shift their demand toward the Kaiyuh Flats area. We
32 would like the Board of Game to establish a controlled
33 use area that prohibits the use of aircraft for moose
34 hunters. That's the proposal.

35
36 The proposal, if -- we have it on the
37 table. Any discussion the proposal.

38
39 MR. SEMAKEN: Yeah.

40
41 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Okay.

42
43 MR. SEMAKEN: Well, this is my area
44 and.....

45
46 REPORTER: Goodwin. Goodwin.

47
48 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Turn your mic on
49 right there.

50

1 MR. SEMAKEN: Yeah, that's my area and
2 we never allowed -- Larry Thompson was trying to make a
3 guide down there at one time, but the people opposed
4 it. So, you know, we're down there at the end. You've
5 got 120 miles and you could go over to Innoko from
6 there. It doesn't make sense for -- trying to open up
7 hunter areas for other hunters to come in. Hunters
8 survive on the moose or trying right now. It isn't
9 going to last long. Not this winter. So I don't know
10 what's going to, you know, that's a big land with -- it
11 doesn't make sense to try to go hunt there.

12
13 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: That map that we
14 have here would actually describe pretty much what this
15 controlled use area would look like if I'm correct?

16
17 MR. SEMAKEN: (Nods affirmatively)

18
19 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Yes. So this map
20 here would be the controlled use area. Airplanes would
21 not be able to go into this area.

22
23 You're supportive of excluding aircraft
24 use inside their central controlled use area?

25
26 MR. SEMAKEN: Yes.

27
28 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Okay. Other
29 discussion.

30
31 MS. PELKOLA: I have a question. Would
32 that be for transporters, too, or.....

33
34 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: It would be for any
35 aircraft, transporters or private aircraft. Aircraft
36 couldn't be used for moose hunting in the controlled
37 use area.

38
39 Go ahead, Tommy.

40
41 MR. KRISKA: Yeah. This would do the
42 same thing to -- like on the Koyukuk River Controlled
43 Use Area. You know, during the moose hunting season no
44 airplanes can't go in the Koyukuk River hunting area
45 and it will do the same thing for the Kaiyuh area. No
46 planes can't hunt in there as long as the hunting
47 season is on.

48
49 So that's one of the things. Because
50

1 in the past their -- what really got our attention is
2 this one story I want to let you guys know. It
3 happened over there. There's hunters that went in
4 there, a guy walked back to the lake and there was
5 hunters there in a pontoon plane and he walked right up
6 -- they didn't see him coming but he walked right up to
7 them and there was a little girl on that -- with him
8 and that girl just blurted out to the guy. She said my
9 dad shot him right from the plane.

10

11 (Laughter)

12

13 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Oh.

14

15 MR. KRISKA: And that was like -- I
16 mean he flew in there, shot this moose, skinned it out,
17 and flew it out same day.

18

19 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Uh.

20

21 MR. HONEA: Wow.

22

23 MR. KRISKA: And so a lot of this stuff
24 we -- down river where, you know, these moose -- it
25 just came back in the area because of the -- it burned
26 out within the past -- I think it was some years ago so
27 now there's so much, you know, good feed in there,
28 that's why the moose are there. And we kind of want
29 to, you know, stabilize that as it is right now. And
30 some days it's really sad when you -- the water is low
31 and you can't go into the Kaiyuh Flats. But you go --
32 you can hunt along the banks. Then all you hear back
33 in the lakes back there is zoom, zoom. You hear planes
34 going in and leaving.

35

36 So that's one of the things, you know,
37 why we're not there. And there's planes from over the
38 Unalakleet area, I'm sure Anchorage and Aniak, a lot of
39 those places they're flying in there, we don't know.
40 But we can hear the planes. It's not far to those
41 mountains over there, 15 some miles. But anyway,
42 that's just -- I would support that.

43

44 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: I want to have Glenn
45 Stout come up to the mic and ask a question about the
46 amount of moose that are taken within this delineated
47 area by aircraft. You probably have that on your
48 harvest reports.

49

50

1 Go ahead, Glenn.

2
3 MR. STOUT: Yeah. Thank you, Mr.
4 Chair. Glenn Stout, Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

5
6 In the analysis that we have the
7 Department is neutral on this proposal because it's an
8 allocation issue.

9
10 On average we see about five harvested
11 moose per year taken by aircraft hunters in this
12 analysis area. That's been stable for the last 20
13 years. About the same number of moose taken by
14 aircraft hunters, so not much is happening in that
15 regard.

16
17 One thing that we do know with
18 controlled use areas is they tend to concentrate boat
19 hunters together on the river and just like what we say
20 in the Koyukuk Controlled Use Area, it never really had
21 much effect on the increase of hunters until we
22 established the Koyukuk Moose Hunters Working Group and
23 we implemented the drawing permit system that actually
24 had a hard cap on total number of hunters. So they
25 just learned how to use boats, the potential airplane
26 hunters.

27
28 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: So there's five
29 moose taken.

30
31 Tim.

32
33 MR. GERVAIS: Glenn, so you're saying
34 that when they established the Koyukuk Controlled Use
35 Area and the draw system that that created more
36 interest in that hunt. Is that the dynamic you're
37 describing?

38
39 MR. STOUT: I would not say that caused
40 more interest. It just changed the habits of the
41 hunters wanting to get in there. And when it becomes
42 known that the area is good moose hunting people are
43 determined to go there and they just shifted to using
44 boats and they figured out how, the logistics to get
45 into that area are required. And so they will adapt to
46 whatever regulation in terms of a transportation
47 limitation type method. They can get -- figure that
48 out.

49
50

1 But the drawing permit limiting system
2 like we already have the DM8-18, the DM8-17 hunts that
3 are already in there already that are hard cap on
4 hunters wanting to come in. Other than, you know, we
5 have the registration hunt, but that's got the
6 disincentive of antler destruction.
7

8 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Tommy.
9

10 MR. KRISKA: Okay. Going back to a lot
11 of that, Glenn, and everyone else. For me being in
12 that area for the last -- I mean I've been straight for
13 30-some years and I know what's going on and the
14 numbers of hunters that were in there back in the day.
15 There was like a lot of hunters every bend in the river
16 and though they kind of put the controlled use area in
17 there, then it kind of dwindled down with the permits,
18 like you said. But now that the -- a lot of the
19 people, they don't target the Koyukuk River anymore and
20 this lower part of the -- the people's -- Kaiyuh and
21 those areas on down to the Innoko, that area is all and
22 on down the river, a lot of it is open now. I mean you
23 don't even need a -- I mean you probably have to --
24 need a permit, but from what I understood from before
25 you can go down there now and shoot two moose rather
26 than one.
27

28 So what the people -- the Middle Yukon
29 Advisory and I am worried about is that Koyukuk place
30 is going to be shut off. I mean there are still going
31 to be permit hunters up in that area, but now you --
32 you -- I mean you guys are up river. You think -- you
33 go down the river and tell me that there's -- there's a
34 few planes going in there, they might get the moose
35 back -- a few back in there, but then you go down in
36 Nulato Patsy Slough, Happy Slough, all of those places
37 you have Fairbanks hunters, you have a bunch of boats
38 in those areas and it's really sad for these people to
39 go out there.
40

41 Even a lot of the grandmas still ride
42 around with these people and they talk in their Native
43 language, I barely understand what they're saying, but
44 then they go to where they hunt all the time and
45 there's a bunch of boats back in there. They go to a
46 different place, bunch of boats back in there. And
47 it's like -- it's this target -- that whole bank all
48 the way down the river right now.
49
50

1 So they're -- they're sort of like --
2 they're worried about that area. And it's their
3 hunting grounds and we want to try to protect it like
4 the Koyukuk -- what we're doing in the Koyukuk River.
5 Keep the planes out and just, you know, we need to help
6 those people for what's happening. And it's going to
7 keep on going, I imagine at some point this controlled
8 use area will wind up down in the Innoko part, too.
9

10 So anyway, I see things different than
11 some people. So I would support this controlled use
12 area.
13

14 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: So for Glenn the
15 number of boat hunters that would be hunting in this
16 same area, would that be like 50 times more hunt
17 harvest than the aircraft hunters? Or.....
18

19 MR. STOUT: Mr. Chair. They would be
20 limited I think, first of all, by the number of drawing
21 permits. And the disincentive of the antler
22 destruction limits people wanting to come that far for
23 just -- for meat purposes. It's a long way to go and
24 pretty expensive and people like the moose meat, but
25 that certainly is another component to the hunt driving
26 demand.
27

28 And so I don't think -- just like what
29 we know, just like what Tommy said, access onto the
30 Kaiyuh is limited mostly by the water level on the
31 Yukon and whether they can get in there. And so it's
32 not always going to be an opportunity even if you have
33 a permit to do that because a great deal of the land
34 along the Yukon in there is corporation land that they
35 would be prohibited from hunting if they weren't a
36 corporation member.
37

38 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Uh-huh.
39

40 MR. STOUT: So there's other
41 limitations in that area that make it a pretty tough
42 logistical hunt to try and get in there.
43

44 And I want to make sure I clarify
45 something, too, as far as the moose population. The
46 population essentially doubled in the last ten years.
47 But one thing that were noticing specifically in that
48 area is the rate of increase of cows was much faster
49 than the rate of increase of bulls, which is something
50

1 real common with increasing ungulate populations.

2
3 And so the decline in the bull/cow
4 ratios that people were seeing was because of the
5 increasing rate of cows. In fact, the absolute number
6 of bulls was also increasing, just not at the same
7 rate. So that's why one of the justifications we had
8 for this winter hunt that actually just started on the
9 1st, part of that is a 20 cow moose quota to allow
10 additional harvest of cows. And we need to take our
11 foot of the pedal, if you would, to slow the growth
12 rate on this population.

13
14 Working with Koyukuk Refuge, we're
15 looking really closely at twinning rates and make sure
16 we don't over-utilize our habitat in there at that
17 area. Doing moose surveys, we completed one of our
18 larger GSPE surveys down there and we do trend count
19 areas in there. And so we're watching it very closely
20 and we know the importance that it has for the local
21 communities, but I think there's already quite a few
22 limitations on opportunity in there -- access
23 opportunity primarily.

24
25 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: With the deep snow
26 year this year in the Kaiyuh do you think there's going
27 to be a much slower growth of the population with the
28 calf and yearling component mortalities?

29
30 MR. STOUT: Right along the river last
31 year we had pretty deep snow and the results that we
32 had showed that our yearling component was actually in
33 pretty good shape after last year when they would have
34 been calves. And this year I think is a little bit
35 different. Last year a lot of that snow was kind of in
36 a band, you know, within ten miles of the river. And
37 further out to the eastern edge of the Kaiyuh Flats it
38 was actually pretty shallow snow. And so they maybe
39 just adjusted and moved out there.

40
41 This year it seems to be that deep snow
42 is all over the place and yeah, I suspect that, you
43 know, just like in any normally fluctuating populations
44 you're going to have bad cohorts, you know, and we --
45 we've also had some pretty tremendous cohorts in the
46 last five years, too, because of some pretty extremely
47 mild winters. So it's just kind of part of the natural
48 ebb and flow.

49

50

1 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: So a lot of the core
2 population is about five years of age. For the adult
3 population is in between three to like six or seven.
4 Something like that.

5
6 MR. STOUT: Well, I think it's a pretty
7 normal age structure in that area right now because
8 we've had some pretty good cohorts back at, you know,
9 ten years ago when we started seeing it start to
10 accelerate. So no, it's not just a recent occurrence.
11 It goes further back.

12
13 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Okay. Well, good to
14 know.

15
16 And you had a comment there, Tommy.

17
18 MR. KRISKA: Yeah. Well, this year a
19 lot of guys that do go out there and out and about on
20 an everyday basis, riding hundreds of miles burning up
21 a lot of fuel in there. And not only me, there's a lot
22 of guys like me that get out there and just checking
23 out things. We just love the country.

24
25 But just a couple of nights ago when we
26 were back into Huslia talking, there was 20 of us
27 sitting down at the table talking, all guys that go and
28 do a lot out in the woods. And then if you're talking
29 about 10, 15 guys talking about this stuff and you
30 imagine how many miles, I put 500 a week no problem,
31 but if you imagine those guys talking about what they
32 see out there and -- actually every -- pretty much 80
33 percent of us saying that all those cows don't have
34 calves any more.

35
36 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Okay. Any other
37 discussion on this Proposal 58.

38
39 MR. HONEA: Yeah.

40
41 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Don.

42
43 MR. HONEA: Thank you. I'll keep this
44 kind of brief.

45
46 I just -- I guess I'm going to support
47 the thing because if it's any help, I mean I've heard
48 stories kind of about the planes coming in there, and
49 maybe from Kaltag people or Nulato or something, where
50

1 they were just, you know, just about to harvest a moose
2 there and a plane come roaring in there and stuff.
3

4 I could see some benefits in this. I
5 mean like Glenn mentioned, whether it's they're going
6 to get back there anyway, I mean if they find out --
7 that's a different -- that's a different point there.
8 But I just -- you know, I was wondering, you know,
9 whether it was a land and shoot or a land and 20 -- you
10 have to wait 24 hours. I don't know what the regs are
11 on there, but I could see some benefit and so I'm going
12 to support this.

13
14 Thank you.

15
16 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: They would have to
17 wait until 3:00 a.m. of the next day after being
18 airborne and camp and all that.

19
20 You had a comment, Karen.

21
22 MS. DEATHERAGE: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
23 I thought it was important to read the OSM position on
24 this because there appears to be some technicality
25 between the two types of hunts and the map that was
26 submitted by the AC is different than the language that
27 is in the actual proposal.

28
29 So the OSM writes -- it's neutral on
30 the proposal, but it writes it is unclear to which
31 hunts the CUA would apply. The RM8-31 is a very new
32 hunt. More time may be needed to establish harvest
33 patterns. OSM is not aware of how quickly the 2019
34 quotas were met. If the quotas are not being met OSM
35 does not support the CUA since it would be detrimental
36 to the sustainable growth of the moose population. If
37 quotas are being met OSM supports establishment of the
38 CUA to provide more opportunity for Federally-qualified
39 subsistence users who incidentally -- if this proposal
40 is adopted, Federally-qualified subsistence users would
41 still be able to access Federal public lands within the
42 hunt area by aircraft under Federal regulations.

43
44 Thank you.

45
46 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Okay. Thanks for
47 that clarification.

48
49 Pollock.

50

1 MR. SIMON: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
2 Around Allakaket, there's Kanuti Controlled Use Area
3 which was -- we asked for this many years ago. In
4 generally, there used to be lots of moose, there used
5 to be winter cow season, but moose probably start
6 dropping and then we asked for the controlled use area.
7 And we finally got it, but the moose probably dropping
8 and today we're still trying to reduce the moose
9 population. The moose population is still pretty low
10 around Allakaket, so it's not too early to ask for a
11 controlled use area to stabilize the moose population.

12
13 I would support this proposal.

14
15 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

16
17 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Okay. Thanks for
18 your comment there, Pollock.

19
20 Further comments on Proposal 58.

21
22 MR. SIMON: Question.

23
24 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Question's called by
25 Pollock.

26
27 Those in favor of Proposal 58, signify
28 by saying aye.

29
30 IN UNISON: Aye.

31
32 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Opposed, same sign.

33
34 (No opposing votes)

35
36 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Supporting the idea
37 that there's currently only five moose taken, but
38 anytime there's this kind of a growing population you
39 get lots of influx of hunters and that's a fairly short
40 hop over to Galena to shuttle meat out -- and the
41 moose.

42
43 So I -- at this time I'm supporting
44 this proposal. I don't know that the Board of Game is,
45 but I feel that the Middle Yukon Advisory Committee has
46 a growing concern about that use, so that's why I
47 supported the proposal.

48
49 So let's see here. It's almost 3:00

50

1 o'clock. Should we take a break for 15 minutes.

2

3

(Council nods affirmatively)

4

5

6

CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: So we'll be back on
record here at about 3:10 -- well, let's call it 3:15.
Call it 3:15.

7

8

9

(Off record)

10

11

(On record)

12

13

14

CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: So we're going to
start the meeting again.

15

16

17

MR. HONEA: Gavel.

18

19

20

CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: I don't know what
happened to Tim.

21

22

REPORTER: He's here.

23

24

25

CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Oh, he's there, he's
right there, missed that one. So Don's here.

26

27

So I'm going to bring the meeting back
to order -- in the back of the room.

