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BRISTOL BAY SUBSISTENCE
REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

PUBLIC MEETING

DENA'INA CIVIC AND CONVENTION CENTER
Anchorage, Alaska
March 7, 2024

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

- Nanci Ann Morris Lyon, Chair
- Norman Anderson
- Dan Dunaway
- Robert Hill
- Kenneth Nukwak
- John Rhyshek
- William Trefon
- Richard Wilson

Regional Council Coordinator, Leigh Honig

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P R O C E E D I N G S

(Anchorage, Alaska - 3/7/2024)

(On record)

MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. I'd like to start this morning's meeting by asking Orville if he'd give us a blessing for the day.

MR. LIND: Good morning and thank you. Please join me this morning giving thanks.

(Invocation)

IN UNISON: Amen.

MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Thank you so much, Orville.

Okay. With that just a couple quick reminders. We -- we've got people online and we will be acknowledging you shortly. Make sure whenever you speak that you state your name for the record and what's the other thing?

MS. HONIG: You can press star, 5 to speak, silence yourself or to raise your hand and we'd be able to call on you. And then if you're -- with your -- calling in just with your phone number we'll announce it with the last four digits of your phone number. And like Nanci said or Madame Chair said, introduce yourself.

Thank you.

MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Thank you. And with that I'm going to call the Bristol Bay Regional Advisory Council meeting to order.

Roll call, please.

MS. HONIG: Thank you, Madame Chair. John Christensen, were you able to call in?

(No comments)

MS. HONIG: Okay. Robert Hill.

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1 MR. HILL: I'm here.

2

3 MS. HONIG: Great. Thank you. Nanci

4 Morris Lyon.

5

6 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Here.

7

8 MS. HONIG: John Rhyshek.

9

10 MR. RHYSHEK: Here.

11

12 MS. HONIG: Billy Trefon.

13

14 MR. TREFON: Here.

15

16 MS. HONIG: Kenneth Nukwak.

17

18 MR. NUKWAK: Here.

19

20 MS. HONIG: Dan Dunaway

21

22 MR. DUNAWAY: Here.

23

24 MS. HONIG: Norm Anderson.

25

26 MR. ANDERSON: Here.

27

28 MS. HONIG: And Richard Wilson.

29

30 MR. WILSON: Here.

31

32 MS. HONIG: Great. We have quorum.

33

34 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Thank you,
35 Leigh. I'd like to welcome everybody to this meeting.
36 It's our first joint Council meeting and a lot has
37 happened in the last two days and I look forward to
38 some invigorating discussions on what we've already
39 seen and heard and what we might want to put into the
40 future.

41

42 With that I'd love to start with
43 introductions. And let's go ahead and start with those
44 that are online, please.

45

46 MR. HILL: Oh, hey, this is Robert
47 Hill. I live in Naknek and Kokhanok, been in Kokhanok
48 for most of the winter here. It's been an interesting
49 last couple of days with the meetings, a lot of issues

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1 that I wasn't aware of that have come to light. So I
2 did some listening and learning I guess.

3

4 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Thank you,
5 Robert.

6

7 MR. FEDERENKO: Good morning. Garvin
8 Federenko, I'm the President and CEO of Bristol Bay
9 Native Association.

10

11 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Welcome. Do
12 we have anybody else online?

13

14 (No comments)

15

16 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Very
17 good then. Let's go ahead and start with our audience
18 and, George, we'll start in the back and work forward.

19

20 MR. PAPPAS: Good morning, Madame Chair
21 and members of the Council. George Pappas, Office of
22 Subsistence Management, State Subsistence Liaison.
23 It's great to be here. It's great to be here.

24

25 I'll leave the mic on for you, Nate.

26

27 MS. LaVINE: Good morning, everyone.
28 Robbin LaVine, Subsistence Policy Coordinator and
29 former Anthropologist from your region and of course
30 former BBNA Partners' position. It's always good to be
31 here at Bristol Bay Regional Advisory Council.

32

33 MR. STONE: Good morning. Jarred
34 Stone, Office of Subsistence Management, Fisheries
35 Biologist.

36

37 Thank you.

38

39 MR. LIND: Camai. Madame Chair,
40 Council members. My name is Orville Lind, Native
41 Liaison for the Office of Subsistence Management. Good
42 morning.

43

44 MR. PATTERSON: Good morning, Madame
45 Chair, members of the Council. Dillon Patterson,
46 National Park Service, Regional Office Subsistence
47 Program here in Anchorage.

48

49 MR. WILCOX: Good morning, Madame

50

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1 Chair, members of the Council. Chance Wilcox with the
2 Division of Subsistence, Subsistence Resource
3 Specialist for Bristol Bay, the Alaska Peninsula and
4 the Aleutian Islands.

5

6 Thank you for having me.

7

8 MS. RUPP: Good morning, Madame Chair
9 and Council members. Liza Rupp, Lake Clark National
10 Park and Preserve. I'm the Cultural Resources Team
11 Lead and Subsistence Coordinator for the Park.

12

13 Thank you.

14

15 MR. STURM: Good morning, Madame Chair,
16 members of the Council. Mark Sturm, Superintendent,
17 Katmai National Park and Preserve, Aniakchak National
18 Monument and Preserve and the Alagnak Wild River.

19

20 MR. RICO: Hello. I'm Dave Rico, I'm
21 the acting Natural Resource Program Manager for Katmai
22 and Alagnak and the Aniakchak.

23

24 Thank you.

25

26 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Well, good.
27 Let's go ahead and start around the table. Norm, would
28 you start, introduce yourself.

29

30 MR. ANDERSON: My name is Norman
31 Anderson. I am the youngest son of Edward J. Anderson
32 of Akutan, Alma Christensen of Ugashik. I want to
33 first express my appreciation to the Curyung Tribe for
34 welcoming me onto their traditional lands and able to
35 speak here. I was born and raised in Naknek. I was a
36 commercial fisherman, worked construction for years,
37 but I've been in -- I did the math yesterday. I've
38 been involved in subsistence activities and Councils
39 and meetings for 51 years so everything I say is going
40 to be right.

41

42 (Laughter)

43

44 MR. DUNAWAY: Like at home.

45

46 MR. ANDERSON: Honest.

47

48 (Laughter)

49

50

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1 MR. ANDERSON: Yeah, I'm Aleut so I've
2 got that going for me too. I'm a direct descendent of
3 Genghis Khan.

4
5 All right. That's enough. Quyana.

6
7 MR. WILSON: Good morning. Rich Wilson
8 out of Naknek. Lifetime resident of the area. Good
9 morning, guys and gals.

10
11 MR. DUNAWAY: Dan Dunaway and currently
12 live in Dillingham. Was born and raised right here in
13 Anchorage and but I've lived in western Alaska since
14 1978, about 35 years in Dillingham. And I retired from
15 Fish and Game.

16
17 Thank you.

18
19 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Nanci Morris
20 Lyon from King Salmon. Been working, hunting and
21 fishing and doing sport fishing trips since 1982.

22
23 MR. TREFON: Good morning. Billy
24 Trefon from Nondalton, Lake Clark area. I've been --
25 I've been on this Board for going on what, seven years.
26 It's my seventh year now. And I really appreciate
27 being here. And I'm here because -- because of my dad.
28 My dad was heavily involved in subsistence. I grew up
29 in subsistence. As a kid I literally grew up from
30 traditional camp, traditional camp so like Norm what
31 I'm telling you is the truth.

32
33 (Laughter)

34
35 MR. NUKWAK: (In Native). My name is
36 Kenneth Nukwak, Sr., I'm from Manokotak. And Yup'ik is
37 my first language. My first time here -- my first
38 appointment on January 17 of this year and the reason I
39 got involved in these things, I got a citation for
40 following the caribou, what -- what these -- what the
41 body made the rules. So like Norm said I know my
42 customs and my traditions more within my section. And
43 when the rules are made you're stepping on my toe and
44 the toes of my cousins in Togiak, Twin Hills,
45 Manokotak, Alakanuk, Dillingham, Clark's Point, Ekuk,
46 Ekwok, New Stuyahok, Koliganek. So when you make these
47 rules be careful because the Yup'ik way is way
48 different than the western way. And the Yup'ik -- we
49 as Yup'iks -- the western law's been trying to turn us
50

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1 from a -- like a pancake, but it just can't work, it's
2 not following through. What has been ingrained in us
3 is there forever, in perpetuity.

4
5 Qu yana. Thank you.

6
7 MR. RHYSHEK: John Rhyshek, 26 year
8 Alaskan, last 15 years in Bristol Bay. Active
9 community member, pilot and obviously I use all the
10 resources of the local area.

11
12 Thank you.

13
14 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Thank you.
15 And welcome to everybody. I'm glad we're here, I'm
16 glad we're in an All Council meeting and I'm glad that
17 we've had a lot of things accomplished here in the last
18 couple days and I hope that we do more here today.

19
20 With that I'd entertain a motion for
21 the agenda.

22
23 MR. ANDERSON: Madame Chair.

24
25 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Norm.

26
27 MR. ANDERSON: It's about -- Madame
28 Chair. I'd like to request that we move item 10 to 5A.
29 If that takes a motion I so move.

30
31 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Norm, it
32 does not. We commonly take our requests which I have
33 one here at any point throughout the agenda and I'll be
34 doing that today.

35
36 MR. ANDERSON: Well, I just got the
37 revised agenda.

38
39 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Oh, no, I
40 understand, but we.....

41
42 MR. ANDERSON: All right.

43
44 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON:but
45 it's been our policy for years to take public comments
46 when they come in as long as we're in between things.
47 And I plan on taking it as soon as we have the agenda
48 adopted.

49
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1 MR. ANDERSON: All right. I withdraw.

2

3 MR. DUNAWAY: Are you moving to adopt,
4 is that agenda there?

5

6 MR. ANDERSON: No.

7

8 MR. DUNAWAY: Well, I'll move to adopt
9 the agenda.

10

11 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: And can we
12 clarify it's the draft printed for us and not the one
13 in the book, please?

14

15 MR. NUKWAK: Madame Chair.

16

17 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Go ahead.

18

19 MR. NUKWAK: So it is a open meeting
20 and anybody that wants to -- that calls in they're
21 recognized and then Dan just recognize -- I mean, make
22 a motion to accept that?

23

24 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: No, we did
25 not -- we did not have a motion. But yes, this is a
26 public meeting, we have -- anybody who calls in or
27 shows up in the audience that wants to speak they fill
28 out a blue card, Leigh hands it to me and as soon as
29 we're done with the subject I -- it's been my policy to
30 recognize them and have them speak. And I plan on
31 doing that in this meeting as well. Does that answer
32 your question?

33

34 MR. NUKWAK: Yeah.

35

36 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay.
37 Perfect.

38

39 MR. RHYSHEK: John Rhyshek, I second.

40

41 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: You did move
42 to put the -- is that correct, Dan, I just want to make
43 sure we have everything in order.

44

45 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, I moved to adopt.
46 If we need to accommodate a little change like what
47 Norm brought up I'd view that as a friendly amendment
48 or however. So.....

49

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1 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Right. I'm
2 not seeing that as a need just because our policy is to
3 allow that anyway and I don't plan on changing that
4 policy today.

5
6 So we do have a motion, John has
7 seconded it, to accept the agenda, the written agenda
8 that's been updated marked 3/1/24 on our desk.

9
10 Any discussion.

11
12 (No comments)

13
14 MR. TREFON: Question.

15
16 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Question's
17 been called. All in favor please signify by saying
18 aye.

19
20 IN UNISON: Aye.

21
22 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Opposed same
23 sign.

24
25 (No opposing votes)

26
27 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay.
28 Agenda passes. With that I would like to step aside
29 and ask George Anderson if he'd like to come up and
30 give his testimony.

31
32 Thank you, George.

33
34 MR. GEORGE ANDERSON: Thank you, Madame
35 Chair, members of the Board. I'm George Anderson,
36 President of Chignik InterTribal Coalition. We
37 represent the communities of Chignik Lagoon, Chignik
38 Bay, Chignik Lake, Ivanof and Perryville. I just had a
39 few comments here to add. I was here on Monday to hear
40 the report to the All RAC. I appreciate member Dunaway
41 carrying our issues forward. I just wanted to add a
42 little context to a couple of those items.

43
44 Member Dunaway talked a little bit
45 about how the State Board of Fisheries attempted to
46 combine our early run and late run escapement goals
47 into one. After resounding testimony by our
48 stakeholders against that the Board of Fisheries opted
49 to establish OEGs for both our early and late run for
50

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1 the time being. I believe this is probably only going
2 to last until the next Board cycle where they will
3 probably attempt to do it again. The early and late
4 run both offer historical, traditional uses on
5 subsistence and commercial shore folks and we hadn't
6 realized how important they were until they were
7 threatened to be taken away.

8

9 The whole idea from the State side was
10 predicated on the juvenile abundance within Chignik
11 Lake. They were trying to identify a bottleneck, yet
12 they were unable to articulate a reason why. So I
13 thought perhaps there's a need there to understand the
14 dynamics of the salmon, the juveniles within the lake
15 system. So I propose maybe moving forward a
16 comparative ecological evaluation of the lakes, the
17 rearing habitats of the sockeye salmon which are
18 inhabiting both Black and Chignik Lakes.

19

20 Moving on to Chinook. Board of Fish
21 about a year ago, 2023, our chinook have been
22 established as a stock of management concern. We've
23 had Federal closures to 2013, 2017, 2018, 2020, 2021,
24 2022 and 2023. These were all joint closures with
25 ADF&G to all Federally-qualified users. Now chinook
26 are -- you know, have of course been dwindling. We've
27 had a record low, last year I think our escapement's
28 267 was our estimate, lowest ever that I can recall.
29 The next lowest was 700 and some chinook. So we in
30 Chignik are concerned and watching what's happening on
31 the Nushagak and the upper Cook Inlet, how they're
32 curtailing access to sockeye to preserve chinook. We
33 propose that we start looking at just generally an
34 evaluation of harvesting of our sockeye salmon
35 practices to decrease the incidental catch of chinook
36 salmon in our system. There's no directed chinook
37 fishery, it's we happen to catch them when we're -- we
38 get our escapement goals. So that was just one of the
39 things I wanted to get on the record.

40

41 And lastly not my area, but, you know,
42 I attended a lot of AC meetings last year and the
43 Bristol Bay Board of Fisheries. And it -- it was
44 brought to my attention that not all chum systems on --
45 I guess it would be on the east side of Bristol Bay,
46 don't have escapement of values on them to be
47 enumerated. Listening to testimony I understand that
48 there's a great deal of cultural significant,
49 subsistence and commercial, of these. I'm not sure how

50

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1 to approach the State to put an escapement goal on
2 this, maybe it's a study of uses. I just feel it's
3 important that we look at all of our fisheries in this
4 time. The first day it was resounding across the Board
5 downstairs listening to a common theme here and that's
6 preservation of chinook and chum. Because across the
7 State we're all -- we're all experiencing it at some
8 level.

9

10 So with that I'll conclude my
11 testimony. I really appreciate the time today.

12

13 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Thank you,
14 George. We very much appreciate you showing up and
15 being here. Can I ask for questions, are you open to
16 that?

17

18 MR. GEORGE ANDERSON: Sure. Please.

19

20 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Any
21 questions from Board members.

22

23 MR. DUNAWAY: Madame Chair.

24

25 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Dan.

26

27 MR. DUNAWAY: So, George, thank you so
28 much. In the last couple of years I think you've been
29 really helpful for us to understand your plight down
30 there. Like I said before I think we've all been
31 deeply alarmed at Chignik. I think Nanci's made
32 special trips down there for meetings and so on. And
33 previous Chignik members of this Council have been --
34 you know, really appreciated them. We haven't had any
35 for a while, we miss them. Want to apply?

36

37 But as far as managing the commercial
38 fishery to protect kings in Dillingham, Nushagak,
39 because the kings in the Nushagak system are pretty
40 severely depleted at all, the Department has committed
41 to controlling and restricting the commercial fishery.
42 And it's nerve-racking for these commercial folks.
43 They sat on the beach for a long time the last two
44 Junes to let as many kings go as possible. And it's
45 really stressful for everybody, the -- especially the --
46 we've had some strong red runs and to see all this
47 money swimming upstream to get five kings today, 25 the
48 next day, nothing the next day and so on. But anyway
49 it can be done, but it would be interesting to hear
50

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1 from the Chignik folks, would they like to see like a
2 time restriction, a wait until a certain number of
3 kings get in the river or pass the weir. I don't know
4 how kings pass down there, trickle through all season
5 or would you set a boundary farther out into the bay to
6 protect kings or what kind of suggestions you have.
7 Okay.

8
9 MR. GEORGE ANDERSON: Thank you. And
10 thank you -- and thank you for the question. Through
11 the Chair. We are in such early talks about this I've
12 just been pitching to our stakeholders, our fleet the
13 other day when we met here to talk about how to -- how
14 to do this. One of our wish lists is crudely called
15 the Chinook Avoidance Program to start looking into how
16 to avoid these. We all know we don't want to get them
17 in the nets. You know, once you wipe the gurru off of
18 any fish the mortality rate skyrockets, you know, some
19 studies show a 85 percent mortality rate once you rub
20 that protective layer off of them. So what we've
21 started doing is some bathymetries within our area
22 recording -- you know, they travel in the deep waters,
23 you know, we have a series of channels through Chignik
24 Lagoon there. And if we can identify those areas and
25 then get together with stakeholders and identify where --
26 there's actually a traditional harvest area where
27 there used to be a trap called the king hole. And
28 generally it's a great place for their sockeye, but
29 when the kings are running you actually get a lot of
30 them. So, you know, if we can agree as a fleet to
31 avoid that area that's why I came up with the
32 avoidance, maybe that is something we do.

33
34 Another idea pitched to me by the State
35 last year just before they identified us as a stock of
36 management concern on our chinook, the State manager
37 approached me in the morning and he said well, would
38 you entertain shallowing your nets, your purse seines
39 in Chignik Lagoon or in Chignik, the CMA. And it was
40 during the area M meeting and I said yes without
41 consulting our fleet because of conservation, but I
42 said only if our neighbors to the west of us in area M
43 do it as well. Not the answer he wanted, he spun on
44 his heels and walked away. We waited until another
45 stakeholder came in the room and he went and asked him
46 the same thing without me getting to talk to him and
47 gave him the same answer. He said if it's for
48 conservation yes. He didn't go into the if our
49 neighbors will do it. But I don't kill the messenger
50

0013

1 on this one, but being a seiner at heart we all know
2 where the chum and chinook are traveling and that's in
3 deeper. You know, the -- the State just passed a
4 reduction for the east side I think in upper Cook Inlet
5 here last week, shallowing of the nets so maybe it's
6 something we need to start talking about Statewide.
7 Again I hate to bring this forward, but, you know, if
8 we are going to conserve these runs we need to start
9 thinking of ways to avoid chum and chinook Statewide.
10 It's not going away. Just the technology now and the
11 power on the purse seines has evolved much faster than
12 our regulation process has allowed us to understand the
13 impacts we're having on these deeper running fish.
14 They do run deeper and we know.

15

16 Anyway, sorry for the extended answer,
17 you know.

18

19 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Go ahead,
20 Dan.

21

22 MR. DUNAWAY: Oh, I appreciate the
23 extended answer. Short stuff doesn't work when it's
24 complex.

25

26 So you're working with the Advisory
27 Committees to -- and the members and the other -- you
28 say the fleet to discuss these possible solutions. How
29 is that going?

30

31 MR. GEORGE ANDERSON: Thanks for the
32 question. Through the Chair. You guys are the second
33 folks to hear this it's so new. And I don't like being
34 the person talking about this issue because we're
35 talking about shallowing our nets up to conserve kings.
36 And I haven't had our fleet weigh in on it. Put it
37 this way, I just want to start the discussion in this
38 room. If it happens to carry Statewide let's talk
39 about, let's -- there's a Statewide meeting for the
40 Board of Fisheries next year. Proposals are due April
41 10th. If you want to get a discussion going maybe
42 start that discussion. I don't want to be the guy to
43 do it, but it's hard to talk about this because it's
44 impactful to all users.

45

46 So again sorry for the long answer.

47

48 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Go ahead,
49 Dan.

50

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1 MR. DUNAWAY: Well, I think you're
2 starting out right, but I always viewed that Chignik is
3 one of the more compact fisheries that might be easier.
4 The smaller the group the easier it is to at least
5 reach everybody, whether to reach a conclusion would be
6 hard, but I'd certainly encourage you to work with the
7 Advisory Committee. One thing that super impressed me
8 and I'm sure other folks here is when it was so bad for
9 reds that the subsistence users of Chigniks voluntarily
10 didn't take fish. I hope there's a potential, you got
11 that much strength and conviction that this could work
12 for the commercial fishery too because yeah, shortening
13 a seine is a lot of work. You're going to -- well, I
14 don't know if you take off the corks or take off the
15 leads, but that's a lot of sewing to do. But I would
16 certainly encourage you and, you know, you can make a
17 list of possible solutions like time area closures,
18 extend the near mouth boundary, a combination of those,
19 alter the nets. And yeah, I'm not -- have very little
20 seine experience, but correct me if I'm wrong, like you
21 say I know the kings run deep, but I got the impression
22 chums can run fairly deep too. We used to pick them up
23 in our crab trawl surveys. So because we'd go down.
24 But the question there was were they caught on the way
25 down or the way up or as we went along the bottom. But
26 I'm kind of excited that -- to me sounds like you're
27 taking a real constructive approach to this. And I
28 certainly want to encourage you and I'd like to -- I'm
29 wishing there was a Chignik Advisory Committee person
30 to speak or just to continue efforts to come up with
31 something.

32

33 Thank you.

34

35 MR. GEORGE ANDERSON: Yeah. Okay.
36 Thank you. I'll just respond to that. Yeah. Yeah, we
37 have a small enough group to where we do stand down
38 from like in 2018 we agreed to not subsist to allow for
39 fish to go up there. Even though we met escapement
40 goals last year we have a few members in our community
41 that don't really believe the weir count so they choose
42 not to subsist. We've actually done this commercially
43 in my lifetime I think in the '90s, the weir count
44 estimates were against what the elders were telling us.
45 I think we had nearly a hundred guys fishing back then,
46 but we stood down commercially when it opened. And
47 because the elders were saying the -- the -- the fish
48 that are seine -- are being counted are not up here.
49 So we stood down and it closed the schedule even though
50

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1 we didn't take our harvest. So that goes to show you
2 the value of traditional knowledge. You know, the
3 people on the grounds there know the fishery way better
4 -- even better than I. You know, I've only done it 35
5 years, but we have -- we have guys that have done it
6 their entire lifetime. So.....

7

8 Thanks.

9

10 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Billy.

11

12 MR. TREFON: Yeah, listening to your --
13 the beginning there about trying to find out who to
14 contact to manage, I mean, to bring this attention to
15 it. And the theme, like you were talking about a theme
16 which I've been listening to the last two days on the
17 big room, is that all of us have the same common
18 complaint, we all talk about the same things, fish,
19 caribou management and environment. And it all comes
20 down to if the State owns the land we all automatically
21 run into a barrier, seems like it's always in the --
22 every agency, Feds were going to work with the
23 university to really work with the people who are
24 trying to create programs to help us. But when it
25 comes to real management of fish and game we run into
26 State over and over. My people have stories and songs
27 about State fish and game management, it's that bad. I
28 mean, they really -- they just come in and imply with
29 our research and say this is how it's going to be
30 whether you like it or not. They're not going to
31 listen to the locals which is what I'm starting to
32 learn. In this last two days we all have the same
33 theme, same argument about managing fish and game. And
34 the finger's always come and pointing back towards us,
35 people that's actually living off the land, we're the
36 problem when we're really not and we're trying to come
37 up with a solution, but we keep running into the same
38 thing. State management, State ownership, State
39 steward. I mean, whatever they're -- it comes right
40 back to how do we get them to work with us. What I've
41 been seeing is they come to our meetings as -- just to
42 show up and say that they showed up at our meeting,
43 that they were there, so it's on record that they did
44 come to our Federal meetings and they did say their
45 piece and they don't really have to take any action to
46 what -- whatever we recommend other than I was there
47 and I listened, I did my part. I mean, that's
48 something that I've seen over and over and I'm hearing
49 it now in this -- this meeting. We all have the same
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1 common problem, the State.

2

3 MR. GEORGE ANDERSON: And I've got to
4 respond to that. One of my biggest takeaways from the
5 meeting the other day, I really enjoyed sitting through
6 that and listening to all these areas. Yeah, we can
7 manage not the resources, but we can manage the people
8 who access those. And we could -- on the State side we
9 manage it through, you know, time and area and gear
10 restrictions. So that is one control that the State
11 has over it.

12

13 As far as your comment about research
14 when we started having our disasters in 2018 although
15 our system has been studied since I think FRI out of
16 Washington has been into the Chigniks since 1941. But
17 when we started looking into our system there was so
18 much we didn't know. So I think you're correct in
19 research is key in trying to figure out what is going
20 on. The 2018 disaster declaration, a lot of the --
21 there was like six research projects. The money was
22 just released in -- last March, about -- yeah, it was a
23 year ago. So they started doing the work for all those
24 projects six years after the disaster and that's too
25 long of a delay in my opinion. That process needs to
26 be accelerated. I've written letters to the
27 Congressional Delegation about expediting that process
28 not only for our area, Statewide. And, you know, we
29 just learned yesterday our 2020 disaster it was finally
30 approved out of the White House to go to NOAA and then
31 it'll go to Pacific States Management and then they'll
32 start working on applications. You know, we're four
33 years after that. So research is key I believe and I
34 think that's the main reason I'm here testifying today
35 to continue closing those research gaps that we're
36 identifying.

