

0001

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50

FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE BOARD MEETING

TELECONFERENCE - ALASKA

May 19, 2022

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Anthony Christianson, Chairman
Rhonda Pitka, Public Member
Sara Boario, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Thomas Heinlein, Bureau of Land Management
Sarah Creachbaum/Eva Patton, National Park Service
Gene Peltola, Bureau of Indian Affairs
Greg Risdahl, U.S. Forest Service

Ken Lord, Solicitor's Office

Recorded and transcribed by:
Computer Matrix Court Reporters, LLC
329 F Street, Suite 222
Anchorage, AK 99501
907-227-5312; sahile@gci.net

0002

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50

P R O C E E D I N G S

(Teleconference - 5/19/2022)

(On record)

MS. DETWILER: Thank you, Operator. This is Sue Detwiler, Assistant Regional Director for the Office of Subsistence Management. We're about to begin in the meeting, the Federal Subsistence Board meeting on Fisheries Temporary Special Action Request FSA22-05. And first I want to make sure that court reporter, Tina, is -- is the recording started.

REPORTER: Tina is here and recording, Sue.

MS. DETWILER: Great, thank you. Okay. I will go through and start with a roll call of the Board members. And we'll start with National Park Service, Sarah Creachbaum.

MS. CREACHBAUM: Good afternoon, Sue, I'm here.

MS. DETWILER: Great, thank you. Bureau of Land Management, Thomas Heinlein.

MR. HEINLEIN: Good afternoon.

MS. DETWILER: Good afternoon.

Fish and Wildlife Service, Sara Boario.

MS. BOARIO: I'm here Sue.

MS. DETWILER: Thank you, Sara. Forest Service. Greg Risdahl, I understand you're stepping in for Dave Schmid.

MR. RISDAHL: Yes, that is correct, and I am here.

MS. DETWILER: All right, thank you, Greg.

0003

1 Bureau of Indian Affairs, Gene Peltola.

2

3

4 MR. PELTOLA: Good afternoon all,

5 present.

6

7

MS. DETWILER: Thank you, Gene.

8

9

Public Member Rhonda Pitka.

10

11

MS. PITKA: Hi, I'm here.

12

13

14

MS. DETWILER: And Public Member Charles Brower. I understand Charlie is not able to make it to today's meeting but I just want to confirm, Charlie, are you on.

15

16

17

(No comments)

18

19

20

MS. DETWILER: And Chair Anthony Christianson.

21

22

(No comments)

23

24

25

MS. DETWILER: While we're waiting for the Chair to join us I'll continue on to legal counsel, Department of Interior, Ken Lord and Mike Routhier.

26

27

28

MR. LORD: Ken Lord's on.

29

30

MS. DETWILER: Thanks, Ken.

31

32

USDA Office of General Council, Jim Ustasiewski.

33

34

35

(No response)

36

37

MS. DETWILER: I believe Jim may be trying to call in. Liaisons to the Board starting with the Alaska Department of Game, Ben Mulligan, Mark Burch.

38

39

40

41

42

MR. MULLIGAN: Good afternoon, this is Ben, and I know Mark's online as well.

43

44

45

MS. DETWILER: Okay. Thank you, Ben and Mark. And Regional Advisory Council Chairs. Start with Region 2, Southcentral Regional Advisory Council, do we have Greg Encelewski on.

46

47

48

49

50

0004

1 MR. ENCELEWSKI: You do, that's me,
2 thank you.

3
4 MS. DETWILER: All right, hi, Greg.
5 Thank you.

6
7 And Region 9, Eastern Interior, Sue
8 Entsminger.

9
10 MS. MCDAVID: Hi, Sue, this is Brooke
11 McDavid, Council Coordinator for Eastern Interior. Sue
12 will not be able to join today so I will be here in her
13 stead.

14
15 MS. DETWILER: Okay, thank you. And do
16 we have any other Regional Advisory Council Chairs who
17 are on the call today.

18
19 (No comments)

20
21 MS. DETWILER: Okay. Moving on to
22 Department of Interior Field Special Assistant for
23 Alaska, Sara Taylor, are you on.

24
25 (No response)

26
27 MS. DETWILER: Okay. All right, Chair
28 Christianson, have you joined us?

29
30 (No comments)

31
32 MS. DETWILER: It sounds like Tony may
33 still be trying to call in. Rhonda Pitka, I think the
34 Board usually defers to you as the second Chair after
35 -- if -- if Tony is not -- if the Chair is not
36 available. So we do have a quorum -- well, we do have
37 a quorum of six out of eight members, once Tony comes
38 on we'll have seven, and so I will pass it off to you
39 now that we have a quorum.

40
41 MS. PITKA: Great.

42
43 MR. LIND: Sue, this is Orville.
44 Tony's still trying to call in just so you know.

45
46 MS. DETWILER: Oh, thank you, Orville.

47
48 MS. PITKA: Okay, so it looks like
49 we're at review and adopt the agenda. This calls for a
50

0005

1 motion, I believe.

2

3 MR. RISDAHL: The Forest Service makes
4 the motion to adopt the agenda.

5

6 MS. PITKA: Thank you. Can I get a
7 second on that motion.

8

9 MR. PELTOLA: BIA, second.

10

11 MS. PITKA: Thank you, BIA. Sue, can
12 we get a roll call vote on the adoption of the agenda.
13 Thank you.

14

15 MS. DETWILER: Sure. The motion is to
16 adopt the agenda and I'll start with the maker of the
17 motion, Greg Risdahl.

18

19 MR. RISDAHL: Yes.

20

21 MS. DETWILER: Sarah Creachbaum,
22 National Park Service.

23

24 MS. CREACHBAUM: Yes, please.

25

26 MS. DETWILER: Sara Boario, Fish and
27 Wildlife Service.

28

29 MS. BOARIO: Yes.

30

31 MS. DETWILER: Gene Peltola, BIA.

32

33 MR. PELTOLA: Aye.

34

35 MS. DETWILER: Thank you.

36

37 Thomas Heinlein, BLM.

38

39 MR. HEINLEIN: Yes.

40

41 MS. DETWILER: Okay.

42

43 Public Member Rhonda Pitka.

44

45 MS. PITKA: Yes.

46

47 MS. DETWILER: And, Chair Anthony
48 Christianson, have you been able to join us yet.

49

50

0006

1 (No comments)

2

3

4 MS. DETWILER: Okay, the motion does
5 pass. And I would also like to note, Madame Chair,
6 that for the -- well, I may be a little bit out of
7 order here but I did want to mention with the Board in
8 the proc -- or the agenda in the process of being
9 adopted now that the Office of Subsistence Management
10 did, on Tuesday, May 17th, receive a request for
11 reconsideration of the Board's earlier action at it's
12 April regulatory meeting to approve Fisheries Proposal
13 21-10 and we have not had time to analyze this request
14 yet and so it will not be part of our presentation or
15 on the agenda today.

15

16

So thank you for that.

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

30

31

32

33

34

35

36

37

38

39

40

41

42

43

44

45

46

47

48

49

50

CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Thank you, Sue.
And just for the record Anthony Christianson is here.
Thank you.

MS. PITKA: Hi, Tony, this is Rhonda.
So we just finished reviewing and adopting the agenda
and now we're on to No. 3 so take it away. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Thank you,
Rhonda, I appreciate you picking that up and sorry for
my tardiness I was having trouble getting on.

All right, welcome everyone, and we are
on No. 3 on the agenda so go ahead, Sue, you have the
floor.

MS. DETWILER: Thank you. So we'll
start out with the presentation of the -- introduction
of the Staff analysis and meeting materials, and that
will be Justin Koller. And I would also like to add
that the meeting materials are also on the Federal
Subsistence Board's website. So I'll hand it off to
Justin, thank you.