28

29

Hello.

30

31

(Laughter)

32

33

MS. DEATHERAGE: Too many brownies man.

34

35

(Laughter)

36

37

38

39

40

CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: So we have had a few
people come into the room since we took the sort of
introductions this morning, so I'll have people that
weren't here introduce themselves.

41

42

Mr. Wright there.

43

44

45

46

47

MR. WRIGHT: Charlie Wright
Rampart/Tanana area. I thought I'd come in and check
out some of the proposals that you guys are working on
to see what's going on.

48

49

REPORTER: Karen, turn the mic on

50

1 there.

2

3

MS. DEATHERAGE: I got to get his name.

4

5

REPORTER: Charlie Wright, Eastern

6

Interior RAC.

7

8

MS. DEATHERAGE: Okay.

9

10

MR. WRIGHT: So it's good to sit with

11

you guys today. Thank you.

12

13

CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Thanks for coming by

14

the meeting. I appreciate that.

15

16

Anybody else in the back of the room

17

there or on the phone who joined the call.

18

19

Oh. We've got Bruce Seppi in the back

20

of the room.

21

22

MR. SEPPI: Bruce Seppi, Anchorage

23

Field Office BLM.

24

25

CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: And we were

26

wondering about Anchorage Field Office, so we've got

27

you pencilled in there even though you weren't here.

28

29

MS. DEATHERAGE: Caroline Brown.

30

31

CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: It wasn't on our

32

agenda, so we put that in there.

33

34

Anybody else on the phone.

35

36

(No comments)

37

38

CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: So hearing that,

39

Karen, you got a comment.

40

41

MS. DEATHERAGE: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

42

We do have a lot of people in the room and I just want

43

to make sure everybody signs the sign-in sheet that's

44

over there by the -- conveniently by the food. It

45

would be great if you could sign in for us.

46

47

Thanks.

48

49

CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: So we're on

50

1 Proposal.....

2

3

MS. MONCRIEFF: Mr. Chair.

4

5

CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Go ahead.

6

7

8

9

10

11

MS. MONCRIEFF: I was on the phone this morning, but now I've made it here. I'm Catherine Moncrieff. I'm with the Yukon River Drainage Fisheries Association. Great to be here in person.

11

12

13

14

15

CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: I just saw you there and you were on the phone, so I thought everybody knew you. Sorry.

15

16

17

(Laughter)

18

19

20

21

CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: I knew you were introduced this morning on the phone. Thanks for that clarification.

22

23

24

25

26

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31

32

So we're on Proposal 59. Change the winter any moose season in Unit 21D. This is a WIRAC proposal. Unit 21D, that portion -- and so we -- this does not reflect our amended language from our October meeting in McGrath, which we excluded -- we went to the -- and Lisa Maas was kind enough to delineate this -- excluded this area to the north, northeast part of the -- of the displayed area. So it would be the cross-hatched areas. That language was submitted to the Board of Game, as amended.

33

34

35

And that was submitted as a record copy, Karen, or that amended language or is.....

36

37

38

39

40

MS. DEATHERAGE: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

41

42

43

44

CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Or is George Pappas going to present that or how does that happen?

44

45

46

Thank you.

47

48

49

50

CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: So the Board of Game should have received because it was our -- and Lisa Maas delineated this. This map has to get to the Board

1 of Game because this is what our Proposal 58 is talking
2 about.

3

4

Go ahead.

5

6

7

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11

CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Okay.

12

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What issue would you like the Board to address. The Western Interior Regional -- Alaska Subsistence Regional Advisory Council believes the current 15-day announced season in March -- season in Unit 21D, that portion south, blah, blah, blah, of the Yukon River -- not that same description, is too late in the winter to use the meat before breakup. If an earlier season were available the meat could be kept for a longer period of time and feed people during the critical winter months. Changing the season may also give hunters safe access.....

(Phone Interruption - participants not on mute)

CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Someone's on the phone. Tina, can you address that.

1 (Pause)

2

3 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Changing the season
4 may also give hunters safer access to the Yukon River
5 and therefore increased opportunity to get moose. The
6 Council submitted a similar proposal to the Federal
7 Subsistence Board to reduce regulatory confusion.
8 That's the proposal.

9

10 So I will entertain a motion to adopt
11 the Proposal 59, State Proposal 59 with the amended map
12 to be accompanied to Proposal 59 to the Board of Game.

13

14 So do we have a motion to adopt with
15 the amended map.

16

17 MR. SIMON: So moved.

18

19 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Moved by Pollock.

20

21 MR. SEMAKEN: Second.

22

23 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Seconded by Goodwin.
24 So the Middle Yukon supported the proposal. OSM
25 supported the proposal. And.....

26

27 MR. STOUT: They did not. They did
28 not.

29

30 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Middle Yukon did not
31 support the proposal?

32

33 MR. STOUT: Did not.

34

35 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Did not.

36

37 REPORTER: Okay, wait, Glen, if you're
38 going to talk you need to come on up here.

39

40 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Oh, on this sheet
41 here I'm looking at.

42

43 Go ahead, Glenn, clarify that.

44

45 MR. STOUT: Yeah, Mr. Chair. Glenn
46 Stout. The Middle Yukon opposed the proposal for the
47 winter hunt extension into December. Their primary
48 concerns expressed at that meeting was that it would
49 create pressure for people to hunt earlier in the

50

1 winter when the ice was still unsafe. And so their
2 original proposal was the proposal to have the March
3 season and they still supported the March only season,
4 so they opposed the December component.

5
6 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Okay. Thanks for
7 that clarification.

8
9 And since we have you at the table,
10 what is the Department's position on the proposal.

11
12 MS. DEATHERAGE: This is confusing.

13
14 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Karen, you had a
15 comment.

16
17 MS. DEATHERAGE: Sorry, Mr. Chair. We
18 just needed to clarify because the notes said that they
19 supported the proposal. But Glenn's recollection is
20 that they in fact opposed it.

21
22 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Okay. And then the
23 Department's position on the Proposal 59?

24
25 MR. STOUT: We're neutral on it because
26 it's allocation between two opportunities. We support
27 the winter season because we have a harvestable
28 surplus, but we supported the original proposal that
29 was submitted by the RAC -- or the AC.

30
31 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Okay. Thanks for
32 that clarification.

33
34 So okay, Middle Yukon.

35
36 Are you on the Middle Yukon Advisory
37 Committee, Tommy?

38
39 MR. KRISKA: Yes.

40
41 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Uh-huh.

42
43 MR. KRISKA: Probably if I was there it
44 wouldn't have wound up like this.

45
46 REPORTER: Tommy, turn the mic on.

47
48 MR. KRISKA: I said probably if I was
49 there it wouldn't wind up like this because I have a
50

1 lot of concern in the understanding of this proposal
2 and why some of us put it in this way. I was just
3 going to text this guy and ask him, but they're down in
4 Anchorage.

5
6 There was a few of us -- it got
7 opposed. I wasn't there at that meeting. I was doing
8 the same thing I was doing when I was supposed to be at
9 this meeting. It didn't happen. But it -- or your
10 last meeting.

11
12 But maybe this could -- the
13 understanding could work both ways as written still yet
14 because if some people -- the way it's written to me
15 right now is if some people don't get their moose on
16 December 15 -- 15 days during December if the harvest
17 quota is not met then another 15 days will be announced
18 in March. So I would support this proposal still yet
19 because if some of the people want to hunt -- I don't
20 know, it's just kind of separating the hunt, but that's
21 fine with me.

22
23 I'm just kind of against shooting a
24 moose -- like right now if you go cut the moose open
25 and guess what you see, some pretty big calves. I
26 don't like that sight. But in December you barely --
27 you see a little bit the moose are more -- more
28 abundance of fat and everything like that. Possibly
29 better eating because the nutrition of their body --
30 their belly -- I mean the calves are -- their body
31 drains. It's sort of like a -- I don't know. This
32 part right here. I don't know.

33
34 For me, I would support Proposal 59.

35
36 I think some of the guys might have got
37 influenced in a different manner, but -- and then
38 there's some people there that are old, older that
39 don't want to -- they wanted the daylight to hunt. But
40 if you wanted a moose, you need a moose that anybody
41 can go out there in five or six hours of daylight and
42 take care of what you need. And there's a lot of guys
43 out there. If they need help we'll help them. But
44 then -- I don't know.

45
46 The way it's written right here I would
47 support it. If -- like I said, if some people don't
48 get their moose in December they can wind up -- it says
49 in March. So I would support this.

50

1 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: So question for
2 Glenn. Would this be more expensive to -- if passed by
3 the Board would it cost the Department more to have two
4 announced hunts or would it be -- what would be your
5 thought on that.

6
7 Go ahead.

8
9 MR. STOUT: Mr. Chair. Yeah. We
10 typically don't let that be a deciding factor
11 administering hunts. It would be very small.

12
13 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Okay.

14
15 So any other comments on the prop --
16 Tim.

17
18 MR. GERVAIS: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
19 Yeah. I was listening on the phone during this Middle
20 Yukon AC meeting in January, I believe, when they
21 opposed it. And it was -- some of the members -- they
22 didn't want to deal with the lack of light and the
23 colder temperatures from hunting in December. And that
24 was -- that's what I remember them having opposition to
25 the proposal for.

26
27 But I agree with Tommy. It's like if
28 the moose aren't taken then those people that didn't
29 want to hunt in December and there's still -- there's
30 still animals available they could hunt in March.

31
32 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: So the moose hunt
33 occurred last year. Was the full -- was there the 20
34 moose allocation taken or.....

35
36 MR. STOUT: Mr. Chair, we had eight
37 moose harvested, five cows and three bulls. It was a
38 25 moose quota, no more of which could be 20 cows.

39
40 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Okay. So there is
41 harvest opportunity. If we adopt this proposal there's
42 additional. Would actually be more harvest opportunity
43 to meet the objective of population suppressant.

44
45 Are you under an allocation of 25 again
46 or.....

47
48 MR. STOUT: Yeah, Mr. Chair. Once
49 again we do have the 25. As is typical and one of the
50

1 points we bring up in the Board of Game's comments,
2 when we have a hunt like this in its first year, in its
3 infancy, it takes a few years for demand to be
4 expressed on what's going to occur and to have a good
5 idea of how many people are going to participate and
6 what their success rate's going to be.

7
8 And so one year is probably not a good
9 enough sample size to draw a firm conclusion on -- like
10 we said before and like I said just earlier today,
11 we're just taking it slow. We don't want to -- we
12 aren't trying to stop the growth of the population on
13 the Kaiyuh. We're just trying to tap on the brakes a
14 little bit. And one of the things that we have to do
15 is look at harvest demand and see -- and assess for a
16 couple of years what's going to take place.

17
18 And I think Tom's point is a real good
19 point. I think there's two different justifications
20 why you would have the hunt and it's I think possibly
21 competing demands. So one of them is the hunters that
22 were unsuccessful in the fall trying to make up the
23 difference. The late winter hunt -- what was expressed
24 when we first talked about the proposal was people have
25 exhausted their winter supply of meat.

26
27 And those are really two very different
28 things in the sense of well, when I need that meat, you
29 know, maybe I had unexpected demands that caused me --
30 that I just couldn't anticipate throughout the winter
31 and so I have to make up for it at the end of the hunt.
32 So to some respect I think there are two different
33 demands there.

34
35 And so that was one that was
36 considered. And once again I will reiterate what the
37 Middle Yukon AC focused on was that they were concerned
38 with ice and travel conditions in December. And under
39 this type of scenario where the quota could be
40 exhausted in December it has the effect of having --
41 everybody has to get pushed out into those possibly
42 questionable conditions because they don't know if the
43 quota is going to be utilized in December. And they
44 felt like it was just safer in March and that would be
45 less people out there under those kind of conditions.

46
47 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: So Tommy, your
48 perception of travel in December. The river is frozen
49 over typically in mid-November and.....

50

1 MR. KRISKA: Well, there's a lot of
2 places to go rather than this, I mean you go -- we do
3 cross the Yukon and once you get across that Yukon you
4 pretty much can go anywhere really. But it is -- I
5 don't know, there's thin ice some places, but all of us
6 guys go out there and make sure the trails are good
7 before we let other people go out there anyway. We
8 pretty much mark the safety zones, you know, and that's
9 the way we were brought up and that's what we still do.

10
11 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Uh-huh. Okay.
12 Other comments.

13
14 Goodwin, you got any comments. Turn
15 your mic on there.

16
17 MR. SEMAKEN: I was just trying to
18 figure out how, you know, you guys are welcome to go
19 down and get the moose if you guys need it. And
20 there's a lot of moose down there. I hope you guys
21 come down.

22
23 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Well, this hunt goes
24 all the way down there by Kaltag. Did anybody in
25 Kaltag hunt on that moose hunt.

26
27 MR. SEMAKEN: No. Nobody hunts.

28
29 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Nobody hunts in the
30 March hunt?

31
32 MR. SEMAKEN: No.

33
34 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Did any.....

35
36 MR. SEMAKEN: Maybe a few of them, but,
37 you know, there's only a couple. That's why there's so
38 many of them, you know.

39
40 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: But I mean if you
41 could -- do you think people would hunt in December if
42 -- you know, as this proposal is to open the season in
43 December, would people hunt in December or would they
44 hunt -- they didn't hunt at all? They don't need meat?
45 They get plenty of moose in the fall? I'm trying to
46 figure out what Kaltag is doing.

47
48 MR. SEMAKEN: Well, December hunt would
49 be good because nobody likes to hunt in the end of
50

1 March because they're too skinny.

2

3

CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Oh.

4

5

MR. SEMAKEN: Yeah.

6

7

CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: So most people don't
8 want the hunt in March.

9

10

MR. SEMAKEN: They do not, yep.

11

12

CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Okay. Well, go
13 ahead, Glenn.

14

15

MR. STOUT: Yeah, Mr. Chair. One of
16 the comments that represented several other people I
17 think from Kaltag said last winter -- because I'd said
18 earlier there was a band of really deep snow, it was
19 expressed that they didn't want to participate in last
20 year's hunt because they were feeling pretty sorry for
21 the moose having to endure those kind of conditions and
22 they didn't feel it was prudent last year.

23

24

And maybe they will feel that way again
25 this year with similar kind of conditions all over.
26 But I know that they expressed that concern about moose
27 with that deep snow last year in that hunt.

28

29

CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: So I don't know. Me
30 -- I'm just thinking most people are reluctant to go
31 out moose hunting in March because deep snow years
32 they're not -- but there might be a family. And I had
33 a lot of kids and when I didn't get a moose I was under
34 big pressure. We're eating beaver and lynx and wolf
35 and anything we could get, snaring rabbits and stuff.
36 If you don't get your moose you're under big pressure
37 to come up with the meat if you've got a lot of kids.

38

39

So my idea is that if we had a December
40 hunt the snow is a lot shallower, the moose are in
41 fatter condition. We might achieve this harvest
42 objective of 25 moose -- 20 cows and 5 bulls.

43

44

I have crossed a lot of rivers. You go
45 from pan to pan. You're checking the ice. I'm
46 positive I could cross the -- once it's jammed -- I've
47 crossed some large rivers two days after it jammed. If
48 you go pan to pan you can -- it's like stepping stones,
49 and you can get across -- you've done that.

50

1 MR. SEMAKEN: Yep.

2

3 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: So I feel that the
4 moose would be in a little better -- quite a bit better
5 condition to a little bit better condition. And for
6 families that need the meat it would be a big deal.
7 They might not want to harvest in March as much as they
8 really need that moose in December.

9

10 So I'm supportive of the proposal as
11 we've written. And I understand Middle Yukon's -- how
12 many people were at the meeting. Do you remember
13 there, Glenn, at the Middle Yukon AC -- was it half the
14 committee or.....

15

16 MR. STOUT: Oh, no. I think there were
17 seven.

18

19 MR. SEMAKEN: I was there, 7 out of 15.

20

21

22 MR. STOUT: Yeah. We had -- on the
23 members present there was 11 out of the 15.

24

25 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: But Goodwin, you
26 feel that people would hunt in December, but they
27 wouldn't want to hunt in March.

28

29 MR. SEMAKEN: Right. Yep.

30

31 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: So we have two
32 Council Members that live there, close to this hunt
33 area and they're -- you're supporting the proposal.

34

35 MR. SEMAKEN: Yeah.

36

37 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Are you supporting
38 this proposal to hunt in December?