37

38 So thank you.

39

40 MR. TREFON: All right. Yeah. Thank
41 you. I'd like to add to that research there. I mean,
42 I -- I've been -- I grew up with FRI since I was a
43 little kid. It's been in Lake Clark, Lake Iliamna, as
44 far back as I can remember. And I've had State people
45 call me, asking me about fishing information. And I've
46 also seen this problem with the State and agencies and
47 information sharing. It's like the university, they
48 don't want to share the information with the state and
49 the state don't want to share with the government and

50

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1 vice versa. And the information's out there and the
2 research is done, it's just nobody seems to be sharing
3 the information. Like you want to start a program you
4 got to start yours with your own rules and regulations
5 and the State already got theirs in place, the Feds got
6 theirs in place, but nobody wants to sit down like this
7 big meeting and discuss maybe we should come up with a
8 solution instead of creating problems within agencies
9 and work as one to solve this problem. It's
10 information sharing.

11

12 MR. GEORGE ANDERSON: Let me respond
13 through the Chair.

14

15 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Go ahead,
16 George.

17

18 MR. GEORGE ANDERSON: Yes, I agree.
19 There's much disagreement I have, you know, at times at
20 the Board of Fisheries with the State. I feel it
21 important to embrace their cooperation in these studies
22 and these research programs for some ownership. You
23 know, if they're going to be in there managing our
24 fisheries we should be able to stand proudly about our
25 research results whether we like them or not. And it's
26 really tough to ask a question because you're really
27 scared what that answer might be, but whatever that
28 answer is maybe it's a biological escapement goal,
29 maybe it's not what you feel should be in that stream,
30 but if the research shows it should be at a level that
31 you really need to listen to that.

32

33 So thanks.

34

35 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: I would add
36 too, George, that we as a -- as a Board have -- we
37 struggle with our funding because we share it with the
38 Kodiak/Aleutians, but even in our last several go
39 throughs we have -- we including the Kodiak/Aleutians
40 group has recognized the need of the Chignik fisheries
41 and have made them a priority. And we've tried to
42 steer funds your way, but just have not found the
43 people that are willing to go down there and write up
44 the -- whatever you call them, the papers, to get it
45 pushed through. But we -- we have supported you as
46 much as we can including in the research end of it.
47 And I think we will continue to do so and encourage you
48 to let us know which studies you think would be most
49 beneficial as well so that we can continue to know what
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1 direction to at least attempt to steer those funds.

2

3

Anybody else.

4

5

MR. ANDERSON: Yes.

6

7

MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Please,

8

Norm.

9

10 MR. ANDERSON: Yes. First we're not
11 related, are we?

12

13 MR. GEORGE ANDERSON: I don't know.
14 I'm not sure. A good last name.....

15

16

MR. ANDERSON: No, I'm telling you.

17

18

MR. GEORGE ANDERSON:though.

19

Okay.

20

21

MR. ANDERSON: I'm telling you.

22

23

MR. GEORGE ANDERSON: Okay.

24

25

26

MR. ANDERSON: Yeah. Anyway I think
you're on the right track and to concur and follow-up
with what Mr. Trefon said, we are established and our
marching orders are subsistence. And we have to remain
in that avenue to pursue the very idea and heritage of
subsistence and subsistence only. When it comes to
enforcement and other things it becomes too much
bureaucracy and political and you know that and we see
that. I've stood on the beach and watched jumpers go
up river where sports fishermen are allowed to catch as
much as they want. And we have to maintain -- because
we need a sports hunting and fishing license we are
dictated as to when we can hunt and fish. So you just
keep that in mind and I think Mr. Trefon said it
eloquently and I think you're the perfect candidate.
Exhibit your thoughts, remember we as indigenous people
are the shadows of our elders, our ancestors. Let your
voice be heard. You know who told me that? Boris
Kosbruk. I sat many hours in steambaths with Boris and
Johnny Christensen and Tony Bavorio, and Johnny Lind.
I know them people, I know that country, I'm related to
them all. Not you though. But any.....

47

48

(Laughter)

49

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1 MR. ANDERSON: anyway thank you
2 for coming. I know this is difficult, but it's worthy.
3 We all have to let our voices be heard. Remember that.

4
5 Thank you for coming. Have a safe trip
6 home.

7
8 MR. GEORGE ANDERSON: Thank you.
9 Quyana.

10
11 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: I echo those
12 thanks. Kenneth.

13
14 MR. NUKWAK: Yes. Thanks for coming.
15 And, George, it may be a touchy subject, but go through
16 with it, put it forward. And at the same time also
17 look at the walrus and at the State sanctuary where the
18 State is supposed to be protecting the sanctuary. And
19 realize that the walrus have relocated down to the Port
20 Heiden area according to Channel 2 News, I think to
21 your report that probably the same time as 2018 when I --
22 when I saw that news. I couldn't believe that walrus
23 were relocating. And then Manokotak as a community, we
24 go around the cape, Cape Constantine to (In Native) for
25 clam digging. And then we see trawlers out there and
26 more than five visible within their boundary lines.
27 And then adding on at the same time our young men are
28 out in the Bering Sea Coast Protection Point to Cape
29 Constantine fishing for halibut and whatever they can
30 catch, seal and stuff like that. Anyway they see
31 trawlers early in the morning hours way up on the beach
32 and they're not supposed to be there. And they're not
33 being monitored and they're not being honest probably
34 when they make reports to whomever they have to make a
35 report to.

36
37 Anyway on your research probably
38 include the Walrus Island area and all the other marine
39 mammals because along with the king salmon and the chum
40 they're disappearing too or just relocating. All that
41 needs to be brought up because in the first place the
42 State's sanctuary was put into place and implemented by
43 the State to protect the walrus to my understanding
44 from the Natives going down to get what my ancestors
45 needed.

46
47 Okay. Thank you.

48
49 MR. GEORGE ANDERSON: May I respond to
50

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1 that too?

2

3

MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Yes.

4

5

MR. GEORGE ANDERSON: That is my
6 observation as well. I in my younger years of seining
7 I used to travel to Togiak annually, 17 years of that.
8 And I would never observe walrus until we got up to
9 Pyrite Point, Cape Newenham and now they're down just
10 north of Port Heiden is where I see them when we fly
11 over now. I haven't been invited back to the Togiak
12 herring fishery since the processors decided they
13 didn't need us anymore or any of us.

14

15

And to respond to the Chair's comment
16 about research and continuing research, I just wanted
17 to invite anyone here that wanted to attend, Chignik
18 Bay Tribal Council has been pointing on a science
19 symposium in the Chignik Bay area. It occurs that
20 first week of June. And we have, you know,
21 universities, State people coming in, it would be nice
22 to have Federal folks come in as well, as well as our
23 State and Congressional Delegation to come in and
24 listen to these issues, it's three days of just sharing
25 of information, project development and just really
26 finding out what is going on in the communities. And I
27 find it very useful to attend that every year. So
28 that's an open invitation to anyone who wants to learn
29 more about Chignik.

30

31

So thanks.

32

33

MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Go ahead,
34 Kenneth.

35

36

MR. NUKWAK: Thank you, Madame Chair.
37 Even our walrus hunters at least in the community of
38 Manokotak more than -- more than one year -- more than
39 one season they've gone down to Walrus Island to get
40 their bag limit and then when they didn't find them
41 there they had to go to Cape Pierce for walrus. And
42 that's further, double the distance from Manokotak to
43 Cape Pierce. And Walrus Island would be the halfway
44 point. And then plus the king salmon we're talking
45 about it in our community, at least within my
46 community, and we are all realizing that king salmon
47 have -- their number has gone down. I for myself, me
48 and my wife, we haven't put up any king salmon strips
49 for at least three to four seasons now. And I miss
50

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1 that king salmon strip, I grew up eating it. And I
2 hate to buy it from Walmart because I realize those are
3 probably farm fish and we like wild.

4
5 Thank you.

6
7 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Thank you.

8
9 MR. WILSON: Madame Chair.

10
11 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Richard.

12
13 MR. WILSON: Through the Chair.
14 Thanks, George. I think we all kind of resonate your
15 needs there, you know, you're bringing some very useful
16 information. I mean, as we've gone through this last
17 couple of days, you know, with the All Council and, you
18 know, we have -- we have some information before us on
19 all this, you know, on the State waters, you know, and
20 some of the things that are -- the troubles that we
21 have with those. And it's interesting to see this, I
22 mean, in our last meeting we were anxious to come to
23 this week and hear of all of the rest of the Councils
24 and try to gather some information like we have and try
25 to further this thing along. And you're right about
26 the research, you know, it's a -- as I sit on this
27 Council I'm always struggling to -- you know, and the
28 biologists know it too, I'm always asking where's the
29 information. I mean, you know, if you got the
30 information you can go forward, but if you don't then
31 it just -- you're just -- you know, there's nothing --
32 no meat behind it.

33
34 So I appreciate what you guys are doing
35 there and we're -- I think eventually our voice is
36 going to be loud -- louder. And yeah, we got hopes
37 that we can help fix this before it's too late. So
38 appreciate what you're doing. We're all -- we're all
39 in it.

40
41 Thanks.

42
43 MR. GEORGE ANDERSON: May I respond
44 to.....

45
46 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Yes.

47
48 MR. GEORGE ANDERSON:Wilson?
49 Through the Chair. Yeah, I appreciate that. You know,
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1 it's been our goal, we've identified when the research
2 is done it's not always articulated fully back to you.
3 So that's why I encourage our younger folks to be a
4 part of the collection, analyses and distribution of
5 the information. I really believe our tribes should
6 own the data. Part of our sovereignty is to own your
7 own information moving forward and sharing it in forums
8 like this. Also to partner with State, Federal,
9 university, that -- that's how you get things done is
10 partnerships. So I really appreciate the time to share
11 with you guys today. This has turned out way better
12 than I expected and I only had some short notes here,
13 but thanks for the floor time.

14

15 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: We thank you
16 again.

17

18 MR. DUNAWAY: Madame Chair.

19

20 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Oh, Dan.

21

22 MR. DUNAWAY: Just real quick. I'm
23 emailing some of the Bristol Bay leaders right now to
24 see if we -- there's ever been proposals to shorten the
25 area M seines, shallow them up to protect kings in
26 Bristol Bay. I'm kind of intrigued, but I don't -- I
27 should know that history, but I don't. So as we're
28 desperate for kings in the Nushagak and I don't think
29 we have an overabundance in the Naknek or Igiugig, any
30 of them so you kind of got my wheels turning on that
31 idea too.

32

33 So thank you again very much. And I've
34 been real interested in Dr. Schindler's perspectives on
35 the two runs in the Chignik too and he seems to think
36 that -- last I heard he didn't think going to a one run
37 scenario was very healthy. So yeah, keep us informed.
38 And I'm also looking back, we got a couple of BBNA
39 Resource Specialists, head folks that could probably
40 help, they have in the past with funding proposals for
41 projects. I know when I was working I felt like I had
42 a really good working relationship with them.

43

44 So thank you.

45

46 MR. GEORGE ANDERSON: I -- just in
47 closing, thank you member Dunaway. Through the Chair.
48 BBNA has been very active in the -- responding to the
49 needs in Chignik. They've established a Chignik task

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1 force and have allocated some funds and resources
2 towards that. They've been very helpful in helping us
3 narrow some of those research gaps that we've
4 identified and continue to work, we just met Monday I
5 think, here talk about future research.

6

7

So thank you.

8

9 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Keep us
10 informed and keep up the good work. Thank you, George.

11

12 MR. GEORGE ANDERSON: I'll be back at
13 your next meeting to give you an update. Hopefully
14 it's a good one.

15

16

MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Great.

17

18

MR. GEORGE ANDERSON: Thank you.

19

20

MR. ANDERSON: I've got one more.

21

22

MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Norm.

23

24

25 MR. ANDERSON: One more bit of support.
26 I understand and can sympathize with in the -- I can't
27 remember when it was, the '60s I guess, we have a
28 severe disaster up in the Bristol Bay area. And it was
29 recognized by the State of Alaska and we thought it
30 ironic that these are the people who are managing our
31 fishery and we're in the middle of a disaster here.
32 But the U.S. government felt sorry for us and they sent
33 us canned ham and cheese and macaroni and flour and
34 sugar. And as one of the elders said he thinks he
35 still has some of that cheese holding up the corner of
36 his shop.

36

37

(Laughter)

38

39

40 MR. ANDERSON: And it was food, but we
41 persevered. And that's what it takes is keep our nose
42 to the grind and their feet to the fire to be sure that
43 they follow-up with their responsibilities. We as
44 tribes have a fiduciary responsibility and we hold that
45 up. We have that government to government relationship
46 that's unique only to no other organizations. I was
47 the Vice Chair and on the Executive Committee of BBNA
48 for years and I saw that so much of it was just
49 contained within the Nushagak or even out to Iliamna
50 Lake area and the lower peninsula and we fought to get

50

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1 them to the table and to work with us. And that was
2 when we were first introduced to the Pebble Mine, but
3 that's another issue that I don't like to go in here.
4 That's not what our fiduciary responsibility is here.

5

6 So keep up the good work, George.

7

8 MR. GEORGE ANDERSON: Thank you.

9

10 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Thank you.
11 Okay. We've got two more blue cards here. We'll go
12 ahead and hear Stanley Pete next, please.

13

14 MR. PETE: Yeah. Good morning. Thank
15 you all. Madame Chair, my name is Stanley Pete. I'm
16 not from the Bristol Bay region, I'm from the Yukon.
17 And these last few years, three years, we've been
18 receiving fish from Bristol Bay. At one time we were
19 receiving fish from the factory trawlers which were
20 garbage, mushed, squished, porous, not edible salmon.
21 But after the last outcry we had in the area M meeting
22 we had these nice, pristine salmon come up. Not just
23 any kind of salmon, king salmon. And you can tell if
24 salmon is caught in the -- in the seine nets or in the
25 trawl nets. And last year we had these nice, pristine
26 salmon that were -- I can only imagine they were caught
27 in beach -- in seine nets. And I have to speculate
28 that these salmon were caught west of Bristol Bay
29 because last year at the area M meeting I heard the
30 outcry of all these salmon declining and these stocks
31 labeled as stocks of concern. And we were like -- our
32 jaws were dropping when we were receiving these boxes,
33 no sockeye, boxes of king salmon, pristine, immaculate,
34 the kind of stuff I would put away myself.

35

36 So, you know, we come from -- come from
37 the Yukon River where at one time it was one of the --
38 there's so much fish, you know, I hear from my elders,
39 in 50 years time the State of Alaska and the Federal
40 government has decimated our runs to nothing. You
41 know, the operational smokehouses in our area are gone,
42 there's no more fish camps. You know, I -- I'm not
43 here to -- you know, I'm here to rally support for the
44 whole State of Alaska. You know, I -- you know,
45 carrying the burden of carrying on the torch for the
46 people is a blessing, but also it's a burden. You
47 know, you carry the voice of the people and it's
48 burdensome, but in a way it's a blessing that's been
49 bestowed upon us.

50

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1 You know, I -- it's really devastating
2 to see a thriving people turn to beggars where we open
3 up -- we -- if you're fortunate enough you have friends
4 in Bristol Bay that prepare salmon for you, smoke them,
5 make you (In Native), dry fish strips. And if you're
6 fortunate you have friends from Bristol Bay that send
7 you fish to the Yukon. And my wife is very fortunate
8 we have friends in Bristol Bay that go out of their way
9 and send us fish. And you don't see family gatherings
10 like you used to. The only time you see people gather
11 is during a funeral. It's really, really sad. There's
12 no more healing time during the summer, there's no more
13 consoling each other, there's no more forgiving one
14 another until you have a death in the family and that's
15 the only time people gather and comfort and console
16 each other which is really sad. Last year we had an
17 elder die in our community and we said we want salmon,
18 we begged the State of Alaska, the managers, our
19 requests were denied. We could not even honor our
20 deceased and console family members with even a king
21 salmon which is really, really wrong.

22
23 You know, I'm here to not seek for
24 pity, but more so I believe my goal here to the Bristol
25 Bay is I am asking for support, that we really need to
26 change the way the Federal government and the State of
27 Alaska is managing the fishery. It's -- you know, I
28 don't want what's happening on the Yukon to go to
29 Bristol Bay. I've been in your communities, I've
30 fished in the Bristol Bay, I've fished in the eastern
31 Aleutian Islands, I've fished in the western Aleutian
32 Islands, I've fished in Norton Sound. In my early
33 years I fished all over the place, I've -- that's all I
34 did, that's how I grew up. My first memories of being
35 in a boat were with my dad. And I told all my children
36 don't ever be fishermen, it's -- there's no fishing on
37 the Yukon. There's so much uncertainty is that now.
38 So I -- you know, I'd like to give you guys a word of
39 caution. The State of Alaska and the Federal
40 government need to be held accountable for what they're
41 doing. You know, we -- you guys are thriving now, but
42 you guys really need to protect your way of life, your
43 subsistence way of life.

44
45 Quyana.

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47 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Thank you.
48 Questions, comments?

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MR. ANDERSON: Madame Chair.

MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Norm.

MR. ANDERSON: More of a comment, Mr. Pete. We can sympathize with you. We know that -- there was a project manager for a project they called the Bristol Bay Regional Visions Project and we traveled to every village in Bristol Bay and talked to elders and we talked about commercial fishing, subsistence fishing, education, jobs, the economy, everything. And we went to every village twice to share what their neighbors were saying and we heard the same thing over and over again. And one thing that I think instituted a lot of talk was that we don't visit anymore, we don't go visit and the only time we get together as you said was at funeral. And I was born raised in Naknek, I lived in Dillingham for years and I just moved back to Naknek in May. And since then I've attended 14 funerals and services of friends and relatives right around the Naknek area. And I'm sad to say I lost a friend last night. I wasn't going to -- I wasn't going to do that, but a friend of mine passed away last night and I can't be there with the family. But it takes dedication, devotion and speaking from the heart. And as I told Mr. Anderson remember that we are the shadows of our ancestors and they speak to us through us. And we have to do what we have to do. When I was in college every Thursday night I think it was all the Native students would get together and we'd share our foods and seems like your fish was a little more oily. I can't -- I don't recall, I think it was up from the Yukon. But we had food and things from all over the State and have a big Native -- every week we would get together and do that. It was good. So it takes that devotion and you have it in your heart and you can do it. And I appreciate you coming here and sharing with us. It's good to hear stories from the other part of Alaska. Andas Mr. Trefon said it's all-- it's all over the State and it takes that dedication and devotion to do so.

Thank you for coming. Have a safe trip home.

MR. NUKWAK: Madame Chair.

MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Kenneth.

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1 MR. NUKWAK: Thank you. Through the
2 Chair. We also have to realize during politics we know
3 that the Governor's term is going to be up pretty soon
4 and then the -- whoever's going to be running for
5 Governor is going to be making a lot of promises which
6 won't be kept because they're full of BS.....

7
8 MR. TREFON: Yeah.

9
10 MR. NUKWAK:just to get their
11 seat. Anyway to the -- whoever the Governor's going to
12 be, we as a community of Alaska, whole State of Alaska
13 and it has come to my realization since last year I
14 think coming to these meetings that the Governor is the
15 one that is picking for the State, the Joint Board, the
16 Board of Game. Probably whoever's coming up have them
17 pick from the local population of Natives and Native
18 term meaning whomever was -- has been in Alaska from
19 childhood. And we know more than the ones that are
20 trying to make money off of the ocean.

21
22 I thought I'd put that out. Thank you.

23
24 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Thank you,
25 Kenneth. Billy.

26
27 MR. TREFON: Yeah, my name's Billy
28 Trefon from Nondalton. And listening to you about
29 requesting help from like for getting -- receiving fish
30 up in the Yukon and the Kuskokwim. And it brought up
31 something I'd been thinking about over time was
32 bartering is something we do not do anymore. And my
33 mom and them fished, I mean, you make friends with
34 people from the interior or the coast or wherever,
35 wherever the abundance of fish on the coast or
36 abundance of moose and other species are interior. So
37 you make friends with each other and then you trade end
38 of season pound for pound fish and meat. Because in my
39 area we don't receive a whole lot of moose and we don't
40 get caribou anymore and if somebody's willing to trade
41 me for a fish I'm pretty sure I'll trade. Bartering
42 system should be a thing.

43
44 Thank you.

45
46 MR. PETE: Thank you. I -- you know,
47 we in our cultural and traditional practice we did do
48 that alot. You know, I --I'm very fortunate, I know --
49 my wife knows people in Bristol Bay and I know people
50

0028

1 in Barrow and I trade salmon for -- when I have salmon
2 -- when I did have salmon I traded with bowhead whale.
3 So that -- that's -- you know, that's what we did. You
4 know, we did it up and down the Yukon. We traded seal
5 oil with moose back in the day before they -- the moose
6 population exploded. Now there's no need to trade seal
7 oil for moose anymore because there's so much moose in
8 unit 18. So it's a -- I think that that tradition of
9 bartering and trading now it's kind of diminishing
10 where everybody wants money. You know, bartering and
11 trading was a form of -- not a way of transferring
12 money, but it was a transferring of -- a trading of
13 necessities.

14

15 Quyana.

16

17 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Norm.

18

19 MR. ANDERSON: Thank you. Yeah, Billy
20 is right. I barter and trade, I'm good at it too I'll
21 tell you. I get berries from Tuntutuliak from a good
22 friend of mine up there. And I get things from
23 southeast and a buddy of mine in Kodiak and we trade
24 jarred salmon or smoked salmon or I have some other
25 recipes, I do a lot of my own different things, salmon
26 jerky and marinated salmon and -- and it's a good
27 practice. I don't want to venture too far into this,
28 but and like I said earlier I did the math, 51 years
29 ago I sat at a table and we discussed subsistence, you
30 know, what it meant to us. And we had a young man who
31 was writing on a big piece of paper what we were saying
32 and I was at -- with a nice lady and a gentleman from
33 the upper Kuskokwim actually and we sat and we
34 discussed these things. Later on that young man who
35 was writing things for us turned out to be Governor
36 Tony Knowles. So he had an interest in things and he
37 kept in touch with us. And by the way that lady was
38 Katie John, the matriarch of our lifestyle, our lives.
39 She fought for it and I think that we must honor here,
40 we ought to have pictures of her at these meetings
41 rather than a picture of sticklebacks on a fish I think
42 it ought to be Katie John.

43

44 We need to barter and trade, we need to
45 keep subsistence alive, but we need to have the
46 resource. We battle our competitors are sport and
47 commercial fishermen. They get theirs first. We who
48 have been the sentinels of our natural resources for
49 thousands of years stand there with our hands out and
50

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1 we shouldn't do that, we should take pride. Our elders
2 would look at us in shame. And I think -- I think we
3 should all say shame on us for doing that. So as I
4 told Mr. Anderson, we need to keep up the fight and the
5 devotion and let your voice be heard from your heart.

6
7 Thank you for coming.

8
9 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Yes. Thank
10 you again, appreciate your words.

11
12 MR. PETE: Thanks again.

13
14 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. We
15 have one more blue card. Gayla Hoseth.

16
17 Thanks, Gayla.

18
19 MS. HOSETH: Good morning, Madame
20 Chair, members of the Council. My name is Gayla Hoseth
21 and I'm the First Chief of Curyung Tribal Council in
22 Dillingham, Alaska and I'm also the Director of Natural
23 Resources for Bristol Bay Native Association. I know
24 all of you -- almost all of you, I haven't met you yet,
25 but I know all of you and worked with you over a number
26 of years.

27
28 I just wanted to take this time to be
29 in this space and sorry for being a little bit late for
30 the beginning of the meeting, I missed some of the
31 testimonies. But I just wanted to also say, you know,
32 as a part of the process what we do at Bristol Bay
33 Native Association in educating people of the process
34 and getting proposals changed for our customary and
35 traditional ways. I'm just really proud to see Kenneth
36 Nukwak sitting behind the table today. And makes me
37 emotional, I didn't think I was going to come to this
38 meeting and it's been a heavy day. So I'm really proud
39 of you, Kenneth.

40
41 Geez, I'm not usually nervous talking
42 about it, guys, but I had the opportunity to have
43 dinner with Ray Oney from YKDelta RAC the other night
44 at the hotel. And gosh, one of the things that he said
45 was -- you know, I introduced myself and -- Georgianna,
46 could you give me a kleenex. I don't want to sit up
47 here and cry, but I wasn't expecting to be emotional,
48 but it is emotional. Anyway, he's a really nice man
49 and so we were talking and then we were saying where
50

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1 we're from, you know, we're here for the RAC meetings
2 and he just said, you know, thank you for the fish that
3 we got this summer. We did a subsistence sharing
4 network within BBNA last year and we did about 5,000
5 pounds from my set net site and from DeDe's set net
6 site right next to mine on the beach. And a lot of you
7 know Cody Larson and he was the one that really
8 spearheaded that project and really worked hard over
9 the summer. And we wanted to make sure that we have
10 pristine salmon that we were giving. From the stories
11 of what the gentleman before us spoke, we wanted to
12 make sure that the quality of the salmon was really
13 good. And we worked with Ben Blake and we got the
14 fish, we had it, it was a system, it went right from
15 the net into the slush, directly into the freezer, that
16 we had whole fish that we sent out and it was all
17 subsistence, it was all -- we did it that way. And
18 those boxes were sent up and then just to hear that,
19 you know, just made me happy to hear and then to have
20 that connection with Ray and that needs to continue.