MR. KOLLER: Thank you, Sue. Good
afternoon, Mr. Chair and members of the Board. My name
is Justin Koller and I'm a Fish Biologist at the Office
of Subsistence Management. I'm here today to present
Fisheries Temporary Special Action Request FSA22-05
concerning the recently adopted Lower Copper River
subsistence salmon fishery.

0007

1 This temporary action request is
2 administrative in nature and does not request changes
3 to the approved Lower Copper River salmon fishery
4 therefore there is no analysis for this special action
5 request.

6
7 We provided four documents to you, the
8 special action request, the temporary delegation
9 letter, the proposed language -- regulatory language,
10 and the news release regarding your action on FP21-10
11 at the wildlife regulatory meeting.

12
13 As a reminder, during the April
14 wildlife regulatory meeting, the Board was presented
15 with an analysis for FP21-10 concerning the proposed
16 Lower Copper River subsistence salmon fishery. The
17 proposal was adopted to provide a meaningful
18 opportunity and priority for Federally-qualified
19 subsistence users and provide additional opportunity
20 for those residing in Cordova.

21
22 We are now in front of you again in
23 recognition of the fact that your actions from the
24 wildlife regulatory meeting will not be published in
25 the Federal Register in time for this fishery to begin
26 on its proposed start date of June 1st. This temporary
27 special action request asks this Board to temporarily
28 enact the newly authorized fishery and to delegate
29 authority to the in-season manager to implement the
30 fishery for the 2022 season. This special action and
31 delegation of authority would both expire upon the
32 Final Rule being published in the Federal Register.

33
34 In short this temporary special action
35 is necessary to enact and implement this newly
36 authorized fishery for the 2022 fishing season.

37
38 We would like to recommend two minor
39 adjustments. One on the draft regulatory language, and
40 one on the temporary delegation of authority letter.
41 These are recommendations merely to align the special
42 action regulation language with other current
43 regulations. On Page 2 of the draft regulatory
44 language, Item D, instead of beginning outside the
45 Copper River main stem, the proposed language should
46 begin, excluding the areas described in Section A. On
47 the delegation of authority letter under the first
48 bullet of delegation we recommend it simply read Copper
49 River instead of Copper River main stem. Again, these
50

0008

1 are recommendations merely to align the special action
2 regulation language with other current regulations.

3

4 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

5

6 I'm available to answer questions
7 related to the request or supporting documentation.

8

9 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Thank you.
10 Thank you, for that. Any questions from the Board.

11

12 (No comments)

13

14 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: All right, at
15 this time we'll go ahead and allow for public
16 testimony. I know usually, you know, it's not listed
17 on the agenda but due to this varying viewpoints on
18 this, I'm hoping on the line today we do have some
19 public that would like to testify to this proposal --
20 special action. And, Operator, if there is at this
21 time I would like to entertain opening the line for
22 anybody who would like to be recognized at this time
23 for public comment on this action.

24

25 Thank you.

26

27 OPERATOR: Yes, sir. If you would like
28 to make a public comment please press star, followed by
29 one. Please make sure your phone is unmuted and record
30 your name when prompted. If you wish to withdraw your
31 comment you can press star, two. Please allow a moment
32 for comments to come in.

33

34 Thank you.

35

36 (Pause)

37

38 OPERATOR: Our first comment comes from
39 Karen, your line is open.

40

41 MS. LINNELL: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
42 This is Karen Linnell, with the Ahtna InterTribal
43 Resource Commission. And.....

44

45 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Welcome today.

46

47 MS. LINNELL: Thank you. I see that
48 there's already amendments to their special action
49 request and things like that but I'd also like to say

50

0009

1 that I believe, you know, that there's a request for
2 reconsideration that has been filed and that I think
3 the Staff analysis on that reconsideration request
4 should go forward before moving on this special action
5 request because it may be more difficult to move
6 forward with this.

7

8 Once again I want to talk about the
9 process that was brought forward when 21-10 was brought
10 before the Board at your last meeting. It seemed so
11 innocent to include comments that were received after
12 the deadline but those comments were solicited by
13 Staff, they were brought forward, they were form
14 letters and then the -- the joint meeting that was held
15 and the information that was shared there and with the
16 new membership and things like that there was a -- what
17 I heard now, was not an official vote of Southcentral
18 RAC, as Staff isn't taking it as an official vote, but
19 that it was -- but when they discussed it they voted it
20 down and then there was emails received from other
21 members who were not in attendance that tend to -- that
22 said, oh, we would have voted in favor of it had we
23 been there. Well, it's just like Congress and
24 everybody else, if you're not there you don't have a
25 say.

26

27 And I feel the same way with the
28 Federal Subsistence Board. If the Regional Directors
29 are not in attendance they should not be able to
30 appoint an alternate when Members of the Public, such
31 as yourself, and Ms. Pitka and Mr. Brower, when they're
32 absent, you have nobody to fill your seat in your
33 absence. Had you been at the meeting or had the other
34 individual -- Federal Board member who was absent had
35 somebody step up in -- in to vote for them, I think it
36 was Chris McKee that stepped in to vote for BLM, it
37 would have been a tie vote if you had been there or had
38 Mr. McKee not been there -- or able to participate in
39 the vote. Today I see Forest Service isn't there but
40 they're counted as part of the quorum because there's
41 an alternate sitting in for Mr. Schmid. I'm trying to
42 look at the CFR and I don't see anywhere in there that
43 allows for alternates and so if Mr. Lord can tell me
44 where I can find that information that would be
45 helpful.

46

47 But, you know, the other thing again is
48 the omission of public input in the process with the
49 RACs and being able to talk to the RACs because you had
50

0010

1 so many new RAC members over the last two years with
2 the Federal appointments finally happening all at once.
3 And so I think those new members had the right to know
4 and understand what was going on. And during that time
5 there was not additional Staff analysis to take into
6 consideration, the things that had happened in the last
7 two years with the declining fish returns and -- and
8 you've also got new Board members, new Federal Board
9 members. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the National
10 Park Service, and BLM, all are brand new and should
11 have been able to hear public comments on these issues
12 throughout the whole thing and so, for me, it was not a
13 just carried on -- to think -- it's been two years
14 since things -- and things change. And so I just
15 wanted to point that out. And I think there's a
16 definite inequity in this.

17
18 And I'd like to say that, at what point
19 does providing for reasonable opportunity for success
20 in subsistence harvesting taken into consideration.
21 When you consider that 92 percent, according to the
22 State community harvest assessment, on their website,
23 which was done in 2014, was that 92 percent of the
24 households in Cordova eat salmon. So, to me, it's not
25 a pressing need if 92 percent of their homes use
26 salmon. And so those are things that we feel should be
27 taken into consideration and they have alternative
28 areas to harvest their subsistence resources for
29 salmon. The residents of Copper River do not. We have
30 one river. One intake. And so for -- I just want you
31 to reconsi -- take that into reconsideration and ask
32 that you defer this until you look at the request for
33 reconsideration.

34
35 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

36
37 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Thank you,
38 Karen. Any questions for Karen from the Board, or
39 comments from Staff -- I think she had a question there
40 as well.

41
42 MR. LORD: Mr. Chair, this is Ken.

43
44 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Yes, Ken, you
45 have the floor. Thank you.

46
47 MR. LORD: Yes, so just to answer
48 Karen's question about Board members and having
49 substitutes -- sorry about that, I dropped the paper --
50

0011

1 it does say in Section 10 of our regulations that --
2 which deal with Board authorities that each member of
3 the Board may appoint a designee.

4

5 MS. LINNELL: Okay. And where are the
6 -- where's the designees for the Public members?

7

8 MR. LORD: The regulations do not speak
9 to that.

10

11 MS. LINNELL: Exactly. So Mr. Chair,
12 Mr. Christianson can appoint somebody to fill Mr.
13 Brower's vacancy today because it's not -- it doesn't
14 say that it can't and it doesn't say that it can.