39

40 MR. KRISKA: Yeah.

41

42 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: So we have two
43 Council Members. This is their area.

44

45 And I feel that if somebody didn't want
46 to hunt in December the -- the objective was not met in
47 March, although it was a deep snow year and people were
48 reluctant to hunt and stuff like that. But I feel that
49 it would give families an opportunity to get a moose

50

1 earlier in the season when you can keep the meat a lot
2 easier.

3

4

So go ahead, Tommy.

5

6

MR. KRISKA: Okay. This is really --
7 this thing is a -- it seems like a big issue, but I
8 think it's a good issue. And then you think about it.
9 There wasn't a lot of permitted hunters in that area
10 anyway. And like Glenn said, there was only eight
11 moose shot on that hunt, so there might be four in
12 December and four in March. I don't know what's the
13 big deal there. I mean I don't think it should be a
14 big issue to anybody that's -- we're working on the
15 State regulations and working for the State anyway so I
16 don't -- I'm not sure what to say about it.

17

18

But I don't see a big problem in it.

19

20

CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: So we've discussed
21 the proposal quite a bit.

22

23

Tim.

24

25

26

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The reason we went in this delineated
area to eliminate this northeastern portion where the
low bull/cow ratio was because if we did open December
we would still have a significant number of bulls that
would still have antler. And that's -- we didn't want
to encourage -- I personally didn't want to see any
incentive to take bulls at all in this area here if we
were going to open on December 1.

1 So that was the reason for that.

2

3 MR. STOUT: Yeah, Mr. Chair. Like I
4 said before, the absolute number of bulls is actually
5 increasing there. The bull/cow ratio is dropping
6 because the cow component of the population is
7 increasing at a faster rate.

8

9 So when we worked and analyzed the
10 situation with the Koyukuk Refuge, we talked to the AC
11 -- we felt like it was justified to have a hunt in
12 there, even though yes, bull/cow ratios are dropping,
13 the population is growing and it's kind of a population
14 dynamics phenomenon that happens in a growing
15 population where you see an increasing number of cows.

16

17 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Okay. Thank you.
18 So coming to a vote on this proposal. Any further
19 discussion by the Council on our Proposal 59 for
20 December component of the Kaiyuh Flats moose hunt.

21

22 Do we have a question.

23

24 MS. PELKOLA: Question.

25

26 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Question's called by
27 Jenny.

28

29 Those in favor of Proposal 59, with the
30 attached map that was drawn up by Lisa Maas at OSM --
31 those in favor of the proposal to be submitted to the
32 Board of Game for deliberation next week, signify by
33 saying aye.

34

35 IN UNISON: Aye.

36

37 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Opposed, same sign.

38

39 (No opposing votes)

40

41 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: With the
42 justification that the Council still feels that the
43 moose population in that area would have a higher
44 demand by families who need the meat if they didn't get
45 a moose in the fall. The moose population -- the cows
46 would be in a lot better condition in December versus
47 in March. And the harvest performance was about a
48 third of the objective last season.

49

50

1 So those three reasons would be the
2 justification for the -- by the Council's adoption of
3 the proposal.

4
5 Is that okay with the Council for that
6 justification.

7
8 IN UNISON: Yes.

9
10 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Sound good.

11
12 IN UNISON: Yes.

13
14 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Okay. So moving on
15 into our -- so we're going to Proposal 60. And re-
16 authorize March any moose season in portion of Unit
17 21D. This is a Alaska Department of Fish and Game
18 proposal in that basically they have to have a cow
19 component authorization.

20
21 That's correct, Glenn?

22
23 MR. STOUT: (Nods affirmatively)

24
25 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: And so this is
26 basically a housekeeping proposal to allow that winter
27 hunt to occur. So supporting this proposal -- it would
28 -- the Chair will entertain a motion to adopt Proposal
29 60 with little discussion.

30
31 MS. PELKOLA: So moved.

32
33 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Moved by Jenny.

34
35 MR. KRISKA: Second.

36
37 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Seconded by Tommy.

38
39 Discussion on the proposal.

40
41 (No comments)

42
43 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: No.

44
45 Do we have a question.

46
47 MS. PELKOLA: No. Oh, question, yes.

48
49 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Question's called by

50

1 Jenny.

2

3 Those in favor of Proposal 60 to allow
4 the winter hunt in portions of Unit 21D, signify by
5 saying aye.

6

7 IN UNISON: Aye.

8

9 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Opposed, same sign.

10

11 (No opposing votes)

12

13 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: This Proposal 61 is
14 a Koyukuk River Advisory Committee proposal to extend
15 the resident moose season within the Kanuti Controlled
16 Use Area of Unit 24B, as follows. New language.
17 Within the Kanuti Controlled Use Area of GMU24B
18 residents only one bull harvest ticket required
19 September 1 to October 1. That's the new hunt
20 language.

21

22 Koyukuk River Advisory Committee said
23 at the Koyukuk River Advisory Committee meeting in
24 Allakaket on December 11, 2018 several moose hunters
25 testified that only eight bull moose were taken that
26 fall by Allakaket/Alatna. In recent years moose are
27 staying back in the hills for most of the current
28 season.

29

30 Moose hunters in Allakaket and Alatna
31 have experienced low success rates with the current
32 season. Moose are moving right at the close of the end
33 of the current season. Extending the current bull
34 moose season from September 1 to 25 to a new season of
35 September 1 to October 1 only within the Kanuti
36 Controlled Use Area on Unit 24B.

37

38 The bull/cow ratio is more than
39 adequate within the controlled use area to support
40 additional harvest opportunity. The season extension
41 to October 1 would allow hunters to hunt closer to the
42 village late in the season as freeze up is imminent.

43

44 It is perceived that most of the bull
45 moose that would be harvested would be traveling,
46 younger bulls that are not competitive with breeding
47 aggregates. Larger breeding bulls cannot be called
48 away from their harem. That's the proposal.

49

50

1 So the Chair will entertain a motion to
2 adopt Proposal 61.

3
4 MR. SIMON: So moved.

5
6 MS. PELKOLA: Second.

7
8 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Moved by Pollock,
9 seconded by Jenny.

10
11 Discussion. We've discussed this at
12 the Koyukuk River Advisory Committee and the Advisory
13 Committee supports their own proposal.

14
15 Would you like to come to the mic
16 there, Glenn, and Glenn has reservations about this
17 proposal, but go ahead.

18
19 MR. STOUT: Thank you, Mr. Chair. The
20 Department supports the proposal to provide additional
21 opportunity, but it opposes having a season during the
22 peak breeding period which typically runs about the
23 26th of September to about the 6th of October. So
24 that's the Department's position on that.

25
26 We've talked about it many times, that
27 we recognize that the bull/cow ratio is very high.
28 Typically our surveys are showing 65 to 70 bulls per
29 100 cow, which tells us we do have bull harvest
30 opportunity. But right now our intensive management
31 objective which supported why we did the intensive
32 management actions there with wolf removal, we did that
33 because we're below our population objective.

34
35 So as long as we're below the
36 population objective we don't want to introduce any
37 factor that could potentially affect productivity or
38 survival of our moose. And hunting bulls during that
39 period, like we've talked about before, it has the
40 potential of affecting breeding groups, which
41 translates into potential productivity on down the
42 line, and survival of those calves if they're late born
43 calves.

44
45 And so we would prefer to look at
46 additional opportunity in other parts of the year. A
47 bull harvest in other parts of the year so we can try
48 to meet our population objectives.

49
50

1 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Any questions for
2 Glenn on that.

3
4 Position -- Don.

5
6 MR. HONEA: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
7 Glenn, I was just -- you know, I mean I'm looking at
8 this and I'm just thinking that if the population is
9 low, where are we talking about. We're talking about
10 Alatna, Allakaket area. Maybe from Hughes up because I
11 mean the Koyukuk River Fish and Game Advisory Committee
12 -- aren't they comprised of like Huslia and all the
13 villages on there.

14
15 So our problem is mostly in the
16 Allakaket and Alatna area.

17
18 MR. STOUT: Yeah, through the Chair.
19 Member Honea, this proposal was going to affect just
20 the State lands within the Kanuti Controlled Use Area.
21 So that's primarily going to affect people living in
22 Alatna and Allakaket, truth be told. But it will align
23 itself -- essentially this would be an alignment with
24 an existing Federal regulation that already occurs in
25 there that goes to October 1st. So that's the effect
26 of this proposal and where it would occur.

27
28 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Do we have any --
29 point of clarification. Do we have any OSM Staff. Is
30 Lisa Maas on the phone or anybody that can tell us what
31 the -- oh, Vince Mathews. Say Vince. Vince. You need
32 to come to the mic here, Subsistence Coordinator Vince
33 Mathews.

34
35 Under the Federal extension to October
36 1, do you have harvest data for any additional harvest
37 under the Federal regulation on the -- from the
38 September 26 to the October 1, do you have data about
39 harvest?

40
41 MR. MATHEWS: Yes. We would have data
42 based on the permits that have been, you know, the hunt
43 reports returned.

44
45 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Uh-huh.

46
47 MR. MATHEWS: I would have to query to
48 find out those numbers for that because we do -- we did
49 have that permit, so I would have to query the database

50

1 and I don't have access to that right now.

2

3 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Oh. I thought you
4 would have been.....

5

6 MR. MATHEWS: Lisa.....

7

8 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: I thought you would
9 have been prepared for this proposal.

10

11 (Laughter)

12

13 MS. DEATHERAGE: Can't win for losing.

14

15 MR. MATHEWS: I plead the Fifth
16 Amendment on that one.

17

18 (Laughter)

19

20 MR. MATHEWS: No. I can pull it up.
21 Right now we're in -- I was hoping Lisa would be online
22 because she would be able to query that immediately or
23 may have that.

24

25 MS. MAAS: Yeah. This is Lisa.

26

27 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Okay.

28

29 MS. MAAS: I'm online. And could you
30 just give me the permit number?

31

32 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Permit number,
33 Vince.

34

35 (Laughter)

36

37 MR. MATHEWS: Going by memory now, it's
38 -- 24-02 is my -- going by memory. FM24-02. I don't
39 have a reg book in front of me. It would be in the reg
40 book.

41

42 MS. MAAS: Okay. Yeah. And this is
43 for the Koyukuk Controlled Use Area moose?

44

45 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Kanuti Controlled
46 Use Area.

47

48 MS. MAAS: Oh, Kanuti. Okay.

49

50

1 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: We have a season
2 extension in the Kanuti Controlled Use Area 24B. And
3 currently it says by State harvest ticket or one antler
4 bull by State regis -- oh, no. Wait a minute. That's
5 not it.

6
7 The Octo -- oh, it's Permit FM24-05.
8 There it is right there. FM24-05.

9
10 MR. MATHEWS: That's 24A. That's
11 usually 24A.

12
13 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Oh, 24A. Oops.
14 Wrong one.

15
16 MR. MATHEWS: That one got changed when
17 they got rid of that.

18
19 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Where is it. 24B
20 doesn't say what the permit number is, Lisa. Sorry
21 about that.

22
23 MS. MAAS: Yeah. So I think this was
24 changed. I mean it's in yellow highlights in the
25 regulation book because back in 2018 it was changed
26 from a Federal registration permit to a State
27 registration permit. Since this is now by State
28 registration permit we don't have that in the Federal
29 database. We would just have the Federal permit data
30 up to 2017.

31
32 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Okay. Well, then
33 Glenn, are you getting reports of this Federal.....

34
35 MR. STOUT: This is the first year for
36 this. We aren't getting any yet. We don't.....

37
38 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Oh. This is the
39 first year for -- so we're sorting it out.

40
41 (Pause)

42
43 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: So do you have any
44 of the data previous to the last season, Lisa?

45
46 Go ahead, Glenn. Clarify that for
47 Lisa.

48
49 MR. STOUT: No. Lisa had it right.

50

1 This is a new change that made the State harvest ticket
2 the reporting mechanism.

3

4 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Uh-huh.

5

6 MR. STOUT: So that just went into
7 place. And so as you know, harvest tickets, you don't
8 have to report until the end of the regulatory year and
9 so it's going to take a while for people to get used to
10 the permit and get used to reporting the new system.

11

12 Both the Kanuti Refuge and myself have
13 always hired Steven Bergman there in Allakaket, he was
14 our permit vendor.

15

16 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Uh-huh.

17

18 MR. STOUT: And so there is this period
19 of transition that we're going to have to go through
20 before we get a good idea of what the use is on that.

21

22 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Right. So you have
23 Federal data because it was a Federal permit previous
24 to that.

25

26 You can't look just Kanuti moose hunt?
27 That doesn't show up in your search, Lisa?

28

29 MS. MAAS: So you're specifically
30 wondering about 2018 and 2019?

31

32 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: No. No.

33

34 MS. MAAS: Or just any data.

35

36 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: No. Previous. This
37 hunt has been in place for a few years and so I'm
38 looking for the data of how many people participated in
39 this Federal hunt portion and what the harvest is.
40 What's the number.

41

42 Go ahead, Glenn.

43

44 MR. STOUT: Yeah. I think I could
45 probably just cut to the chase and I'll just guess, it
46 was probably like one or two moose a year.

47

48 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Uh-huh.

49

50

1 MR. STOUT: It was very low
2 participation rate. We wouldn't get the data. There's
3 restrictions on whether or not personal harvest data
4 information could be shared.

5
6 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Uh-huh. Oh.

7
8 MR. STOUT: And so we wouldn't get it,
9 but I would typically call up somebody at Kanuti Refuge
10 or Vince and they would pull up that year's data. It
11 would always be very low.

12
13 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Uh-huh. Okay.
14 Well, that's kind of where I was going with that. The
15 participation would actually be pretty low. And
16 Pollock is here. He lives in Allakaket.

17
18 So if this proposal passes, do you
19 think there would be like two or three or how many
20 people do you think would participate hunting, if they
21 didn't get a moose, if they kept -- how long would they
22 keep hunting, would they use this or the ice would be
23 running and they wouldn't.

24
25 What do you think, Pollock?

26
27 MR. SIMON: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Once
28 in the past we asked for extension, five days or a week
29 to 1st of October and they had issues us an extension.

30
31 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: You got a State
32 extension?

33
34 MR. SIMON: What?

35
36 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: You had a State
37 extension to the 1st of October?

38
39 MR. SIMON: Yes.

40
41 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: You requested
42 through the Board of Game process a State extension?

43
44 MR. SIMON: Yes. We got an extension.

45
46 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Oh. Are you aware
47 of that, Glenn? That there was a request from
48 Allakaket for an extension to the 1st of October for --
49 which year was that, Pollock, do you recall?

50

1 MR. SIMON: It was last year, or this
2 year, and the one before, there's two times.

3
4 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Uh-huh. Go ahead,
5 Glenn.

6
7 MR. STOUT: Yeah. Through the Chair.
8 We've had several different season extension requests
9 and the one last year that was requested was not
10 considered by the Board because we have certain
11 definitions of what constitutes an emergency and it
12 didn't meet those criteria for consideration, so it
13 wasn't approved because it didn't meet that.

14
15 There was a case where there was an
16 accident and a person was lost about four or five years
17 ago, and there was a request made then, that one was
18 approved, a season extension to provide for additional
19 opportunity for that one. And it was primarily because
20 it was at the end of the hunting season. A lot of
21 people had to go out for the search and rescue efforts
22 and they were taken away from the end of the hunt
23 opportunity.

24
25 And so we've had a few of those
26 requests over the years and we consider those all
27 independently for meeting that criteria.

28
29 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Do you recall what
30 the additional harvest was in that extension?

31
32 MR. STOUT: No. I don't know if I even
33 looked to identify that. During this period of time we
34 were doing household surveys. The Subsistence Division
35 was doing those, and it was pretty consistently, you
36 know, eight to fifteen moose during that time. That
37 was really common. And so like you brought up the
38 point it was eight in the proposal. It said eight last
39 winter and so one of the -- one of the key factors
40 we've always been challenged by is reported harvest
41 data does not always reflect true harvest. And what
42 we've seen before is harvest reporting as low as 25
43 percent reporting rate.

44
45 And so we know we're talking about
46 small numbers. These annual variations and these small
47 additional harvests, we're probably splitting hairs to
48 some degree to try and figure out a perfect number.
49 There's certainly harvest going on. We know we have

50

1 additional opportunity and that additional opportunity
2 probably says more about it anything else.

3

4 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: There was more.....

5

6 MS. MAAS: Mr. Chair.

7

8 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Go ahead.