21
22 And that's when we got into the
23 conversation about barter. And I'm glad to hear it
24 being talked around the table here. We all do it, I
25 just recently traded, you know, sockeye salmon for
26 moose because our moose populations are declining. And
27 that was all the way, you know, from Valdez to
28 Dillingham that we traded. And as we're having these
29 conversations we're the people here with the joint RAC
30 and I know that there's a letter going out, you know,
31 the joint RAC letters and I've been talking -- you
32 know, I think that Ray's going to bring it up in his
33 RAC and talking with some of my other friends on the
34 other RAC meetings, let's organize an international
35 trade or, you know, not an international trade, an
36 Alaska trade and that came out of like the Chignik
37 meeting too from our general counsel brought up the
38 idea and it's just like as we sit in these different
39 meetings and these ideas come forward we could do a
40 trade during AFN time, everybody comes in and gathers.
41 I have -- we have an abundance of salmon, you know,
42 right now. There's a moose population that's in
43 abundance in the YKDelta. There's muktuk, there's
44 everything. I'm waiting for a map from one of my other
45 friends of the traditional trade map. And that -- I
46 could submit that to Orville to make sure that we get
47 it here on the record that we have the map of the trade
48 map. And let's do it, now's the time to be doing it.
49 You know, we hear all the stories and it -- it
50

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1 resonates with the hearts because we do care about one
2 another. And I think now's the time to do it, there's
3 people who -- you know, there was a post online the
4 other day about, you know, \$158 for a filet of king
5 salmon. You know, that's just absolutely ridiculous
6 that somebody would have to pay especially for
7 something that has sustained our people for
8 generations.

9

10 So I guess that would be the request I
11 have of you, Madame Chair, and of the Council is that
12 we bring this when -- I don't -- is the -- are the --
13 is everybody gathering back together tomorrow or is
14 everybody just kind of separated now, is everybody
15 coming back after this meeting today?

16

17 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Yes. Thank
18 you. It's my belief that we are not gathering back
19 together again although that may change as we had
20 things change yesterday. So, you know, at -- it's not
21 planned.

22

23 MS. HOSETH: Okay. Thank you for that.
24 And, you know, I mean, I just think that we can do
25 something now that we have everybody together. And I
26 guess that kind of goes into the next thing about
27 process, we're all about process. This is -- the
28 Federal Subsistence Board process is a really good
29 process for us to have our -- hear -- have our voices
30 heard, have our concerns addressed as we work on these
31 issues to maintain our customary and traditional ways
32 of life. This process is great. I think that we -- 10
33 years waiting for all RACs to get together is way too
34 long. It should be maybe every three to five years,
35 but it should be at least three. Because as you can
36 see yesterday, you know, you guys -- we all need to
37 talk, we all need to have the space to make the change
38 that needs to happen. And have it be more in a
39 traditional form -- format. You know, 8:00 o'clock in
40 the morning is a little early to start, I mean, we -- I
41 think everybody was scrambling to get here by 8:00.
42 You know, we need to have time to have a cup of coffee
43 together, share, we haven't seen each other probably
44 since AFN time, have coffee, you know, have
45 conversations and create a network like we are doing.
46 And I think that a good outcome of this would be that
47 the bartering, the bartering that needs to happen.

48

49 Excited about the tribal seats that are
50

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1 going to be added to the Federal Subsistence Board, I
2 think that that's really good. And I just wanted to
3 thank the Bristol Bay RAC for holding -- bringing that
4 message forward that we've been fighting for a long for
5 ANILCA to be upheld when decisions are made in the
6 Federal Subsistence Board. And, you know, that really
7 goes to tie in to that proposal that came out of Mr.
8 Nukwak and we had to fight that thing for years. And
9 to hold -- to make sure that ANILCA is being followed
10 and we just have to keep pushing that. But it
11 shouldn't be a -- it shouldn't be so hard.

12

13 I'm also on the DOI SAC, so the
14 Department of Interior Secretary Advisory Committee
15 with Secretary Haaland and I do bring these messages to
16 DC. One of the things that I had an idea and that
17 might be something that could come out of here with the
18 RAC is, you know, everybody weighs in on all of the
19 proposals when the proposals are being gone through.
20 And we have an OSM review, we have all of the RACs
21 weigh in and the missing piece is a Solicitor opinion.
22 And if we had a Solicitor box on the actual proposal
23 form does this follow ANILCA. We won't have the
24 problems that we've had for years. It costs a lot of
25 money to bring people in from the villages, to travel.
26 We did have the Chignik Task Force meeting on Monday, I
27 put it that way so I could bring some Chignik members
28 to these meetings to learn about the process because
29 they're in Federal waters with their fishery so I'm
30 glad to do that. But I think that that is something
31 that we can do is that we had that because the one
32 thing that we all know is that we're always going to be
33 here, we're always going to be here, our people, the
34 people after -- coming after us are always going to be
35 here. And it's a revolving door with the agency
36 regional administrators that are sitting at the table.
37 We all see it every time it's in -- we go to a Federal
38 Subsistence Board it's somebody new, but yet they don't
39 know so much about ANILCA. But if that was a check off
40 box that we had on the proposal form I think that that
41 would save a lot of time, money and energy and that
42 wouldn't be -- we wouldn't have to bring things back
43 and hold everybody to the fire like we do. But I think
44 through that process I think we've really grown and
45 learned a lot.

46

47 So I just wanted to say that and thank
48 you.

49

50

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1 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: No, thank
2 you, Gayla. I really appreciate you coming here and
3 making those statements. And I think time is a key
4 issue because just like with all the energy and efforts
5 we put into Kenneth's proposal, you know, it's delayed
6 because you got fisheries one time and game the next
7 and so you don't end up with just a week or a month,
8 you end up with years between your ability to move
9 something forward. And that to me is frustrating. And
10 I love that idea personally.

11
12 But, Board members, any questions or
13 comments for Gayla.

14
15 MR. ANDERSON: Madame Chair.

16
17 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Norm.

18
19 MR. ANDERSON: Yes, I do. At an early
20 age I traveled to Dillingham and I met the Hoseth
21 family and they welcomed me. Gayla's grandmother made
22 the best bread, I played basketball against her father
23 and I worked with Gayla and I watched her grow up.
24 It's nice to have that generation of people bring us
25 back into focus. And I thank you. And we have an
26 empty seat.

27
28 Thank you.

29
30 MS. HOSETH: Through the Chair. Thank
31 you, Norm.

32
33 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Dan.

34
35 MR. DUNAWAY: Gayla, you mentioned that
36 you're on some sort of an Advisory Panel directly to
37 the Secretary; is that correct?

38
39 (No comments)

40
41 MR. DUNAWAY: You know, but I do know
42 also she's on the migratory bird thing, she's got a
43 long list of hats she wears. But anyway I'm just
44 curious on that one panel.

45
46 MS. HOSETH: Through the Chair. So I'm
47 the State of Alaska Primarily Representative to
48 Secretary Haaland. So I bring any Federal issues, if
49 you guys have any concerns, anything in regards to
50

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1 Federal issues in the State of Alaska contact me. I'm
2 at BBNA and I'm happy to carry the message. I carry
3 the message -- well, of what we need to do in AMBCC was
4 one that you all may -- I think we presented of the
5 downfall that we had within AMBCC. That is being
6 mandated back and fixed and we've been working really
7 close with Sara, with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
8 and she's been great in this role. I do want to make
9 sure that I say that because it's been a time that
10 we've been through with that. One thing that we're
11 working on through that is working on direct -- well,
12 we're working -- we're trying to get direct line item
13 funding within AMBCC and all of the co-management
14 funding needs to have direct line item funding
15 directly. AMBCC is currently working on their 638
16 compacting contracting agreement so that we could just
17 get that money right to AMBCC.

18

19 So it's been a process and AMBCC is
20 pretty much just a young, 20 something year old council
21 which that was the most -- hardest council to be on,
22 but it's been a challenge and we've got through it and
23 but bringing that message right to DC is how we were
24 able to really accomplish and get that message heard.

25

26 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Kenneth.

27

28 MR. NUKWAK: Through the Chair. Thank
29 you. Thank you, Gayla. Quyana. (In Native) Bristol
30 Bay Rural Advisory Council land.

31

32 Thank you for encouraging me to fill
33 out an application, you and Cody last year and (In
34 Native). When you told me that I -- I'm on the other
35 side now (In Native) I didn't believe you. And I
36 didn't know what it meant. And now that I'm just going
37 along with the flow now I realize that I am on the
38 other side of the table. And then going back to the
39 wildlife proposals there is one that I would really
40 like to work on, maybe tickle the toes of the agency
41 people that work on -- work on the policies, rules and
42 regulations. There was this one young man in Manokotak
43 that got a citation, got ptarmigan taken away for not
44 having a State hunting license. I guess I'm used to
45 these hotseats, it must have been natural. I didn't --
46 I didn't expect that. And I'm looking forward to
47 putting a proposal like that, maybe as we discussed a
48 tribal card for people with low income or Native people
49 for small game or probably include the big game because
50

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1 we've been there for thousands of years and I don't
2 think we really need the State hunting license. I
3 think the tribal card would be a great idea. If I put
4 it forward it may become a hot topic and the discussion
5 maybe even become a Statewide subject.

6
7 Concerning the wildlife proposal 24-18
8 I think for the Togiak National Wildlife Refuge
9 boundary line, the Nushagak Peninsula Caribou Herd
10 boundary line that which goes to the (In Native)
11 Mountains. (In Native). There was a -- there is a
12 proposal to my understanding, what I found out, to
13 expand the boundary line (In Native) from the mouth of
14 the Kanik River through Tithe Creek in English, (In
15 Native) in Yup'ik. And I agree on that and I think
16 Togiak also agrees on that and Twin Hills. But
17 according to when I spoke with Jimmy Coopchiak and the
18 Chairman of Togiak Advisory Committee, maybe the Right
19 Hand Point or (In Native) from Right Hand Point or to
20 the Omalik River to benefit the communities of Togiak
21 and Twin Hills and that would not be a lot. If the --
22 if the person that turned in the wildlife proposal
23 would -- if he agrees, if we can -- if everybody agrees
24 in this body and if the person that made the proposal
25 agrees, maybe that would be a good idea to expand that
26 boundary line all the way to Right Hand Point or Omalik
27 River. And it will benefit the community of Togiak and
28 Twin Hills for the caribou hunt under the Nushagak
29 Peninsula Caribou Herd. And there's -- there's not a
30 whole lot of people that hunt to the Nushagak Peninsula
31 because the distance is -- the distance is pretty far.
32 And then if it comes into law from the mouth of Kanik
33 to Tithe Creek to Ugalik (ph) Lake, if it comes into
34 lake -- it's still a little bit too far for the
35 community of Togiak to go that far with the boat for
36 the fall. During the falltime if they go for caribou
37 on the (In Native) to the Kanik River.

38
39 So just throwing out what I got an
40 earful from the community of Togiak, making sure you
41 guys hear it. And they want me to speak on that.

42
43 If anything other comes up I'll bring
44 it up.

45
46 Thank you.

47
48 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Yeah.
49 Thanks. No, when we review proposals we'll definitely
50

0036

1 want to hear about that.

2

3

MR. ANDERSON: Madame Chair.

4

5

MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Norm.

6

7

MR. ANDERSON: Yes. Lastly I had the great honor of being invited to the Secretary of the Interior's office in DC, Ken Salazar. That was a long time ago and we talked about the issues that we're faced with today. Mineral and hydrocarbon invaders were attempting to come in big time and that was my thrust to stop that. And it worked, we got the moratorium. But Secretary Salazar as we were leaving his office says hey, Norm, could you invite me to Bristol Bay. I went sure and he came, remember. Yeah. And he was sensitive. So we have continued support from the Department of the Interior through the secretary's office. I still get communications from the new Secretary and it's important that we have that and we keep that relationship up. As I talked about earlier we do have that Federal government to government relationship, we as tribes. So we need to keep that refreshed constantly.

25

26

Thank you for your work.

27

28

29

MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Go ahead, Gayla.

30

31

32

33

34

35

36

37

38

39

MS. HOSETH: Thank you, Madame Chair. And if I could address Kenneth. I think at their last -- at our last RAC meeting -- did the RAC take a position on WP24-18 and I don't know -- you know, we're going up -- I guess that would be then -- the process would be through testimony and I know that -- did the -- did the RAC support that proposal because the proposer was U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

40

41

42

43

44

MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Yes, we did support it. Yeah, I don't recall off the top of my head what discussion there was about it, but Leigh's got good notes here.

45

46

47

48

49

50

MS. HONIG: Thank you, Madame Chair. So the Council's recommendation that we submitted to the Federal Subsistence Board was that the Council supported the OSM modification that included the new hunt area boundaries as defined. The Council though

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1 they were clear and identifiable which is important in
2 a geographic area that can be featureless. The
3 expansion of the hunt area aligns with the changes in
4 migration patterns as the herd has been moving west
5 instead of south. Additionally the Council was in
6 support of the proposal after hearing public comments
7 during the Council meeting that express support for the
8 expansion of the hunt area. The expansion of the hunt
9 area would allow for increased harvest opportunities
10 and the ability to maintain traditional hunting
11 practices.

12

13 And like you had said the Federal
14 Subsistence Board meeting is occurring April 2nd
15 through the 5th and there will be public -- a time for
16 public testimony to speak on these proposals. Written
17 comments can be submitted and if anybody needs help
18 with that I am more than willing and happy to help with
19 that as well too.

20

21 Thank you.

22

23 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Go ahead,
24 Kenneth.

25

26 MR. NUKWAK: Thank you. Through the
27 Chair. Since I'm on this seat and I'm able to speak
28 whatever I want to say, that's a wonderful thing. (In
29 Native). And also to testify for the community of
30 Togiak and Twin Hills in furthering that boundary line
31 to Right Hand Point or Omalik River. I think -- I
32 think that would be beneficial. And according to my
33 knowledge I -- I do a lot of hunting that way. And in
34 the falltime -- summer and falltime they'll -- the
35 caribou will be there if they have to be because
36 there's abundance of lichen in there within the east
37 side of Kanik River. But this winter there's a lot of
38 snow and there's no tracks of any caribou tracks, none
39 whatsoever. If there is I think they'll be down in the
40 (In Native) area which is the west side of Picnic
41 Beach. And (In Native) a shortcut valley from the Tok
42 River to (In Native). There's no English term for that
43 name. If there is somebody can correct me on that.
44 But if there's a caribou in the winter there'll be only
45 a small group in that valley or within -- above (In
46 Native). Otherwise if it gets further to the Right
47 Hand Point area where there's a lot of lichen and then
48 the east wind melts off the snow so fast, there'll be a
49 lot of food abundance for the caribou and also the east
50

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1 side of the Omalik River because when I go from
2 Manokotak to Togiak once in a while I see caribou there
3 which come from the Nushagak Peninsula Caribou Herd.
4 They go as far as there and probably further even.

5

6 Thank you.

7

8 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Thank you,
9 Kenneth. Thank you, Gayla.

10

11 MS. HOSETH: Thank you, Madame Chair
12 and Council.

13

14 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: I would add
15 too that just after hearing the concerns that we all
16 came together with yesterday especially on the fishery
17 that I think the Secretary's office is going to be key
18 in getting some changes made. So your ears could be
19 burning up in the coming weeks I hope.

20

21 MS. HOSETH: Yeah, thank you.

22

23 MR. NUKWAK: Madame Chair.

24

25 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Yes,
26 Kenneth.

27

28 MR. NUKWAK: Probably give Gayla an
29 applaud, she's done a lot of work, lots of work. And
30 I've worked with her. She's completed a whole bunch.

31

32 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: No problem.

33

34 (Applause)

35

36 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay.
37 That's the last of the blue cards that I currently
38 have. If anybody else in the audience does want to
39 speak, please feel free to fill out a blue card. At
40 any appropriate time between subjects we will be happy
41 to call you up and hear your concerns and/or questions
42 that you might have.

43

44 Back to the current agenda. We
45 reviewed and done -- okay. So we're on election of
46 officers. So I'm going to turn this back over to Leigh
47 then and let you proceed.

48

49 MS. HONIG: Thank you, Madame Chair.

50

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1 For the record my name is Leigh Honig, Council
2 Coordinator for the Bristol Bay Subsistence Advisory
3 Council and designated Federal officer. In accordance
4 with the Council charter Council members elect a chair,
5 Vice Chair and Secretary for a one year term. The term
6 usually starts at the beginning of the calendar year.
7 So at this time I'd like to open the floor for
8 nominations of the Council's Chair. The nominations do
9 not need to be seconded. So the floor is open.

10

11 Richard.

12

13 MR. WILSON: I nominate Nanci Lyon for
14 Chair.

15

16 MS. HONIG: Great. So Mrs. Nanci
17 Morris Lyon was nominated to serve as Council's Chair.
18 All in favor say aye.

19

20 IN UNISON: Aye.

21

22 MS. HONIG: All those opposed same
23 sign.

24

25 (No opposing votes)

26

27 MS. HONIG: Okay. You have been
28 nominated as Chair. Thank you very much. So I will
29 pass the gavel back over to you.

30

31 Thank you.

32

33 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Thank you,
34 Leigh, and thank you for your confidence in me, guys.
35 As always you let me know if I need to change things or
36 do things in a different manner. I'm at your service.

37

38 Let's go on to Vice Chair. Do we have
39 nominations for Vice Chair?

40

41 MR. WILSON: I nominate Dan Dunaway.

42

43 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Any other
44 nominations?

45

46 (No comments)

47

48 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: I'm not sure
49 what that beep means, should I be paying attention to
50

0040

1 it?

2

3

4 in.

5

6

7 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Yeah,
8 that -- I was just concerned if Rob was trying to --
9 okay. Hearing no other nominations, all in favor of
10 accepting Dan Dunaway as our Vice Chair please signify
11 by saying aye.

12

13 IN UNISON: Aye.

14

15 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
16 you. And, Dan, congratulations. You're our continuing
17 Vice Chair.

18

19 MR. DUNAWAY: Thank you, everybody.
20 Appreciate the.....

21

22 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. And
23 our final office is Secretary. Richard Wilson is our
24 current Secretary.

25

26 MR. TREFON: Madame Chair.

27

28 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Billy.

29

30 MR. TREFON: I'd like to nominate
31 Richard.

32

33 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Any other
34 nominations.

35

36 (No comments)

37

38 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Richard.

39

40 MR. WILSON: Madame Chair. Yeah, if
41 it's -- you know, I know we get changes through the
42 Board here, but if it's the desire of this Board to
43 have somebody else fill that position I'm totally up
44 for it.

45

46 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Thank you,
47 Richard. Kenneth.

48

49 MR. NUKWAK: I'll second Billy's
50 nomination.

0041

1 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: I think that
2 you are well liked for that position, Richard. All in
3 favor of accepting Richard as Secretary for the Board,
4 please signify by saying aye.

5
6 IN UNISON: Aye.

7
8 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Opposed same
9 sign.

10
11 (No opposing votes)

12
13 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Hearing
14 none, Richard, congratulations. Thank you for
15 continuing on in your position.

16
17 Okay. Review and approve previous
18 meeting minutes. I would consider a motion as such for
19 the things -- items list number 5 in the book.

20
21 I'm sorry. Yeah, thank you, Dan. In
22 case anybody else, I'm referring to page 5 in our
23 original Council meeting book. The agenda's the only
24 thing we are departing from the original book on.

25
26 MR. WILSON: Madame Chair.

27
28 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Go ahead.

29
30 MR. WILSON: I move to approve the
31 minutes of October 24, 25 of 2023.

32
33 MR. DUNAWAY: Second.

34
35 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. We
36 have a motion and a second. Discussion.

37
38 MR. DUNAWAY: Madame Chair.

39
40 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Dan.

41
42 MR. DUNAWAY: Madame Chair, I've looked
43 through them and I didn't find any significant errors
44 or omissions. So I'm inclined to support them as they
45 are.

46
47 Thank you.

48
49 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Any other
50

0042

1 discussion.

2

3 (No comments)

4

5 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. All
6 in favor of accepting the previous meeting minutes
7 please signify by saying aye.

8

9 IN UNISON: Aye.

10

11 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Opposed same
12 sign.

13

14 (No opposing votes)

15

16 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Motion
17 passes. And let's go on to our reports. Actually does
18 everybody want to take a break, I know sometimes I go
19 too long?

20

21 MR. DUNAWAY: Yes.

22

23 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Let's
24 go ahead and take a 10 minute break which means please
25 be back here at 10:10 and we'll resume with Council
26 member reports.

27

28 Thank you.

29

30 (Off record)

31

32 (On record)

33

34 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: And I guess
35 I -- for your benefit this is an opportunity for you to
36 share what's happened in your region since our last
37 meeting in the fall in October and your observations
38 and concerns that have been brought to you by others to
39 kind of share with the Council and give us an idea of
40 what's been happening.

41

42 Norm, would you please start us off.

43

44 MR. ANDERSON: Thank you very much
45 again. I am actually (In Native), but my western
46 recognition is Norman Anderson. I'm born and raised in
47 the Native Village of Naknek. We are a sovereign tribe
48 and I've had the greatest opportunity of hunting all of
49 Bristol Bay from Iliamna Lake area over to Togiak, down
50

0043

1 to Perryville. I've hunted every river, every lake.
2 My mother called me the last nomadic Aleut and I'm very
3 proud of that because I think the herds' leaders of the
4 caribou recognize me.

5

6 But I got a moose last fall, not by
7 hunting, it was a roadkill in Naknek. The poor moose
8 got hit and flew up in the air and by the time it hit
9 the ground got hit by another car coming the other way.
10 So there wasn't much salvageable, but I did share what
11 we could with three other families. And I think that's
12 what the meaning of subsistence is. And I'm proud to
13 have been able to share that.

14

15 We had a lot of ptarmigan and rabbits
16 this year in Naknek to the point to where they were
17 spots on the road which was a shame, but -- and
18 following along with that we got a lot of foxes. And
19 in the rivers there were a lot of smelt. I went
20 (indiscernible) Russian Christmas down the coast, I
21 brought a hundred pounds of smelt down that I caught in
22 just a couple days. I believe and I just got a caribou
23 shared with me by my younger cousins. It's nice being
24 old, they can provide that for me. So I got bones (In
25 Native), I got meat. It's nice to have that, to open
26 the freezer and beside my stash of salmon nice big
27 packs of meat that I share with my family. So I'm glad
28 to be here and it's enriching to have young people
29 support our way of life that we need to lead and
30 follow.

31

32 So that's all I have. I'll not
33 monopolize this. I usually preface things with I like
34 to keep it like my mother, short and sweet.

35

36 Thank you.

37

38 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Thank you,
39 Norm. Richard.

40

41 MR. WILSON: What's your definition of
42 short and sweet?

43

44 MR. ANDERSON: Not you.

45

46 (Laughter)

47

48 MR. WILSON: I just kind of resonate
49 some of the things that Norm said here about population

50

0044

1 wise, you know, our ptarmigan. It's pretty awesome to
2 see that in one year's time you can go from, you know,
3 a flock of 15 to 20 to a hundred and something, you
4 know, in several areas. And it's great to see that
5 return. We had such concerns here just three years ago
6 about that population. And kind of excited to hear
7 some -- maybe some -- what's happening with the arctic
8 hare. Perhaps we'll get some more news on that. I
9 know they've been -- they've been trying to see what
10 those population estimates look like.

11

12 We still travel up on the Kvichak in
13 the fall just for our hunts and, you know, we usually
14 end up with a score, but this last few years been
15 noticing that most of the -- most of the bull moose
16 that we see are fairly young. We don't see a whole lot
17 of older moose in that -- on that trend area. It seems
18 like they're all pretty young. But as always I'm
19 always interested to see population numbers, you know,
20 real numbers to help us with what we -- what we're
21 embedded to do here. But we -- Paul Biskowski and I
22 twice now on the river up there at the snow holes, Norm
23 talked about the abundance, but I think the fun has
24 shortened up, we have nothing in the last two weeks.
25 So that run is -- the cycle seems to be -- I don't know
26 if it's just another phase of it or -- but we'll see as
27 time goes on, but I've been noticing that.

28

29 But there's a lot of our
30 trappers/hunters are scoring on wolves. We've had --
31 we've had good numbers just recently to come and -- you
32 know, for people getting wolves out there which is
33 good. Haven't seen much of the caribou herd, the North
34 Peninsula one there. They come towards us just in
35 little groups and if you're lucky you can get there
36 before everybody else does. And so there's not -- they
37 don't seem to be migrating as far north as they usually
38 do, you know, for access to them. Been noticing that.