15

16 MR. LORD: Well, what it says is that
17 each Board member may designate a designee. It does
18 not give that authority to the Chair.

19

20 MS. LINNELL: So when Mr. Brower's not
21 present he should appoint somebody to fill his seat
22 before he -- before the meeting or -- because it
23 happens quite often. It happens quite often.

24

25 MR. LORD: It isn't -- so the public
26 members have never done so but in a strict reading of
27 the regulations it says that they could.

28

29 MS. LINNELL: I find it -- I find that,
30 you know, this should have been brought to those
31 members so that they can fill their vacancy when
32 they're not there and I would hope somebody would reach
33 out to Mr. Brower and ask him to appoint somebody to
34 fill his seat right now during this vote.

35

36 MR. LORD: Mr. Chair, I'm going to have
37 to correct myself. I just reread that sentence. What
38 it says is each Federal agency member of the Board may
39 appoint a designee, it does not speak to the public
40 members, my mistake.

41

42 MS. LINNELL: Oh, so just because it
43 doesn't speak to it doesn't mean that it can't happen
44 though, correct? It doesn't restrict it from
45 happening?

46

47 MR. LORD: I'm going to defer on that
48 question. We would have to discuss that internally
49 about the best ways to approach that.

50

0012

1 MS. LINNELL: Well, I'd say that Mr.
2 Brower has the authority to appoint somebody until it's
3 proven otherwise that he can't. And just for your
4 consideration, Ms. Pitka and Mr. Christianson, that
5 should you not be able to attend that you send an email
6 to the Tribal Liaison or OSM and tell them who your
7 designee will be for that meeting.

8
9 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Yeah, thank you
10 for your points there Karen and we'll take that into
11 consideration. Like Ken has stated, you know, that's
12 probably something they're going to really have to look
13 at here because, you know, we were under the assumption
14 that, you know, we weren't the same as the Federal
15 Board in that we could appoint somebody and so I think
16 that's a good point of clarification that we need to
17 probably clear up for policies and other sakes. But
18 probably for today as we do move forward we'll probably
19 have to hold the conversation. I know it bears a lot
20 of weight to whether this special action can or cannot
21 pass, but as far as the current policy has been we
22 haven't been putting somebody in as an alternate to us
23 in our absence even though, you know, it does make and
24 bears a big difference on how we do fair and some of
25 the votes that are cast past, present and in the
26 future. So I'd just be careful -- you know, like
27 today, just want to keep it back to the point of the
28 special action and who we do have here and, again, I
29 hope that's a place we can get some clarification in
30 the future.

31
32 MS. LINNELL: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
33 And, again, I would ask that you defer action on this
34 until you hear and get the Staff analysis on the
35 request for reconsideration. Because I feel that
36 should this go forward now, the request for
37 reconsideration would be -- would be defeated, or, you
38 know, or not even -- yeah, it'd be stacked against it
39 in other words.

40
41 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

42
43 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Any other
44 questions from the Board or comments.

45
46 OPERATOR: There are no comments on the
47 phone, sir.

48
49 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: That was the
50

0013

1 only public testimony for the day.

2

3 OPERATOR: At this time, sir, yes.

4

5 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Thank you. Was
6 there any other questions or comments from the Board
7 for Karen.

8

9 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Okay.
10 Hearing.....

11

12 MR. PELTOLA: Mr. Chair, BIA.

13

14 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Yes, go ahead,
15 Gene, you have the floor.

16

17 MR. PELTOLA: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
18 Actually it's not for Karen but for OSM Staff. With
19 regards to the outstanding request for reconsideration,
20 what would be a gross estimate on how long it would
21 take to accomplish that task?

22

23 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

24

25 MS. LAVINE: Mr. Chair, this is Robbin.

26

27 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: You have the
28 floor, Robbin, thank you.

29

30 MS. LAVINE: Thank you, Mr. Chair. For
31 the record this is Robbin LaVine, Subsistence Policy
32 Coordinator with the Office of Subsistence Management.

33

34 We did receive a request for
35 reconsideration on Tuesday. And the Policy
36 Coordinator, myself, and Fisheries Division lead will
37 be meeting next week to validate and confirm the
38 request. And we have not had a chance to assess, but
39 one might expect that it would take about as long as a
40 regular proposal analysis, certainly through the
41 summer.

42

43 I would also remind everybody online
44 that a request for reconsideration does not pause
45 action that is it requesting the Board reconsider. So
46 it wouldn't pause until the request for reconsideration
47 is complete. It wouldn't pause Board action on
48 Fisheries -- or the action the Board took on Fisheries
49 Proposal 21-10. But changes could happen once the
50

0014

1 Board reviews the full analysis, once it meets the
2 threshold. And, additionally, the Federal Register
3 would also have to public. I would -- I would believe
4 also that we -- I'm not seeing lots of comments -- so
5 if anybody on my team wants to jump in as well but it
6 is my understanding that a request for reconsideration
7 can be ongoing, it will not pause the implementation of
8 the regulations until the Board takes action either in
9 favor or in opposition. So we won't know until the
10 Board has the RFR before them and the analysis is
11 complete.

12

13 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

14

15 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Thank you,
16 Robbin. Any questions for Staff, any more comments.

17

18 (No comments)

19

20 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: That concludes
21 the public testimony, thank you. We'll go ahead and
22 move on, hearing no more, to the summary of public
23 comment.

24

25 MR. ROBERTS: Yes, hello, good
26 afternoon, Chair and members of the Board. My name is
27 Jason Roberts. I'm an Anthropologist with the Office
28 of Subsistence Management and I'm going to provide a
29 summary of the public comments regarding Fisheries
30 Temporary Special Action Request 22-05.

31

32 A public hearing on this special action
33 request was held on May 5th. The specific question
34 asked during this meeting was should action be taken to
35 ensure that the new Lower Copper River salmon fishery
36 will be open to harvest by a dipnet and rod reel on its
37 approved start date of June 1st. Nine members of the
38 public provided testimony at this meeting specifically
39 related to this special action, and an additional 19
40 commenters provided testimony on other issues. Much of
41 the additional testimony focused on the merits or
42 deficiencies of the original Fisheries Proposal FP21-10
43 without speaking specifically to this temporary special
44 action.

45

46 So those in support of FSA22-05 cited
47 previous delays in the regulatory process regarding
48 this fishery, monetary investments already made in
49 anticipation of the June fishery opening, the benefits

50

0015

1 the fishery would have for the residents of the Cordova
2 area, and the role of special interests leading
3 opposition against the fishery opening.

4
5 Those in opposition to FSA22-05 stated
6 that more time was needed to evaluate the Copper River
7 fish runs and stock levels this year and that the Board
8 should consider delaying the opening of the fishery
9 until June 15th this year to allow people up river to
10 meet their subsistence needs. Other testimony against
11 FSA22-05 objected to the initial FP21-10 regulatory
12 process stating that the Chair was not present when the
13 vote was made to pass FP21-10. Those in opposition
14 also voiced concerns about public safety when opening a
15 fishery in an area of strong current.

16
17 This concludes OSM's summary of the
18 public testimony on FSA22-05, and my colleagues are
19 available to try and answer questions if you have any
20 questions.

21
22 Thank you.

23
24 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Thank you. Any
25 questions from the Board.

26
27 MR. PELTOLA: Mr. Chair, BIA.

28
29 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Yes, you have
30 the floor.

31
32 MR. PELTOLA: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
33 It's actually not a question for the summary of the
34 public comments, it's just I was sent a message second-
35 hand that stipulated we had a member of the public
36 trying to call in to make a public comment when we had
37 that opportunity open but star, one wasn't working for
38 them.

39
40 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

41
42 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Thank you,
43 Gene. Any other further questions for the public
44 summary. We'll move on to Regional Advisory Council
45 recommendations.