9

10 MS. MAAS: Yeah, this is Lisa. I think
11 I found the data you were looking for.

12

13 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Uh-huh.

14

15 MS. MAAS: And so this is Federal
16 harvest data for Unit 24B remainder, which includes the
17 community controlled use area from 2006 to 2017. And
18 in that time period about anywhere from 10 to 50
19 permits were issued per year and about 10 to 20 people
20 actually hunted each year -- and then harvest was about
21 three moose a year.

22

23 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Okay. That's the
24 number I wanted, so thank you.

25

26 And so we -- but my position is again,
27 just like the proposal is written, the moose have been
28 hunted from the 1st of September to the 25th of
29 September extensively. They've had a lot of encounter.
30 The cows have had a lot of encounter with hunters and a
31 lot of the cows will move away from the river and they
32 will get into areas where they're not going to get
33 bothered. That's where the breeding aggregates are
34 going to be.

35

36 What most of the moose that I've seen
37 late in September are these traveling like two, three,
38 four, five year old moose that are -- it depends on the
39 size of the bulls you've got around, those keep getting
40 kicked away from -- and the moose I killed this year --
41 I hunted on this 24A season extension because it was --
42 I wasn't seeing any moose through the 25th of
43 September. I didn't even see a moose travel on the
44 valley floor where I could actually get the moose until
45 about the 28th of September. The moose I got was a
46 four year old moose. He was traveling -- I saw him up
47 there getting beat up by a bigger bull. And he come --
48 and he went in a big arc and he come down across the
49 valley floor. That moose had bruises all over him, but

50

1 I was happy as a lark to get that moose. He's a non-
2 breeding bull.

3
4 You're going to encounter -- the
5 majority of the moose that you will encounter during
6 that September 26th to the 1st of October are non-
7 breeders. They're bulls that are kicked out. They're
8 moving. That's what people are going to harvest.

9
10 And if you're the guy that's not
11 getting the moose that gives you a big opportunity. I
12 wouldn't have had a moose this year. I wouldn't have
13 had a moose if it closed on the 25th of September.

14
15 So I'm supportive of the proposal
16 because the performance of the Federal hunt shows
17 relatively small take. The bull/cow ratio is high and
18 the majority of the moose are going to be non-breeders.
19 I don't think that it's going to be an effect on the
20 population. I don't think that it's actually going to
21 affect the breeding component.

22
23 I do understand that if we had like a
24 different kind of hunting component where hunters were
25 going out with aircraft, finding large aggregates, and
26 hunting through the 1st of October, then that would be
27 a problem. But most of the moose that have been hunted
28 by boat -- those -- you know how they are, they get
29 away from the river. They don't want to be there
30 because they've had their bulls shot earlier in the
31 season. They've already had that happen to them.
32 Those cows get gun shy, literally gun shy of getting
33 that bull shot out from under them, so they go way far
34 out and they're hard for hunters to find let alone
35 shoot that bull. You can if you know what you're
36 doing. And you can't call that big bull away from
37 those cows either, he's never going to leave those
38 cows.

39
40 So you're going to get smaller bulls,
41 which I feel is what most of the hunters are going to
42 want to get. You're going to want to get a two year
43 old or a three -- I'd love to get a two year old
44 because he's still eating, he's got a full stomach and
45 he's still eating and he's still got fat. That's what
46 I would like to get. I don't want to shoot that big
47 bull because he's got nothing left.

48
49 That's my position. That's the TEK of

50

1 this discussion is that the majority of the moose are
2 going to be younger bulls and they're non-breeders. So
3 that's -- you had a comment there, Tommy?
4

5 MR. KRISKA: Yeah. I was just going to
6 comment on supporting this.
7

8 Last year I was out doing some things
9 with the -- just like work and -- but I'm on the phone
10 every night with a lot of the boys down river and they
11 were always talking about their hunting and stuff like
12 that and they said -- I asked them, it was September
13 18th and I asked them well, did a lot of people get
14 moose. And they said no, and these guys are really
15 good hunters. They're out there all the time. They
16 said you know what. It's September 18th right now and
17 we finally heard a moose last night.
18

19 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Uh-huh.
20

21 MR. KRISKA: So then now -- December
22 18th through the end of the hunting season you've only
23 got a week. But then the water is dropping, dropping,
24 dropping, and you can't get through some of these
25 areas. So it's a -- it's kind of a -- just a lot of
26 changes and I guess we'll have to change with it.
27

28 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Tim.
29

30 MR. GERVAIS: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
31 Glenn, I had a question for you on this rut timing.
32

33 Yeah, I'm seeing also that there's
34 hardly any opportunity to call moose prior to September
35 18th. These dates you gave for peak breeding season --
36 September 26 to 06 -- is that a new number or is that a
37 number that the Department has used for 20 years. Like
38 even beyond this proposal I think it's going to come
39 forth.
40

41 If we keep having these warm falls I
42 think there's going to start to be a discussion and a
43 series of proposals made where they -- everybody in the
44 Interior wants to shift the moose seasons back some
45 amount of time, five days or ten days because there's
46 not -- other than by chance there's not much
47 opportunity to harvest moose from September 5th to
48 September 12th.
49
50

1 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Go ahead, Glenn.

2

3 MR. STOUT: Through the Chair. Member
4 Gervais, that number has been around for a long time.
5 It was based on Denali Park surveys, studies that were
6 done in the '70s. That's why you see most of the moose
7 seasons in the Interior typically end on the 20th,
8 25th.

9

10 In areas -- there are some places in
11 the State, in the Interior in particular, 20A is a
12 really good example where they go later into the fall.
13 And those are generally where they're specifically
14 trying to achieve population stabilization or even a
15 reduction because they're not worried about the
16 effects, you know, the potential productivity effects
17 that it would have on the population.

18

19 So yeah, that number has been around
20 for a while. And as far as the changes that may or may
21 not be occurring, what we do know is that the calving
22 dates continue to be the same. And so even though
23 we're not out there doing a study to repeat that study
24 in the early '80s -- '70s and '80s on when that peak
25 breeding period is actually occurring, we know the
26 calving dates is the same and we have all reason to
27 believe that gestation is staying the same, too.

28

29 So we have no indication that the
30 breeding period is happening later. I think it
31 probably is very true if we're getting warmer weather
32 in the fall that bulls would overheat and they would be
33 more inclined rather than to be out exhibiting rutting
34 behavior like calling during the daylight hours when
35 they're going to absorb more sunlight, that they're
36 probably doing a lot more of that rutting behavior in
37 the dark of the night. Moonlit nights -- that kind of
38 thing.

39

40 And so that's going to change. I'm not
41 denying the effects that these warm falls could be
42 having, but we have to be concerned about long term
43 sustainability of the population. And we have to
44 figure out how to adjust to what's already happening in
45 the biology of the moose. And every time we challenge
46 or we intrude upon established biological knowns like
47 gestation rate and breeding periods, we risk not having
48 these long term sustainable populations. And that's
49 really what our concern is.

50

1 MR. GERVAIS: Thanks.
2
3 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Other questions for
4 Glenn.
5
6 (No comments)
7
8 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Thanks.
9
10 So do we have a motion on the table.
11 I'm losing track here.
12
13 Karen.
14
15 MS. DEATHERAGE: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
16 Yes, we do.
17
18 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Okay. We've had a
19 lot of discussion on this Proposal 61. Any further
20 discussion.
21
22 MR. HONEA: Question.
23
24 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Question's called by
25 Don.
26
27 Those in favor of Proposal 61, signify
28 by saying aye.
29
30 IN UNISON: Aye.
31
32 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Opposed, same sign.
33
34 (No opposing votes)
35
36 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: So the Council will
37 submit comments that this is within a controlled use
38 area. Aircraft cannot be used to spot breeding
39 aggregates of bulls. TEK says that primarily bulls
40 would be traveling, younger bulls, as written into the
41 proposal and the harvest performance on the Federal
42 permit previously from 2006 has been within two to
43 three moose basically. So we don't anticipate a large
44 number of additional moose and the bull/cow ratio is
45 adequate to support that.
46
47 So that would be the justifications.
48
49 Did you capture that, Karen?
50

1 MS. DEATHERAGE: Yes.

2
3 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Okay.

4
5 So we're moving on to Proposal 62.

6
7 MR. HONEA: Motion to adopt.

8
9 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Motion to adopt
10 Proposal 62, which is -- let's see here. The Koyukuk
11 River Advisory Committee took this up and at our
12 meeting, at the urgency of Virgil Umphenour, who felt
13 that this proposal was basically to target a specific
14 guide that hunts under -- and this is -- this area of
15 the Upper Nowitna River drainage is -- is actually not
16 that very highly hunted. And this allocation is
17 basically to allow more resident participation, but
18 there's really not that many residents that get above
19 the Novi canyon.

20
21 But that's the proposal. So we opposed
22 the proposal at the Koyukuk River Advisory Committee.

23
24 Does the Council.....

25
26 Go ahead, Tim.

27
28 MR. GERVAIS: Yeah. The Ruby AC didn't
29 take any action on this because it's.....

30
31 MS. DEATHERAGE: Mr. Chair, did we get
32 a second on this motion? Thank you.

33
34 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Do we have a second.

35
36 MR. KRISKA: Second.

37
38 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Seconded by Tommy.
39 Yeah. It's a little bit hard to hear there.

40
41 (Outside congregation of people - doors
42 being closed)

43
44 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Great, thank you.

45
46 MS. DEATHERAGE: All right.

47
48 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: So Proposal -- and
49 then go ahead there, Don and Tim. You took this up.

50

1 MR. GERVAIS: Don, you address this
2 because you have a different recollection than I do.

3
4 MR. HONEA: Thank you, Tim. Thank you,
5 Mr. Chair.

6
7 Well, actually we did take action
8 because after discussing this area -- and Bob Rebarchik
9 knows the area. I talked to Jeremy Havener prior to
10 taking action on this and we're talking about past the
11 Little Mud or somewhere.

12
13 Typically, you see all the hunters from
14 the mouth of the Novi are going up maybe 40, 50 miles
15 at the most. This doesn't even affect the hunters, us
16 and the general public. So whether Virgil, who is --
17 is he a guide. Is he a outfitter or whatever.

18
19 MR. SEMAKEN: Virgil's a guide.

20
21 MR. HONEA: Yeah. Okay. So this is
22 his opinion if somebody else is doing that, we thought
23 it was a good thing because it kept our local hunters
24 -- I mean local -- like within the State. So that's
25 why we.....

26
27 MR. GERVAIS: Resident hunters.

28
29 MR. HONEA: Resident. That's the --
30 that was the main reason we supported it.

31
32 Thank you.

33
34 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: But when we
35 discussed the proposal -- we discussed -- like Virgil
36 Umphenour brings meat into Huslia Village. They
37 actually put it in people's smokehouse. So a lot of
38 the non-resident hunters that take moose with guides,
39 the meat actually stays in Alaska. So that was the
40 line of thought. That the meat normally ends up in the
41 villages associated with the hunt area.

42
43 So a lot of that meat from the Upper
44 Novi is going over to Minchumnia and going over in that
45 area there.

46
47 Go ahead, Tim.

48
49 MR. GERVAIS: Can you discuss then what

50

1 some of Virgil's points. And then also if you have any
2 information on who this group, the Resident Hunters of
3 Alaska is.

4
5 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Yeah. Resident
6 Hunters of Alaska is basically a sporthunting group.

7
8 REPORTER: Jack, turn on your mic.

9
10 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Oh, excuse me, mic.

11
12 Resident Hunters of Alaska is a
13 sporthunting group that has a whole bunch of proposals
14 in here and several of them are of allocation, but some
15 of the proposals are just completely out of line with
16 reality.

17
18 They were the proponents of a four bull
19 caribou limit in Unit 26B when we don't have that many
20 bull caribous to allocate to resident hunters. We just
21 went through a die off back in 2013. These guys seem
22 to be urban hunters with Super Cubs that want an
23 allocation primarily to them. That's who's going to
24 get to the Upper Novi. That's who that is. These are
25 urban sporthunters with Super Cubs on floats or
26 aircraft on floats that want the full allocation up
27 there. That's what they're trying to do.

28
29 So I'm not really into -- I don't agree
30 with that. I feel that the moose that are taken there
31 are used in rural Alaska and supply meat to a lot of
32 households more locally. That's why I supported the
33 proposal. Everybody's got their own take on it, you
34 can vote your -- with your conscience, but that's why I
35 supported.

36
37 I opposed the proposal. I opposed the
38 proposal because I felt that the meat would be used
39 more locally by people of this -- they're still having
40 to get in there with aircraft, but the guides at least
41 bring the meat back to -- and disseminate it into the
42 rural population. That was the primary reason I
43 supported the proposal.

44
45 Glenn's got comment.

46
47 Go ahead, Glenn.

48
49 MR. STOUT: Yeah. Thank you, Mr.

50

1 Chair.

2

3 Without getting too deep into the weeds
4 on this issue, because there's a lot of numbers
5 involved. The most important thing to realize is that
6 when the drawing permit system was first established,
7 what the -- there's a policy that the Board of Game has
8 to -- that they developed for themselves, and it was to
9 establish the drawing hunt so it would perpetuate the
10 allocation of the harvest as it happened historically.

11

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And they say what's the harvest. They look at the previous ten years of harvest. In this case when we look at the previous ten years of harvest before these drawing and registration hunts were implemented and we look at after the hunt was implemented, we've managed to almost perfectly align with what that historical data is.

And so just to make sure everybody understands, the important part about this is this is a drawing permit hunt and we have that registration subsistence hunt in there going on. But this particular drawing hunt, we're talking about 20 total permits, so it's very low number, and the first cut is a 50/50 allocation. Fifty percent go to residents, fifty percent go to non-residents. Of the 50 percent that go to non-residents it's an 80/20 split. And 80 percent goes to the guided non-resident. So what that means -- you've got -- you're down to -- of that 20 you're down to ten permits that this is all about, just ten permits. And then you're talking about how do you split the eight and the two. We're talking about very small numbers. And the variation didn't vary a whole lot. It matched the historical data.

CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Uh-huh.

MR. STOUT: And then I'll close by saying the Department's -- this is an allocation issue, so the Department's neutral on allocation issues.

CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Uh-huh. Go ahead, Don.

MR. HONEA: All right. Thank you, Mr. Chair. All right. So what are you saying, Glenn, are you neutral on this?

1 I mean because, you know, it's really
2 hard to make a final decision yes or no without the
3 numbers that you just said. I mean I still cannot see
4 why it's a bad thing to have non-residents get more. I
5 mean if you -- if we're talking about low numbers and
6 non-residents are not going to use it -- or I'm
7 confused on that.

8
9 MR. STOUT: Through the Chair. Member
10 Honea. No. Your point earlier was right on target.

11
12 This is the hunt that's taking place
13 way up above the Little Mud. It was traditionally
14 mostly just non-residents hunting up there. Resident
15 hunters never had to go that far because the reality is
16 most of the moose are down on Lower Nowitna. And so
17 this was way up there and traditionally it was about 80
18 percent of the hunters up there were non-residents.
19 That's why we have an 80/20 -- or well, it's 50/50.
20 That's how far they went, but as far as that guided
21 allocation.

22
23 That was an additional change that the
24 Board adopted because there was really only one guide
25 in there. And based on the odds, he was trying to keep
26 his small operation going. And this is what we've seen
27 in like some of the trophy brown bear hunts or what we
28 have even now on the Lower Koyukuk hunt in the
29 controlled use area where in order to keep their small
30 guiding operation going this basically guaranteed at
31 least they're going to get something that year, one or
32 two hunters and that's kind of what they were ending up
33 with, very few numbers.

34
35 So -- but once again it is very small
36 numbers and it was almost always non-residents up
37 there.

38
39 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Go ahead, Tim.

40
41 MR. GERVAIS: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
42 Bob, isn't this particular proposal all about a Refuge
43 concession? And if so, what's -- how many hunters a
44 year is that guide servicing?

45
46 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Come to the mic,
47 Bob. Come to the mic, Bob.

48
49 MR. REBARCHIK: Yeah. And I guess.....