39

40 But yeah, and then of course we're all
41 salmon people and we all know what that looks like in
42 our areas and ours -- you know, we're still hoping for
43 better recoveries on some of the stocks that we're --
44 what we all discuss here and we'll be discussing later.

45

46 So appreciate it. Thanks.

47

48 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Thank you,
49 Richard. Dan.

50

0045

1 MR. DUNAWAY: Thank you, Madame Chair.
2 I'm trying to gather my thoughts here. Winters around
3 Dillingham has kind of been a yo-yo winter, some --
4 quite a bit of snow and then big thaw and rain and some
5 cold weather. Personally I partly -- one of my snowgos
6 is broke so I haven't been out much. But I've seen
7 where the creeks were blown over and you could drive
8 over them and then they thaw out and drop through and
9 it gets kind of dangerous to try to travel. I think
10 it's made it difficult for some of the trappers to get
11 out. The trapper I know best hasn't been able to cross
12 Wood River to get one of his main lines last I heard.
13 He did mention though the wolverine numbers seem to be
14 pretty good. He also said though that -- see if I get
15 this right, people have been hunting wolves pretty
16 vigorous, I don't know how many have been taken, but it
17 seemed to allow more coyotes to be around and the
18 coyotes are playing havoc with the foxes. And I can't
19 tell that around my neighborhood, I have a fox that
20 runs through my yard often. But he doesn't trap in my
21 yard either. So but yeah, he did mention that it
22 seemed like the coyotes have been hard on the foxes.
23 One of these recent thaw periods was really warm and
24 conditions were good for a lot of people to be out on
25 snowmobile. And they scattered everywhere.

26
27 And I'm still a little unclear, but at
28 least one and probably two brown bears were harvested.
29 Pretty big ones. One of them was found up I believe in
30 the Kokwok River area, possibly hunting moose. And now
31 those moose are a little bit safer. And then I think
32 there was one up -- taken out of Koliganek which was
33 kind of surprising mid February. So that part again
34 maybe some more moose are protected.

35
36 Those conditions especially interfering
37 with travel from Dillingham to go out west have
38 prevented a number of folks from trying to access 17A
39 moose which is really generous moose hunting area and
40 you can even take two in certain circumstances. But I
41 don't know if many people have been able to do that. I
42 was at the gas station the other day and somebody came
43 in with a moose. But the season was extended. Last I
44 heard somewhere between 60 and 70 moose have been
45 reported and historically there's about a hundred and
46 I'm -- maybe more have been taken and so Fish and Game
47 extended the season over there until March 15th.

48
49 And we had that extension in 17C I
50

0046

1 believe it was this fall, but I think I mentioned that
2 the previous report.

3

4

5 And our current wildlife biologist
6 believes that our moose populations are maybe better
7 than we thought or better than they were a couple years
8 ago. It's frustrating however that he had assembled a
9 crew to be out surveying I think last week or the week
10 before and weather prevented them from going. And I
11 don't know the status of that at this point, but I know
12 he was really looking forward to getting out there.
13 But weather -- you know, it's just raining and snowing
14 one time and 20 below another time.

14

15 Something I've become a little more
16 aware of is I've become friends with some young folks
17 up in New Stuyahok is that the funerary or memorial
18 harvest of a moose is going on a little, maybe more
19 than I was ever aware of before, but it seems like it's
20 -- well, obviously it's a cherished opportunity and I'm
21 glad that they're able to make use of that. There's
22 also the Fish and Game has a school moose permit and a
23 few of the schools in our area have been able to go out
24 and get a moose as an educational program and share it.

25

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One other thing with my friends up in
New Stuyahok, ammunition's terribly expensive and
sometimes not available. I ended up buying a box of
ammo and sending it to a friend in New Stu because he
almost lost a moose because he'd -- the shells they had
were pretty bum. Luckily he had his .44 magnum and
caught the moose in the end. So that's something I
don't think about, but I was looking in the store here
and holy smokes, the price of a box of ammo was brutal,
even .22 shells have gone way up.

You add to that 50 cents a pound for
your commercial fish. I think they're looking at a
little bit lower commercial harvest for the bay. It
really pushes the subsistence need even harder.

So I think -- oh, we have abundant
rabbits and apparently abundant ptarmigan, they're
starting to get hit on the road. I'm hearing in this
last couple weeks more and more people going out and
getting ptarmigan. And like Richard says it's a real
relief that they seem to bounce back so quick.

And that's all I can think of. Thank

0047

1 you.

2

3 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Thank you,
4 Dan. And I'm -- Rob, if you're ready I would love to
5 have you give your report at this time.

6

7 MR. HILL: (Indiscernible - technical
8 difficulties).

9

10 MS. HONIG: I can barely hear you.
11 Give us a moment to work on these technical
12 difficulties.

13

14 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: I guess the
15 next question too, Rob, is have you been hearing us
16 okay?

17

18 MR. HILL: (Indiscernible - technical
19 difficulties).

20

21 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. I'm
22 not hearing you at all, but Leigh is relaying that you
23 said -- what you are saying. So anyway stand by and as
24 soon as we can get you I'll -- in fact if you'll just
25 stand by I'll go ahead and move forward while they work
26 on this because we do have three more Council members
27 to give their reports. And I'll call on you as soon as
28 they give me a thumb's up that it's ready. So I
29 apologize for that.

30

31 Billy.

32

33 MR. HILL: Okay. No problem, Nanci.

34

35 REPORTER: Let him go now.

36

37 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Excuse me,
38 Rob. No worries. I -- you just came through loud and
39 clear so please go ahead.

40

41 MR. HILL: Okay. Can you still hear
42 me?

43

44 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: We can very
45 well. Thank you.

46

47 MR. HILL: Okay. I'll just keep mine
48 short hopefully. First I'd like to thank John
49 Christensen, he was generous enough to send a couple of
50

0048

1 caribou up to Kokhanok for distribution in the
2 community up here. And that was awesome. We're still
3 working on the distribution part of it.

4

5 And we did harvest a moose a couple
6 weeks ago for the educational permit and I wanted to
7 kind of clarify that is not through the school, that
8 was through the tribe. So you don't have to be
9 associated with the school to apply for that
10 educational permit which was really good. Had really
11 good involvement with the community.

12

13 And I know one thing that kind of
14 popped up in the meeting yesterday was the hooligan
15 down in southeast, I was kind of -- kind of curious
16 and looking for some clarification on the difference
17 between the hooligan that they get down there and the
18 smelt that we get in our area? Always kind of one of
19 the -- one of my light bulbs that had kind of went off
20 in my head.

21

22 So but yeah, I mean, I said I would try
23 to keep it short and.....

24

25 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
26 you, Rob. We look forward to seeing some other answers
27 from -- from some of the stuff that we did have happen
28 yesterday and maybe the hooligan will be part of it.
29 But appreciate that.

30

31 Billy.

32

33 MR. TREFON: Okay. I don't have a
34 whole lot to go on right now other than there's only
35 been like I think two moose have been taken all year
36 which has been pretty sad. But it's got a lot to do
37 with the snow, we had so much snow this winter, it's
38 just crazy. And it -- and like Dan was saying
39 traditionally we like to see it freeze before it snows
40 because the snow is like an insulation when it goes
41 over the creeks. It doesn't freeze the creeks up very
42 well. So as soon as it thaws out the creeks are still
43 open. So that's been a hazard along with when the
44 moose season opened up at our time it was right about
45 the same time when we had almost three feet of snow and
46 it got cold. So the moose were not moving and the
47 reason they're not moving is because the -- at two feet
48 the snow is hitting their calves and they don't want
49 to walk in that crust because it cuts their calves. So

50

0049

1 it made it easier for them -- for the wolves to get
2 ahold of them and -- and they were -- we couldn't get
3 at them at all.

4

5 And we did have a lot of rabbits this
6 year and that's got a lot to do I think with the snow
7 because the more snow they can get more -- more of
8 their food. And other than that everything has been
9 pretty same -- stable in Nondalton, Lake Clark. Salmon
10 is always abundant, everybody gets their salmon every
11 year. And I think the Park Service has a great
12 relationship with them. Kijik Corporation and the Park
13 Service is working on covenants to protect the Chulitna
14 River Basin for subsistence.

15

16 Other than that that's my report.

17

18 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Thank you,
19 Billy. Kenneth.

20

21 MR. NUKWAK: Thank you, Madame Chair.
22 I made a phone call to Togiak and make -- making sure I
23 didn't miss out. I don't know what they want me to
24 speak on. And sure enough I forgot one item. They
25 want the agency to consider opening Cape Pierce (In
26 Native), Platinum because there's -- they say there's
27 caribou out there. I haven't gone out that way, just
28 too far for me. But what I hear from the Chairman from
29 Togiak AC just like the Nushagak Peninsula Caribou
30 Herd, they have over 500 and they'd like that to be
31 considered for an opening.

32

33 Anyway ever since I got on a couple
34 months ago, since I got appointed what's been on my
35 mind is the ptarmigan that were taken away two or three
36 years ago. And that was a long time ago, but that
37 still -- it still bugs me because the young man had no
38 hunting license. And I think that needs to change.

39

40 Plus when we're -- when we're out
41 caribou hunting the Federal agents, they need to be way
42 back there where we can't see them. Because when we're
43 caribou hunting the caribou are always on the run out
44 in the Nushagak Peninsula Caribou Herd area. And they
45 take off running within a mile away or a little bit
46 further than that. Anyway a caribou will stop for me
47 or any other group and get ready to shoot and then the --
48 here the couple agents will show up in orange suit.
49 And anything bright will spook off the ungulates, the
50

0050

1 caribou and the moose, especially the caribou because
2 they're in the wide open area. And that bugs me. I
3 don't think that needs to be closely monitored. I'd
4 call that harassing the hunter. And then that needs to
5 be stopped.

6
7 And then since Manokotak is so -- it's
8 close to Dillingham, it's right adjacent to Dillingham,
9 20 miles west of Dillingham. We're heavily monitored
10 and they're able to show up on snowmachine and within
11 the village and stop by the homes. And what my
12 community needs to realize is once they get home they
13 got to bring their meat inside the house or inside the
14 shed. But if the agent is going beyond that he's out
15 of his jurisdiction I think, if he's looking inside the
16 shed at the meat that are in there, I don't think he's
17 got anything to do with that and I'm cert -- I haven't
18 heard anything of any citation like that. But we're
19 trying to follow the rules and regulations and filling
20 out our permit cards at the same time.

21
22 And then just about every other
23 entity's meeting in Manokotak, Manokotak City Council,
24 Tribal Council and Native corporation. And they've
25 been asking for an Advisory Committee. We have two --
26 I think more than two represent -- reps for the Togiak
27 AC and then more than two for the Nushagak AC and we're
28 right in the middle. And we believe we we're not being
29 heard, we're not being listened to for our needs. And
30 I think that that is why we need an Advisory Committee
31 of our own. And there has been discussions wanting to
32 pull out of one of the -- either Nushagak or Togiak,
33 but I don't think that's going to happen. We still
34 have not found the avenue, which source to go through
35 to approach this item on creating an Advisory
36 Committee. But after researching last year I think the
37 Joint Board between the Federal Subsistence Board and
38 the -- I think the Board of Game. Anyway I think OSM
39 will be working on that after texting with Leigh if
40 that'll work out.

41
42 And then I'm looking to my notes.
43 Let's see. I like -- we like the idea of three
44 additional at large members for the Federal -- to the
45 Federal Subsistence Board. And then probably put more
46 time for rural Advisory Councils to speak on the
47 agendas for meetings. I think five minutes if there's --
48 when there's not a lot of people that want to be
49 speaking on anything they want to speak on.

50

0051

1 And airplanes and helicopters,
2 especially the airplanes, in the month of August and
3 September. That's when they're transporting sport
4 fishermen. They're flying a little bit too low and
5 within our hunting grounds where we're hunting for
6 moose. And they're spooking them off, probably not
7 intentionally, but the Otter planes are so loud that
8 the echo is going miles away which is interfering with
9 our hunt. And trash bags falling out of airplanes. We
10 hear of those in the -- at this meeting. And they're
11 not being observed. And if the trash bags are flying
12 out of airplanes there's some -- there's something
13 wrong there. The -- whoever's sport fishing or sport
14 hunting, they don't care about the land which we care
15 about the land, but they don't. That needs -- I think
16 there needs to be reminders on airports not to do that
17 or to the guides, remind their clients not to do that.

18
19 And then I think ANILCA Title VIII,
20 ever since I got a citation back in 2012 for following
21 the caribou, I hate the word chase. Title VIII is not
22 being followed in full. Only when we get a citation or
23 something like that it comes up that Title VIII is not
24 being followed. In my incident Title VIII was not
25 followed, Section 811 states that we are -- we are
26 allowed to use snowmachines, four-wheelers, dog team
27 what -- whatever that can be put into use. And plus
28 the hunters shall not herd, molest or find a way to get
29 the caribou. It cuts off our family unit hunting as a
30 group. The wording in there we do not agree with, but
31 it -- but it's in there. Most of these regulations are
32 made from the Board that are not from -- directly from
33 the villages. I think we know more, but we need to
34 come in to testify on these things, I realize that.
35 And there's a few more that I disagree on in the laws.
36 What is ingrained in a Native population in the smaller
37 villages when the laws were made you're stepping on our
38 toes, you have to realize that.

39
40 Just trying to throw that out in a
41 friendly way without bringing out -- turning into a
42 frustration. But I'm glad you guys are here to listen
43 and thank you.

44
45 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Thank you
46 very much, Kenneth. And I'm going to take this
47 opportunity as well to welcome yourself as well as John
48 to our Board. We value your voice and the experience
49 and knowledge that you bring to us especially from the
50

0052

1 Manokotak region. We've very much been empty in that
2 region for a very long time and have been looking for
3 voices just like we've been struggling with the Chignik
4 area. And we look forward to working with you to help
5 you get those proposals put in and hopefully support
6 you in those proposals as well and getting some of
7 those moved forward.

8

9 So both of you thank you for donating
10 your time to this and we look forward to working with
11 you.

12

13 John.

14

15 MR. RHYSHEK: Thank you, Madame Chair.
16 Just to kind of clarify, this is an area report section
17 of the meeting. So I jotted down some quick notes
18 here.

19

20 I do echo what Richard says, in my 15
21 years of living in Bristol Bay I think the ptarmigan
22 population is the best that I've ever seen it without a
23 doubt. Snowshoe hare definitely on the rise. I'm an
24 active waterfowl hunter. This last fall our waterfowl
25 in the general area was just absolutely outstanding.

26

27 Moose are doing well. We actually had
28 two moose that were taken within walking distance of
29 the highway and Mr. Anderson got one that was actually
30 taken with a chrome bumper.

31

32 (Laughter)

33

34 MR. RHYSHEK: But.....

35

36 MR. ANDERSON: Who killed them?

37

38 MR. RHYSHEK:caribou, they're
39 still cautiously increasing. They have changed the
40 hunting area to the locals and the locals really watch
41 the boundary line of the caribou hunting area. And
42 just like Richard states, the -- they kind of migrate
43 to the north in small batches, you know, five to 12
44 animals at a time. And usually when that happens it's
45 an absolute slaughterfest. They'll wipeout -- they
46 wipeout virtually probably all the caribou that come
47 across the line. I would like to see the -- that the
48 boundaries put back into place as they were established
49 back in 2016 when they opened up that season.

50

0053

1 King salmon, virtually non-existent. I
2 am a sport fisherman in the area, a recreational sport
3 fisherman. When I first moved into the area it was
4 nothing to go out after work and catch two or three or
5 four kings in a nice evening of fishing. Now I don't
6 even bother buying gas to even go out and fish because
7 I know what the -- what the product is going to be and
8 it's going to be no kings and maybe a couple straggler
9 rainbows on your -- on your lures.

10

11 Coho, I actively fish coho. I've
12 noticed it to be spotty. I've had good days, I've had
13 not so good days. Maybe I'm just, you know, being a
14 sloppy fisherman.

15

16 Sockeye, what did we have, 54 million
17 in the bay last year. We met our escapement and
18 actually did a little bit better as Mr. Dunaway said,
19 but, I mean, who wants to fish for reds when they're
20 getting 50 cents a pound, you know.

21

22 As far as trout I believe that our
23 trophy -- Naknek trophy river is fished a little bit
24 too aggressively. I -- like I say I'm a recreational
25 fisherman and it -- it's -- when I go out there and
26 fish for myself just recreationally I really hate to
27 step on anybody else's toes, you know, I like to give
28 other people plenty of room. And I've noticed
29 throughout the last few years that I'm driving after --
30 you know, pass boat after boat after boat of fishermen
31 and it's almost like if you want -- if you want a good
32 spot you better be there at the crack of daylight. And
33 the trout numbers that I have seen when I first moved
34 out there it would be nothing to catch, you know, you'd
35 have a really good day of fishing for trout, you know,
36 and now when I go out trout fishing if I catch three or
37 four I'm having a good day.

38

39 Bear numbers continue to be very well,
40 very healthy. And yeah, there have been a lot of
41 great, you know, predator harvests this year with
42 wolves. I believe a lot of that really reflects on our
43 snowfall. If we don't have great snow the locals don't
44 get out on snowmachine and the wolves don't get
45 harvested. Where we do have good snowfall the locals
46 do get out on snowmachine and they do a great -- a
47 great -- they do a great, what's the word, they're very
48 active in participating in, you know, the reduction of
49 wolf numbers.

50

1 And that's all I really other than one
2 question that was brought up yesterday from the lady
3 from the YKDelta mentioning something about a monetary
4 value for a proxy tag which I really didn't fully
5 understand. I proxy hunted a moose for an elderly
6 couple about three years ago and was successful. And I
7 didn't ask the elderly couple a single -- for a single
8 dime. I donated all my time, all my avgas and I
9 actually even had a friend of mine fly the moose back
10 into town and he didn't charge for his time or his
11 avgas as well. So maybe we could touch a little bit
12 more on that subject.

13

14 And that concludes my report.

15

16 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Thanks,
17 John. And I'll deviate a little bit because I had
18 talked to the young lady prior to her testifying and it
19 was an occurrence in her village where a young man had
20 gone out proxy hunting and the person he was proxy
21 hunting for offered him a gas card to help pay for his
22 costs in going proxy hunting. And that's what he was
23 cited for because he accepted the gas card. But again
24 we're -- I don't want to deviate too far, I just wanted
25 to clarify.

26

27 For my report in the interest of not
28 being redundant, I've observed most of the same things
29 in my area that everybody else has. Plentiful
30 ptarmigan, definitely seeing an increase in the
31 rabbits. The coyotes have been in the yard of the --
32 of place -- for the first time this winter, definite
33 increase in those numbers as well.

34

35 The other thing -- the only other thing
36 I would add and maybe it was just me, but it felt like
37 the bears were out longer. And I suspect that that had
38 also to do with the fact that the numbers have risen in
39 our area and there were probably more hungry bears
40 still around looking for the last bite before they
41 decided to go hole up this year. But I did feel like
42 there was an extension on that.

43

44 I totally 100 percent applaud what just
45 happened up in Kokhanok with the moose and, Rob, I
46 appreciate you telling us that that was done through
47 the tribal entity in order to obtain that permit, but
48 that is just a phenomenal opportunity for our youth in
49 our area to help be introduced to our subsistence ways

50

0055

1 and the ways in which they can also continue that. And
2 I hope to see more of it and I hope everybody can take
3 that home with them.

4

5 So I thank everybody for your reports
6 and sharing the knowledge that you have in the area.
7 And we're going -- we've got another blue card and,
8 Melanie Brown, I would welcome you up to go ahead and
9 testify in front of us at this time.

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MS. BROWN: Thank you, Honorable Chair.
I think I know most of you here. I'm connected to
Bristol Bay through my mother. I used to fish right
next to Norm -- Norman on the Naknek Beach. And I'm
here today because I would really like to elevate a
couple of items that I'm hoping that you will carry to
the Federal Subsistence Board in your report so that
they might reach upward toward the Departments that
these issues pertain to.

Starting with D(1) lands. I know that
you already submitted a letter as a comment during the
comment period that ended on Valentine's Day. But
under this Administration it's really important to keep
the hammer hammering and drumbeat rolling so that they
recognize how important these lands are to feeding the
people of rural Alaska. And yeah, thank you for the
letter that you've already submitted, but if you could
continue to up -- keep the Federal Subsistence Board on
alert so that they can also submit a letter or a
document of some kind that really sends a clear message
to the powers that be in Washington, DC, that would be
really great.

And another item that isn't directly --
it doesn't fall under the auspices of the Department of
the Interior that I think is really important for
subsistence users, especially ones not in Bristol Bay
so much, but actually at -- you know, this is something
that if I were to elaborate more you -- I think it
would be easy to see the clear lines of species outside
of our abundant sockeye runs that are being impacted in
the ocean space. The ocean space operates under the
Department of Commerce, under NOAA and NMFS. And in
lieu of the -- of reauthorizing the Magnuson-Stevens
Act which doesn't look like it's going to happen
anytime soon, the National Standards Guidelines of
which there are 10 are a really good way of potentially
changing how the amendment fleet -- the amendment 80

0056

1 fleet operates in the Bering Sea and in the Gulf of
2 Alaska and give salmon species that are suffering and
3 not returning to their river, namely the Yukon and
4 Kuskokwim Rivers, a chance to possibly rebound.

5
6 There are three National Standards
7 Guidelines that are under review. There was an advance
8 notice of proposed rulemaking that was issued last
9 spring for National Standard Guidelines 4, 8 and 9 that
10 pertain to allocation, communities and bycatch. And
11 there are certain changes to the language of these
12 guidelines that could potentially make a difference in
13 changing how the amendment 80 fleet operates in the
14 Bering Sea and Gulf of Alaska.

15
16 So I would ask that you take a look at
17 some of the sample language that I have if it's okay
18 for me to just hand it to you unless or can I -- if I
19 can hand it to your Coordinator, that would be really
20 great.

21
22 Thank you for taking a look at this and
23 for elevating this concern that might potentially make
24 a difference for people who are not getting chum and
25 king returns in their rivers.

26
27 One of the things that maybe would help
28 clarify is and it's something that I recently
29 understood to be true, I always puzzled over the fact
30 that Bristol Bay was enjoying such strong returns of
31 sockeye and why are the sockeye not being impacted in
32 the ocean space. And it -- I was told that it's
33 because they swim near the surface because they feed on
34 krill. And the reason that the chum and king runs are
35 so low is because they swim in the pelagic and lower
36 areas of the ocean where trawl gear fishes. So they
37 stand to be impacted more.

38
39 But that's all I have for now. Thank
40 you for listening and for giving me space and.....

41
42 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Before I
43 open it up for questions, Melanie, I've got a quick
44 question for you. I had responded already to these
45 National Standard Guidelines just personally, not as a
46 member of this Board. What timeline is that?

47
48 MS. BROWN: So we're still waiting. It
49 -- John Curland mentioned at the MRAC meeting last week
50

0057

1 that it's expected that the -- all three of the drafts
2 will come out simultaneously in April potentially which
3 is good because then all the -- the review hopefully
4 will happen under this Administration which is pretty
5 critical because we don't know who will be in
6 leadership, you know, in the next election. So yeah,
7 the time is now.

8

9 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. If
10 you don't mind I'm going to go ahead and open it for
11 questions from my Board.

12

13 MS. BROWN: Okay.

14

15 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Anybody
16 questions. Norm.

17

18 MR. ANDERSON: Oh, sorry. Melanie,
19 thank you for your directions and thank you for your
20 work and thank you for keeping us informed. I said
21 earlier that I think it's our responsibility to hold
22 the Federal government, State government's feet to the
23 fire. You know, I signed on, it was my heart's felt
24 feeling to protect subsistence.

25

26 I'm proud to say I hunted with your
27 uncles and your grandpa. He gave me my first taste of
28 Copenhagen which I.....

29

30 (Laughter)

31

32 MR. ANDERSON:didn't like it, but
33 he let me hunt with him anyway and I was very proud.
34 And I thought it was because he wanted to teach me, but
35 it was because I was big and I could pack a lot.

36

37 (Laughter)

38

39 MR. ANDERSON: That was your grandpa.
40 Your mother of course and your father were close
41 friends as well. Keep up the good work. I can rest
42 one day knowing that you're there.

43

44 Thank you.

45

46 MS. BROWN: Thank you, Norman.

47

48 MR. ANDERSON: That's not all I can
49 say.

50

0058

1 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Thank you,
2 Norm. Dan.

3
4 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, Melanie, appreciate
5 -- really appreciate your activity and participation.
6 And I also saw you talk at the D(1) meetings there in
7 Dillingham. Can you remind me what affiliations your
8 with right now?

9
10 MS. BROWN: I work for an organization
11 called SalmonState. I'm a tribal citizen of Naknek
12 Native Village and I set net in the Naknek River
13 district, my great-grandpa's old site.

14
15 MR. DUNAWAY: Okay. Great. That's
16 helpful. And then I appreciated you called me about
17 the D(1) lands, getting a heads up. I think until that
18 hearing in Dillingham I wasn't -- and we discussed it
19 at the last RAC meeting, but sometimes it takes a while
20 to kind of ferment in my head. So be alert to that.