46
47 MS. DETWILER: So, Mr. Chair, this is
48 Sue. We have Greg Encelewski from Southcentral region
49 and we also have, from Eastern Interior, we have Brooke
50

0016

1 McDavid speaking on behalf of the Eastern Interior
2 Council.

3

4 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Thank you, Sue.
5 They have the floor.

6

7 MS. MCDAVID: Mr. Chair and members of
8 the Board, for the record my name is Brooke McDavid and
9 I am the Council Coordinator for the Eastern Interior
10 Regional Advisory Council. Eastern Interior Chairwoman
11 Sue Entsminger is not available to call in today, she
12 is guiding some spring bear clients, but she did ask
13 that I read a comment on her behalf and so I will read
14 that now.

15

16 Sue writes: As a volunteer and the
17 Chair of the Eastern Interior RAC, I first want to let
18 you know that I do appreciate the work done by the
19 Federal Subsistence Board but I would like to take the
20 time to express some concerns.

21

22 I feel the need to express some serious
23 frustrations for how the vote on the deferred Fisheries
24 Proposal FP21-10 was handled during the April Board
25 meeting. The creation of this new fishery has been a
26 highly controversial topic and I really feel that the
27 Board should have delayed the vote on the proposal
28 until all Board members were present. In the absence
29 of Chair Christianson it gave the vote of agency Board
30 members more weight. Although I don't know how Chair
31 Christianson would have voted, there is the potential
32 that had he been present that FP21-10 might not have
33 passed. A controversial proposal such as this one,
34 having all Public Board Members present for the vote,
35 including the Chair, is extremely crucial to ensure
36 that representation on the Board is balanced. In the
37 future, I really hope the Board will take this into
38 consideration especially on controversial and divided
39 topics such as this one.

40

41 As you are well aware FP21-10 was
42 deferred by the Board and sent back to the Eastern
43 Interior and Southcentral Councils. After several
44 postponements of the joint meeting the meeting finally
45 took place by teleconference this past March. The
46 joint Councils were instructed that there would be no
47 new Staff analysis presented at the joint meeting. We
48 were instructed to take up the proposal as it was
49 presented at prior meetings. We were also told that no

50

0017

1 public comment was advertised for the joint meeting,
2 therefore, no additional public comment was given to
3 the joint Councils. In a situation like this the Board
4 should have instructed OSM to do more work to prepare
5 Council members for a possible different outcome. I
6 really don't understand how presenting the same exact
7 information and no new information could result in any
8 other outcome than the previous recommendations
9 provided by each Council.

10

11 The deferral was long enough that each
12 Council had a significant number of new members at the
13 joint meeting. I am very frustrated that we, as
14 volunteers, were not provided more information before
15 the joint meeting. The Board could have asked for the
16 Staff to do a working group to give options to the two
17 Councils. Without more work being done this is a tall
18 order for the two RACs to compromise.

19

20 I, personally, did a lot of work
21 calling many people I know from Cordova, including from
22 the Eyak Corporation, the Forest Service and the
23 proponents of this proposal. I have a long history of
24 going to Cordova since 1975. My family have been
25 traveling there and hunting deer and goats for many,
26 many years. We have become dear friends with many
27 people there. Through my ties with multi-generation
28 families I have learned that some of the information
29 presented to the Board by some people in regards to
30 FP21-10 was not totally correct. I believe this is the
31 kind of work that needs to be done by Staff.

32

33 When the Federal Board met to take up
34 FP21-10 last month, it was not advertised there would
35 be any public testimony for that meeting either but
36 with several Board members absent when FP21-10 was
37 taken up, including both the Chair and the Vice Chair,
38 Mr. Peltola was appointed to temporarily Chair the
39 meeting. He opened the meeting to public comments on
40 FP21-10. Our Council believes strongly in public
41 involvement but in this case there was no advertisement
42 before the meeting that there would be additional
43 public comment allowed to the Board. I have been
44 contacted by many folks who were very upset that they
45 did not know that public comment would be allowed. One
46 person told me they called in but was in the wrong
47 meeting room so they never had a chance to comment.
48 These teleconference meetings have put the State and
49 users that would like to comment in a big disadvantage.

50

0018

1 I don't feel this is right. I don't feel it is fair to
2 the people who may have wanted to comment. To, me, it
3 has the appearance of a black eye to the process. I
4 know the Federal Board has a tough job but in sensitive
5 situations like this one without an in-person meeting
6 more work needs to be done prior to the meeting. It's
7 vital the public knows there is an opportunity to
8 comment and in this case they did not know ahead of
9 time. I find this very frustrat -- very disturbing.

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

30

31

32

33

34

35

36

37

38

39

40

41

42

43

44

45

46

47

48

49

50

This also concerns me that this might e
a precedent setting case to just start a new fishery
that does not have the long-term customary and
traditional history behind it. The Eastern Interior
council opposed FP21-10 as did many people in the
Southcentral region including people in Cordova, but
the proposal was passed by the Board and now we are
faced with a special action to hurry and open the
fishery this year. For the life of me I don't
understand the big rush to open this fishery this year.
For something that's never been on the books before,
what is the rush? Why are we doing this special
action? Cordovans have ample opportunity to get fish.
It seems like it would be better to wait to open this
new fishery instead of opening it hastily.

I think all users have the right to
know how the other Board member would have voted by
taking this proposal up again. The proposal was too to
close (ph) to not involve the other board member.

In all due respect, I thank you for
listening and I do appreciate all that you do.

Mr. Chair and members of the Board,
that concludes the comment by Eastern Interior Chair.

Thank you.

CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Are there any
questions from Brooke from the Board, comments?

(No comments)

CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: And just, you
know, Brooke, from the Board Chair here, you know,
being able to miss and have my position held would be
something that, like I said, we need to bring up here
in policy and we can see, you know, moving forward how

0019

1 we might find a remedy for that and come up with a
2 solution that works for the public because I'm all
3 about the public. And, you know, these processes
4 moving forward, we try to provide as much public
5 testimony between the tribal and corporate
6 consultations as well as public testimony gathering
7 sessions, and the -- the public testimony at some of
8 these things becomes the discretion of the Chair and I
9 have a tendency to lean towards almost always providing
10 an opportunity for public testimony but it isn't a
11 policy that we have, or is it anything that we, you
12 know, entertain during this process, but just due to
13 the nature and sensitivity of some of these issues I
14 like to open the floor for those possibilities. And so
15 we know it causes confusion and we've had the internal
16 discussions about trying to create something that has a
17 more ready available public process that we all know
18 what's going to happen and when it goes and so we hear
19 your concerns in that arena. And I just want to thank
20 you for expressing those concerns today.

21

22 MS. MCDAVID: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I
23 will pass that on to the Eastern Interior Chair.

24

25 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Any other Board
26 comments or questions. Does that bring us to.....

27

28 MS. DETWILER: Mr. Chair, I think.....

29

30 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Sue.

31

32 MS. DETWILER: I'm sorry, I was just
33 going to -- I didn't want Mr. Encelewski to not have an
34 opportunity to speak on behalf of Southcentral Council
35 as well.

36

37 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: No, he has the
38 floor, thank you, Sue.

39

40 MS. DETWILER: Okay.

41

42 MR. ENCELEWSKI: Thank you, Mr.
43 Chairman, Anthony. This is Greg Encelewski, and I
44 really appreciate the chance to talk because this has
45 really turned into a real convoluted, political, highly
46 motivated, some disinformation, some -- some stuff that
47 has -- I've never seen it in all the time I've been on
48 the RAC.