50

1 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Come to the mic.
2
3 MR. REBARCHIK: I'm not exactly sure
4 how to answer that. I don't know who actually put this
5 proposal in. And so it is a very small number of
6 hunters overall and most of those hunters are non-
7 residents brought in by one outfitter.
8
9 MR. GERVAIS: Right. But this is a --
10 the outfitter is a concessionaire for the Nowitna
11 Refuge, right?
12
13 MR. REBARCHIK: He has that guide use
14 area. He is the guide for that guide use area.
15
16 MR. GERVAIS: So how many hunters a
17 year is he guiding moose for?
18
19 MR. REBARCHIK: This year total he
20 guided six hunters and harvested two animals.
21
22 MR. GERVAIS: Okay. So he's --
23 potentially he could get eight permits. Well, I guess
24 you could have non-resident unguided hunters there,
25 but.....
26
27 MR. REBARCHIK: He has both.
28
29 MR. GERVAIS: Okay. Oh, so he's
30 transporting some and guiding some.
31
32 MR. REBARCHIK: Yes.
33
34 MR. GERVAIS: And he could get up to
35 eight hunters combined and he's getting six -- is what
36 he had in 2019.
37
38 MR. REBARCHIK: Correct. And the
39 numbers were almost exactly the same in 2018.
40
41 MR. GERVAIS: Okay.
42
43 MR. REBARCHIK: Because the hunters he
44 brings in are normally not just hunting moose. They
45 will also hunt for bear and/or wolf. But he's the only
46 big game guide for that guide use area, so it's a
47 limited number.
48
49 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: So guides -- non-
50

1 resident hunters have to have a hunting guide, a
2 registered guide to take brown bear and so if they take
3 one brown bear in conjunction with this moose hunting
4 thing, they just saved a whole bunch of moose. Because
5 one of those big bears, if they're going to target
6 those large grizzlies, those bears -- what was the
7 statistic. It was one to two moose calves per day for
8 some of those predatory brown bears for a five-week
9 period.

10

11 Is that right, Glenn -- yeah. That's
12 some of the statistics from radio collared brown bears
13 -- they eat moose calves like popcorn. So if they take
14 one brown bear during this, in conjunction to this
15 moose hunt, they've saved a whole bunch of moose
16 already.

17

18 Non-residents hunting on their own or
19 resident hunters, they don't hunt brown bears. They're
20 there to shoot moose. They're not benefitting the
21 country.

22

23 This one guide, if they take one or two
24 brown bears, and I don't know what they get, do you
25 have those numbers, Glenn?

26

27 They take one or two brown bears,
28 they've done a big benefit to the country. Brown bears
29 are a big problem.

30

31 I go back to Sidney Huntington. Brown
32 bears are going to control your lives and so we need to
33 take more brown bears and a hunting guide there taking
34 a few moose hunters in conjunction and some bears also
35 is a benefit to the overall moose population of the
36 Upper Novi.

37

38 So we've spent a lot of time on this
39 proposal. We've kind of laid the proposal out. You
40 can vote how you like.

41

42 The Chair will entertain a motion for
43 question -- or question.

44

45 MR. HONEA: Question.

46

47 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Question's called.

48

49 Those in favor of Proposal 62, signify

50

1 by saying aye.

2

3

(Some aye votes)

4

5

CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Opposed, same sign.

6

7

(Some opposing votes)

8

9

CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: So count again.

10 Those opposed, raise your hand.

11

12

13 So we got five members opposed to the
14 proposal and two members in support. So the record
15 will reflect that.

16

17

18 So then we're into Proposal 63, which
19 is repeal the Dalton Highway corridor management area.
20 This is a proposal by the Fairbanks Advisory Committee.

21

22

23 So present language does not mirror all
24 the restrictions in Alaska Statute 5.AAC.92.53.007 in
25 total. Present language in Statute 19.40.210 causing
26 confusion among hunters and enforcement. Present
27 language in the codified: The Dalton Highway corridor
28 management area consists of those portions of Units 20,
29 24 through 26, extending five miles from each side of
30 the Dalton Highway, including the driveable surface of
31 the Dalton Highway from the Yukon River to the Arctic
32 Ocean and including the Prudhoe Bay closed area.

33

34

35 The area within the Prudhoe Bay closed
36 area is closed to hunting; however, big game and small
37 game and furbearers may be taken in the area by bow and
38 arrow only and small game may be taken by falconry.

39

40

41 C. No motorized vehicle may be used to
42 transport hunters, hunting gear or parts of game within
43 the Dalton Highway Corridor Management Area, except
44 that licensed highway vehicles may be used on the
45 following designated roads; the Dalton Highway, the
46 Bettles Winter Trail during periods when the Bureau of
47 Land Management and the City of Bettles announce the
48 trail is open, the Galbraith Lake Road to the
49 campground, including the Gravel Pit Access Road, the
50 Tulik Lake Road, the Saganarictuck River access road
two miles north of Pump Station -- and any constructed
road or gravel pit within one quarter mile of the
Dalton Highway. Aircraft and boats may be used in the
corridor. Snowmachines may be used to cross the

1 management area from land outside the management area
2 to access lands on the other side of the management
3 area. Any hunter traveling in the Dalton Highway
4 corridor must stop at any check station operated by the
5 Department.
6

7 What is the issue you would like the
8 Board to address. Repeal the Dalton Highway corridor
9 management area. The restrictive regulations codified
10 are unnecessary and confusing to the public and law
11 enforcement. The guiding restrictions are clear in
12 AAC.19.40.210. Hunting regulations should refer to the
13 statute. Conflicts arise from Federal Agency
14 management for Federally-qualified rural Alaskans to
15 the detriment of Alaskans who are subsistence hunting.
16 The statutory limits prevail, so let's use the instead
17 -- instead of recreating some of them.
18

19 I live on the Dalton Highway corridor.
20

21 The statutes being quoted were to
22 protect big game during the construction of the
23 Pipeline. It had revolved around big game harvest and
24 so there was all terrain vehicle restrictions and there
25 were firearm restrictions put in place revolving around
26 big game harvest. That's why the restrictions are
27 there.
28

29 There is the qualified rural residents
30 are not in conflict with the Alaskans who are
31 subsistence hunting. I don't know why the Fairbanks
32 Advisory Committee threw that in there because I know
33 for a fact living there, there are four households that
34 hunted moose this year. There is an allocation of 70
35 draw permits for the -- there's the resident hunters in
36 Unit 24A, there's 70 permits issued, there's four moose
37 taken annually by the Village of Wiseman. Coldfoot
38 never harvests moose. I have never known of them
39 taking a moose.
40

41 So why they're trying to make this dust
42 cloud of these rural residents conflicting with these
43 other Alaskans who are like thousands of hunters come
44 to hunt caribou. I don't even hunt caribou on the
45 North Slope. There's way too many hunters over there.
46 I don't even go there. I haven't shot a hard antler
47 caribou. I'd like to, but there's hundreds of hunters.
48 I hunt caribou in the spring. I don't have to deal
49 with all those guys.
50

1 People -- subsistence hunters like --
2 like most subsistence hunters, we try to avoid other
3 hunters. You don't want conflict. I have protected
4 the non-subsistence hunters. There's many times
5 they've tried to allocate -- there's been proposal --
6 been allocation to eliminate non-subsistence use in
7 26B. When was that -- two years ago. They wanted to
8 eliminate non-resident use for caribou in 26B. I
9 fought that back. I says no. There's enough caribou
10 to harvest. We have to stay within sustained yield.

11
12 I protected these Alaskans that claim
13 to be subsistence users. These other hunters. I
14 protected them. But what do we get out of Fairbanks
15 AC, this kind of language. This is offensive to me.
16 This is offensive to me because I have protected their
17 right to hunt up there.

18
19 We have an allocation system of 70
20 moose permits to be issued. We do not have any
21 problems in the Dalton Highway corridor. We need to
22 tweak a few things. We don't want to throw the baby
23 out with the bath water by repealing the Dalton Highway
24 corridor mana -- why is that, because Board of Game
25 regulations have teeth. They violate one of the
26 regulations of the Board, they get a ticket.

27
28 Right now the statutes that they're
29 referring to have no teeth. We got to go the
30 Legislature to put teeth in the statute, but they
31 didn't put teeth in the statute. We can't get his
32 Legislature to pass a budget. We can't get this
33 Legislature to do anything they're supposed to be
34 doing. Do you think that they're going to manage game
35 on the Dalton Highway corridor. Forget that. That's
36 not going to happen.

37
38 I'm highly opposed to Proposal 63.

39
40 And I'll get off my pedestal now about
41 that one.

42
43 (Laughter)

44
45 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: So the Chair will
46 entertain a motion to adopt Proposal 63.

47
48 MR. HONEA: Mr. Chair, motion to
49 oppose.

50

1 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: No. Motion to
2 adopt.
3
4 MR. HONEA: To adopt.....
5
6 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: And we'll vote it
7 down.
8
9 MR. HONEA:okay.
10
11 MS. DEATHERAGE: Don, and who seconded
12 it?
13
14 REPORTER: Not seconded yet.
15
16 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Do we have a second.
17
18 MR. KRISKA: Second.
19
20 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Seconded by Tommy.
21
22 REPORTER: There you go, seconded by
23 Tommy.
24
25 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Discussion on the
26 proposal by the Council Members.
27
28 MS. PELKOLA: I'll call for the
29 question.
30
31 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Question's called.
32
33 Those in favor of Proposal 63, signify
34 by saying aye.
35
36 (No aye votes)
37
38 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Opposed to Proposal
39 63, signify by saying aye.
40
41 IN UNISON: Aye.
42
43 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: So moving on to
44 Proposal 64, which is to clarify the legal use of
45 highway vehicles, snowmachines, and off road vehicles
46 on the Dalton Highway Corridor Management Area and this
47 is a fairly long proposal, but we have the proponent
48 here.
49
50

1 So come to the mic there, Glenn.

2
3 (Laughter)

4
5 MR. KRISKA: Just sit up there, Glenn.

6
7 (Laughter)

8
9 MR. STOUT: Okay. I've got a 40-minute
10 presentation that I'm going to give on Friday. I can
11 start now or you can come Friday.

12
13 (Laughter)

14
15 MS. DEATHERAGE: We'll see you in 40.

16
17 (Laughter)

18
19 MR. STOUT: Mr. Chair. It is a very
20 complex issue and I just don't think it's worth trying
21 to delve into each thing.

22
23 The basic part of Proposal 63 and 64 is
24 that the regulation is redundant with the statute. And
25 in all the areas that matter they are consistent with
26 one another. For instance, you can't use a firearm for
27 hunting big game. That's in the statute. It's
28 redundant in the regulation.

29
30 The problem is not where they're both
31 the same and they match up. The problem is where they
32 start to diverge from one another. And right now it's
33 not just the Fish and Game regulation, but it's the
34 statute. And then we have other Federal regulations
35 that manage land use on there and like dictate what
36 size, how heavy a four-wheeler can be that can go in
37 there.

38
39 All those different layers of
40 regulation, as you can imagine, is somewhat like the
41 State, Federal two-tiered dual management system. And
42 you know how much you guys struggled to try and line up
43 two layers of law. Because one person, one agency or
44 department is moving and the other one is going in a
45 different direction.

46
47 This is essentially six different
48 layers of regulation that over the last 40 years have
49 diverged. And in addition to that, changes in the laws

50

1 that have written -- what's most important is uses have
2 changed and the road network has changed.

3
4 And now not only do we just have the
5 road, the ice road that goes to Bettles, we have a road
6 that goes to Anaktuvuk Pass, we have a road that goes
7 all the way up to DeadHorse, goes out west, goes clear
8 to Nuiqsut. We just got pictures the other day of
9 where a groomed trail now goes all the way to Utqiagvik
10 and road networks are going clear out to Wainwright,
11 clear down to Atqasuk.

12
13 And that's the problem, is people are
14 being made illegal. If you drive off one of those
15 roads and then you go hunting, you violate the
16 regulation, you don't violate the statute necessarily.
17 But if you drive out with your motorized vehicle then
18 all of a sudden we have an enforcement issue when you
19 go hunting. Because the way the regulation prohibits
20 it, it says except for those designated roads that you
21 just read, the minute you drive out, and whether it's
22 the next day you go hunting or two months later you're
23 breaking the law.

24
25 And so we're trying to, if we get rid
26 of the regulation make those people legal, because the
27 fact of the matter is our seasons and bag limits
28 regulate our game harvest. We didn't have the comfort
29 of all the information 40 years ago when these
30 regulations were first promulgated to be able to have
31 the protective umbrella of the seasons and bag limits
32 that we do now and the information we have.

33
34 And so we're just trying to simply the
35 regulation and make it so people aren't inadvertently
36 breaking the law.

37
38 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Any questions for
39 Glenn.

40
41 (No comments)

42
43 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: The Koyukuk River
44 Advisory Committee reviewed this regulation and
45 discussed this proposal fairly extensively. The
46 original proposal came from enforcement. And I forgot
47 what proposal number that was. That was where this
48 clarification was needed about transporting game parts
49 for trapping and stuff like that with an all terrain
50

1 vehicle.

2

3 We have to remember that the primary
4 statute revolves around big game harvest. It didn't
5 revolve around trapping. It didn't revolve around
6 small game harvest. It revolved around big game
7 harvest.

8

9 So the Koyukuk River Advisory Committee
10 met and made clarifications that need to be
11 implemented. So I'll read what we discussed. And
12 these are in the Koyukuk River Advisory Committee
13 meeting minutes.

14

15 The Dalton Highway corridor was
16 implemented in State Alaska statutes when the Trans-
17 Alaska Pipeline was to be constructed to protect the
18 low density game populations, commercial trapping, and
19 access to private property, homes, woodcutting, mining
20 and other long standing uses of lands within the Dalton
21 Highway corridor management area were not to be
22 affected by ORV or firearm statutes.

23

24 The Alaska Board of Game is the best
25 management body to address enforcement questions posed
26 by the Department of Public Safety -- Department of
27 Safety, Wildlife Protection and other issues raised by
28 the public.

29

30 Legal licensed.....

31

32 No. 1. Legal licensed trapping is a
33 very important management tool to harvest furbearers
34 under trapping regulations. Clarification is needed to
35 allow snowmachine use to continue to trap furbearers
36 and to allow the definition of legal bait of big game
37 to be transported by snowmachines within the Dalton
38 Highway corridor. Licensed trappers should not be
39 impeded to travel to and from their homes or within or
40 outside of the Dalton Highway corridor management area.

41

42 Firearms to take free ranging
43 furbearers have always been allowed in the Dalton
44 Highway Corridor Management Area under trapping license
45 and should continue. Repeal or restricting trappers to
46 take predators would be detrimental to big game
47 populations and would cause necessary reduction of
48 ungulate harvest by Alaskan big game hunters.

49

50

1 Shooting free ranging wolves and
2 furbearers from the road is a necessary management
3 tool. If repealed that would not be -- there would be
4 a full repeal. You would not be able to shoot -- there
5 would be no big game regulation that allows you to
6 shoot a wolf under a trapping regulation. There would
7 be no regulation. There would just be a closure to
8 firearms, period. And so the Board of Game is the best
9 management authority for the Dalton Highway corridor.
10 Not a statute that the Legislature has passed.

11
12 No. 2. The Board of Game needs to
13 allow residents who live north of the Yukon River to
14 travel to their homes from the Dalton Highway. These
15 are just clarifications. We're talking about the road
16 to Utqiagvik, or the road to Nuiqsut or the road to
17 Anaktuvuk, or to Allakaket or Bettles, these roads to
18 go home should not be impeded. The Board of Game
19 should clarify that. They should go through the --
20 where there have been issues, and you just delineated
21 those, the Board should adopt regulations to allow
22 people to be legal to go home. It was -- the statutes
23 revolve around big game protection.

24
25 So residents of Nuiqsut, Anaktuvuk,
26 Wiseman, Bettles, Evansville, and Stevens Village need
27 to be able to travel to their homes with legally taken
28 big game. The year-round, or winter roads to these
29 villages should be allowed access with licensed tired
30 vehicles by the residents to transport game, game parts
31 or hunters and gear as defined in regulation.

32
33 The oil field roads to Nuiqsut, winter
34 roads to Anaktuvuk Pass and the Wiseman Road to
35 property and businesses, the Bettles winter road and
36 the winter road to Stevens Village should be allowed
37 access by their residents. That's a clarification that
38 the Board has to make. Instead of repealing the whole
39 thing they just make a -- have those allowances.

40
41 We've got Ben Stevens here from Stevens
42 Village. I might have you come to the mic.

43
44 MR. STEVENS: I will.