21
22 I think that's all for now. Oh, yeah,
23 this -- I'm glad to be alerted about this National
24 Standards thing and you're way ahead of me, Nanci, and
25 I'm really curious what that's all about.

26
27 So thank you.

28
29 MS. BROWN: Thank you.

30
31 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Very
32 much thank you, Melanie. Appreciate your time and the
33 information you shared. Leigh will take those. Yeah,
34 thanks very much. And I'm sure we'll be seeing you
35 around.

36
37 MS. BROWN: Yeah.

38
39 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: I was sorry
40 when I missed you in Naknek. I was literally leaving
41 when you came in. So.....

42
43 Okay. We don't have any other blue
44 cards at this point so let's go ahead and move on to
45 our action items on number 9. Let's turn to page 18 of
46 the regular book and review the annual report and if
47 it's the wishes of the Board I'll take a motion for
48 approval.

49
50

0059

1 Dan.

2

3 MR. DUNAWAY: Just to get it going I'll
4 move to adopt.

5

6 MR. WILSON: Second.

7

8 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. We
9 have a motion and a second. Open for discussion.

10

11 Dan.

12

13 MR. DUNAWAY: Okay. Looks like these
14 are proposals actually from a couple different members.
15 And I could really appreciate being reminded if -- what
16 the season start dates are, are they the same in both
17 or different?

18

19 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: No, no.
20 This is we're -- we're -- the FY2023 annual report.

21

22 MR. DUNAWAY: Oh, I'm sorry.

23

24 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: This is just
25 what we had mentioned at -- yeah. Do you wish to
26 withdraw your motion or.....

27

28 MR. DUNAWAY: I better, but so where am
29 I, on page 9. Am I.....

30

31 MR. WILSON: Page 18.

32

33 MR. DUNAWAY: Oh, 18. I'm sorry. I
34 thought you said page 9.

35

36 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: 18, yeah.

37

38 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, I better withdraw
39 my motion. I'm sorry.

40

41 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Richard,
42 withdraw your second?

43

44 MR. WILSON: I'll withdraw my second
45 and new motion coming on to approve the language on 18.

46

47 Thank you.

48

49 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Thank you.

50

0060

1 And thank you for that motion. Do I have a second.

2

3 MR. RHYSHEK: I second.

4

5 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Thank you
6 for that. Open for discussion. Again this is for the
7 FY2023 annual report to the Federal Subsistence Board.

8

9 Dan.

10

11 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, this -- I realize
12 here I kind of delivered part of this to the whole
13 joint meeting yesterday and I'm glad to see the --
14 these are the concerns we've had in the past as I
15 remember them quite well fleshed out as well. So I
16 will be in support.

17

18 I thought it was interesting yesterday
19 that it wasn't just us asking for some compensation or
20 help with the cost of attending or participating in
21 some of these meetings. I -- that really caught my
22 attention. And for some of us, you know, it's pretty
23 convenient for me to attend, but I've been discussing
24 the cost of internet connection some places, it can be
25 brutal. And if that's eliminating people from even
26 applying or participating that's -- that's a shame. So
27 I'll be supporting.

28

29 Thank you.

30

31 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Yeah. I
32 would also say that, you know, I mean, I feel like
33 these All Council meetings also need to take place more
34 often because the Solicitor's is another issue that we
35 have talked about multiple times following ANILCA and
36 we're -- we don't have a unified voice unless we come
37 together. And we're always surprised. As I recall
38 last time we did an All Council meeting we were all
39 surprised then at how unified our voice actually was
40 without being unified because we didn't know and we
41 didn't have the opportunity to find that out or express
42 it. So hopefully that'll come from this meeting.

43

44 Any other discussion.

45

46 MR. DUNAWAY: Madame Chair.

47

48 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Dan.

49

50

0061

1 MR. DUNAWAY: Also number 1 Chignik. I
2 hope that George Anderson sees that and other Chignik
3 folks and reassure that we're as concerned as we know
4 how to be about that.

5
6 Thank you.

7
8 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Any more
9 discussion.

10
11 MR. WILSON: Madame Chair.

12
13 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Richard.

14
15 MR. WILSON: I just -- I appreciate,
16 you know, the -- we've had people come and speak on
17 just today and yesterday on basically everything that
18 we have in this report. So it is not just thought of
19 and talked about on our last round, but it's still very
20 fresh in everybody's minds and very much a concern.
21 And it's great to see people coming forward and adding
22 to these conversations that we've moved forward.

23
24 Thank you.

25
26 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: And I would
27 add that it -- this had been -- in my opinion these
28 have been very well stated for us as well. So kudos to
29 you, Leigh, or whoever in the Staff that put them
30 together.

31
32 Thank you for that.

33
34 MR. DUNAWAY: Madame Chair.

35
36 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Dan.

37
38 MR. DUNAWAY: I don't know if it would
39 be at this point a little late to try to add or not,
40 you know, but we have been -- I've told of some of the
41 other folks that were concerned about bycatch and all
42 that we have been pretty actively seeking out North
43 Pacific Council and I think even some of the trawl
44 groups have come and talked to us and provided
45 information. I don't see we've got it mentioned in
46 here, but would it be inappropriate to add anything
47 like that or I'm not sure how to add it if we -- if
48 it's even right to do it at this point. Or, you know,
49 we're really concerned about kings throughout the
50

0062

1 region as well.

2

3 MS. HONIG: Thank you, Madame Chair.
4 At this time we can only take edits to the annual
5 report to allow for the Board time to respond to these.
6 However I will put out there that you can move to write
7 a letter as a Council and I would be more than happy to
8 do that outside of this annual report process.

9

10 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Which also
11 jiggles my brain to remind everybody that when you have
12 issues that come up for our next annual report we
13 should be giving them to Leigh throughout this meeting
14 as well so that we have them to have ready.

15

16 Anybody else discussion.

17

18 (No comments)

19

20 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. All
21 in favor of approving the FY2023 annual report as
22 presented please signify by saying aye.

23

24 IN UNISON: Aye.

25

26 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Opposed same
27 sign.

28

29 (No opposing votes)

30

31 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay.
32 Motion passes. Thank you.

33

34 B, call for Federal fish and shellfish
35 regulatory proposals. Jarred, are you going to come up
36 -- oh, you're way ahead of me.

37

38 Thank you for coming up.

39

40 MR. STONE: Good morning. Jarred Stone
41 for the record, Fisheries Biologist. Earlier I'd
42 introduced myself as a Fish Biologist, but I forgot I'm
43 wearing two hats right now, I'm also the acting
44 Fisheries Division Supervisor.

45

46 So today I'm here to announce our call
47 for Federal fisheries proposals. The Federal
48 Subsistence Board will soon be accepting proposals to
49 change Federal regulations of subsistence take for fish

50

0063

1 on Federal public waters for the 2025 through 2027
2 regulatory cycle. The Board will consider proposals to
3 change Federal fish seasons, harvest limits, methods
4 and means and customary and traditional use
5 determinations. Again the window for opportunity to
6 submit proposals is not quite open yet, we expect it to
7 open up any day now and generally this window of
8 opportunity allows for about 60 days. If the Council
9 decides to submit a proposal you can do that now or at
10 any other point during the meeting. And the Council
11 Coordinator will submit the proposal on your behalf.
12 The general public may also submit a proposal to change
13 Federal fisheries regulations. Proposals must be
14 submitted within that 60 days period and we'll be
15 announcing a news release and that will become
16 available on our website that will describe the process
17 for how to submit a proposal. And additionally we also
18 will be announcing this opening on our Alaska Federal
19 Subsistence Management Program Facebook page.

20

21 The proposals will be analyzed by OSM
22 Staff and presented to the Councils during your fall
23 meetings for Council recommendations. The proposal
24 analyses and Council recommendations will be presented
25 to the Federal Subsistence Board for their action
26 during the January, 2025 fisheries regulatory meeting.

27

28 That concludes my presentation and if
29 there are any proposals that you wish to put forward I
30 would be happy to work with you today and we can draft
31 those.

32

33 Thank you.

34

35 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: So just as a
36 reminder the Board -- this is the fish year. So this
37 is the year we can put proposals together on fish.
38 Although, Kenneth, some of the proposals you mentioned
39 we can certainly start fleshing out although I might
40 suggest we do that at our fall meeting because we won't
41 be able to actually submit them until then, but it
42 doesn't mean that we can't start early. But right now
43 we're looking for any fisheries proposals anybody might
44 have in mind. And again we don't have to submit them
45 as a Board, we can also submit them as individuals,
46 correct?

47

48 (No comments)

49

50

0064

1 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Does
2 anybody have any that they've been thinking about or
3 would like to talk about here at the moment? And, Rob,
4 that includes you too, please.

5
6 Kenneth.

7
8 MR. NUKWAK: Is there a way to send
9 these out -- these informations to the Council members
10 in the villages through their -- through their
11 receptionists that can be done. If you find the phone
12 number to the Tribal Council or their City Councils,
13 just ask for the people answering the phone and they'll
14 direct it to the people in charge. I think these are
15 very important proposals that need to be heard in their
16 -- on their Council seats.

17
18 Thank you.

19
20 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: No, you're
21 absolute right, Kenneth. And I know in the past that
22 they have sent out notice when it opens and when it's
23 going to close so people do know. But I don't know if
24 we've done that in a while so maybe it's a good
25 refresher and ask that you guys would make sure that
26 the tribes and villages are notified again.

27
28 Anybody else.

29
30 MR. DUNAWAY: Madame Chair.

31
32 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Dan.

33
34 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, I'm kind of looking
35 at Jarred. I think some of this they work pretty hard
36 to get it distributed and mailed to villages. And I'm
37 trying to remember what meeting I was running around
38 Dillingham posting for the Federal meetings. I think
39 they put it on KDLG. If they don't it would be good.
40 There's KKAN out of Naknek/King Salmon. More and more
41 there's wider coverage of that radio station. A lot of
42 people I know listen to that station even in
43 Dillingham. I think they're going to get a new antenna
44 tower this summer and it might reach even farther. But
45 also got to stay alert and we should alert all our
46 contacts and friends that's this is coming as well.

47
48 Thank you.

49
50

0065

1 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. So
2 just let's keep that in mind then if nobody has
3 anything at the moment for us to work on developing.
4 If it comes up it's -- approximately when does that
5 close, I don't remember?

6
7 MR. STONE: The window of opportunity
8 depends on when it opens and right now we're close, it
9 could be a week, it could be three weeks. And so once
10 that window opens that clock starts ticking and we do
11 have some flexibility in the duration. So if we get
12 pressed up too close to summer we might change that 60
13 day window to a 45 or a 30 day window. So just be
14 keeping an eye on our website, keeping an eye on
15 Facebook and when the news releases come out be ready.

16
17 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: So yeah. So
18 just -- so this is just for proposals to be submitted.
19 Then we'll see them at our fall meeting and we can make
20 comments on them and recommend changes. But in order
21 to get the thought on the table it has to be in
22 proposal form. So we got that 60 day window and it'll
23 be opening shortly give or take. Any.....

24
25 Yes, Richard.

26
27 MR. WILSON: I guess I'm -- maybe
28 refresh me why it changes so much or what's the -- why
29 does it -- why does it fluctuate?

30
31 MR. STONE: Oh. Thank you. Through
32 the Chair, Council member Mr. Wilson. You're asking
33 why the duration sometimes changes?

34
35 MR. WILSON: Yes.

36
37 MR. STONE: Yeah, thank you. That's a
38 great question. The analyses undergo a very tedious
39 review process through multiple agencies. And just to
40 afford them enough time to look through the proposals,
41 validate the proposals and ensure that they're adequate
42 in substance for what's in the proposals. It -- that
43 takes a lot of time and so depending on how close we
44 are into summer we shorten that window if needed. We
45 try to afford the public, you know, a great deal of
46 time if possible. The other deadline that we're
47 pressed up upon is the fall RAC meetings. And so we
48 provide you the analyses by the fall RAC meetings and
49 look for your recommendations at the fall RAC meeting.

50

0066

1 Thank you.

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Thank you.

MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: And just one more thing, Dan, and I'll give you the floor. But remember also just for the benefit of our newer Council members this is -- these are proposals for fishing and shellfish on Federal public lands so they have to be targeted towards the Federal lands that we work with.

Dan.

MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, thank you, Madame Chair. Jarred and maybe I see Pippa's up there now, is that sometimes the -- you know, I'm used to the State system and Richard may be too where, you know, we know well in advance, I think it's like April 10 for some things and it's fixed. But you're tied to the Federal Register, is that the thing and if you are then can we get it way out ahead because it's -- you know, you start opening and it's three weeks and people will be starting to head to fish camp and then it's summer and then you have only 30 or 45 days instead of 60. It's like how could we preload that so we don't run into that?

Thank you.

MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Pippa, did you have something now.

MS. KENNER: Yeah, that's a great question. So, you know, in the past we might have been a little late sometimes, but basically what's going on now is we do try to send it in early, but there's a backlog in the Federal Register right now. Just a lot of people are trying to publish all at the same time and they were ready months ahead of time too.

UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: (Indiscernible - away from microphone).

MS. KENNER: Yeah, well, that's it. We've tried to tell them how important we are. This is Pippa Kenner with OSM.

Thanks.

MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Anymore thoughts on proposals or ideas for proposals

0067

1 that you'd like to see come forward at this time.

2

3 MR. ANDERSON: Madame Chair.

4

5 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Norm.

6

7 MR. ANDERSON: I have a thought running
8 around in my head that if it's a subsistence issue I
9 support that. Some of these things to me seem to be
10 more State and there's avenues for that. There's
11 Department of Fish and Game, Board of -- NMFS, all them
12 other people. I would support it if -- as long as it's
13 a subsistence issue I support it. It's commercial,
14 it's -- but that's in a different arena where I
15 participate. So as a participant here I'm -- I feel I
16 am only designated to support subsistence issues.

17

18 Thank you.

19

20 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: I guess
21 we're -- once again where I'm feeling a big hole is in
22 our Chignik fisheries and I'm not sure that George was
23 feeling the knowledge yet to really want to put
24 anything forward in the form of a proposal, but I would
25 like to keep I guess our ear to the ground on that and
26 maybe ask if Staff even could reach out, you know, in a
27 -- once things open up. And I don't know, Jarred,
28 maybe that would be more appropriate for you to do
29 because then we can -- we -- although we can't develop
30 it here for him now because he wasn't prepared we can
31 certainly support it and/or recommend changes to it
32 come fall if he can come up with an idea for a proposal
33 for us. Does that make sense to everybody?

34

35 (No comments)

36

37 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Are there
38 any other areas that you guys can think of that we
39 might want to offer the same assistance?

40

41 Go ahead, Jarred.

42

43 MR. STONE: I'll just follow-up by
44 saying that I will follow-up with George Anderson and
45 I'll work with him and if it's adequate timing help him
46 submit a proposal. And so that's a great suggestion.

47

48 Thank you.

49

50

0068

1 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: No, I
2 appreciate your flexibility on that. And I guess my
3 second thought is also, Leigh, if -- seeing how we
4 won't be, you know, in -- convened as a Board, if you
5 could forward anything that might come through
6 personally we could also sign on if we feel the
7 support. And then again in the fall we can support it
8 as an entire Board.

9
10 Richard.

11
12 MR. WILSON: Through the Chair.
13 Thanks, Jarred. I just wanted to add to George's
14 thoughts there. I mean, you know, he's -- you know,
15 they're talking about, you know, cutting even more out
16 of their way of life down there to try to get more --
17 more kings up the creek and stuff and it's something
18 we've been fighting. All of us have cut our bag limits
19 back, we've cut our way of living back, I mean, just in
20 support of what he's got going we got to be full in
21 support of what he's got going there because it kind of
22 resonates through all of us, what we're all up against
23 here. So we'd be looking forward to some of that
24 information.

25
26 Thank you.

27
28 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Thank you.
29 And we have a gentleman -- Cody Larson with BBNA that
30 has called in and would like to say something too.

31
32 Please, Cody, you have the floor.

33
34 MR. LARSON: Good morning, Madame
35 Chair. Thanks for the opportunity here. I feel like
36 now's the time to speak on some of the observations
37 I've had. Of course this -- the RAC has prioritized
38 over the past few years some projects in the Togiak
39 Refuge area, (indiscernible) Togiak to (indiscernible)
40 and recently working in Manokotak. And I have
41 addressed some of the incongruencies between the
42 activities in the communities and the of course
43 regulatory book in the past few years. I feel there's
44 still some incongruencies with the way folks are, you
45 know, harvesting, some of the methods and some of the
46 locations of closure in the Bristol Bay section. And
47 now there is a bit of literature that describes that
48 through the FRMP process there. So maybe that's worth
49 taking a look at.

50

0069

1 And if I could maybe ask our new
2 Council member Nukwak to describe some of the methods
3 used in harvesting both whitefish and grayling and
4 possibly the redbfish in the fall or the
5 (indiscernible). If you would entertain that I'd put
6 you on the spot, Council member Nukwak, but it may help
7 the conversation.

8
9 And I'll be online. Thank you.

10
11 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Yes, Cody,
12 and that you for being online. You -- you've been a
13 great help to us in these proposals in the past and I
14 appreciate you being here.

15
16 Kenneth, do you have anything to reply.

17
18 MR. NUKWAK: Thank you. Through the
19 Chair. Thank you, Cody. Falltime we in the Manokotak
20 go for whitefish and we seine them (In Native). And
21 then if there's any rules that are made and we don't
22 agree with that and Fish and Game sees us doing that in
23 the daytime we'll get cited for doing what we do. And
24 the spawned out red salmon, we mainly go for the males,
25 we don't go for the females, they don't have enough
26 meat and their backs -- they don't have any backs to
27 eat raw on. Because we like to eat the hump of the
28 pink salmon, red salmon. And the head, anything that's
29 edible on that. And we use king salmon to get -- catch
30 these (In Native), the red salmon -- the red male
31 salmon that have already spawned out. And we seine
32 them, we do -- we do a lot of seining now. (In Native)
33 sometimes we work as a group if that needs to be done,
34 but that hasn't been done in a long time, only in the
35 family unit.

36
37 But what else -- what else was there,
38 Cody. I touched upon the whitefish, how we fish the
39 whitefish and the red salmon. And the grayling they
40 have to be caught when we fish for the whitefish.
41 They're included in there too when we seine for them.
42 And then the whitefish, the best time to catch them is
43 in the evening when the sun is setting. They start
44 coming out. There's only a few in the daytime even --
45 we noticed that even there in the water. And the
46 knowledge that has been handed down -- handed down to
47 us from our older folks, our older generation so that's
48 where we learned all this that I'm testifying to.

49
50

0070

1 Thank you.

2

3 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Cody, did
4 you have anything else?

5

6 MR. LARSON: No, Madame Chair. I
7 appreciate the input by Council member Nukwak. Of
8 course I believe that just touches the surface of some
9 of the -- some of the many methods used and some of
10 these methods have traditional management built into
11 them. And of course conservation topics like Council
12 member Nukwak mentioned with the male and female
13 species. And I think it's worth taking some time to
14 look at that Federal subsistence regulation book and
15 identify those inconsistencies and perhaps take another
16 look there to avoid any future -- you know, future
17 conflict with the norms that are already in place in
18 the Refuge area there.

19

20 But that's all I've got. Thank you.

21

22 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: That sounds
23 like a totally worthwhile project and one that I'm sure
24 everybody here would support.

25

26 Thank you for that, Cody. Anybody
27 else.

28

29 (No comments)

30

31 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. So at
32 this time it looks like we don't have to put together,
33 but you're in the hot seat.....

34

35 Did you have something to add.

36

37 MR. GERKEN: Yeah. My name's Jon
38 Gerken, I'm the Federal In-Season Fisheries Manager in
39 Bristol Bay, Aleutians and Chignik area. So I guess
40 just getting to some of the stuff that Cody was saying,
41 I mean, we could certainly have the conversations on if
42 it's within the Federal regulations as an In-Season
43 Manager we can make those changes whether it be
44 methods, time, you know, restrictions to Federally-
45 qualified users only and those kinds of things. And we
46 can certainly look at the reg book, see if it's
47 something we want to handle through a special action
48 format or if we do want to go through the process of
49 changing it formally within the regulatory work. So

50

0071

1 I'm open to those conversations, Cody and I talk
2 frequently. I haven't met all of the Council members
3 here, especially the new ones so yeah, open for
4 conversation on that. So.....

5

6 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Good.
7 And thanks and thanks, Cody, I'm sure you guys have
8 worked together before. Appreciate both of your
9 efforts.

10

11 So, Jarred, it looks like you're also
12 up next for FRMP.

13

14 MR. STONE: Thank you. Again for the
15 record my name is Jarred Stone, Fish Biologist and
16 acting Fisheries Division Supervisor. The next topic
17 that I'm going to be covering right now is just an
18 update on the FRMP, the Fisheries Resource Monitoring
19 Program. We're currently on our final phase of the
20 2024 Monitoring Program funding cycle. And apologies,
21 there's no information in your Council books, this is
22 just a -- merely an update.

23

24 So the Federal Subsistence Board met in
25 early February and approved the final Monitoring
26 Program funding plan. With this cycle coming to an end
27 it's time for the Councils to begin developing priority
28 information needs for the 2026 Monitoring Program call
29 for proposals. Priority information needs which you
30 might have heard us refer to as PINs are an important
31 component of the monitoring program. They identify
32 issues of local concern and knowledge gaps related to
33 subsistence fisheries. Further priority information
34 needs guide the Monitoring Program funding process by
35 determining what type of projects are submitted for
36 funding and providing a framework for evaluating and
37 selecting project proposals.

38

39 We're looking for one, two -- two
40 volunteers from this Council to meet by telephone this
41 summer to identify knowledge gaps and information
42 needed for management of subsistence fisheries. Just a
43 reminder because Bristol Bay and the Kodiak Aleutians
44 both share PINs for the southwest region, we like to
45 get one or two volunteers from each Council. And the
46 draft list of priority information needs that's
47 developed by the volunteers will be presented to the
48 Councils for their final approval in the fall.

49

50

1 This is not an action item, but if
2 there's anyone on this Council that would like to
3 volunteer to help develop priority information needs
4 for the next cycle it would be greatly appreciated. I
5 believe during last cycle both Dan and Nanci I believe
6 are two that are on that volunteer list and it worked
7 out great. We came up with a great list of projects,
8 we worked with the Kodiak-Aleutians Council and they
9 too put together their own list of priority information
10 needs.

11
12 And that really concludes my
13 presentation. And if you have any questions feel free.

14
15 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Go ahead,
16 Dan.

17
18 MR. DUNAWAY: Well, I -- excuse me, I'd
19 be willing to volunteer again and I'm thinking
20 dependent on what might come out of some of the work
21 that George is doing I might see some potential for
22 some projects there. I'm also very curious, Pat and I
23 discussed -- I think it was scale pattern analysis and
24 some other efforts some of it we thought might be more
25 of a dredging up old data and analyzing it. I'm just
26 curious, do you have any sense of where some of those
27 previous proposals where they are in the process, have
28 they dropped out or are they still in contention?
29 Okay.

30
31 MR. STONE: Thank you for the question.
32 Through the Chair, Council member Dunaway. The
33 projects right now haven't been fully selected yet, the
34 final decision is made by OSM's Assistant Regional
35 Director. We're hoping that the decision will be made
36 final here shortly. I will say though that however
37 addressing that priority information need and I have it
38 here, it's using scale analyses of fresh and saltwater
39 growth patterns over multiple years. Examine how
40 recent changes in the ocean affect growth and survival
41 of chinook and sockeye salmon within their range and
42 habitats of the Kodiak-Aleutian drainages. And that
43 goes on for Buskin, Karluk, Ayakulik, McLees drainages
44 for the Kodiak-Aleutians and then for the Bristol Bay
45 and Alaska Peninsula drainages, the Chignik, Nushagak,
46 Big Creek, Alagnak, Meshik and Togiak drainages. And
47 the priority information need goes on to say that the
48 Chignik drainages are of particular concern. So he
49 kind of highlighted that need.
50

0073

1 I would suggest because no one
2 submitted a project to address this priority
3 information need that maybe you consider keeping it.
4 It's a good one.

5
6 Thank you.

7
8 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: So for the
9 benefit of our newer members this has always been
10 somewhat of a frustration for me. These priority
11 information needs or PINs as they call them, to kind of
12 -- to kind of put it in layman's language or at least
13 language that I understood better rather than trying to
14 figure out what was going on, is they have us help them
15 to figure out where we need the most information in our
16 areas to make the best decisions. Now that sounds
17 great and it is great and we pick those things, but
18 then after we pick them they approve them. Once
19 they're approved then they put them out for people to
20 come back with a plan to put them into action. And if
21 nobody comes back with a plan to put them into action
22 then you either discard them or put them on the list
23 again for the next time around. So to me I find that a
24 little frustrating because it doesn't mean it actually
25 happens even though you said it's the major need that
26 we have in the area. And I'm not -- I'm not sure how
27 to overcome the hump on the camel to make that actually
28 happen when we say this is the only place we want our
29 efforts to go or the main place we want our efforts to
30 go.

31
32 Anyway so know even though that you're
33 hearing this now and even if people come up with good
34 ideas they don't always happen.

35
36 Richard.