49

50

1 I will, first of all, I want to
2 reiterate the Southcentral Regional Council, the last
3 time we met before our special joint meeting, we
4 supported this action. We did have plenty of public
5 comment. We had people come in -- as you know the RACs
6 take public comments, we took it very seriously, we
7 were in favor of providing a more meaningful
8 opportunity for the underserved that didn't have the
9 boats, the rest of it. It was highly taken into
10 consideration. We very carefully considered the up
11 river, down river, the fish up stream, the amount that
12 was going to be taken, it's such a minute percentage,
13 so, yes, we were in favor of it. There was a vote,
14 there was some opposed, but the Southcentral supported
15 it. We haven't met since then, they continue to
16 support it.

17
18 I will go on to say that with the
19 Eastern Interior and the Southcentral Council meeting,
20 Sue and I tried to work so hard to make this work, come
21 up with a compromise. I feel I was completely misled
22 on what was going on, they had special meetings, they
23 politicked our Board, they brought into our region,
24 there wa so much politics about this, it was
25 unbelievable and it turned pretty messy. There was --
26 I will agree with Sue, we had quite a turn over on the
27 Boards, and by the time we reviewed this joint session
28 we had four or five new members, some of them being
29 even the first time were called and were coerced in how
30 to vote. Even then, it was very slim and we had two
31 members that were absent that had wrote letters that
32 were in support of it so even that would have passed if
33 they were there.

34
35 So what I'm trying to say is the
36 Southcentral stands by their decision. We did have, do
37 and probably still have the same support.

38
39 I think that this turned into a bad
40 decision.

41
42 Sue and I had agreed and we thought
43 that we had come to a compromise that it should go back
44 to the Federal Board. I think you guys have done your
45 job, you passed an action on a deferral, there's no
46 reason in the world to defer it. It provides a
47 meaningful needed opportunity for those people.

48
49 On the Kenai I know we had hundreds of
50

0021

1 requests for reconsideration, they went on for years
2 and years. We still got a special action and we got to
3 fish until they were heard. And if it changes at that
4 time then, of course, it will be shut down and changed.

5
6 So I do know that the Federal Board
7 has, you know, in all fairness has tried to send it
8 back to the two Councils to work on, this is a very
9 polarized, very -- very -- hard decisions were made on
10 here. Some of the statements that were made today, I
11 would like to dispute but I'm not going to go there and
12 I'm not going to go into -- I think Sue's letter is --
13 a lot of it is personal there and some opinions,
14 they're so strongly heated, sometimes opposing opinions
15 get more time in public comment, they got more high
16 passionate testimony.

17
18 I do know that it provides a meaningful
19 use. I do know that it's not a conservation concern
20 from what we see at all. And so I want to be clear on
21 the record where the Southcentral RAC was, I tried to
22 stay within the FACA rules without losing my cool, this
23 thing really got heated, and we did a good job, we were
24 -- we treated it with respect but then everyone went
25 off on their own and did their own thing and politicked
26 and solicited people, that was totally out of the realm
27 of what we should be doing for our people in the
28 fisheries and I hate to see that divide and that bridge
29 made.

30
31 So I will gladly answer any questions
32 but I just felt I needed to talk to you and tell you
33 how I thought and how our RAC thought, and I'm standing
34 by for any questions.

35
36 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Thank you, Mr.
37 Encelewski for calling in. Always appreciate your
38 point of view and if there's any questions for the
39 Board from you -- for you, I open up the floor at this
40 time.

41
42 MR. ENCELEWSKI: Thank you.

43
44 (No comments)

45
46 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: All right,
47 hearing no questions thank you Mr. Encelewski, for
48 providing your testimony and the point of view from the
49 RAC there. It has been controversial so we'll just do
50

0022

1 our best here to come up with a plan.

2

3 So any other Board comments or
4 questions, if not, we'll move on back to the public
5 testimony. We do have somebody on the line.
6 Operator, at this time could you recognize the public
7 testifier online.

8

9 Thank you.

10

11 OPERATOR: Yes, sir. It comes from
12 John, your line is open, sir.

13

14 (No comments)

15

16 OPERATOR: John Hopkins, your line is
17 open, is your line muted?

18

19 (No comments)

20

21 OPERATOR: I'm getting no response from
22 him, sir.

23

24 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: We'll give him
25 one more second.

26

27 (Pause)

28

29 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Hearing none,
30 John, we'll just -- if he comes back on before we get
31 towards the end here we'll go ahead and recognize him.
32 At this time -- and I apologize about the beeping, my
33 brakes are going out on my car so -- so we'll go ahead
34 and move on to the next part of the agenda which I
35 believe is tribal consultation.

36

37 MR. LIND: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Board
38 members. My name is Orville Lind, Native Liaison for
39 the Office of Subsistence Management. We will begin
40 giving a summary on May 16th both tribal and ANCSA
41 consultations.

42

43 A tribal representative from the
44 village of Chickaloon stated that there should be a set
45 aside ruling for indigenous peoples above and beyond
46 what is now available. They are still competing with
47 other interests such as commercial, sport and personal
48 uses. The current management system doesn't conform
49 with UN policies for the indigenous peoples. He
50

0023

1 doesn't understand what the Lower Copper River
2 rule/rural (ph) really does for the indigenous groups
3 and that the indigenous Alaskans should be Federally-
4 qualified subsistence users regardless of any current
5 place of residence. And he stated also that this was a
6 -- was not a real consultation and regulation has
7 already gone into effect with the new ruling in
8 contrary -- is contrary to the UN policies and it
9 deprives indigenous groups of subsistence
10 opportunities. He did mention that one potlatch can
11 empty a whole freezer of fish and a potlatch requires a
12 lot of fish. They share salmon far and wide. These
13 sorts of tradition should be part of an equation
14 determining allowable subsistence take.

15
16 Another tribal resident from the
17 village of Kluti Kaah said that Fisheries Proposal 21-
18 10 will only result in less indigenous people getting
19 fish. By opening fisheries further down the river only
20 reduces the fish availability for the Ahtna people in
21 the Upper Copper River valley. He really doesn't want
22 to see anyone fishing -- anyone else fishing on the
23 river but the subsistence users, particularly down
24 stream from the Ahtna areas and especially where
25 fisheries have been opened a half a mile above and a
26 half a mile below the Copper River along the highway.
27 A lot more to it than just subsistence, it's culture,
28 sense of identity. They're losing more than just their
29 foods. Tribal governments care a lot about salmon,
30 there's a lot of issues in the region. He says that
31 they were really not properly informed of this meeting
32 or properly consulted, especially on Fisheries Proposal
33 21-10. Their potlatch freezers have been really empty
34 for about three years and it's embarrassing not to be
35 able to provide proper subsistence foods to their
36 communities.

37
38 Residents from the village of Tazlina
39 stated that they are fully opposed to Fisheries
40 Proposal 21-10 and the Federal -- or the Fisheries
41 Special Action 22-05. There have been low fish runs
42 recently and really not clear what the salmon runs will
43 be this year, this summer and Eyak and none of the
44 villages in the region are in favor of this special
45 action.

46
47 An Ahtna member stated that the salmon
48 counts are very low. And that they disagree with both
49 the fishery proposal and the fisheries special action.
50

0024

1 They don't know what the impact of this opening is
2 going to create. Allowing public comments to be
3 submitted after the cut off date was really unfair.
4 The impromptu vote which was taken by Southcentral
5 Regional Advisory Council was also not taken into
6 account. The Federal Subsistence Board voting process
7 was carried out inadequately. And an .804 analysis
8 needs to be done for all communities that might fall
9 under this opening. And in determining potential
10 impacts of opening this fishery, the new RAC members
11 were not allowed to get up to speed on this proposal
12 and did not allow for appropriate public comment at the
13 joint Eastern Interior, Southcentral RAC meetings. And
14 Covid, you know, has created problems with the
15 participation in RAC meetings and particularly public
16 participation, customary and traditional -- you know at
17 least one more -- one generation residents' customary
18 and traditional use determination shouldn't be allowed
19 to benefit Federal employees. Customary and
20 traditional use determinations shouldn't be given to
21 places, they should only be given to the local people
22 there. People of the Copper River have no other river
23 to go for for their salmon needs, it's just one river.