45
46 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: There is a need to
47 allow licensed highway vehicles to transport hunters,
48 game parts or gear within one mile of the Dalton
49 Highway. The current quarter mile restriction does not

50

1 allow big game hunters to access boat launch sites into
2 the Koyukuk River, the Sag River drainages that have
3 side access roads outside of the quarter mile limit.
4

5 Some hunters are accessing legal launch
6 sites up to 18 miles, river miles from logical access.
7 I am advocating for the hunters, the non-local hunters
8 to be able to access and launch boats. That's why I
9 took offense by Fairbanks AC's comment that we're out
10 to get them. No. Who is fighting for them. I think
11 there is a clarification needed to allow under State
12 Board of Game regulations that they can use a licensed
13 highway vehicle within one mile to launch their boats
14 into the river so that they can use legal access, which
15 is boat and aircraft within the Dalton Highway
16 corridor.
17

18 Those were the comments, the three
19 clarification comments that the Koyukuk River AC wrote
20 to the Board of Game. I wanted the Council to be aware
21 of that.
22

23 So Ben Stevens is here from Stevens
24 Village.
25

26 Would you like to come to the mic and
27 comment on Proposal 64.
28

29 MR. STEVENS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
30 My name is Ben Stevens and I am from Stevens Village.
31 I grew up there until I had to leave for a cash paying
32 job and school and that kind of stuff.
33

34 I would caution the Council here to be
35 careful when you loosen restrictions especially,
36 especially around the road systems and especially
37 around the Dalton Highway, which when originally
38 punched through we were all promised it was not going
39 to negatively impact our lives.
40

41 Now you may have heard that the people
42 of Stevens Village has this place close to Stevens
43 Village called (In Native), essentially it's roughly
44 translated, that's where our people go when times are
45 hard, we can always get something to eat there. As
46 soon as the bridge went through that quickly became
47 known as a world class pike fishery, otherwise known as
48 the Dall River.
49
50

1 Mr. Chairman, that, I think, is a
2 really good example of our very careful consideration
3 of impact on community. The Dall River is no longer
4 considered by our people (In Native). Back in the
5 early '90s it was in a really, really bad -- it was in
6 bad shape. And we took a look at it and we came up
7 with the conclusion that there's no data to indicate
8 that this system was a problem, that there was a
9 problem there.

10
11 So as we are science and data driven,
12 we were stuck in a hard place. Our people knew that
13 there was a problem down there. That the resources
14 were plundered. And yet our scientifically based
15 institutions were saying well, we don't have any data
16 to indicate that there's a problem there. So we got
17 tied up in verbiage, in regulation, and we lost that.

18
19 So I have just -- I don't know all the
20 intricacies, Mr. Chairman. You know the history of
21 this. I would just caution. Any time you have the
22 Department in ka.....

23
24 (Laughter)

25
26 MR. STEVENS: I would -- I would -- if
27 I were you voting, with my experience from Stevens
28 Village, I would vote this down. I would have those
29 folks that thought this great idea up, I would have
30 them go back and come back with a comprehensive look,
31 more than just tweaking.

32
33 Because right now what we're trying to
34 do is slap some regulations up so folks can have
35 increased access. Maybe what we need to do is turn
36 that around.

37
38 Mr. Chairman, respectfully I thank you
39 for your time.

40
41 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Thanks, Ben. And so
42 I feel that we don't want to oppose the proposal.

43
44 We want to -- the proposal is asking to
45 clarify the current language of the Dalton Highway
46 Corridor. And there's a whole bunch of reg -- there's
47 Board of Fisheries regulations that closes the Dalton
48 Highway Corridor to the harvest of salmon because there
49 are nominal salmon stocks on the Jim River, SouthFork,

50

1 Middle Fork. Those drainages cannot support salmon
2 harvest on the road.

3
4 There's a lot of Board of Fish and
5 Board of Game regulations through decades of prom -- of
6 adjustment to stay within sustained yield. Throwing
7 out the Dalton Highway Corridor by the Board of Game,
8 they would have to have a joint Board of Fish meeting
9 to do the same thing because they actually both use the
10 Dalton Highway Corridor language.

11
12 So full repeal of the Dalton Highway
13 corridor -- it's already delineated in statute. It
14 already delineates certain -- it's a violation to do
15 specific things. And that has teeth and enforcement
16 has the authority to enforce.

17
18 If we repeal we have no enforcement
19 until the legislature makes -- and then we have -- then
20 we're in worse shape than we already are.

21
22 So I would like the Council to -- I
23 just read the position of the Koyukuk River Advisory
24 Committee and the three clarifications that could be
25 cut and pasted to allow legal trapping. The Board of
26 Game needs to recognize that the residents need to go
27 home from these various communities north of the Yukon
28 River, including Stevens Village, and to be able to
29 legally go to their homes and the Board of Game needs
30 to allow licensed highway vehicles to launch boats
31 within one mile of the Dalton Highway.

32
33 And that will suffice to the main
34 problems that have been occurring on the Dalton Highway
35 Corridor Management Area. We don't want to throw the
36 baby out with the bath water. I feel we don't want to
37 repeal the Dalton Highway corridor because we have
38 virtually nothing in place, so we have nothing in place
39 so we go back to ground zero.

40
41 So enforcement has nothing to -- they
42 could -- somebody can shoot a moose on the side of the
43 road. Ha. There's no regulation that says you can't
44 do it. There's no violation. There is a Board of Game
45 violation and you're going to get a ticket for that. If
46 you repeal, they shoot that moose, they get a violation
47 for shooting not having a permit, but they didn't get a
48 violation for shooting it with a rifle because there's
49 no statute that has a fine for that. That's the

50

1 problem. You've got to go to the Legislature to get
2 them to implement fines for doing specific things. The
3 Board's already doing that. We already have that.
4 There's been plenty of people who got \$1,500 fines for
5 shooting moose or caribou or anything in the Dalton
6 Highway Corridor with a firearm. The Board is already
7 addressing the issue. I feel the Board of Game is the
8 management authority under State statute to manage the
9 Dalton Highway Corridor.

10
11 So the Chair will entertain a motion to
12 adopt the premise of clarification in Proposal 64, but
13 with these three cut and paste. And you have the
14 minutes from the Koyukuk River Advisory Committee and
15 you can cut and paste the three points as part of our
16 comment revolving around that under Proposal 64
17 retaining the Dalton Highway Corridor is very important
18 to fish and game management. It is also important as a
19 long history of working with various proposals and so
20 forth to maintain sustained yield for fish and wildlife
21 within the Dalton Highway Corridor, but there are some
22 minor tweaking that needs to be adjusted.

23
24 And these three points were the ones
25 that I could think of.

26
27 Glenn delineated those issues about
28 people going home. They're violating the law. Well,
29 just clarify the law. Just clarify the regulation.
30 Let's just do that instead of repealing the whole
31 thing.

32
33 So I would like a motion to adopt
34 Proposal 64 with a clarification that it's important to
35 maintain the Dalton Highway Corridor Management Area
36 for fish and wildlife management and these points that
37 the Board would have to -- should address during the
38 deliberation of Proposal 64.

39
40 Is that clear to the Council.

41
42 MR. GERVAIS: No.

43
44 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: No.

45
46 MR. GERVAIS: But so moved.

47
48 (Laughter)

49
50

1 MR. GERVAIS: I will make a motion to
2 bring forth what you said, but I want some
3 clarification.

4
5 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Sure.

6
7 MS. PELKOLA: I'll second.

8
9 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Moved and seconded.

10
11 Clarification.

12
13 MR. GERVAIS: All right. So due to the
14 length of this proposal and the amount of legalize in
15 it I am having trouble understanding all the issues
16 involved. So what you and what Koyukuk AC is saying is
17 adopt this language from the Department of Fish and
18 Game, as written, plus these three cut and paste
19 paragraphs from the Koyukuk AC and you feel that will
20 maintain the integrity of the.....

21
22 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: The first part of
23 the proposal says clarify the legal use of highway
24 vehicles, snowmachines, off road vehicles in the Dalton
25 Highway Corridor Management Area for hunting and
26 trapping. Clarify the use of firearms and transport of
27 furbearers and trapping bait within the Dalton Highway
28 corridor. That's the part -- the premise is adopt
29 Proposal 64 for clarification, then give the
30 clarifications.

31
32 And the main thing is to state to the
33 Board that it's important to maintain the Dalton
34 Highway Corridor Management Area for fish and wildlife
35 management for low density, big game populations. And
36 then clarifying the -- the proposal is to clarify the
37 legal use of highway vehicles. These three points
38 clarify some of the main issues that have been in need
39 of clarification. That's what they're saying.

40
41 MR. GERVAIS: Okay. So you're saying
42 Koyukuk AC language does the clarification.

43
44 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Clarifies most of
45 the problems.

46
47 MR. GERVAIS: What about the
48 Department's proposal. Are they legally clarifying
49 anything in these three pages of text.

50

1 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Well, there's --
2 Glenn's got to come back to the mic.

3
4 This basically.....

5
6 MR. GERVAIS: To me -- I'm reading the
7 proposal, I'm seeing a bunch of question marks.

8
9 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Right.

10
11 MR. GERVAIS: And I don't want to leave
12 a bunch of question marks.

13
14 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Uh-huh.

15
16 MR. GERVAIS: To me that's not
17 clarifying, that's just opening cans of worms or
18 Pandora's box.

19
20 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Go ahead, Glenn.

21
22 MR. STOUT: Yeah, Mr. Chair. Member
23 Gervais.

24
25 It's really hard once you start talking
26 now specifics because there's a lot of definitions that
27 apply to it. And Jack brought up in particular
28 identifying, okay, what is the difference in the
29 statute which says no off road vehicles and what Jack
30 brought up in the regulation, it says licensed highway
31 vehicles.

32
33 And so that's one of those places where
34 they started off the same and they started to diverge.
35 And then how do we figure out, well, what are the two,
36 how do they match up. What's the distinction.

37
38 MR. GERVAIS: Can I stop you there. I
39 thought that when the Board of Fish or Board of Game
40 adopts a proposal that becomes statute.

41
42 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: That's regulation.

43
44 MR. STOUT: Yeah.

45
46 MR. GERVAIS: What's the difference
47 between regulation and statute.

48
49 MR. STOUT: The Legislature, the State

50

1 Legislature creates statutes and the Board of Game
2 creates regulations.

3
4 MR. GERVAIS: Okay. Sorry for the
5 interruption.

6
7 So we have -- you're saying over the
8 time -- the course of, what is it, 47 years, the
9 statute and the regulation have diverged and when
10 people are performing normal functions like driving to
11 their house they are meeting regulation, but they're
12 violating statute.

13
14 MR. STOUT: Through the Chair. Member
15 Gervais.

16
17 Yeah, the way the statute reads is they
18 give three allowances. If it's oil and gas mining and
19 homestead activities they allow for transportation to
20 travel through the corridor. So those are exemptions
21 of the statute.

22
23 Jack is right. There's actually two
24 statutes involved. There's a Fish and Game statute and
25 there's a Department of Transportation statute. The
26 Department of Transportation statute prohibits the use
27 of what we're talking about, the off road vehicle use.
28 The Fish and Game statute prohibits the use of a
29 firearm for big game animals.

30
31 And so the regulation then layers on
32 top of that. And it has similar prohibitions, but
33 curiously it creates allowances for a licensed highway
34 vehicle on certain roads. That's what it is. So
35 presumptively -- because regulation can't override
36 statute. Just like State laws can't override Federal
37 laws. The Federal law preempts it. The statute
38 preempts the regulation. And so that must mean if the
39 regulation can prescribe licensed highway vehicles on
40 certain roads, then that must mean the statute never
41 prohibited that use. In fact, it never prohibited any
42 like four-wheelers or anything apparently. What is was
43 saying is you can't get off roads, is really what the
44 ends up meaning.

45
46 And so that's one of the challenges in
47 this, is trying to piece this out and it becomes
48 complicated. As you know, you know, everybody looks
49 for, well, is this allowed and so the public comes to
50

1 us. And I think that's probably more of what that
2 comment was from the Fairbanks AC on there. It's we're
3 trying to figure out what's legal for other people in
4 Alaska and they felt like it wasn't necessarily the
5 urban hunters versus the rural hunters that was the
6 conflict.

7
8 It's they see these violations
9 occurring -- like travel to Anaktuvuk Pass -- and
10 they're saying -- well, is that allowed now for
11 everyone. And so they were juxtaposing the two user
12 groups against each other. Not pitting each other
13 against each other. They were just saying hey, we see
14 something going on here. What is allowed. And so
15 that's -- that's really what that statement I think was
16 more about than saying that they did something to us.

17
18 So this is trying to figure out, okay,
19 how do we make this law a better law. This is really
20 what it's about. And it's trying to figure out, okay,
21 if we're going to try and enforce it -- because the
22 fact of the matter is there is getting to be additional
23 use other than people that live in those communities
24 and so are we going to allow it or not. Because if we
25 aren't going to enforce it on people that live in
26 Anaktuvuk how are we going to enforce it for somebody
27 that doesn't live there and wants to do the same thing.
28 We've got to figure it out.

29
30 And so I think you're on the right
31 track, Jack, as far as trying to figure out how we're
32 going to get this right. Because it's kind of a wreck
33 right now, I think, and that's why I -- I'm glad we're
34 having this conversation. I think it's long overdue.
35 This thing is 40 years old. And we know there's a lot
36 of problems with it and we -- we don't want to I would
37 say let this opportunity pass by and brush it off and
38 say oh, no, it's fine, let's just do this. We need to
39 get this right because it -- it's a real mess and the
40 public is getting more and more frustrated because Fish
41 and Game gives them one interpretation. They go to
42 D&R, they give them a different interpretation. Public
43 safety gives them a different one. BLM gives them a
44 different one. It's terribly confusing for the public
45 and I think we're all smart people, we can figure out a
46 better law and get this right.

47
48 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: But that would rely
49 on going to the Legislature to change the statute. And
50

1 that's kind of my problem because I don't think that
2 they are incentivized to do that. And that might not
3 even happen for years.

4
5 MR. STOUT: Well, perhaps if this
6 raises the attention, maybe we can make it happen.
7 Because I think it's essential that we get a change in
8 that statute as well. I think you're right, it's going
9 to be a challenge. But if we just keep quiet about it
10 and just say let's let the status quo go, we never get
11 the change at all. We're guaranteed not to get a
12 change then.

13
14 So I think we're looking at the same
15 thing. How we go about it may be a little bit
16 different, but that statute does need changed. And we
17 can't just say well, not do it, well, let's raise the
18 discussion and get people's attention. Let's -- you
19 know, we're the public. Let's do it.

20
21 MR. GERVAIS: Mr. Chair.

22
23 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Go ahead, Tim.

24
25 MR. GERVAIS: So based on this
26 discussion and the apparent significance of it and the
27 apparent dysfunctionality of it -- of the current
28 situation, is this like a topic that needs to get into
29 our annual report and some kind of joint group between
30 whoever the stakeholder are. Get together and hammer
31 out something that can be presented to the legislature
32 and get -- like get the correct fix the first time.

33
34 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: This Council is
35 under the Hatch Act and we can't log legal legislature
36 at all. And it's a Board of Game -- or it's a State
37 statute. The Dalton Highway corridor is delineated in
38 Federal regulations because it's delineating around
39 that land status or that designated area.

40
41 So working with the Federal and -- the
42 Federal regulations already reflect the same area.
43 They have special statute, regulatory allowances,
44 subsistence users can use a firearm for big game
45 hunting on the Dalton Highway Corridor. Couldn't use a
46 firearm, period, under Federal regulations. Federal
47 regulations allow specific season -- minor season
48 adjustments for Dall sheep and moose primarily.