37
38 MR. WILSON: Madame Chair, if I might
39 just add this little bit of -- it's funding driven and
40 that's where the bottleneck is a lot of times is they
41 only have so much funding out there to do this research
42 for the list of things that we have. So a lot of it
43 stops there.

44
45 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Dan.

46
47 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, thank you. And I
48 think there's a lot list of river systems listed by
49 Jarred and if I recall right I think the Kodiak Fish
50

1 and Game office was already kind of trying to develop
2 methodology for the Buskin and a few others and we were
3 hoping to spin off or follow along as they perfected
4 their methods. And Pat would continue to refer that
5 there's a lot of this data sitting in drawers in Fish
6 and Game offices. So it wouldn't be like a major
7 expensive field operation, but a major of dredging up
8 old information and looking at it maybe in a new way.
9 So we're hopping it would be pretty affordable and it
10 would be wonderful if it was actually -- really shed
11 new light, you know, that's the big question. But
12 also, you know, we've heard complaints about it takes
13 so long from when there's a problem to any sort of
14 project gets out there and addresses it and now you can
15 see partly why. So good if you think it warrants
16 continuing.

17

18 And then now I see George is back and
19 he can cogitate on new field studies that might really
20 get after the king and maybe chum questions.

21

22 Thank you.

23

24 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Kenneth.

25

26 MR. NUKWAK: Thank you, Madame Chair.
27 I hope I'm on the right page here. In sending out the
28 information to the smaller communities on those comment
29 periods, I think the best place to send the -- send out
30 the information is put it on their table during their
31 meetings. And in order to do that is to -- probably to
32 their liaison or their receptionist and then get their
33 facts number and fax it in. And then probably add the
34 word please look into this and that it is very
35 important. And that if they don't look into it, if it
36 becomes law, if they disagree subsequently they'll be
37 citations and that'll wake them up afterwards which
38 will be a wait relate. So the best place to -- for
39 small communities present it to their -- on their table
40 during their meetings. And nowadays they have phones
41 and they're very accessible.

42

43 Thank you.

44

45 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: No, thank
46 you very much. And I'm looking for one more volunteer
47 to -- besides Dan for somebody who wants to work with
48 Jarred and Dan on this fisheries priority information
49 need. It'll be during the summer, they make it super
50

0075

1 easy on you, they set up the schedule and you what,
2 twice I think we met.

3

4 MR. STONE: I think we met twice, but
5 we don't necessarily have to meet twice. And I'm very
6 flexible, I know it's a busy time of year for you and
7 you name the time and I'll make it happen. And so --
8 yeah.

9

10 Thank you.

11

12 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Kenneth.

13

14 MR. NUKWAK: Are you looking for a
15 volunteer from this table?

16

17 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: I am.

18

19 MR. NUKWAK: And then what month, in
20 June?

21

22 MR. STONE: Any month. We can pick a
23 time. We'll generally meet for maybe an hour or two.
24 And I'll bring you information from the last cycle so
25 it would have the last cycle's priority information
26 needs. It's a list of I think oh, seven or eight maybe
27 different priority information needs. And I'll give
28 you time to kind of consider those and then think of
29 any others that you might like to add.

30

31 Thank you.

32

33 MR. NUKWAK: Yes, if you can work with
34 my time and Dan, because it -- being -- having grown up
35 in a small community my hunting time is anytime. So
36 you -- if you give me the right time and how many hours
37 it's going to be I could probably call in. I don't
38 know what I'm putting myself into, but I'm looking
39 forward to putting my words in and hopefully be a help.

40

41 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Thank you
42 very much, Kenneth, I appreciate it. I think it'll be
43 a good learning experience for you. And it -- this one
44 is not a huge time commitment. I have done it in the
45 past when we didn't have two members and would be happy
46 to do it again, but I do think you would enjoy it and I
47 will look forward to hearing your opinion of it once
48 you've completed it.

49

50

0076

1 Anything else, Jarred.

2

3 (No comments)

4

5 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Does anybody
6 have any opposition to appointing Kenneth and Dan as
7 our PIN members this year.

8

9 MR. WILSON: Madame Chair.

10

11 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Richard.

12

13 MR. WILSON: No real opposition, I just
14 -- you know, I just -- we need people with -- that are
15 kind of familiar. I know it takes a while to
16 familiarize your -- you know, with things that are
17 going on and some of the priority needs that we have
18 this list that's going on. And as long as we're well
19 represented there I guess I'm fine with it.

20

21 Thank you.

22

23 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Very
24 well. And thank you both for volunteering. Thank you,
25 Jarred.

26

27 I love the next thing on our agenda.
28 Regional Council Advisory Committee appointment. And I
29 understand we have one coming in front of us.

30

31 Thank you, Liza.

32

33 MS. RUPP: For the record Liza Rupp.
34 I'm the Lake Clark Cultural Resources Team Lead and
35 Subsistence Coordinator. And I have two requests for
36 the RAC. We have one reappointment and one vacancy on
37 our Subsistence Resource Commission of the three RAC
38 appointed seats. So the first is Tinny Thomas Hedlund,
39 I always call him Tinny. Anyway he would like -- he
40 would -- his term expired last year and I missed it
41 while at the spring meeting, but luckily he was able to
42 remain on until his reappointment. So he would like to
43 be reappointed if you -- if the Council is willing to
44 do that. So he would be the first one. And then
45 secondly a new appointment or new -- I think Tim was on
46 the SRC years and years ago, but not during my tenure
47 so far. Anyway Tim Kneeland of -- also of Iliamna has
48 agreed to join the SRC again as another RAC appointee
49 should you so choose to appoint him.

50

0077

1 So those are my two requests.

2

3 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Thank you,
4 Liza. And I would entertain a motion, either singly or
5 together.

6

7 Richard.

8

9 MR. WILSON: Madame Chair, I did see
10 that in some of our language here recently and I'm very
11 happy to hear that Tinny would like to re-up and Tim
12 Kneeland, he's a long time resident of Iliamna and
13 they've got much input in the subsistence world there
14 too. So I feel like they're both a good fit and I
15 would so move.

16

17 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Do I have a
18 second.

19

20 MR. ANDERSON: I second.

21

22 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: I have a
23 motion and a second. Anymore discussion.

24

25 MR. ANDERSON: Madame Chair.

26

27 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Norm.

28

29 MR. ANDERSON: I welcome Tinny and Tim.
30 I commercial fished beside them for years. Being from
31 Naknek they would come and visit every summer. So it's
32 about time tell them.

33

34 Thank you.

35

36 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Dan.

37

38 MR. DUNAWAY: Liza, would this mean
39 that those -- that SRC is fully staffed?

40

41 MS. RUPP: Sadly no. Unfortunately
42 we've lost a couple of members. Lary Hill has
43 resigned. He I think has decided he has provided his
44 input for many, many years, valuable input, but he
45 would like to fully retire. And then Lyle Wilder was
46 another. Lary and Lyle were both Governor seats and
47 Lyle let me know that he and his family are sort of
48 pulling back for a year. They obviously are very
49 active in the community and need to focus on their
50

0078

1 family for a year and then they're going to sort of --
2 they're doing an elimination diet I guess, they're
3 pulling back and then in a year they're going to start
4 adding back things that see, to work for their family.
5 So right now I'm short two Governor's appointees. We
6 have a public notice out to hopefully get some new
7 people. And actually I'm hoping that George Alexie
8 will shift in to one of the Governor's seats if he
9 decides to apply.

10

11 So yeah. So those are our two
12 openings, but we would have -- the RAC seats would be
13 fully staffed.

14

15 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Dan.

16

17 MR. DUNAWAY: Okay. Thank you. Well,
18 I know Tinny some. I don't -- I know a little of Tim,
19 not much, but I -- from what I do know they're highly
20 qualified. We want to keep that SRC as full as
21 possible because it's hurt us in the past when the --
22 we weren't, they couldn't get a quorum or something.
23 So I'm fully supportive of these two nominees. Thank
24 you.

25

26 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Richard.

27

28 MR. WILSON: No.

29

30 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Then
31 I'm going to go ahead and call for a vote. All in
32 favor of appointing Tim and Tinny to the SRC -- Lake
33 Clark SRC please signify by saying aye.

34

35 IN UNISON: Aye.

36

37 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Opposed same
38 sign.

39

40 (No opposing votes)

41

42 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Since I
43 heard from everybody I'd question it if I did hear one.
44 So yes, we -- please thank them for us and we look
45 forward to hearing of their input here in the future.

46

47 MS. RUPP: Great. Thank you very much.

48

49 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Next

50

0079

1 one's the proposed rule Federal Subsistence Board
2 membership increase. OSM's who will be presenting on
3 that.

4

5 MS. HONIG: Thank you, Madame Chair.
6 Leigh Honig for the record. And I apologize I just
7 realized in the mess of papers that you have you do not
8 have the most recent proposed rule. I did email it to
9 you, hopefully you guys had a chance to review it.

10

11 But so the Departments of the Interior
12 and Agriculture have announced a proposed rule that
13 would revise the composition of the Federal Subsistence
14 Board by adding three public members nominated or
15 recommended by Federally recognized tribal governments.
16 The proposed rule would also require that the Chair and
17 all five public members have personal knowledge of and
18 direct experience with subsistence uses in rural
19 Alaska. The Departments would define requirements for
20 the selection of the Board Chair. And the Departments
21 would maintain and confirm the Secretary's authority to
22 replace members from the Board and affirm the
23 Secretaries' authority to replace members from the
24 Board and affirm the Secretaries' responsibility and
25 oversight regarding Board decisions while incorporating
26 ratification requirement.

27

28 So this proposed rule was published on
29 February 26 and there is a 60 day public comment period
30 that goes until April 26. And in that proposed rule
31 the Secretaries specifically asked for comments, for
32 feedback on the -- there were four things they were
33 looking for and let's quickly go through them. Should
34 the Secretaries consider adopting a different framework
35 that will not require ratification, allows for review
36 of emergency and temporary Board actions or the
37 proposed time frame for ratification of special actions
38 and emergency actions sufficient what specific
39 mechanisms should the Secretaries use to modify,
40 disapprove, stay or expressly affirm an emergency or
41 temporary Board action and would it be helpful and/or
42 necessary for the Secretaries to make any conforming
43 changes to other regulations in the CFR.

44

45 So if the Council would like to submit
46 comments there will need to be a motion and a
47 discussion and a vote on that. Of course you can
48 submit comments as individuals. And I'd also like to
49 clarify even though the Secretaries have asked for
50

0080

1 these specific comments of course you can provide any
2 other comments that you so choose.

3

4 So thank you.

5

6 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Quite
7 a mouthful. Anybody care to take it on and start us
8 off.

9

10 MR. DUNAWAY: Madame Chair.

11

12 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Go ahead,
13 Dan.

14

15 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, I'm debating here
16 whether to move to support or just discuss first. Part
17 of me especially listening yesterday makes me really
18 want to support it. I know in the past we were
19 frustrated with trying to get some just projects
20 approved. We kept getting slapped down from some of
21 the agencies and we had to get really emphatic. And I
22 think one of them was Chignik trade and exchange
23 network. And, man, just ever since that you hear
24 another -- you know, today talk about John sending
25 caribou up -- John Christensen sending caribou up and a
26 couple years ago Joe Chythlook came to me and said can
27 you believe that these caribou I (indiscernible) up to
28 Anchorage ended up in Kipnuk or somewhere way out
29 there. So anyway that side of me wants to do that, but
30 I'm kind of still unsettled by some of the -- not so
31 much the topics, but how the whole -- this whole joint
32 letters tried to get pushed yesterday. As I look to
33 this edited draft of the caribou for instance there's
34 quite a few things added in there that I really think
35 we should have discussed, had agencies provide
36 information. This -- these letters are kind of
37 juggernauts and they're not acknowledging some of the
38 agency activity out there, prior work that's already
39 been done and what -- how if we had a larger Board
40 could some of these kinds of letters may be unnecessary
41 work when if they learned the full picture of the --
42 what's going on with the agencies maybe they could
43 adjust a letter like this or an action.

44

45 And that was one of my main reasons for
46 being -- kind of speaking out yesterday. Part of that
47 I felt like I was on a train with no brakes and we
48 haven't heard from the agencies. People claim say
49 caribou they don't know this, they don't know that.

50

0081

1 Well, in some cases some of the agencies are really
2 busy getting cow/calf ratios and bull/cow ratios and
3 mortality rates and harvest rates and so on. And this
4 might be -- the letter implies this isn't being done
5 and I don't think that's fair to say in some cases. So
6 how would that go in the full Board if we have added
7 members that aren't -- maybe aren't -- just aren't as
8 tuned into the agencies and maybe there'd be a process
9 of review they'd have to go through before the Board
10 really makes a final decision. But I just see concern
11 for especially the caribou maybe a lot of wasted time
12 and effort. And maybe getting it all emotional without
13 getting all the facts first. And I don't know if
14 that's fair to presuppose that when we don't even know
15 who would be put on that Board, but I think this could--
16 should be taken with caution. But I also say yeah,
17 there's times -- yeah, I'm frustrated that the -- seems
18 no matter what we say the agencies all kind of get
19 together and go nah.

20

21 And so anyway I wanted that discussion
22 to come out. Thank you.

23

24 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Thank you,
25 Dan.

26

27 MR. ANDERSON: Madame Chair.

28

29 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Norm.

30

31 MR. ANDERSON: I piggyback what Dan is
32 saying. Yes, it's all become very political and I
33 remember years ago I sent caribou to Port Heiden which
34 was very -- which was a very different thing. And then
35 I got a call from a friend of mine in Perryville, he
36 needed one too. So my cousins and I went out and we
37 got it legally, I mean, we had tickets and all that and
38 we sent them down and shared them. But watching all
39 this from when I first stepped in the doors to now it's
40 morphed into something that is very political and I'm
41 wondering if that might be the reason that we have
42 vacant seats because people are tired of it. You know,
43 so, I'll leave it at that, but I just concur with what
44 Dan is saying.

45

46 Thank you.

47

48 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Billy, go
49 ahead.

50

0082

1 MR. TREFON: Yes, a little follow-up on
2 what Dan was saying about the caribou proposal that was
3 put together yesterday which was kind of -- happened
4 real fast and kind of piecemeal and then information
5 gathering was right there at the floor at the immediate
6 moment. And I personally was trying to put my two
7 cents in, but they didn't really have a handle on
8 raising your hand and pointing people out. And I saw
9 Dan had his hand up for almost five minutes or more.

10

11 And I myself what brought me up was a
12 discussion about airplanes and harassing their hunt on
13 moose -- on caribou. And we had the discussion before
14 in my area where subsistence hunting at Chulitna River.
15 And we tried several ways of how to mitigate the
16 problem. We went so far as going to the private air
17 taxis and they put out a letter, Glen Alsworth of Port
18 Alsworth put a letter out to all the airplanes that fly
19 us in and out, but legally there's really nothing we
20 can do if they're flying within 500 feet to 2,000 feet
21 they're within -- they're within FAA regulations. The
22 only way you're going to change that is if you can get
23 the regulations into FAA saying that this subsistence
24 area is a restricted area, you're going to come up with
25 a -- create a really big problem for flight
26 restrictions. And I don't know how to address that
27 problem other than going through Federal regulations.
28 I mean, there's no -- there's really no mitigation for
29 stopping planes from flying 500 feet. When I say 500
30 feet because I worked in aviation as a helicopter
31 operator and at 500 feet is basically what I'd call a
32 deadman's curve. If you're under that you're flying
33 below where you had no reaction time if something goes
34 bad.

35

36 Thank you.

37

38 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Thank you,
39 Billy. And I think we're a little bit departed from
40 what the subject is actually on the table. We're
41 specifically speaking about the increased seats on the
42 Federal Subsistence Board and looking for support and
43 comments concerning the letter that was presented to us
44 at the very beginning of this joint meeting. We will
45 get on to these caribou issues and the salmon issue as
46 well here close to the next -- here shortly. Anyway
47 what I would like though is for us to concentrate on
48 how we feel about adding the three seats, having them
49 be chosen by tribal members and other -- what were your
50

0083

1 other suggestions that you were looking for input on?

2

3

4 MS. HONIG: Through the Chair. The
5 Secretaries put forth, you know, four questions that
6 they were trying to get feedback on too. And it wasn't
7 really about the new membership, I think it was more
8 about like emergency actions and how they can handle
9 that and the 10 day waiting period.

9

10 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. So
11 they're looking for suggestions on. Okay. Go ahead
12 and give the list out then, please.

13

14

15 MS. HONIG: Okay. So for -- the first
16 one was should the Secretaries consider adopting a
17 different framework that while not requiring
18 ratification allows for review of emergency and
19 temporary Board actions. So for example should the
20 Secretaries consider a framework in which the effective
21 date of Board actions would be delayed to allow the
22 Secretaries a limited time to review those actions and
23 potentially stay the action for a further limited time
24 to facilitate decision-making.

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1 There are a number of things in the proposed rule that
2 they're looking for feedback on. I want to stress that
3 this proposed rule did come from the Secretaries of
4 Interior and Agriculture so OSM is kind of, as you are,
5 waiting to see what happens with this proposed rule.
6 They are looking for feedback on, you know, the
7 tribally nominated members so that would be one thing
8 that they're really interested in hearing about. And
9 they're also interested in hearing about whether once
10 the Board acts, takes action, there should be a 10 day
11 waiting period before that action goes into affect for
12 the Secretaries to change the impacts of that action or
13 whether they concur or not. And so actually I was just
14 taking a look at some of the both temporary and
15 emergency special actions that the Board took just last
16 year. And it -- all of them, the actions were near
17 immediate, needed to be near immediate and happened in
18 less than 10 days. So actually what they're doing is
19 putting the buffer in after Board action and before
20 implementation of that action.

21

22 Thank you, Madame Chair.

23

24 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Kenneth
25 first.

26

27 MR. NUKWAK: Yes. Thank you, Madame
28 Chair. There is eight Federally or Federal Subsistence
29 Board members on there, right, there is eight on the
30 panel?

31

32 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: There's --
33 so.....

34

35 MR. NUKWAK: A total of eight?

36

37 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Yes, that is
38 correct. But they're not all -- they include a seat
39 for OSM, for National Park Service, for Forest Service,
40 for BLM and Bureau of Indian Affairs. They're adding
41 the additional three from our communities which Rhonda,
42 Tony and.....

43

44 MR. NUKWAK: I understand that.

45

46 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Okay.

47

48

49 MR. NUKWAK: Having faced the Federal

50

0085

1 Subsistence Board back in 2018 for caribou positioning
2 and there was a tie on that when they approved it or
3 not. And since there was a tie it failed. Adding on
4 three more would make a huge difference, impact.
5 Whether it would be a win win situation for the Native
6 population or a lose lose situation. I think adding on
7 three more would to -- to my -- in my opinion I thought
8 that's a great idea. There will be a tie-breaker
9 instead of a tie and a loss.

10

11 Thank you.

12

13 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Yes. And
14 before I give Dan the floor I agree with you 100
15 percent because I feel like then ANILCA is going to be
16 forced to be followed in a much better manner than what
17 it currently is.

18

19 Go ahead, Kenneth.

20

21 MR. NUKWAK: Yes. ANILCA, Alaska
22 National Interest Lands Conservation Act of 1980 was
23 implemented to be followed. And it was passed by
24 Congress. So ANILCA still needs to be followed in
25 full, not halfway, not 75 percent or 80 percent, it
26 still needs to be followed. And it's there to protect
27 Natives.

28

29 Thank you.

30

31 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Thank you,
32 Kenneth. Dan.

33

34 MR. DUNAWAY: Okay. I -- so, Robbin, I
35 think I need your help. We're discussing adding three
36 Board members and then there's this discussion about 10
37 days. Are they separate, are they rolled together?

38

39 MS. LaVINE: Thank you. Through the
40 Chair. Yeah, the -- this proposed rule covers a couple
41 different arenas. It covers an in -- you know, what is
42 of great interest to a lot of folks, the additional
43 Board -- three Board members. And then it also -- what
44 they say in and I don't know if you have the proposed
45 language in front of you, but they talk about -- like
46 I'll just read the proposed language, that's easy
47 enough. So the Secretary of the Interior or the
48 Secretary of Agriculture with respect to the unit of
49 the National Forest System, retains authority to
50

0086

1 anytime stay, modify or disprove -- disapprove any
2 action taken by the Board. Temporary special actions
3 of the Board are not effective unless ratified by the
4 Secretary of the Interior or Secretary of Agriculture
5 with respect to a unit of the National Forest Service.
6 To allow an opportunity for Secretaries to modify,
7 disprove, stay or expressly ratify any temporary action
8 taken by the Board, such actions will not become
9 effective until at least 10 calendar days after the
10 date of action. For emergency special actions the
11 Board action will likewise not become effective for 10
12 days, 10 calendar days or potentially longer depending,
13 unless the Board determines that the emergency
14 situation calls for responsive action within 24 hours
15 to protect subsistence resources or for public safety.
16 So they -- they've got that exception in in the case of
17 an emergency special action that we would not have to
18 wait 10 days for a response from the Secretaries on
19 these special actions so or emergency special actions.

20

21

22 So that's what that one is about. And
23 then of course the other is the three public board
24 members.

25

26 Thanks.

27

28 MR. DUNAWAY: Okay. Thank you. You're
29 taking me back to my crab management days and the
30 earliest year or two when the Feds asserted control,
31 but that may have -- I forget if that was partly
32 subsistence based or more just because it was Federal
33 waters. But we had fisheries, some smaller fisheries,
34 doing several hundred thousand pounds of crab a day to
35 some big ones going a million pounds a day. And then
36 we hear these Feds from DC that have no clue that we
37 got a rampant fishery going on and you can't afford to
38 wait 10 days, you might not have any crab left forever.
39 And it was -- the first test was in the I think tanner
40 crab fishery in Kodiak. And it was getting ugly
41 between the State Troopers and the Feds and everything
42 else. And I think that may have forced us to have this
43 24 hour exception. But I went through it with I think
44 one or two closures in Sand Point, by then it was a
45 little more under control. But if we had something
46 like a small herd of caribou, but a liberal bag limit,
47 and it'll waltz right into Bethel say, you can't afford
48 to wait 10 days or other situations. And so I would
49 only approve that with a lot of reassurances that the

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0087

1 agencies would be spooled up and appreciate the need
2 for very fast action in some situations.

3

4 I remember having these -- this is
5 really coming back, it was like knuckle biting time
6 that, you know. Also all these lawyers are sitting
7 around in DC going to take their own sweet time
8 reviewing this thing so they can assert their little
9 signature on it and the fishery could have been lost.
10 Happily I don't think it -- well, some of them went
11 away anyway including tanner crab around Sand Point for
12 a long time.

13

14 But I guess I just wanted to get that
15 comment out there that the need a full appreciation
16 that some of these emergencies are dire.

17

18 Thank you.

19

20 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Richard.

21

22 MR. WILSON: Madame Chair, thank you.
23 You know, this -- you know, the request goes to the
24 Federal Board. You have people there that are very
25 versed in what's going on with that action and special
26 action item. And if you were to add 10 days on their
27 decision, after their decision, that it just won't
28 work. It -- I don't see how it could work because you
29 have -- you have this, you know, they're there to deal
30 with these issues and if you put it in the hands of
31 whoever's in the office during that term, who knows
32 where it could go or which part of it could go. It
33 just complicates things when the people that are doing
34 the work at the table need to make that decision and
35 need to make it now. And that's the best bang that we
36 could get right there. So to add 10 days onto a
37 problem, all you're doing is adding 10 days onto this
38 problem, that you don't where it'd go. So I can't see
39 that being a positive thing.

40

41 Thank you.

42

43 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: I think that
44 was very well said, Richard. Thank you.

45

46 Anybody else.

47

48 (No comments)

49

50

0088

1 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. So
2 this appears as an action item. Are we -- our comments
3 have been recorded and then would you like us -- are
4 you looking for a vote of support, are you -- okay.
5 Tell me what you're looking for, please.

6
7 MS. LaVINE: Thank you, Madame Chair.
8 Since this is a proposed regulation comments if you
9 wish are -- they're being solicited by the Departments,
10 not OSM. But we're here to support you. So if you
11 wish to put together your -- a letter of comments on
12 this proposed rule we could assist you in drafting that
13 letter and those comments. And we can assist you in
14 submitting them through the appropriate channels,
15 similar to developing proposals to change regulations.
16 So we're here for that.

17
18 Thanks.

19
20 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Thank you
21 then. Yes. And I'm just going to look around here and
22 assume that everybody would like Leigh to go ahead and
23 prepare a letter like that. Is there anything else you
24 would like to have included in that letter other than
25 the things we've already stated?

26
27 Dan.

28
29 MR. DUNAWAY: I'm sorry if I talk too
30 much. But at the same time and I think again of
31 yesterday. You know we had a juggernaut going along
32 there. We'd also -- I don't know how this could be
33 rolled in and I'm almost going to be contradicting what
34 I just said earlier, but I've also experienced
35 situations where what -- I could only describe as a
36 contrived emergency. And so that's where the review
37 type situation occurs, like what are the facts as best
38 we know and do we truly have an emergency. And I don't
39 know what kind of guidelines could be adopted or if
40 they need to be, but that was again some of my concerns
41 yesterday that I -- I'm not entirely convinced that
42 some of the issues brought up yesterday are as valid as
43 other folks thinks. And I don't how that process gets
44 hammered out in the Board, it would require the
45 agencies to be ready to pull out their information, but
46 I would hate to see that -- I got a lot of pressure as
47 a sport biologist that did somebody call me from this
48 place or that is an absolute emergency and I had
49 information to dispel it. So I want to respect that
50

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1 side of the issue as well.