24

25

26 A resident from Kluti Kaah stated many
27 tribes in the Copper River oppose this fishery because
28 they have low fish populations already. The king
29 salmon run is poor and overall salmon health is bad.
30 Salmon are not as big as they used to be. There's not
31 enough tribal heads, or true tribal representatives
32 involved in these processes. Subsistence is decreasing
33 out -- and is losing to commercial and personal use,
34 not just using subsistence but an entire way of life.
35 Shouldn't be allowed to make any rules unless signed
36 off by the Secretary Haaland. The price of food and
37 gasoline in the Copper region is very high. Tribal
38 governments don't get any money from commercial,
39 tourists, fishing industries, et cetera. It's getting
40 very hard to live a subsistence lifestyle these days.

41

42 That concludes the tribal and ANCSA
43 consultations on May 16th.

44

45 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

46

47 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Thank you,
48 Orville, appreciate that. Operator, could you --
49 there's some Staff that can't reach the operator, can
50

0025

1 you direct public to address star, one, please. Star,
2 one. Thank you. And I'm just getting that message
3 from Staff so thank you Operator.

4
5 Thank you, Orville.

6
7 If there's any questions for Orville
8 from the Board, this is your opportunity to ask about
9 the consultation process, thank you.

10
11 MS. PITKA: Orville, this is Rhonda.

12
13 MR. LIND: Yes, go ahead, Rhonda.

14
15 MS. PITKA: So this was on the special
16 action request and there was also consultation
17 available on -- on the original request that went
18 through the meeting that was deferred, right, like
19 there was consultation offered in all those places, and
20 then also at the Regional Advisory Council meetings; is
21 that correct?

22
23 MR. LIND: Yes, I believe so.

24
25 MS. LAVINE: Public Member.....

26
27 MS. PITKA: Okay, thank.....

28
29 MS. LAVINE:Pitka, this is
30 Robbin.

31
32 MS. PITKA: Hi Robbin.

33
34 MS. LAVINE: Can I also add that there
35 were original tribal consultations on the proposal held
36 the summer that this proposal was submitted, I believe
37 that would have been the summer of 2020. There were
38 opportunities for public comment during the Council
39 meetings that fall. And then prior to and during the
40 Board meeting, at the beginning of the regulatory
41 meeting in 2021.

42
43 Thank you. Through the Chair.

44
45 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Any other
46 questions for Orville and the tribal consultation
47 process.

48
49 (No comments)

50

0026

1 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: All right,
2 hearing none, thank you. Thank you, Orville.

3
4 MR. LIND: Quyana.

5
6 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Thank you,
7 Robbin for that. We'll go ahead and move on now,
8 Alaska Department of Fish and Game, State Liaison.

9
10 MR. MULLIGAN: Good afternoon, Mr.
11 Chair. For the record this is Ben Mulligan at the
12 Alaska Department of Fish and Game. Officially the
13 Department is neutral on this proposal recognizing that
14 it is primarily an administrative action to put in an
15 effective date for the passing of FP21-10. As you guys
16 know we opposed the original one but given the nature
17 of this special action, like I said, we're neutral.
18 And we appreciate the notification for the RFR and we
19 look forward to commenting on it when it's available.

20
21 Thank you, sir.

22
23 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Thank you. Any
24 questions for the State, Ben Mulligan.

25
26 (No comments)

27
28 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: All right,
29 hearing none, we'll go ahead and move on and open up
30 the floor for Board deliberation, discussion.

31
32 MS. DETWILER: Mr. Chair, I think we
33 also want to get.....

34
35 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Oh, wait, I
36 jumped right over the ISC, right, sorry.

37
38 MS. DETWILER: Yes.

39
40 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: I'm getting
41 excited here, Sue, sorry. Yeah, I think this one's got
42 everybody on edge, so, yes, we'll go ahead and move on
43 to ISC recommendations.

44
45 Thank you.

46
47 MS. LAVINE: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
48 Members of the Council. This is Robbin LaVine,
49 Subsistence Policy Coordinator for the Office of
50

0027

1 Subsistence Management and also the InterAgency Staff
2 Committee Chair. I'm going to read you the InterAgency
3 Staff Committee recommendation. But before I do I
4 would like to address some of the technical challenges
5 we are having right now bef -- with our meeting
6 interface.

7

8 So I am aware that there are a number
9 of people who are attempting to provide public
10 testimony and I have lost contact with our Operator.
11 So I'm going to pause for a moment and ask if our
12 Operator is online and.....

13

14 OPERATOR: I'm here.

15

16 MS. LAVINE:listening to me now.

17

18 OPERATOR: I'm here.

19

20 MS. LAVINE: Ah, hello, it's good to
21 hear you. Operator, we do have a number of people who
22 I can see via meeting view attempting to join the cue
23 and provide further public testimony. And I know that
24 sometimes they drop off but in rural Alaska we have
25 challenging phone service so sometimes people have a
26 bad connection. Can you please remind the people who
27 are listening.....

28

29 OPERATOR: Yes.

30

31 MS. LAVINE:if they would like to
32 provide testimony, give them instructions, we will
33 wait, and if we can, allow, I think there are at least
34 two people who are trying to provide testimony, and
35 then after that I will then come back with our
36 InterAgency Staff Committee recommendation.

37

38 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

39

40 And Operator, please go ahead.

41

42 OPERATOR: That's star followed by one.
43 Please make sure your phone is unmuted and record your
44 name when prompted. Again, that is star, one to make a
45 comment. Thank you.

46

47 (Pause)

48

49 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Now, is this

50

0028

1 just an awkward pause or are we waiting for someone
2 online, this is the Chairman?

3

4 OPERATOR: Did you want to take the
5 public comments now?

6

7 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Yes, this would
8 be their.....

9

10 OPERATOR: Okay.

11

12 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON:time to
13 provide an opportunity, so, yes, open the lines.

14

15 OPERATOR: Okay, first one comes from
16 Michael. Thank you.

17

18 MR. MICKELSON: Hi, this is Michael
19 Mickelson in Cordova and can you hear me okay?

20

21 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Yes, Michael,
22 welcome, you have the floor.

23

24 MR. MICKELSON: Okay. So I would like
25 to kind of echo a lot of Karen Linnell's comments on --
26 on this process in terms of, you know, kind of what's
27 going on and also that to reiterate there's no
28 emergency here. We've never had this fishery. I'm a
29 lifelong resident, a subsistence user and a commercial
30 fisherman for the last few years and there's -- there's
31 a lot of opportunity here to get fish in salmon
32 fisheries as well as halibut and -- and other Federal
33 subsistence fisheries that people can participate in.
34 And there's some road system fisheries as well. So I'm
35 really not sure what is so pressing about this. And I
36 agree with the previous speakers that said that it's
37 been really difficult for people from this area to be
38 able to comment in these meetings. I've been trying to
39 comment for like a half an hour and I'm just getting
40 through and I know there's other people that just gave
41 up because they got other things they're trying to do.

42

43 So, yeah, I would just really encourage
44 you to, you know, look at the recommendations from --
45 from Ahtna and the Native Village of Eyak in regards to
46 this fishery so thank you for your time.

47

48 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Thank you for
49 calling in Mike. Any questions from the Board for him.

50

0029

1 (No comments)

2

3

CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: All right,
4 appreciate it. Operator, is there anybody else in the
5 cue who would like to be recognized at this time, this
6 is their opportunity. Thank you.

7

8

OPERATOR: Yes, sir. The next one
9 comes from Gloria, your line is open.