49
50

1 The Federal regulatory process allows
2 licensed highway vehicles on designated roads, which
3 means frankly any road there. If it's a road, if it's
4 a driveable surface you can drive on it. Ask the BLM
5 enforcement officer, Jen McMillan's husband.
6

7 So the bottom line is we have specific
8 regulatory -- Federal regulatory things, but the State
9 regulation would not allow us to go home. We can't go
10 home. We can't drive on the road to our house. I
11 don't think that -- that's not what the statute
12 revolved around. That's not what the Board of Game and
13 the statute -- the homestead issues -- the
14 Legislature's addressed that and if the Board can't see
15 that, people going home, the Board's addressed -- or
16 the Legislature's allowed access to homesteads but they
17 don't think about the rest of the people, they just
18 think about specific home -- well, the homestead thing
19 is -- the Legislature is telling the Board of Game that
20 people can go home, they can go home, that's what
21 they've been saying. They can go to their homestead.
22 They could go to Chandler Lake or they can go to
23 whatever they passed, across the Dalton Highway
24 Corridor they've -- the Legislature has allowed that,
25 the Board of Game can tweak their regulations to allow
26 people to return home.
27

28 I still feel that relying on the
29 Legislature -- for the Board to pass a repeal in
30 Proposal 63, we have like nothing, and we're going to
31 be waiting for years. I don't think that the
32 Legislature is going to be under any real compelling
33 reason to change all the fine tuning that would need to
34 be incorporated into the statute. I just don't see
35 that. I don't know who's going to even propose that.
36

37 I'm concerned about that.
38

39 That the Legislature would not have any
40 -- there would be no fall back to address the issues.
41 I'm concerned about that. I don't think that's going
42 to happen. And I don't feel that the Legislature is
43 actually the entity under State statute, the Board of
44 Game deals with fish and wild -- or the Board of Game
45 and the Board of Fish deal with fish and wildlife
46 management. I feel it's the Board's prerogative to
47 make regulations in the delineated Dalton Highway
48 Corridor.
49

50

1 That's just my position. That's what I
2 think.

3
4 And I feel that these clarifications
5 were brought up by fish and wildlife protection about
6 certain issues. And I think that comments on
7 clarifications or regulatory changes by the Board need
8 to be addressed.

9
10 But I don't think doing -- repeal is --
11 I personally don't see where the repeal is the right
12 way to go with that. I'm concerned that we'll be stuck
13 in purgatory for the rest of our lives, literally.

14
15 MR. GERVAIS: Jack.

16
17 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: For the rest of my
18 life.

19
20 MR. GERVAIS: Jack.

21
22 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Yeah.

23
24 MR. GERVAIS: You're referring back to
25 63, the repeal thing. I want information about 64.

26
27 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: That's what -- well,
28 Glenn keeps talking about -- basically he keeps moving
29 toward repeal. The discussion revolves around repeal
30 or doing away with the Board of Game regulations.

31
32 That's what you're referring to, Glenn?
33 Or.....

34
35 MR. STOUT: Mr. Chair. 64 -- the
36 Department has some language that we've prepared for
37 the Board that will give them -- it talked about them
38 in general in the proposal of 64, but some of the
39 things I talked to you about at the Koyukuk River AC
40 meeting and I would just go through Member Gervais'
41 benefit.

42
43 There's quite a few roads. The way the
44 current regulation reads is motorized vehicles cannot
45 travel outside of a one-quarter mile distance on a
46 road. And there's quite a few of those roads. Like
47 Coldfoot airport is longer than a quarter of a mile.
48 The road to Wiseman is longer than a quarter of a mile.
49 But if we change that regulation as one adjustment to
50

1 make that one mile, then all of a sudden quite a few of
2 these little roads that are already happening and
3 people are violating essentially going in that -- they
4 would be made legal. And so that would be one example
5 of a fix that we have in place in that prepared
6 language.

7
8 We've also added in these other roads
9 that we know have been developed like the road to
10 Anaktuvuk Pass. It would be written in just like the
11 Bettles ice road is in there, and it would have that
12 same kind of delimiter that opened when the BLM says
13 that it's suitable travel conditions; that kind of
14 language.

15
16 The case up on the Nuiqsut, we'd write
17 it in there, but that's going to be a little bit more
18 challenging because trying to define is one of the
19 problems; what constitutes a road. Is an ice road a
20 road, if I drag a plate behind my truck and I create a
21 flat spot, did I just create a developed road. It's
22 going to be tricky on trying to define all these
23 things. This is one part of the problem is a lot of
24 these terms need definition.

25
26 And there's another aspect that Jack
27 talked about several times, this trapping issue. If we
28 move the whole regulation out of the management area
29 section of Fish and Game code into the controlled use
30 area portion of Fish and Game code, then we'll solve
31 this issue. Because all regulations in the controlled
32 use area are hunting regulations and there won't be any
33 confusion about whether this somehow should apply to
34 trapping. And so that will be another aspect that will
35 shift.

36
37 So those are three examples. There's
38 several more detailed ones, but that's the kind of
39 thing that's in that Proposal 64.

40
41 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: I don't.....

42
43 MR. GERVAIS: So when you're at Board
44 of Game you're going to supply all this extra
45 information that's going to clarify all the little --
46 the details of all of the various roads?

47
48 MR. STOUT: Yeah. Through the Chair.
49 Member Gervais.

50

1 Yes. The way it's going to work at the
2 Board of Game, we're going to give a Staff report at
3 the very beginning of the meeting. I will be giving
4 that. And then the Department of Law is going to have
5 some words to say because this is a very complicated
6 legal landscape. And then we'll start going through --
7 after public comments, after the Staff reports we have
8 public comments and then we'll start going through the
9 proposals one by one.

10
11 Galena is up first this year. And
12 that's when we'll present that. And we will give them
13 a heads up that we have recommended language, but they,
14 you know, we've already talked about many of those and
15 some of them are identified in this proposal. Just not
16 every single aspect of it.

17
18 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: So did you have any
19 issue with the three points that I read about using
20 highway license -- legal licensed trapping is a very
21 important management tool, but using snowmobiles on the
22 Dalton Highway Corridor.....

23
24 MR. STOUT: Well, those -- yeah, you
25 know, I think you're getting at some of the same things
26 that we're getting at. Our list is longer.

27
28 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Right. So I feel
29 that the Koyukuk River Advisory Committee language
30 should be submitted to the Board for consideration
31 along with the Department's comments, but I don't think
32 we're that far off. I just -- I keep -- I'm afraid of
33 repeal. I'm really afraid of repeal of the Dalton
34 Highway Corridor Management Area because then we lose
35 control.

36
37 So I agree with the premise of the
38 first part of the proposal. All of the little nuances
39 of the language I'm not sure about, but I feel more
40 comfortable with submitting this language as the issues
41 that the Board needs to address.

42
43 I do feel that this language that the
44 Koyukuk River Advisory Committee commented needs to be
45 included in our recommendation to the Board of Game on
46 Proposal 64.

47
48 Tim.

49
50

1 MR. GERVAIS: I'm not getting why -- if
2 we're going to vote to support this proposal and we
3 don't even know the language that we're supporting,
4 that feels kind of ridiculous to me.

5
6 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: That's why I'm
7 saying that we support the premise of clarification --
8 the first part of the proposal. The first paragraph.
9 We support that first paragraph and the other language
10 that the Department's proposing, and we don't know what
11 the final comments are about. We then have our three
12 points here and I read those three points, we include
13 as some of the clarifications that the Board needs to
14 consider. And then the Department may be aligning with
15 some of our clarifications. So then the Board knows
16 what the Koyukuk River Advisory Committee is thinking,
17 what this Council is thinking and then they can, and
18 the State of -- and the language may be similar. It
19 may be divergent.

20
21 But I'm not supporting the entire
22 proposal because I don't know what the entire language
23 is. And it would take like hours to go through it and
24 I don't have hours.

25
26 So I'm just talking about the motion on
27 the table right now is the first paragraph and pasting
28 in the three points, which are the clarification points
29 that I feel that this Council should use from the
30 Koyukuk River Advisory.

31
32 MR. GERVAIS: All right. So we're
33 really -- what we need to do is support a modified
34 Proposal 64 that only has the first paragraph and then
35 a second paragraph that says we support the premise of
36 what Fish and Game is trying to do and these are and
37 these three things that you're adding in addition are
38 additional thoughts, and that we're supportive of the
39 attempt to clarify and align statute and regulation,
40 but not -- take no action on this proposal as written.

41
42 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Well, you know,
43 we're -- the modified language would be these three
44 points are pasted in. We agree that there needs to be
45 clarification that the Department has put out.

46
47 MR. GERVAIS: And then we strike.....

48
49 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: We -- we.....

50

1 MR. GERVAIS: We strike all the
2 other.....
3

4 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: The other language,
5 because we do not have the entirety of it, we need --
6 we're submitting these comments in place of all of
7 those other comments and let the Board figure out how
8 they align with what the Department is talking about.
9 And it goes through the Board's discretion about what
10 they're going to actually do.

11
12 Is that clearer?
13

14 MR. GERVAIS: All right. So are you
15 ready to -- will you entertain a modified proposal or
16 does anybody else want to jump in here.
17

18 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Go ahead, Tommy.
19

20 MR. KRISKA: Yeah. This proposal I
21 guess, well, a lot of these things here on this right
22 here have been -- seems like it's been there for 40
23 years, like you said, and then we're trying to modify
24 it and then with those three pieces with the Department
25 there -- then this whole thing is still not in
26 agreement or understood by each -- by anybody. And I
27 have a problem even supporting it or opposing it
28 because like you said, Mr. Gervais, we don't know what
29 we're really supporting or opposing.
30

31 So I think before I take any action on
32 this, personally, I would get the understanding with
33 the Department and anybody else that's in it before you
34 make a decision or vote on any of it.
35

36 So I thought might possibly table this
37 for now until it's understood by everyone because it's
38 hard to -- for me, I can't make a decision at all. I
39 mean it's kind of a -- I don't know where to go with
40 it.
41

42 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Well, at this point
43 the Board meets next week and so we have to do
44 something right now. There's no like going back or
45 thinking about it anymore.
46

47 We have a motion before us. The motion
48 is to adopt the language in the first paragraph that
49 there needs to be a clarification in the Dalton Highway
50

1 Corridor. These are some of the clarifications that
2 this Council and the Koyukuk River Advisory Committee
3 is submitting. We vote it up or down. You don't like
4 the motion that we have on the table, vote it down. I
5 will support the motion on the table.

6

7

So go ahead.

8

9

MR. GERVAIS: I thought the motion on
10 -- the motion that's open right now is the proposal as
11 written in the book.

12

13

CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: No.

14

15

MR. GERVAIS: We -- I didn't -- who
16 submitted an amended proposal or who made a motion
17 to.....

18

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CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Well, when I was
discussing making a motion I submitted that
clarification needs to be done for the Dalton Highway
Corridor and that the language to be for clarification
is this. And I thought that was clear when I was
discussing and you made that motion to adopt the
proposal.

We can back up and clarify that issue.

MR. GERVAIS: No. Or maybe we can,
but.....all right so what's on the floor right now is
the first paragraph and a statement about the intent
that the Board of Game clarified the -- how these
statutes and regulations are interacting with each
other and the language -- the three paragraphs from
Koyukuk AC and strikes the remaining two and a half
pages that's written in the book.

Is that exactly what we're going to
take a vote on.

CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: That would be
probably best. Just to strike all remaining language
and the Department can discuss their position on their
language.

So we modify the -- basically we are
modifying the proposal that there's a need for
clarification. These are some of the points that need
to be clarified. We do not specifically agree with all

1 of these or we may or may not specifically agree with
2 the rest of the proposal.
3

4 MR. GERVAIS: And you're going to be in
5 committee on this in the Board of Game?
6

7 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: I can't travel to
8 the Board of Game. We've already designated a designee
9 to go. That will be Charles Nan will go the Board of
10 Game and so he's going to go to the Board of Game with
11 our minutes right here for Koyukuk River Advisory.
12

13 MR. GERVAIS: No. I mean are you going
14 to -- you're not going to the Board of Game
15 representing the WIRAC?
16

17 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: That's not been
18 determined. We have not -- WIRAC hasn't attended a
19 Board of Game meeting for a long time. We haven't
20 gotten the funding for that, that's been a kind of a
21 problem.
22

23 MR. GERVAIS: I would like some action
24 be taken, but I would like some -- I want language
25 that's -- that states what we feel is important and
26 that's not going to open up a bunch of unintended
27 effects that are detrimental to the subsistence users.
28

29 So can somebody here on this Council
30 state a -- feel like -- or everybody on this Council,
31 do they feel like this modified amendment that we have
32 open -- does that meet people's requirements on
33 addressing the issue or is there too much undetermined
34 at this time.
35

36 It's really strange for me to be
37 passing up or down a proposal when Glenn's saying the
38 language that's going to become regulation will be
39 presented next week.
40

41 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Right.
42

43 Go ahead, Karen.
44

45 MS. DEATHERAGE: Well, Glenn, go ahead.
46

47
48 MR. STOUT: Yeah, Mr. Chair and Member
49 Gervais.
50

1 I think you're actually on the right
2 track. I think both of you are saying the right thing
3 in my mind. It is unfortunate that we don't have
4 specific language. The language that I'm talking about
5 is a bit of a straw man language to get the discussion
6 going to identify these things.

7
8 And I think essentially what Jack is
9 doing with these three points is saying okay, we see
10 this proposal, the need for clarification, here's the
11 thing that we have identified that needs clarification,
12 so whatever clarification you do -- we want these three
13 aspects of it addressed and accomplish it. Maybe you
14 don't have the specific wording on what it does, but
15 that's the goal, is to have that.

16
17 And as I'm sitting here thinking, I
18 think one more thing that's really fundamental to --
19 maybe that you want to add into it is the snowmachine
20 use thing. Because the way that it is right now in
21 statute and regulation you're only allowed to cross
22 from one side to the other and that was a thing that I
23 brought up at the Koyukuk River AC, that it would be a
24 prohibited act to travel inside the corridor and for
25 instance go trapping if you originate there because the
26 way it says is you can only cross across and you can't
27 start from or end your travel.

28
29 And so I think throwing the general
30 statement to add to your list that allowing the use of
31 snowmachines would be a pretty fundamental one to
32 include as one of these things, one of the issues that
33 needs clarified to allow the use and say we want
34 snowmachine use. Let's clarify that. Accomplish it,
35 you know, and whatever language it takes.

36
37 This is kind of a request for comments,
38 if you will. This proposal. It's getting the
39 attention of the people. Saying, hey, what have you
40 identified are problems and solicit input from the
41 public on what some of these problems are. And that's
42 what I'm doing here, is I'm like trying to shine a
43 light and help you see some of these things that
44 everybody has just accepted. It's been okay for a long
45 time. But actually they were breaking the law on these
46 things and I'm trying to shine a light on it. And you
47 guys to say oh, well, that's not right, let's fix that
48 and so that's what we're trying to accomplish here.

49
50

1 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Tim.

2

3 MR. GERVAIS: I'm sorry to take
4 everybody's -- so much of everyone's time, but let me
5 just explain something that happened in January.

6

7 So at this Board of Fish meeting in
8 Kodiak and proposal about allocation issue between Cook
9 Inlet and Kodiak and Chignik fishermen, really
10 significant economic things going on. And because of
11 the makeup of the Board of Game -- or Board of Fish,
12 excuse me, at the time, currently, what the Board of
13 Fish ruled, it wasn't what the proponents asked for, it
14 wasn't what the people against it asked for, they just
15 like went and made like this whole third track and it
16 was a radical ruling that nobody could see coming.
17 Because at the -- I don't know what the makeup of the
18 Board of Game is, but the make up of the Board of Fish
19 is -- it's -- they're not really that up to speed on
20 commercial fishing and what they laid out into
21 regulation was really radical.

22

23 So if we don't have confirmation on
24 what we're supporting with this proposal, we could get
25 a really bad radical effect if the nature of the Board
26 of Game is like the nature of the Board of Fish on
27 their -- their knowledge base and their outlook on
28 stuff.

29

30 So I would like to -- I would like this
31 issue to be dealt with, but I don't want to support or
32 throw something about. I mean you know the issues that
33 you have with the corridor. Ben Stevens knows the
34 issues from his aspect of it. But the rest of us,
35 we're kind of out of the loop on what's significant and
36 un-significant about it so it's -- if we're going to
37 support something and then have the details added in
38 later, that's -- we might get a bad result.

39

40 MS. DEATHERAGE: Mr. Chairman.

41

42 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Karen.

43

44 MS. DEATHERAGE: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
45 This is Karen. I might have a solution that you can
46 think about.