2 So it looks like she wants to say
3 something. I'll shut up. Thank you.

4

5 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Well, yeah,
6 and I would just add too, I'm not sure, I mean, I --
7 the -- this -- the two things that they're asking for I
8 don't see how they applied yesterday. I -- I don't --
9 I don't see that they're two entirely separate things
10 in what I'm seeing. And I'm not dis-validating what
11 you're saying, I'm just not seeing them apply to this
12 particular rule that we're asking to -- being asked to
13 speak and give our opinion on right now.

14

15 Okay. Okay. But I just would add that
16 I -- again I've already stated that I feel like it's
17 very important to get the three extra seats on there,
18 that they be from our rural communities. It was
19 already stated in the main meeting, I feel that they
20 should be spread across the State so all regions can
21 feel like they are being represented properly. And I'm
22 just -- I feel like finally ANILCA, you know, will have
23 a chance of actually being followed on a regular basis
24 instead of when the Board gets called out for it
25 instead.

26

27 Anybody else have anything.

28

29 (No comments)

30

31 MS. HONIG: Madame Chair.

32

33 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Leigh.

34

35 MS. HONIG: Madame Chair, if I may ask
36 for -- for a clarification. Member Dunaway, you had
37 mentioned at the beginning that maybe the members
38 appointed should also have expertise or knowledge of
39 the agencies that are out there on the landscape doing
40 the survey and inventory activities. Is that something
41 you wanted to add to the comment of the criteria that's
42 maybe evaluated when appointing these public members?

43

44 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, I don't recall
45 exactly what I said, but just like as we sit here we're
46 expected to, you know, meet some experience and
47 knowledge requirements. I guess I just presumed that
48 yes, that would be the case.

49

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1 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: (Indiscernible -
2 away from microphone).

3
4 MR. DUNAWAY: Oh, okay. So yes. Thank
5 you.

6
7 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Kenneth.

8
9 MR. NUKWAK: Yes, thank you, Madame
10 Chair. I think I understood you correctly on if it
11 does go through, the three additional, that they pick
12 out carefully within the whole State one from each
13 region, like the North Slope, southwest and
14 southeastern and the interior. That way everything
15 will be voted on when it comes time evenly enough,
16 whether for or against.

17
18 Thank you.

19
20 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Yes, thank
21 you, Kenneth. I -- yeah, I think to me that was the
22 most important thing. They had outlined quite
23 carefully in -- when they finally -- when I finally was
24 able to read the rule I didn't know if they'd be asking
25 for nominations from the RACs throughout the State
26 which is what prompted to send the email to all of you
27 guys to be thinking about that, but then they decided
28 to do it through the tribes which I think is totally
29 appropriate as well. But they did spell out that the
30 knowledge of what was happening in their areas be very
31 complete, however they did not state that they should
32 be spread out around the region. And I do think that
33 that's important which is why I also added that.

34
35 Dan.

36
37 MR. DUNAWAY: No, Kenneth just.....

38
39 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Oh, I'm
40 sorry. Go ahead, Kenneth.

41
42 MR. NUKWAK: Thank you, Dan. Thank
43 you, Madame Chair. And then the -- let's see, brain
44 fog. Anyway I'll get back to it when it pops up.

45
46 Go ahead, Dan.

47
48 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Dan.

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0091

1 MR. DUNAWAY: Okay. Thanks. Thank
2 you, Madame Chair. Yeah, I might not have read your
3 email yet. I don't do so good when it comes to emails
4 on my phones, but I'll have to look. And if it's just
5 tribal we do have to remember there's a lot of
6 nontribal members that are subsistence users too. And
7 I think I need to say that.

8
9 The other thing more -- was more to my
10 point. What I started to say was Norm brought up the
11 political part. If we only have three scattered across
12 the State, you know, I've seen other issues. I've seen
13 -- I got caught kind of between upriver Kuskokwim and
14 downriver Kuskokwim. So I wonder if they'd be a way, a
15 mechanism to rotate geographically or something like
16 that.

17
18 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Well, it'll
19 actually be six across the State because we already
20 have three.

21
22 MR. DUNAWAY: Okay.

23
24 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: And we're
25 adding three.

26
27 MR. DUNAWAY: Oh, okay. That's right.
28 Okay. So but yeah, I was thinking I -- because I
29 haven't really sat in front of the issues of the Fed
30 Board.

31
32 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: And the
33 other thing too is they -- the tribes are nominating,
34 they do not have to be members of the tribe, they can
35 be members of the community that the tribes are around.
36 So that was also made clear on the first day when they
37 were -- when Raina Thiele was talking about it.

38
39 Dan, did you have a follow-up and then
40 Kenneth.

41
42 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah. Yeah, please.
43 Again in some of my Kuskokwim time for a while I was
44 the Area Biologist for Bristol Bay, but it included
45 Aniak down to Bethel and Goodnews. I was in a few
46 communities though where -- well, even sometimes
47 factions -- family factions within a single community
48 get seething. And if you weren't a tribal member you
49 were just utterly disenfranchised and excluded. And
50

0092

1 that gets pretty awkward. And I remember having a long
2 conversation with Val Angasun even about how in his
3 experience they didn't look at that. This was the old
4 days and stuff. So anyway I was very aware of that
5 sometimes in some of the villages. And it varies from
6 village to village and sometimes decade to decade.

7

8 But I just wanted to kind of bring that
9 up. Thank you.

10

11 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Kenneth.

12

13 MR. NUKWAK: Yes, thank you, Madame
14 Chair. The fog has dissipated.

15

16 (Laughter)

17

18 MR. NUKWAK: Okay. Thank you. I think
19 the question has come up when I was reading into the
20 email who will be nominating and voting on these things
21 and who are the Federally recognized tribes that are
22 recognized? That's the question that came into mind.

23

24 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Yes. So I
25 don't -- I can't name off all the Federally recognized
26 tribes, but BBNA has them. And, you know, I'm sure
27 that somebody has probably the list that -- that you
28 could see. And as far as the voting, I don't remember,
29 can you refresh me on that? I remembered a lot of what
30 they said the first day, but I don't remember how they
31 decided or if they're still looking on how they're
32 going to choose those final three that are going to be
33 submitted though through their tribes I know.

34

35 Go ahead, Robbin.

36

37 MS. LaVINE: I would -- the only thing
38 I can -- the only way I might be able to find some
39 context or some help is is that this is a proposed rule
40 so some of the language that I read and some of the
41 things that Raina shared is what they are proposing.
42 They're going to wait for feedback and depending on
43 some of the more consistent either concerns or
44 recommendations from the public so not just the
45 Councils, but from everybody that's going to provide on
46 this. Whatever rises to the surface that I think seems
47 to be really relevant and important will help final --
48 finalize this language.

49

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0093

1 I can read to you really quick about
2 what they're proposing as membership. And so this is
3 all they say. The voting members of the Board are --
4 so again this is only proposed language, it may change
5 depending on what everybody says. The voting members
6 of the Board are a Chair who possesses knowledge of and
7 direct experience with subsistence uses in rural Alaska
8 to be appointed by the Secretary of Interior with the
9 concurrence of the Secretary of Agriculture; five
10 public members who possess personal knowledge of and
11 direct experience with subsistence uses in rural
12 Alaska, three of whom shall be nominated or recognized
13 or recommended by Federally recognized tribal
14 governments in Alaska and shall possess personal
15 knowledge of and direct experience with subsistence
16 uses in rural Alaska, including Alaska Native
17 subsistence uses, to be appointed by the Secretary of
18 the interior with the concurrence of the Secretary of
19 Agriculture and the five agencies. So that's the
20 proposed language right now.

21
22 Thanks, Madame Chair.

23
24 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Kenneth.

25
26 MR. NUKWAK: Thank you, Madame Chair.
27 So I would recommend and suggest if that's the case
28 because the open -- the meetings are always open in
29 every village and then send that out to their meetings,
30 have it put on their agenda. That way that information
31 will be disbursed within each community, probably
32 effectively I hope.

33
34 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Yes, I --
35 and again this is a proposed rule so if the final rule
36 does read that I'm sure that they will notify all the
37 tribes to -- and do exactly that because it'll be very
38 important to have everybody's input.

39
40 Billy.

41
42 MR. TREFON: Yes, just listened to the
43 discussions here now. I really like the idea of these
44 three members coming out of the villages and selected
45 by the tribes. The only thing I have a problem with is
46 the language. It's -- as long as we don't start
47 getting onto race and discrimination and it doesn't
48 have to -- doesn't have to be a Native. In my eyes the
49 -- my view from the village is it can be a white
50

0094

1 person, be a black person, because somebody that really
2 genuinely cares for the community and express theirselves
3 that they do care. I mean, I do like this idea that it
4 is -- it is being selected by the tribe and there is I
5 think 227 tribes in the State.

6

7 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Yeah. Thank
8 you, Billy. And I distinctly remember, I'm almost
9 positive it was Raina saying it, I distinctly remember
10 hearing that the tribes would be the nominees, they did
11 not have to be members of the tribes, but that that was
12 how they were going to find the selection of the.....

13

14

Norm.

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So following up on what Billy says and
as he said it could be Alaska Native because there's a
difference between Alaska Native and a Native Alaskan.
That's come up in conversations before.

So thank you. That's all I have.

MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Thank you,
Norm.

MR. ANDERSON: Yeah.

MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Does
that give you enough direction?

MS. HONIG: Yes.

MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Thank you,
Lee.

0095

1 MS. HONIG: Sure.

2

3 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Good.
4 So I'm going to put this out there because it's very
5 obvious to me already that there's no way even if we
6 power through lunch that we're going to finish our
7 agenda in time. So we are restricted to 1:00 o'clock;
8 is that correct?

9

10 MS. HONIG: That is correct, Madame
11 Chair.

12

13 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: So what I
14 would like to do is we'll continue moving forward here.
15 Where are we required to be at 1:00 o'clock though
16 that's my next -- I haven't gone that far forward
17 trying to be ready for this meeting.

18

19 MS. HONIG: So there will be another
20 Council meeting occurring in this room at 1:30. So we
21 need to give time for them to get set up. And then
22 there are a couple different options for Council
23 members to participate in other breakout sessions this
24 afternoon. I can pull up the schedule really quick if
25 you'd like me to speak to what those options may be.
26 So there's -- let's see, there's caribou -- where am I
27 here. Okay. So caribou status Statewide, youth
28 leaders in subsistence management and then we have
29 Western, Eastern, Northwest Arctic meetings happening.
30 And there's also co-stewardship talking circles on
31 fisheries in the afternoon.

32

33 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. So
34 let's -- okay. Let's do this first. I don't want to
35 -- this is going to take off in the weeds. Let's go
36 ahead and finish off 9, we're usually pretty quick
37 about picking our days and then let's have a
38 conversation about what we want to do about finishing
39 our meeting.

40

41 So F, item F, confirm fall, 2024
42 meeting dates, page 43 in our Council books shows us
43 meeting October 29th and 30th in Dillingham. Does
44 anybody have a problem with those dates.

45

46 (No comments)

47

48 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay.
49 Hearing and seeing no dissension, let's go ahead and

50

0096

1 plan on keeping those dates at this point. It still
2 works on your calendar I'm assuming, Leigh?

3

4 MS. HONIG: Yes, it does.

5

6 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Then
7 let's move on to selecting dates for the winter, 2025
8 meeting. And I'm assuming that we'll be back in Naknek
9 for that. Does anybody have a suggestion on dates for
10 those?

11

12 Go ahead, Richard.

13

14 MR. WILSON: Just a thought. On
15 selecting that date let's look at the community
16 calendar to make sure we're not bumping up against the
17 kids playing basketball or, you know, those kind of
18 things, you know, or the community event so that we're
19 not bumping against those things and they -- so that
20 the youths will also have an opportunity, you know, to
21 join us if possible.

22

23 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Yeah. I --
24 and I'm not sure if they have the schedule set, I'm not
25 as active in the school activities as I used to be, I
26 just -- I know regions is going to be the last week of
27 February, first part of March. So I would stick away
28 from that. Winterfest is going to happen before then,
29 but I don't know what tournaments we may have slated
30 for us. But I would also suggest if we would pick like
31 the 18th and 19th of February, that's Tuesday and
32 Wednesday, we won't be bumping up against anything
33 because nothing happens that early in the week.

34

35 (No comments)

36

37 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: So I'm going
38 to throw it out there then, February 18th and 19th. I
39 have no reason to pick it other than I know it won't
40 screw up any of us wanting to attend events in Naknek,
41 King Salmon, Dillingham.

42

43 Okay. So let's -- can we propose that
44 to you then. And then we need to pick fall, Regional
45 Advisory or excuse me, fall dates for Dillingham again
46 for 2025. Not this year, that'll be the following
47 year. Hunting seasons, fishing seasons, I -- we're
48 always late on that one. And they want the window to
49 close by October 31st. So I'm going to throw out again
50

0097

1 the 29th and 30th of October just because we're -- we --
2 it works way better for us in Bristol Bay to be able
3 to any of those dates. And I know it frustrates you
4 guys because then you have too close of a window to get
5 everything done, but how does that sound to everybody?

6
7 (No comments)

8
9 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. 29th
10 and 30th of October.

11
12 MR. ANDERSON: I don't know what I'm
13 doing tomorrow.

14
15 (Laughter)

16
17 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: I'm with
18 you. I'm with you, Norm.

19
20 Okay. Now let's talk about -- Leigh,
21 can you lead us in a bit of a discussion here of what
22 our options are going to be to finish up our business.

23
24 MS. HONIG: Thank you, Madame Chair.
25 So yes, we have the opportunity to follow-up on some of
26 these joint Council action items from yesterday for the
27 joint letter. So since we're short on time and
28 unfortunately that doesn't allow for much time for
29 discussion on what you want to include in these
30 letters. There are a couple options. So one option
31 would be for the Council to elect maybe a couple
32 volunteers to review these letters after us
33 coordinators have a time to draft these, we can send
34 these out and those folks can review them and if they
35 agree then they -- you guys can add your name to the
36 letter. The Council can just defer to the Chair to
37 make that decision as well or there is the option to if
38 you feel strongly about these letters, but you're just
39 not sure if you want to sign on in a joint capacity, we
40 can defer these to the fall meeting and I can work on
41 draft letters and bring them to the meeting and we can
42 submit -- you can submit them as an individual Council.

43
44 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Wishes of
45 the Council. I -- my knee-jerk reaction is I just -- I
46 really feel we need to talk about these as a Council,
47 gavel to gavel type as Norman said. And I just -- I
48 think it needs to be done now.

49
50

0098

1 John.

2

3 MR. RHYSHEK: I'll second that. I'm --
4 just don't want to be kicking this can down the road.

5

6 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Richard.

7

8 MR. WILSON: I'll third that because
9 the reason I'm -- our meeting prior to this we were
10 anxious to get to this week to complete some of the
11 thoughts that we had then so I think that's one of the
12 important factors. And then I -- and if -- and always
13 agency reports are always important to me to be able to
14 further our knowledge. So if that could be put on the
15 end of that I would appreciate that.

16

17 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: So that
18 means we have to figure out a way to pull this together
19 again. And we can go into recess, but we still need to
20 have a solution.

21

22 MS. LaVINE: Madame Chair, the idea of
23 going into recess is against our guidance from FACA and
24 we can't guarantee a timely public meeting of the All
25 Councils, potentially the All Council Chairs to discuss
26 these really important issues. We can't guarantee,
27 doesn't mean it couldn't happen, doesn't mean -- but we
28 would need time to make another public meeting
29 announcement which can be done and we could potentially
30 have a virtual meeting of the Councils. It's really
31 early yet. I did do a little bit.....

32

33 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Don't mean
34 to interrupt, Robbin, but.....

35

36 MS. LaVINE: Yeah.

37

38 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON:I'm
39 just talking about completing this meeting at this
40 point, not an All Council one.

41

42 Richard.

43

44 MR. WILSON: Madame Chair, I'd be happy
45 with some written reports from agencies if it's -- if
46 that's more appropriate for our time here just so that
47 we don't miss out on what they have to offer us.

48

49 Thank you.

50

0099

1 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: That's where
2 I'm torn as well, Richard. I would love to sit in on
3 the salmon roundtable here this afternoon. I think it's
4 important to us, I think it's valid for us. But we
5 need to finish our business here, it was the secondary
6 purpose for us coming together.

7
8 MR. WILSON: We have 30 more minutes.

9
10 MR. DUNAWAY: Madame Chair.

11
12 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Dan.

13
14 MR. DUNAWAY: I think I'm with Richard
15 because some of my foot dragging on this whole caribou
16 thing is I haven't heard the latest data and updates.

17
18 Thank you.

19
20 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Leigh.

21
22 MS. HONIG: Thank you, Madame Chair.
23 Because this meeting is so abbreviated we did not allow
24 for time for agencies to come up and present reports.
25 We do have the -- they provided us with written reports
26 that are in your meeting books. And so unless there
27 was a special request by the Council it was just
28 prepared as a written report.

29
30 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: So I guess
31 what I'm going to ask then, I explored this already
32 realizing that we probably were not going to meet out
33 time frame here earlier today. And I haven't really
34 been given any options yet and of course Leigh hasn't
35 had time to research anything because she's been
36 sitting here at the table trying to capture our
37 thoughts and comments. But I'm wondering -- I guess
38 the thing that I see as that something that's going to
39 be most viable for us is to -- and I had mentioned this
40 to Leigh and she thought maybe we could pull it off is
41 to go ahead and go into recess and we can pull together
42 within about a week's time or something like that,
43 giving them time to notice so that people know to be
44 there and we'll come together on Microsoft Teams to
45 finish out our business online. We've done a lot of
46 it, but these next items coming up I think need our
47 attention, deserve our attention and need to have our
48 voice. So I just feel like we need this meeting
49 extended and if they can't do it for us here we've got
50

0100

1 to figure out a way to get it done still. But again
2 I'm open to.....

3

4 Richard, go ahead.

5

6 MR. WILSON: Madame Chair, I request
7 that we move on to item 11-A and if we have time to do
8 others -- to do it otherwise we do it telephonically.

9

10 Thanks.

11

12 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay.
13 Robbin, did you have something to add?

14

15 MS. LaVINE: Rather than adjourn we
16 could request a teleconference meeting. We will just
17 need to publish it in the Federal Register, announce it
18 which for public meetings doesn't take as long and
19 hopefully we could, you know, potentially come up with
20 a timely meeting for your conclusion of the business.
21 If -- but as Richard notes you guys have got at least
22 another 30 minutes before you're out of this room and I
23 have seen you guys crack through agendas. But we
24 wouldn't adjourn or we wouldn't recess, I think we
25 would adjourn and then re-meet to complete your agenda.

26

27 Thanks.

28

29 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. My
30 thought was just that if we recessed that -- that we
31 wouldn't have to public notice with as much time as we
32 do when we have to call a new meeting. But that be
33 said let us go ahead and move on and we'll start with
34 follow-up on joint Council action items.

35

36 Where do you want to start, guys?
37 Richard, do you want the floor first?

38

39 MR. WILSON: Madame Chair, yeah, let's
40 just maybe and somebody can kind of highlight what the
41 information they got before us on the -- in my mind the
42 bycatch, I'd like to start there and get through it and
43 if we have time we do a couple of things.

44

45 Thanks.

46

47 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. I see
48 no opposition to that. Let's move on and talk about
49 bycatch.

50

0101

1 (No comments)

2

3 MR. WILSON: It's.....

4

5 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: So
6 direction. I think that we need to consider giving our
7 voice of support, not supporting or putting -- choosing
8 to do our own letter for these two that were brought
9 forward yesterday. I think that's -- that would be the
10 direction that I see as the most logical to follow
11 through on. So what we'd be looking for is a voice in
12 support of the letter that we were handed out yesterday
13 with the changes made, something on our own or whatever
14 the wishes of the Council are.

15

16 MR. TREFON: Madame Chair.

17

18 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Billy.

19

20 MR. TREFON: What kind of timeframe are
21 we looking at to respond, is it immediate or.....

22

23 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: I believe
24 so. I think, you know, I guess and I -- that's a
25 personal opinion, it's not required. The reason -- one
26 of the reasons that these things were brought together
27 was to make sure we could get them in front of the
28 Federal Subsistence Board before they met in April. So
29 perhaps not immediate as in the next second, but very
30 soon. Otherwise we wait again.

31

32 Kenneth.

33

34 MR. NUKWAK: Yes. Can you -- what the
35 two items are, can you.....

36

37 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: The ones
38 that I'm referring to are the caribou letter that we
39 all worked together on as an All Council group
40 yesterday and the salmon bycatch letter as we worked
41 together in -- as an All Council group yesterday. So
42 for the benefit of our newer members as an All Council
43 group we can't -- we couldn't take action because we
44 weren't a recognized group. But bringing that back to
45 our Board, we can now take action and give it our
46 support. So what the idea is is to find items that we
47 can all support to forward through to the Federal Board
48 so that they can forward it on to the Secretary in a
49 very timely manner. Probably not necessary that they
50

0102

1 have everyone's support, but if you want to weigh in I
2 think it's important that we do it before the Board
3 meets.

4

5 I mean, how soon do you have to have
6 it, Leigh, I guess what's our deadline for you to have
7 it prepared if we do our own letters?

8

9 MS. HONIG: So if the Council were to
10 do their own letters I would need that information on
11 the record now to put that information into the -- into
12 the letter. And then of course I would run it by you
13 for final approval. And so that information would have
14 to be done right now or the other option is to delay
15 this and discuss it further at the fall meeting.

16

17 Hopefully that answers the question.

18

19 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Kenneth.

20

21 MR. NUKWAK: Thank you, Madame Chair.
22 So I can probably weigh in on the caribou. On the.....

23

24 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Let's stick
25 to the fish first since Richard has put them forward
26 first. So let's address the fisheries letter first.

27

28 MR. NUKWAK: The fisheries letter
29 first.

30

31 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Yes.

32

33 MR. NUKWAK: Okay. And then I'd like
34 to get into that. Did you raise your hand?

35

36 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Billy, go
37 ahead.

38

39 MR. TREFON: Yeah, looking at that
40 letter from the -- on the fisheries yesterday, I didn't
41 see any problem with it, but the main concern that was
42 the discussion yesterday was the number of zero or
43 10,000. That's the only thing I thought were -- came
44 up as a concern by others in the letter. I mean, I
45 think it's a good idea.

46

47 Thank you.

48

49 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Thank you,

50

0103

1 Billy.

2

3

MR. DUNAWAY: Madame Chair.

4

5

MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Dan.

6

7

MR. DUNAWAY: Okay. Now I understand we're kind of more on the bycatch and I had -- I just couldn't wait any longer. But I thought that the bycatch letter was better formed. And also I can understand since there's other governing agencies it makes sense maybe for us to send our opinion to them.

13

14

15

The caribou thing just I'm -- I'm just very.....

16

17

18

MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: We're not talking about that.

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

MR. DUNAWAY: I know. I'm very unsettled on. But overall I thought the bycatch thing was good and because we might have hopes of getting other agencies to react. So and whether we want to argue about the number zero or 10,000. You and I sat at the other North Pacific Council meeting years ago and I this we had an effect, I think we drove the number down. So I would support that with either zero or a 10,000.

30

31

Thank you.

32

33

MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Richard.

34

35

36

37

38

39

40

41

42

43

44

45

46

47

48

MR. WILSON: Madame Chair, yeah, same here. When they first gave us that letter yesterday as we read through it and I go wow, somebody's put a lot of effort into getting the proper language out that -- and it resonated in my mind just about every issue that we've come up against. I mean, and I understand somebody's changed a couple of words here and there, but the basic theme of it all and the highlights to me it said it all. And if at some point we need to add to that later perhaps we can, but just to -- you know, we last meeting we were hoping to get to here so we can get to a point where we can all share a letter or, you know, some effort going forward. And I think we need to -- I'd be approve of this, put it that way.

49

Thanks.

50

0104

1 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Is that a
2 motion?

3
4 MR. RHYSHEK: Madame Chair.....

5
6 MR. WILSON: No.

7
8 MR. RHYSHEK:I was going to make
9 the motion to approve the bycatch letter as amended
10 yesterday.

11
12 MR. WILSON: I'll second that.

13
14 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. We
15 have a motion on the table. Anymore discussion.

16
17 (No comments)

18
19 MR. NUKWAK: Question.

20
21 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: The
22 question's been called. All in favor of supporting the
23 bycatch letter from yesterday.....

24
25 MR. RHYSHEK: Madame Chair.

26
27 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Go ahead,
28 John, did you have discussion.

29
30 (No comments)

31
32 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. All
33 in favor of supporting.....

34
35 MR. RHYSHEK: Call for the question.

36
37 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON:the
38 bycatch letter irregardless of the number zero to
39 10,000, please signify by saying aye.

40
41 IN UNISON: Aye.

42
43 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Thank you.
44 I heard all ayes so I'm not even going to ask for
45 opposed again.