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

30

31

32

33

34

35

36

37

38

39

40

41

42

43

44

45

46

47

48

49

50

MS. STICKWAN: Hi. I've been trying to
testify and I haven't been able to. Thank you for
allowing me to talk. I just want to say that this
whole process has been confusing for the Southcentral
people sit on the Council and Eastern Interior, during
this second meeting that was held, which was a public
meeting. Members of Southcentral said it was confusing
to them because we were in a middle of a vote then we
heard that we could have deferred this proposal or take
-- took other actions and the Chair said he wouldn't
allow it since we were already on a vote and that
Eastern Interior had already voted and their vote was
no. And our understanding at that meeting was that we
weren't able to vote and then later on we were told you
can vote on recommendations, which we did, and the vote
was no. The Southcentral Council voted, no, they
opposed this, and they opposed it because of the public
testimony that was given. I think the fact that the
Native Village of Eyak voted against this, they are
Native people down there and they voted against it, and
then the Ahtna people voted against it and the people
on the Southcentral RAC and Eastern Interior who fish
in the Copper River voted against it. And our concern
was the low count of fish. There's a conservation
concern here. There is a forecast of -- maybe we'll
catch king salmon but that's a forecast -- you know,
they're saying that -- you know earlier they said we're
not going to meet our -- our king -- our escapement
goal for king salmon and now they're saying a forecast
that we are, but that's just a forecast, they don't --
they won't know until they -- the sonar count is done.

So because of those reasons and because
the Council -- both Councils, in their second meeting,
they came to a compromise, the compromise was no, both
said no. And my understanding of the Federal Board is
to take the deference -- the deference of the Councils
unless it's detrimental to subsistence users. I don't
-- I see this as a conservation concern for up river

0030

1 fisheries. We're not going to get our fish this year
2 again, most likely, it's a conservation concern for us.
3 Right now is not the time to be opening a fishery when
4 there's low counts of kings. We're going to have
5 restrictions because of the kings most likely, up
6 river, and that's a concern for all of us. I mean
7 that's our -- there is no reason for this Federal Board
8 to act on this today. Hearing the concern of
9 conservation concern, hearing the testimony of all
10 people that use fish on the Copper River say no.

11

12 And as -- as -- I differ with the
13 Chair's opinion that we voted -- that we are in support
14 of it, in the second meeting we said no and if that
15 wasn't a public meeting, I don't know what is a public
16 meeting. Why was the second meeting held if it wasn't
17 for public -- a decision to be made, which we did, it
18 was a decision made that -- compromise, and we did, we
19 came to a compromise which you guys -- which the
20 Federal Board asked us to do. The vote was no.

21

22 So I'm asking you guys listen to what
23 we're saying. Think about what we're doing and at
24 least, if you're not going to do that, take up that
25 reconsideration and that's all I'm asking you.

26

27 Thank you.

28

29 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Thank you,
30 Gloria. Any questions from the Board for Gloria.
31 Appreciate you taking the time to call in today, too,
32 Gloria.

33

34 (No comments)

35

36 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: All right,
37 Operator, at this time was there anybody else in the
38 cue who would like to be recognized for public
39 comments.

40

41 OPERATOR: Again, if you would like to
42 make a public comment that is star, one. Again, that
43 is star, one. At this time there are none. Again,
44 that is star, one if you would like to make a comment.

45

46 (Pause)

47

48 OPERATOR: There's one coming through,
49 please let me get their name.

50

0031

1 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: What'd you say,
2 Operator, there's one more coming through?

3
4 OPERATOR: Yes, sir, it comes from
5 Heath, your line is open, sir.

6
7 MR. KOCAN: Hi, can you hear me.

8
9 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Yes, Heath, you
10 have the floor. Thank you.

11
12 MR. KOCAN: Hi, thanks for letting me
13 talk today. Yeah, I just wanted to say I'm a resident
14 of Cordova Alaska and I'm in support of this special
15 action. Thank you.

16
17 REPORTER: What about his last name?

18
19 MR. KOCAN: Kocan, K-O-C-A-N.

20
21 REPORTER: Thank you.

22
23 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Any other
24 questions, comments. Thank you for taking the time to
25 call in today.

26
27 OPERATOR: There are none at this time,
28 sir.

29
30 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Thank you.
31 Appreciate all the public comment and we apologize if
32 we have had some issues with this. We know this
33 process doesn't bode well for all of the interactions
34 that we'd like to have and, you know, we just do our
35 best to get through each of these meetings and provide
36 as much opportunity for.....

37
38 OPERATOR: There's another one coming
39 through, sir.

40
41 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON:the public
42 and -- okay -- and all.....

43
44 OPERATOR: Would you like.....

45
46 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON:the users
47 to have the opportunity, that's why I'm probably
48 talking my breath off here to get opportunity for the
49 line to be opened up, I don't want to miss anybody.

50

0032

1 So, Operator, go ahead and open their
2 line, they have the floor.

3

4 OPERATOR: And it comes from Jim, your
5 line is open, sir.

6

7 MR. SIMON: Thank you. Thank you, Mr.
8 Chair and members of the Board. My name is Jim Simon.
9 I've spent most of my life living off of Copper River
10 salmon. I'm originally from Nelchina, Alaska.

11

12 And I wanted to just follow and say I
13 don't support action by the Board at this point in time
14 on this special action until the request for
15 reconsideration is analyzed and before you. I think
16 the points that Gloria Stickwan just made are important
17 given, you know, if you look at other rivers in the
18 state of Alaska and how they're managed, you know, and
19 they start to catch like chinook salmon in this Lower
20 Copper River area with this new fishery this summer
21 before the run can actually be properly assessed, you
22 know, you could end up, even though it may be not
23 thousands of chinook salmon in this new fishery, but it
24 could make the difference as to whether or not people
25 in the Upper Copper River district have any chance to
26 harvest subsistence uses of chinook salmon. And I
27 think that in the times of conservation for chinook
28 salmon that we're in that start rushing this, you know,
29 even the regulatory language has already had to be
30 edited because this is being rush and so I don't
31 support Federal Board action on this special action.

32

33 Thank you.

34

35 OPERATOR: I'm showing no further
36 comment.

37

38 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Thank you. Any
39 questions from the Board.

40

41 (No comments)

42

43 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: All right, I
44 appreciate you taking the time to call in today.
45 Operator, is there anybody else in the cue who would
46 like to be recognized at this time.

47

48 OPERATOR: I'm showing no further
49 comments. I'm sorry, we do have another one from
50

0033

1 Kathryn Martin, your line is now open.

2

3 MS. MARTIN: Good afternoon, thank you,
4 Mr. Chairman. Are you guys able to hear me?

5

6 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Yes, Kathryn,
7 you have the floor.

8

9 MS. MARTIN: I just wanted to say I
10 speak against this proposal and the Board even taking
11 any action today.

12

13 As far as the, I'd say my culture, and
14 my lifestyle, one of the things I've noticed, and I
15 come from Mentasta and fish at Batzulnetas, which is
16 the headwaters or the Copper River, when I was a little
17 girl, Fish Creek is one of the spawning creeks for the
18 salmon, the very first salmon that hits the Copper
19 River, as a little girl, maybe 10 to 12 years old, I
20 remember that creek being red, you couldn't even see
21 the bottom of it. Now, I'm 51 years old, I go to that
22 creek and you can't hardly see any salmon in there, you
23 see more of the ground during the spawning time.

24

25 And one of the things -- sorry -- I
26 feel like what's happening is that we're being
27 regulated out of our culture, we're being regulated out
28 of our way of life and the Federal Board really should
29 think about this proposal and how it's going to affect --
30 I might be one person up river but there's many of us
31 up there that depend on this fish and it's our way of
32 life. It's what we live on.

33

34 I want to say thank you for that.

35

36 OPERATOR: I'm showing no further
37 comments.

38

39 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: I want to thank
40 you for taking the time to call in today and give your
41 heartfelt testimony, is there any questions from the
42 Board.

43

44 (No comments)

45

46 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Operator, you
47 said there's no more in the cue.