47

48 First of all, when you send the
49 comments to the Board of Game you don't have to support

50

1 or oppose a proposal. You can just send your
2 recommendations.
3

4 And secondly, I agree with Tim that
5 this isn't just a call for information, this is a
6 proposal the Board of Game can act on. This is a
7 proposal that the Board of Game can put language in
8 that could impact subsistence without your knowledge or
9 understanding when they do it. So I think it's really
10 important to keep that in mind with any kind of
11 comment.
12

13 What I might suggest you do is go ahead
14 and put see below for position in the letter and just
15 put your dialogue which says you're interested in
16 seeing these three to four components clarified within
17 this proposal as they relate to subsistence. I think
18 it's really important to keep the subsistence factor in
19 there because it becomes very confusing otherwise, that
20 any Joe can go up there and do this. And so make this
21 about the subsistence users that are qualified in the
22 Region.
23

24 The second thing is to put in the
25 concern that there's not enough information available
26 at this time for the Council to make a legitimate
27 decision on what other clarification is needed and that
28 you could look at an agenda change request to bring
29 this back in the future, after that information is not
30 only developed, but also disseminated.
31

32 The other thing to keep in mind is
33 anything that the Board of Game does or you request has
34 to go through the Department of Law. Because we have a
35 State statute the Board of Game can't just arbitrarily
36 come up with a clarification and say we're going to do
37 this. Because it has to -- it can't be in -- you know,
38 in violation of the statute.
39

40 So there's a lot of things going on
41 here.
42

43 I mentioned to Glenn as well all of
44 these little roads have little stipulations in their
45 planning efforts that say what activities can and
46 cannot occur, when they can occur, and who makes those
47 decisions. So it's a really, really big issue that --
48 that I would be concerned, as this Council, that any
49 decision is made by the Board of Game on this proposal
50

1 at this meeting with the fact that there's been such
2 little information out as to what that clarifying
3 language would be.

4
5 But as Glenn said, tell them what you
6 want. You want to see this in there. This is what the
7 Koyukuk delivered. This is what they want to see in
8 there. But whether or not the Council is ready to put
9 its John Hancock on this proposal at this meeting I
10 think is a legitimate concern.

11
12 Thank you.

13
14 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Well, the -- that's
15 what these three points do. They're basically pointing
16 out the effects that the subsistence users or the
17 people who live north of the river would actually --
18 the Board should actually address.

19
20 And so point one is legal licensed
21 trapping is a very important management tool to harvest
22 furbearers under trapping regulations. Clarification
23 is needed to allow snowmachine use to continue to trap
24 furbearers. That's never been -- that's not in
25 trapping regulations. There's no opposition to the use
26 of snowmobiles.

27
28 The Bureau of Land Management had
29 issues with it. The DNR had issues with it. But they
30 -- there is no regulatory -- and for years -- since day
31 one I've trapped with a snowmobile on the Dalton
32 Highway Corridor Management Area. No Troop -- Troopers
33 have been with me on my trail, they go with me to learn
34 how to trap. This is a customary and traditional use
35 of snowmobile on the Dalton Highway Corridor. It's
36 asking -- clarification is needed to allow snowmachine
37 use to continue to trap furbearers whether the Board
38 asks the Legislature to allow that or however that may
39 be but the reality is these things have happ -- that
40 was never the intent of the statute, original statute,
41 because the Legislature only looked at it like it's
42 going -- the effects of the Pipeline construction.
43 They did not -- when they closed the Dalton Highway
44 Corridor in 1974 to the harvest of big game, they
45 didn't think at all about the subsistence users in
46 Wiseman.

47
48 When the season opened, people shot
49 moose. Enforcement went well, they live in Wiseman,
50

1 what are they going to do. They didn't enforce. So
2 there's been selective enforcement from day one in the
3 Dalton Highway Corridor because the Legislature is not
4 the right body to manage wildlife and fish on the
5 Dalton Highway Corridor.

6
7 These three points are actually asking
8 -- the snowmachine thing is right there. It's there.

9
10 And do you have that on your screen?

11
12 It's our minutes from the Koyukuk River
13 Advisory.....

14
15 MS. DEATHERAGE: I have it on paper.

16
17 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Okay.

18
19 MS. DEATHERAGE: Sorry, Mr. Chair. And
20 if this Council votes to go ahead and include that
21 specific language in their comments, that can certainly
22 be done. That the Koyukuk put in there that stipulates
23 what they want.

24
25 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: These three
26 points.....

27
28 MS. DEATHERAGE: Right.

29
30 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF:are in the
31 minutes of the Koyukuk River Advisory Committee are the
32 points for clarification that the committee felt -- we
33 discussed these various points at our meeting. So
34 these are the three points that the Board of Game
35 should look at in conjunction with the other aspects of
36 the -- of deliberating Proposal 64.

37
38 Is that clear, Tim?

39
40 MR. GERVAIS: Yeah.

41
42 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: The primary thing is
43 its need for clarification. Proposal 64's need for
44 clarification. These are the points that this Council
45 feels need to be clarified. We did not adopt the rest
46 of the language. We don't -- because we're unclear
47 about what the rest of the language -- it's a moving
48 target right now.

49
50

1 But these are the points that the Board
2 needs to know from the Council. That's where I'm going
3 with this.

4
5 MR. GERVAIS: Tommy has a comment.

6
7 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Tom.

8
9 MR. KRISKA: Since this is a hard one
10 to come about, could we put this down for one 24 hours.
11 I mean, you know, we're coming back tomorrow. Since
12 this one is kind of boggling our minds and we've got a
13 lot other ones to go on, can -- I don't want to really
14 think about it for -- I mean, you know, put it on the
15 back burner for now and just think about it and talk
16 about it amongst ourselves and -- I mean I see that
17 you've got great points there, but I just -- I don't
18 know what you others think about that.

19
20 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: So if the Council is
21 sort of at an impasse on this one right now, Proposal
22 64, we can table it till tomorrow. But we need to
23 address this proposal tomorrow. If you want to table
24 that -- do we have a motion to table.

25
26 (No comments)

27
28 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Is somebody
29 motioning to table.

30
31 MS. PELKOLA: No.

32
33 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: No, okay.

34
35 Tom.

36
37 MR. KRISKA: Unless you want to deal
38 with it.

39
40 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Okay. You want to
41 deal with it now.

42
43 How do we get to where -- what I'm
44 talking about. I've stated it a few times here.

45
46 MS. DEATHERAGE: Thank you, Mr.
47 Reakoff.

48
49 I think that what I might suggest is a
50

1 new motion.....

2

3

CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: All right.

4

5

6 MS. DEATHERAGE:to not take a
7 position on this proposal. That would be a part of the
8 motion. However, to send to the Board of Game via the
9 comment letter the three points of the Koyukuk AC
10 Committee. Also, to support the premise of the
11 clarification of this proposal, but also to make it
12 very clear that there are concerns with the lack of
13 information and the proposed clarification language
14 because it's not available.

14

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And also I think it's really important,
as Tom Doolittle said, there should be -- we should put
in here that there are also concerns of the impacts to
subsistence. Because this Board can take action in
their clarifying language that could injure
subsistence. And I think it's very important that you
make it clear that that is a big concern to the
Council. That is your purview. And I think that
that's something that should be made clear.

So if you want to re-motion to do that,
I think you could finish this issue.

CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Comment, Tom?

MS. DEATHERAGE: And then there's Tom.

CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Mr. Doolittle.

MR. DOOLITTLE: Yeah. I mean Karen
really hit it. I think you just need to have kind of a
rider.

You know, with any planning that's been
around the Dalton Corridor, whether it was ten years
ago for a scenic by-way plan or whatever, I mean you
guys have seen it all but the key thing is always have
the rider that nothing should construe that you're
having any -- that you're not negating ANCSA or ANILCA
and the ability for subsistence right under existing
law by anything that you're suggesting.

So it kind of puts -- to make sure that
you put a, you know, kind of a rider clause, is that,
you know, these are our initial comments, but we don't

1 want anything to be construed or any decision made on
2 this that would be -- that would essentially take away
3 any of your afforded rights under ANILCA or ANCSA. So
4 just kind of have a rider in there would be my advice.
5

6 And this one obviously needs further
7 discussion also it seems like on the State level. So I
8 think it's going to be a lot -- a very formed
9 discussion I would presume at the Board of Game as
10 well. And so from a whole wide range of things that
11 this group has tapped on as well.
12

13 But my only concern is, you know, this
14 is a Regional Advisory Council representing Federal
15 subsistence on Federal public lands. Keep into that
16 box. Make sure that you, you know, because we don't
17 know all the issues that might come out of this, make
18 sure you put in that -- those protections because we
19 don't know what decisions might be made but at least if
20 you're on the record for making sure that those
21 protections under ANILCA are still afforded, you know,
22 to the group and the people that you're representing
23 from your region, I think that's of critical
24 importance, you know, as is some of the general
25 comments for the best information you have at the time
26 on this is totally appropriate.
27

28 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Uh-huh.
29

30 MR. DOOLITTLE: So -- and that's where
31 I'm at on it.
32

33 Thank you, Mr. Chair and the Council.
34

35 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: So we will -- best
36 avenue forward would be to take action on Proposal 64
37 to not adopt, but comment.
38

39 Do we have a motion to comment on
40 Proposal 64, and the comments will revolve
41 clarification of the Dalton Highway corridor management
42 area. That we incorporate that we have conc -- all of
43 these actions in the Dalton Highway Corridor could
44 impact not only the residents within the Dalton Highway
45 Corridor, but the residents residing near the Dalton
46 Highway Corridor. And we've delineated several of
47 those communities, which are Nuiqsut, Anaktuvuk Pass,
48 Wiseman, Coldfoot, and Stevens Village. We should also
49 include Allakaket. I know there's a bunch of people
50

1 that go to Allakaket, Alatna using snowmobile. That
2 happens all the time. That happens all the time. In
3 fact, there's people go all the way down river from
4 there. They take brand new snowmobiles down.
5

6 So there's a need for the
7 clarification. It's not just the communities of
8 Coldfoot and Wiseman. It's these wider ranging
9 communities can be affected by the Board of Game's
10 process.
11

12 So that needs to -- you're right, Tom,
13 that that needs to be incorporated, the discussion
14 revolving around ANILCA and customary and traditional
15 uses. The Board has to be aware that these -- they
16 will affect several communities. And of course the
17 Subsistence Division will be there to discuss all of
18 those various user groups also.
19

20 These comments -- the three comments
21 which should be projected onto the screen if you have
22 those in your computer. Those are -- the three
23 comments are actually here in the minutes.
24

25 MS. DEATHERAGE: Mr. Chair, I have
26 those minutes and I will go ahead and include those.
27

28 I did want to make one quick point as
29 you move on, is that, we do need to withdraw the former
30 motion before you make a new motion to include what
31 we're talking about.
32

33 Thank you.
34

35 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Okay. So do we have
36 a friendly motion to withdraw.
37

38 MS. PELKOLA: Well.....
39

40 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: So moved by Jenny.
41

42 REPORTER: No, no, Jenny seconded.
43

44 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Oh.
45

46 MR. GERVAIS: Can I make a comment.
47

48 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Go ahead.
49
50

1 MR. GERVAIS: It seems like this new
2 motion that we're moving towards, most of the stuff we
3 already have open on the table is there. All we've got
4 to do is add additional language about -- with the
5 rider, including that we don't want anything to be
6 detrimental to subsistence against ANCSA or against
7 ANILCA and then we can just -- I would rather -- it
8 seems like it's simpler to do it by just amending the
9 motion that's open.

10
11 But you make the call, you're the
12 Chairman.

13
14 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: I -- yeah. I think
15 that if we incorporate our amended language into the
16 proposal -- that we -- we're adopting this portion of
17 the Proposal 64. The first paragraph -- the three
18 delineated and including Allakaket and Alatna in --
19 that the Koyukuk River missed as.....

20
21 MR. GERVAIS: Anaktuvuk, too.

22
23 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Well, it discussed
24 Anaktuvuk, Nuiqsut.....

25
26 MR. GERVAIS: Stevens Village.

27
28 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Stevens Village,
29 Wiseman. And it should include Coldfoot. Those would
30 be amended language in the three points.

31
32 And then protections for ANILCA and
33 ANCSA. And then eliminating the rest -- this is the --
34 these are the points that we feel need to be addressed.
35 The first paragraph. These are some of the things that
36 need to be addressed.

37
38 And we are not in support -- or not
39 adopting -- we're taking no position on the rest of the
40 language because we don't know what all of the language
41 says at this time.

42
43 So that's where you want to go with
44 that. You feel that that's the best avenue.

45
46 MR. GERVAIS: Yeah. I would like to
47 bring that to the Board as a second amendment to the
48 first amended proposal that was open a few -- five
49 minutes ago.

50

1 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: So amending the
2 language.....
3
4 MR. GERVAIS: For the second time.
5
6 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF:for the second
7 time.
8
9 MR. GERVAIS: To include the ANILCA,
10 ANCSA rider.
11
12 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Right.
13
14 MR. GERVAIS: And the -- make sure we
15 get all the affected communities in there.
16
17 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Capture the affected
18 communities.
19
20 So is that clear, Karen?
21
22 MS. DEATHERAGE: (Nods affirmatively)
23
24 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: So at this point we
25 come to a vote.
26
27 MS. DEATHERAGE: Get a second.
28
29 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Second on that
30 motion.
31
32 And did you second that, Jenny? Was
33 that you?
34
35 REPORTER: Jack, you don't have a
36 second to this particular amendment.
37
38 MR. GERVAIS: Nobody did.
39
40 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Nobody seconded it.
41
42 MS. DEATHERAGE: No.
43
44 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Do we have a second
45 on that.
46
47 MR. HONEA: Second.
48
49 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Seconded by Don.
50

1 Any other discussion.

2

3

(No comments)

4

5

6

CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: The Council is clear
that this is just.....

7

8

MS. PELKOLA: Wait, just one question.

9

10

CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Go ahead, Jenny.

11

12

13

MS. PELKOLA: So this motion -- we're
just doing all these amendments -- that's going to wipe
out the letter that we're going to.....

14

15

16

17

CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Yeah. The letter
thing dropped. Tim didn't think that was the correct
way to go. This is making a -- taking a position on
Proposal 64, with amended language.

18

19

20

21

22

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24

MR. GERVAIS: Jack, that's not correct.
It's not that I didn't think it was the correct way to
go. I'm just -- I thought it would be simpler and
faster to do it this way. I'm fine with drafting a
letter with similar language.

25

26

27

CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Karen.

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MS. DEATHERAGE: Mr. Chair. I guess
the issue with drafting a letter and getting that going
is these Board of Game comments are going to go in this
week. And whereas a letter may not be able to go in
this week because it has to go through the review
process, the Board of Game comments do not. And so
we're able to get those and turn them around pretty
quickly.

37

38

39

CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Exactly.

40

41

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CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Exactly. So we're
taking an action of Proposal 64, with the amended
language, as we just discussed with the clarifications
for ANCSA and ANILCA. That's our comment on Proposal
64 and we vote that up or down.

47

48

49

So adopting the amended language for
Proposal 64, as discussed by the Regional Council.

50

1 At this point we call question.

2

3 MR. GERVAIS: Question.

4

5 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Question's called by
6 Tim.

7

8 Those in favor of Proposal 64 for
9 clarification for the Dalton Highway Corridor
10 Management Area, as stated by the proponent in
11 paragraph one, with the addition of clarifica -- the
12 three points, the Koyukuk River Advisory Committee,
13 with the inclusion of all affected communities and
14 protections for ANILCA and ANCSA users' interests by
15 the Board.

16

17 Those in favor of that amended language
18 and Proposal 64, as amended by the Council, signify by
19 saying aye.

20

21 IN UNISON: Aye.

22

23 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Opposed, same sign.

24

25 (No opposing votes)

26

27 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: Is that clear for
28 the record, Karen?

29

30 MS. DEATHERAGE: Yes, it is, Mr. Chair.
31 Thank you.

32

33 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: All right. That was
34 a hard one.

35

36 So let's see here. Oh, it's almost
37 6:00 o'clock.

38

39 (Laughter)

40

41 CHAIRMAN REAKOFF: So we went a long
42 time on that one. So I think it's a good time to break
43 for the -- go into recess until tomorrow morning at
44 9:00 o'clock to continue these Board of Game proposals.

45

46 And so thank you very much for all the
47 hard work you did on those.

48

49 Thank you.

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(Off record)
(PROCEEDINGS TO BE CONTINUED)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

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

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

THAT the foregoing pages numbered ___ through ___ contain a full, true and correct Transcript of the WESTERN INTERIOR FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING, VOLUME I taken electronically on the 2nd day of March at Fairbanks, Alaska;

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

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

DATED at Anchorage, Alaska, this 10th day of April 2020.

Salena A. Hile
Notary Public, State of Alaska
My Commission Expires: 09/16/22