46
47 Is that clear enough, Leigh?

48
49 MS. HONIG: Yes, it is, Madame Chair.

50

0105

1 Thank you.

2

3 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
4 you. Now I know the next one is going to take us a
5 little bit longer so let's move on to the caribou.

6

7 Who would like to start that
8 discussion? And actually let's start with the motion
9 on the table first so we can do that without the.....

10

11 MR. WILSON: Madame Chair.

12

13 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Richard.

14

15 MR. WILSON: I'll move to discuss the
16 caribou letter that we got from All Council.

17

18 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Do we
19 have a second.

20

21 MR. TREFON: I'll second that.

22

23 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
24 you, Billy. I'll open it for discussion.

25

26 Richard, do you want to talk to your
27 motion first?

28

29 MR. WILSON: You know, they were all
30 over the Board and looking at this list here seems like
31 there was just so many different concerns and so many
32 different areas, how to separate myself and our
33 conditions with what -- with what the rest of the State
34 is resonating was kind of -- kind of difficult for me.
35 I -- you know, we -- yeah. It's a.....

36

37 I'll just leave it open. Thanks.

38

39 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Billy.

40

41 MR. TREFON: Yeah, and like Richard was
42 saying it was -- it was really like -- almost like a
43 last minute thing where they threw the letter together,
44 then we had a quick discussion about it. And a lot of
45 people they didn't have a lot of time to think about
46 it. And like myself I didn't have time to think about
47 it. And when the discussion came up about the
48 unnecessary aircrafts and other human noises, I -- from
49 my experience I've actually brought this subject up
50

0106

1 before in the past about aircrafts harassing our moose
2 hunt in my area. And like I was saying the only
3 support you can get is if you can get the -- all the
4 aviation folks in agreement on that. That's the only
5 way it's going to happen. And getting legislation,
6 probably Congress -- Act of Congress to get the FAA to
7 change their regulations because I seriously doubt the
8 State of Alaska including the Feds are going to put up
9 all these temporary restricted areas during hunting
10 season saying Chulitna River's a restricted air space
11 for subsistence hunting, southwest, wherever people
12 traditionally hunt. I don't think that's going to
13 happen.

14
15 So there needs to be more discussion on
16 this air thing, the only thing you could -- only
17 aircraft use and noises which is a real thing.
18 Listening to him talk about the Feds monitoring them
19 hunting and being harassed is another human noise that
20 interfere with hunting. And I think that should be a
21 discussion put on the table for this caribou thing
22 because harassment and noise is a big thing. And my
23 theory is the same thing for Mulchatna Caribou Herd,
24 why they changed their migration route was noise and
25 vibrations, human activity.

26
27 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Thank you,
28 Billy. John.

29
30 MR RHYSHEK: There's so many items on
31 this that pertain to other areas of the State that
32 don't pertain to us that it might just be worthwhile
33 for just not to support this letter.

34
35 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Dan.

36
37 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, and that's --
38 everybody's saying some stuff I was thinking. I did
39 not want to have that whole group speaking for us when --
40 you know, I look -- this information Billy brings
41 because I knew the airplane issue and he's had a lot of
42 experience with it. I've been buzzed when I was
43 hunting moose, couldn't figure out if they were trying
44 to help me or hurt me. But yeah, and there's a lot --
45 and I can't figure out where this letter is supposed to
46 go. And that's why I like the bycatch letter because
47 we know it's going to go to North Pacific Management
48 and some of these other agencies that we otherwise
49 don't reach very well. But I see a lot of things on
50

0107

1 here that -- well, let's make proposals to address them
2 and for our area. And also, you know, we've watched
3 the North Pacific -- the North and South Peninsula
4 Caribou Herds go way down, come back up and in some
5 cases some of the problems other people are talking had
6 no bearing on our area.

7

8 So I just -- kind of this big shotgun
9 blast that yes, we're definitely concerned about
10 caribou, we're most definitely. I miss caribou
11 hunting, I like it much better than moose hunting. But
12 yeah, it just -- if they really want to do something
13 start making proposals, use the Fish and Game Advisory
14 Committee and the Councils to address it. So that's
15 why I'm really uncomfortable with it and yeah, that's
16 enough. But I think like John and Billy and -- they
17 all said it.

18

19 Thank you.

20

21 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Richard.

22

23 MR. WILSON: Through the Chair. John,
24 I appreciate what you just said because I think that's,
25 you know, to -- we all have our own issues in our own
26 areas and for -- to sign on to something that's
27 Statewide with this kind of language to me just doesn't
28 resonate through here. So I -- I'd be in favor of not
29 supporting this letter.

30

31 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Norm.

32

33 MR. ANDERSON: Yes, Madame Chair.
34 Thank you. Something that -- and it was being
35 discussed yesterday and I won't bring up the airplane,
36 I think Billy -- I was hoping and knew that Billy was
37 going to bring that up, but wanton waste, that jumped
38 up off of the page to me. In my experience in hunting
39 I've seen and heard of guides shooting three cows to
40 get out of the way so their client could get a bull and
41 leave the animals there. And then later when
42 conversations were done it was morphed into trying to
43 pass out moose or specifically moose into the villages.
44 And the time of the year that they hunt the meat is
45 green. I mean, the dogs won't even eat it. And so,
46 but they just leave it at the airport because they're
47 complying with a law that says leave it in the village
48 and that's done. So wanton waste has always been a big
49 issue to me. The elders tell us that when you leave an
50

0108

1 animal you can tell a Native because the ravens fly
2 right by the gut pile. And when we hunt I was taught
3 we gut the bottom of the heart off and leave it because
4 that's where the majority of the spirit of the animal
5 is. And it is left to roam. And we take everything.
6 If we leave meat on the bones that animal will cry and
7 Molly in Dillingham at a meeting I just -- it warmed my
8 heart. She said she passed the landfill one day and it
9 was like the animals were just wailing. She went in
10 there and there was so much meat left it would have fed
11 many people. So I think wanton waste is an important
12 issue that we all do and all -- and I believe most of
13 us do. I hope that most of us do.

14

15 And thank you. That's my concerns.
16 Thank you.

17

18 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Billy.

19

20 MR. TREFON: Yeah, I was thinking about
21 this too. It really is a concern that we should be
22 addressing about the caribou because listening to all
23 the other regions, they all had the same concern as we
24 do. I think a issue though she should bring up for the
25 Board of Game which is what, next year, that'll give us
26 some time to put something together ourselves or
27 discuss and come up with our own proposals and our own
28 letter. But the caribou issue listening to other
29 regions sounds like it's not just a local thing, it's
30 sounds like something that has to be addressed before
31 it becomes a real problem like the Mulchatna and how
32 fast it depleted and disappeared. And if these other
33 caribou are suffering the same concerns maybe we should
34 come up with some kind of language for the future.

35

36 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. In
37 the interests of time I'm hearing us divulge into
38 another potential letter for Leigh and I'm going to
39 call for the question on the motion on the table. All
40 those in favor of supporting the caribou letter that
41 was brought to us through Leigh this morning from
42 yesterday's meeting please signify by saying aye.

43

44 (No affirmative votes)

45

46 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Opposed same
47 sign.

48

49 IN UNISON: Aye.

50

0109

1 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. That
2 motion fails. And then let's go have a discussion
3 about a letter we might like to see Leigh put together
4 for us concerning the caribou in our region. I'm sure
5 you've captured already the one -- the items that have
6 been stated.....

7
8 MS. HONIG: Uh-huh.

9
10 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON:does
11 anybody else have any other item?

12
13 MR. WILSON: Madame Chair.

14
15 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Yes,
16 Richard, please.

17
18 MR. WILSON: Just to remember that
19 information is so important on making these decisions.
20 So that's always lacking or that might be a lacking
21 component or may be something we need to build on. but
22 always the biology, the information and local
23 information. Information, information, information is
24 what we need here to make great decisions and that's --
25 to me that would be at the top.

26
27 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Anybody
28 else.

29
30 MR. ANDERSON: Madame Chair.

31
32 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Yes, Norm.

33
34 MR. ANDERSON: I'm glad Billy brought
35 that up because I've always felt that we need a voice
36 and we need to be able to develop and put something
37 into a font that they will understand. And as long as
38 it comes from us and our -- our perspectives we wish to
39 do so because everything I do I want to be assured of
40 the fact that we as tribal people believe in the seven
41 generation scenario of what our ancestors had seven
42 generations ago we enjoy today because of the practice
43 that we want to preserve for seven generations into the
44 future. So what I do here I want to be assured that my
45 grandson is going to have the same opportunity and your
46 grandkids. So that's my feelings.

47
48 Thank you.

49
50

0110

1 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Kenneth.

2

3

4 MR. NUKWAK: Yeah, we just need to
5 protect the caribou herd from depleting down from where
6 it is now. And I haven't heard anything maybe because
7 I didn't attend the Nushagak Advisory Committee
8 meetings on land and also the Togiak AC what the report
9 is on the number of the Mulchatna Caribou Herd. Is it
10 still at 12,000 or has it gone up or has it gone down
11 worse.

11

12 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Just the
13 person I was looking for. Thank you.

14

15

16 MS. HOLMAN: Good afternoon -- morning,
17 Madame Chair. My name's Kendra Holman, I'm a Wildlife
18 Biologist for Office of Subsistence Management. So the
19 last count that we saw at the -- I think the Board of
20 Game meeting in Kotzebue, we got some numbers for some
21 of the herds down there. But the numbers are staying
22 right around that 12,000 number, between 12 and 13,000
23 for that herd. And they have for a couple of years at
24 this point. So hopefully we'll get some new numbers
25 this spring and get a report at the fall meeting.

25

26

27 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: I would --
28 let me ask one question though just because I heard it
29 through, I don't remember who at the meeting, I was
30 asking for numbers on the calf survival rate after the
31 predator control that the State performed this spring
32 and I heard that they were very positive. Do you have
33 those numbers for us?

33

34

35 MS. HOLMAN: Madame Chair, I don't have
36 those numbers off the top of my head. I can look into
37 it and see what I can get you through Leigh.

37

38

39 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: That would
40 be appreciated. Kenneth, I'm sorry. Go ahead.

40

41

42 MR. NUKWAK: Okay. Thank you. And
43 then there were 100 bears removed last spring I
44 believe. And then how soon will we find out that the
45 calf population has gone up, when will the report come
46 out?

46

47

48 MS. HOLMAN: Through the Chair. Again
49 this is Kendra. So the State does those counts and
50 they do one in the spring typically and one in the

50

0111

1 fall. The spring count numbers usually come out
2 sometime around August so we usually have them in the
3 fall meeting book. As far as the -- those bears it
4 will be at least this year's count before we know if
5 those being taken near those calving grounds help or
6 have any impact at all. So we'll hopefully maybe have
7 some numbers by this next fall meeting, but no
8 guarantee because again it'll only be one year's worth
9 of numbers. So we'll need a couple of years worth of
10 numbers to kind of have a better idea as to how much of
11 an impact that that had.

12

13 MR. NUKWAK: Yeah, thank you. For
14 instance I've heard of reports and I even read online
15 that there were 100 bears removed last spring and that
16 the caribou are going to be calving pretty soon in May,
17 April and May. And then your answer is is that the
18 reports will probably come in the falltime on how many
19 percent of the caribou calves have survived?

20

21 MS. HOLMAN: So they'll get an idea of
22 -- they'll get an idea of the numbers of how many
23 calves are born in the spring and then it'll be the
24 following year when they do compositions they'll --
25 they'll get some numbers again in the fall to see how
26 many have made it to six months and they'll get another
27 composition again to where they can be able to tell how
28 many have made it to a year. Once they make it to a
29 year that's closer to when they consider the calves to
30 have really survived. So it takes a little bit for us
31 to watch these numbers. Unfortunately because of that
32 I -- I do know the State has had a pretty massive
33 program going on for bears and I believe wolves as well
34 out there because of the decreased numbers in the
35 caribou herds between the Nushagak and the Mulchatna
36 and the -- so they've been really hitting some of those
37 areas pretty hard with removing predators. So I know
38 they did do -- like you said they did a whole lot this
39 late spring, early summer and they do intend to
40 continue that for at least another year. I'm not sure
41 how long they'll -- they have funding for that, but
42 they'd have to speak to that. But they will be doing
43 it again this year. So assuming weather permits for
44 them to be able to get out there they will be
45 attempting to do it. So hopefully we can get some
46 numbers this fall and be able to kind of see where it
47 all sits at that point.

48

49 MR. NUKWAK: I'm hoping the numbers

50

0112

1 will go up this fall. And if they're twinning also.
2 And then at the same time the predation control. I'm
3 not too worried about the 100 bears that were removed
4 because they populate way faster than the ungulates.
5 And then the wolves. they're -- we all know that
6 they're canine and they have more pups than caribous
7 have calves. So my main concern is always the
8 predation control. What I've learned ever since I got
9 on these things, on these Councils.

10

11 Thank you.

12

13 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Thank you,
14 Kenneth. Dan.

15

16 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, we're struggling
17 here and I want to note and I'm considerably
18 disappointed that we have almost no presence of the
19 State Department of Fish and Game here that could have
20 answered a few of these questions. I'm tickled that
21 the Subsistence Division individuals were here.

22

23 And my recollection from talking, I
24 talk pretty frequent with their biologist in
25 Dillingham, it's like -- I forget your name already.

26

27 MS. HOLMAN: Kendra.

28

29 MR. DUNAWAY: Kendra said, I believe
30 that it appeared to have an improvement in calf
31 survival into July and August from the hundred bear
32 removal. And that's I think a good thing. We've had a
33 tough winter and there'll be the question did those
34 calves make it through the rest of the way. I think
35 this winter could be really tough on things, but I'm
36 going to be optimistic like Kenneth.

37

38 On to the Nushagak Peninsula Caribou,
39 unless travel conditions have improved right now and
40 then for the -- and I forget when the Nushagak hunt
41 closes, but we may see kind of a substantial growth
42 there because my sense is that it's been difficult for
43 the people who did get caribou permits to get down
44 there and hunt. And that's what just happened last
45 year somewhat, there weren't that many caribou removed.
46 And yet the range conditions down there last I recall --
47 I sit in on the Caribou Committee even though I'm not
48 an official member they invite me to sit in. Range
49 conditions, they're concerned though, they can't
50

0113

1 support a lot of caribou and I think that's why they're
2 moving up north where Kenneth was saying there's good
3 lichen up there. But as far as numbers of animals I
4 expect to see pretty good and hopefully they don't go
5 wandering off north.

6

7 So that's mainly what I had to say on
8 all that. Thank you.

9

10 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay.
11 Anything else for the letter.

12

13 Richard.

14

15 MR. WILSON: Just a final thought. You
16 know, it -- we're all looking for information and here
17 too looking on that Kukoklik or the resident herd,
18 looking for information on that. So seeing where that
19 -- and how that's coming along is going to be another
20 important factor here too because they're, you know,
21 looking to gain on that and have an open season there.
22 So I'd be very interested to see where we're at with
23 that.

24

25 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Can you give
26 us a two second update on that, Mark was here earlier,
27 but he's not here now.

28

29 MS. HOLMAN: Again for the record this
30 is Kendra Holman. So they -- the proposal that was --
31 came before the RAC will go before the Board the first
32 week of April. So that is still standing -- is still
33 outstanding. The State was able to get out and do a
34 survey, a population survey this fall. The numbers
35 were over 400 out there. So I believe it was around
36 425, the last two numbers could be a little hit or
37 miss. But it was over 400. I was really surprised
38 when we got that updated, the Board of Game meeting
39 that had gone up over a hundred in the last year since
40 the last count.

41

42 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
43 you. So good, we'll -- that proposal's going to get
44 heard so it could happen already in this coming season.

45

46 MR. WILSON: Yes, that's very
47 encouraging.

48

49 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Absolutely.

50

0114

1 MR. WILSON: It's growing awful fast.
2 So very good.

3
4 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. Good.
5 Yep, just remember now we're limited on time. Anything
6 else in the letter that you want her to make sure
7 and.....

8
9 MR. TREFON: Madame Chair.

10
11 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Billy.

12
13 MR. TREFON: Oh, I was just looking at
14 this letter here and it's very broad and I was just
15 trying to figure out how would we word it because
16 there's some stuff on here that, I mean, it's -- it's a
17 template, a guide to give us something to discuss.

18
19 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Yeah,
20 we're.....

21
22 MR. TREFON: But there's some.....

23
24 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON:and we
25 already voted that we're not going to support that.

26
27 MR. TREFON: Yeah.

28
29 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: So this is
30 just a letter Leigh's going to write.....

31
32 MR. TREFON: That we want Leigh to do,
33 yeah. And it's basically managing our caribou and our
34 fish and game in the Bristol Bay region and deciding
35 when and when not to hunt the caribou when the numbers
36 reach a certain point.

37
38 Thank you.

39
40 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Perfect.
41 Thanks, Billy. Okay. Good. So then let's move on to
42 Council correspondence update.

43
44 MS. HONIG: If I may, Madame Chair.
45 There was another joint Council letter that -- it was
46 not discussed during the meeting yesterday, but it is
47 in front of you and it's on the Council compensation.
48 Did you all want to join in on that one?

49
50

0115

1 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: I'd
2 entertain a motion.

3
4 MS. HONIG: So this letter is very,
5 very similar to what you all wrote at the -- or decided
6 to write on at the fall meeting. It would just be
7 signed on by all 10 Councils. So it's requesting --
8 it's a letter to the Secretaries requesting
9 compensation for Council membership.

10

11 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Sounds like
12 our letter. Again I'll entertain a motion.

13

14 MR. DUNAWAY: Madame Chair.

15

16 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Dan.

17

18 MR. DUNAWAY: Well, I'll move to adopt
19 because we are very aware that some of our folks are
20 burdened. And even if it's a compensation for ability
21 to have internet access and phone access which, you
22 know, I've seen constant comments around the area and
23 sometimes the internet goes out in New Stu or Kokhanok
24 or other places or it's just hard to find a spot. So
25 I'll be supporting this and see where it goes.

26

27 Thank you. And so I so move.

28

29 MR. RHYSHEK: Second.

30

31 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. We
32 have a motion and a second. Any further discussion.

33

34 (No comments)

35

36 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Call for the
37 question. All in favor of supporting the letter that
38 we'd originally written to become a united letter
39 please signify by saying aye.

40

41 IN UNISON: Aye.

42

43 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Opposed same
44 sign.

45

46 (No opposing votes)

47

48 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay.

49

50 Motion passes. 2023 Council charter changes overview.

0116

1 MS. HONIG: Yes, Madame Chair, in front
2 of you as a handout, it's also in the meeting book,
3 however there was an error in the charter that's
4 printed in the meeting book. It said you had 13
5 members, but you only have 10 members. It is just the
6 most updated charter that was approved and it included
7 the youth seat.

8
9 I'll keep that brief.

10
11 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. So it
12 was just more information than anything for us to take
13 action or discussion on.

14
15 Any questions for Leigh about the
16 charter.

17
18 (No comments)

19
20 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Excellent.
21 Okay. Then let's continue down to consider developing
22 State regulatory proposals. Does anybody have any
23 regulatory proposals that they wanted to put forward
24 through the Council or.....

25
26 MR. DUNAWAY: To the State, is that
27 what you're saying?

28
29 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: I'm assuming
30 that would be State, yeah.

31
32 MR. DUNAWAY: Not really. I mean.....

33
34 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Okay. It
35 looks like nobody's really got anything formally which
36 I understand. I would encourage you if you come up
37 with them later to bring them to our fall meeting, get
38 them to Leigh so she can get them in the book, bring
39 them to the fall meeting and we can choose to support
40 them there where we can still submit through the
41 comment period, okay, but get them in and then we can
42 take a look at the sport.

43
44 Am I incorrect in that?

45
46 MS. HONIG: So this is for the -- this
47 is a call for proposals for the Board of Game, the
48 deadline is May 1. So once again if you want to submit
49 something as a Council you'd have to vote on it or as
50

0117

1 an individual I can help navigate that system. So just
2 reach out to me.

3

4 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Perfect.
5 And I guess I'm looking at both Billy and Kenneth. If
6 you want to try and formulate something with Leigh on
7 the aircraft or something like that I encourage you to
8 do that and then bring it to -- she can bring it to us
9 in the fall meeting and we can -- because then the
10 comment period opens, we can submit our support as a
11 whole Council behind it through the comment period.

12

13 Kenneth.

14

15 MR. NUKWAK: Yes, coming from the
16 Manokotak Entities Committee would that also involve
17 the tribal card as a hunting license proposal?

18

19 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Yes, it
20 would. And she can help you with that one as well.

21

22 MR. NUKWAK: And that way Leigh has
23 work to do and I'd say I'd put it on her hand.

24

25 (Laughter)

26

27 MR. NUKWAK: But I'll introduce you to
28 the Manokotak Entities Committee when I got a chance
29 for that because they've mentioned this, it didn't come
30 from me, but from my community.

31

32 Thank you.

33

34 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: No, you're
35 learning fast, Kenneth. Thank you.

36

37 (Laughter)

38

39 MR. TREFON: Madame Chair.

40

41 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Billy.

42

43 MR. TREFON: Yeah, this flying plan
44 over thing is something I've been thinking about for a
45 long time. It's going to be a challenge, actually it's
46 going to be a super task because like I say I work in
47 aviation as a firefighter. We have what is called TFRs
48 and that's what we're going to establishing for
49 subsistence areas for hunting if we want to restrict
50

0118

1 aircraft from flying into certain areas. A TFR is just
2 basically a temporary flight restriction rule that FAA
3 applies when we have fires or something going on,
4 research or even the President puts in a TFR when he's
5 flying onto a community. And that's the kind of act
6 it's going to involve because we cannot -- flying is a
7 privilege and you got a license and if you got a
8 license you could fly basically wherever you want. And
9 it's all regulated by FAA.

10

11 So I don't see how -- I mean, I would
12 love to see it done, but I don't know how it's going to
13 be done because it can involve FAA regulations and
14 putting in these TFRs for hunting seasons in
15 subsistence areas.

16

17 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: I would -- I
18 would say it is -- it can be done and you've got your
19 advocate in Gayla right there, who's got the ear of the
20 Secretary who's got the ear of the Secretary.

21

22 And, John, do you have another idea.

23

24 MR. RHYSHEK: Mr. Trefon, it's already
25 been done in the State. There's actually a no fly zone
26 in the Koyukuk region and they can -- they can
27 piggyback that paperwork.

28

29 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: So but again
30 that's a -- that is a Federal regulation, Billy, so I
31 -- that'll be the next go round. But you can start
32 formulating that at any point, but my point is it can't
33 be submitted until they're -- the opening is called for
34 the Federal regulations and these are State
35 regulations. So you're right, it can't -- it won't do
36 you any good in the State regs.

37

38 MR. TREFON: Okay. That's actually
39 sounding good to know that actually it's being done
40 right now by the State. And if that's the case and
41 it's a Federal regulation, we work with the Park
42 Service an awful lot and that would be something we
43 could working on and putting in a TFR in the Chulitna
44 region area during hunting season because that's where
45 we're working with the Park and the Chulitna River is
46 our traditional hunting grounds. And we're trying to
47 preserve it, but that is also the flight route up to
48 Long Lake and the Mulchatna where the airspace is just
49 crazy.

50

0119

1 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Kenneth.

2

3

4 MR. NUKWAK: Yes. On the no fly zone
5 and the planes are still flying there. And if -- I
6 realize now that he's with the Parks -- he's on the
7 Park Service lands and I'm with the Togiak National
8 Wildlife Refuge. If we're to work together on creating
9 a letter or something like who do we work with?

9

10 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: The person
11 you already identified.

12

13

(Laughter)

14

15

16 MR. NUKWAK: There you are. Okay.
17 Thank you.

17

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MR. DUNAWAY: I just want to thank
everybody and welcome the new members. It's nice to
have prospective -- and I've forgotten Billy's aviation
know how on stuff. So welcome, everybody, and

0120

1 appreciate it. And I think we work together pretty
2 good and we're not -- I feel like it's family compared
3 to some of the other RACs I've sat in on.

4

5 So thanks, everybody.

6

7 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: It helps.
8 And I appreciate everybody's participation and
9 adherence to the need to move forward here today.

10

11 I'm assuming that these letters will
12 then be coming out to me. I'm going to feel more
13 comfortable too in this instance if you also share them
14 with Dan and Richard for review.....

15

16 MS. HONIG: Yes.

17

18 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON:because
19 I think there's too many important points. I could
20 miss some if it's just left up to me. So I would
21 appreciate it if you guys would also review them as my
22 officers when they come out and give your comments back
23 to Leigh in a timely manner if you see anything that
24 she missed or should include. Okay?

25

26 (No comments)

27

28 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: Thank you.
29 I appreciate that. And I'll take a motion to adjourn
30 if nobody else has any other closing comments.

31

32 MR. WILSON: So moved.

33

34 MR. TREFON: Second.

35

36 MADAME CHAIR MORRIS LYON: We are
37 adjourned. Thank you. At 1:10.

38

39 (Off record)

40

41 (END OF PROCEEDINGS)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

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

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

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

DATED at Anchorage, Alaska, this 15th day of March 2024.

Salena A. Hile
Notary Public, State of Alaska
My Commission Expires: 09/16/26