48

49 OPERATOR: There's no more comments in

50

0034

1 the cue.

2

3 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: I'll go ahead
4 and turn it over to the ISC recommendation, thank you.

5

6 OPERATOR: I apologize, there is one
7 more, one moment.

8

9 (Pause)

10

11 OPERATOR: The next comment is from
12 Karen Linnell, your line is now open.

13

14 MS. LINNELL: Thank you. Mr. Chair,
15 just one more thing to add that wasn't in the 2020
16 analysis. At the December Board of Fish meeting we
17 were informed that the State management was going to
18 reduce the chinook escapement goal from 24,000 and
19 create a range of 21 to 31,000. I believe that they
20 reduced and created this range so that they could not
21 hit a stock of concern because they hadn't reached it
22 several years and one more year of not reaching it
23 would have put them into a stock of concern. And so I
24 just wanted you guys to be aware of that, that change.
25 And so it -- them making escapement goal this year
26 might be the difference of that 3,000 fish because they
27 lowered the lower bound. I think it's an important
28 fact that you guys should know before you make a
29 decision.

30

31 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

32

33 OPERATOR: I'm showing no further
34 comment.

35

36 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Thank you,
37 Karen, for calling in and giving us that fact, thank
38 you, appreciate it. Alrighty then we'll try the ISC,
39 ISC recommendation, you're on.

40

41 MS. LAVINE: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
42 Members of the Board. This is Robbin LaVine, the
43 InterAgency Committee Chair, Policy Coordinator for
44 OSM.

45

46 The InterAgency Staff Committee
47 supports Fisheries Temporary Special Action Request 22-
48 05 to implement Board action taken on this issue during
49 the April public meeting. Approval of this special
50

0035

1 action request will ensure Federally-qualified
2 subsistence users have the opportunity to participate
3 in this approved fishery in time for the 2022 fishing
4 season rather than wait until the Federal Register
5 publishes.

6
7 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

8
9 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Thank you,
10 Robbin. That opens up the floor for Board discussion
11 and deliberation.

12
13 MR. PELTOLA: Mr. Chair, BIA.

14
15 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: You have the
16 floor.

17
18 MR. PELTOLA: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I
19 have a question for Staff regarding process. So the
20 Board -- just so -- could you can tell me if I'm
21 correct in my assumption with process. So the Board
22 met, passed the proposal, with an initial start date of
23 June 1st, a special action request is required to
24 initiate the fishery because it would not have time
25 enough to publish for the regulation which was passed
26 at the earlier Board meeting, if that assumption is
27 correct then, if this special action proceeded -- or I
28 should say succeeded, then the fishery can proceed
29 starting June 1st; if this special action failed, then
30 the Program would revert back to the original timeline
31 with regard to publication in the CFRs for that reg to
32 take effect; is that correct?

33
34 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

35
36 MS. LAVINE: Mr. Chair, this is Robbin.

37
38 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: You have the
39 floor.

40
41 MS. LAVINE: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
42 Through the Chair. Board Member Peltola, that is
43 correct. If this does not pass then the regulations
44 will go into effect once the Federal Register
45 publishes, there is no certainty on when that will take
46 place.

47
48 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

49
50

0036

1 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Thank you. Any
2 other questions from the Board before we open the floor
3 for Board action.

4
5 (No comments)

6
7 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: The floor is
8 open for a motion.

9
10 MR. RISDAHL: Mr. Chair, this is Greg
11 Risdahl, acting for Dave Schmid from the U.S. Forest
12 Service. I'd like to make a motion to.....

13
14 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: You have the
15 floor.

16
17 MR. RISDAHL: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
18 I'd like to make a motion.....

19
20 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: You have the
21 floor.

22
23 MR. RISDAHL:to adopt FSA22-05 to
24 enact temporary regulations for Fisheries Proposal
25 FP21-10 until the Final Rule is published for the 2022
26 salmon fishing season scheduled to begin on June 1.

27
28 The Forest Service continues to support
29 the original Southcentral Alaska Subsistence Regional
30 Advisory Council recommendation to implement a salmon
31 subsistence dipnet fishery in the Lower Copper River
32 adjacent to the Copper River Highway with a harvest
33 limit of 15 salmon, other than pink salmon, for the
34 first two members of the household and 10 salmon for
35 additional household members, and an additional [sic]
36 harvest limit of five chinook salmon per household, as
37 well as the OSM modification to require a 48 hour
38 reporting period and additional modifications to
39 include fishing by dipnet or rod and reel only, to
40 delay the start of the season until June 1 and to
41 prohibit dipnetting from boats.

42
43 Following a second I will explain why I
44 intend to support my motion to adopt FSA22-05 to
45 implement the Southcentral RAC's recommendation, OSM's
46 modification and our additional modifications for FP21-
47 10.

48
49 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: The floor is
50

0037

1 open for a second.

2

3 MS. PITKA: I'm sorry, I didn't catch
4 that last part, can you please repeat.

5

6 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Yes, the maker
7 of the motion, could you repeat your motion, please,
8 thank you.

9

10 MR. RISDAHL: Yes, Mr. Chair. I move
11 to adopt FSA22-05 to enact temporary regulations for
12 Fisheries Proposal FP21-10 until the Final Rule is
13 published for the 2022 salmon fishing season scheduled
14 to begin on June 1.

15

16 The Forest Service continues to support
17 the original Southcentral Alaska Subsistence Regional
18 Advisory Council recommendation to implement a salmon
19 subsistence dipnet fishery in the Lower Copper River
20 adjacent to the Copper River Highway with a harvest
21 limit of 15 salmon, other than pink salmon, for the
22 first two members of the household and 10 salmon for
23 additional household members, and an annual [sic]
24 harvest limit of five chinook salmon per household, as
25 well as the OSM modification to require a 48 hour
26 reporting period and additional modifications to
27 include fishing by dipnet or rod and reel only, to
28 delay the start of the season until June 1 and to
29 prohibit dipnetting from boats.

30

31 Following a second I will explain why I
32 intend to support my motion to adopt FSA22-05 to
33 implement the Southcentral RAC's recommendation, OSM's
34 modification and our additional modifications for FP21-
35 10.

36

37 MS. PITKA: Thank you. This is Rhonda,
38 I'll second that motion.

39

40 MR. RISDAHL: Thank you, Ms. Pitka.
41 First of all, I want to start by saying that I fully
42 understand the concerns related to the establishment of
43 a new opportunity for Federally-qualified users to
44 harvest salmon in the Copper River when up river
45 residents have expressed challenges in harvesting their
46 subsistence salmon.

47

48 I also understand the issues that were
49 raised in support and in opposition. I want to
50

0038

1 clarify, however, that this special action submitted by
2 OSM is to allow the in-season manager the ability to
3 implement the dipnet fishery in time for qualified
4 rural residents to harvest salmon this season beginning
5 on June 1, 2022. This special action provides in-
6 season management authority to the Wrangell-St. Elias
7 National Park and Preserve superintendent and includes
8 safeguards for conservation concerns that could arise.
9 Through Board deliberation during the April Board
10 meeting several modifications were made to the original
11 proposal to address concerns expressed by Council
12 members and the public which we have noted in our
13 motion.

14
15 In addition, the Forest Service
16 enforcement personnel are prepared to patrol the road
17 corridor where the dipnet fishery will take place.

18
19 Finally, preliminary assessments
20 indicated that the potential impacts from this fishery
21 would be quite small while the benefits to many
22 residents of Cordova that have limited access to salmon
23 could be significant. Therefore, we feel it is
24 important to implement this fishery allowing Federally-
25 qualified subsistence users to benefit from the Board
26 action taken in April 2022 rather than waiting until
27 the regulation is published in the Federal Register.

28
29 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

30
31 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Thank you.
32 That opens up the floor for discussion, comments or
33 deliberation.

34
35 MS. PITKA: This is.....

36
37 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Call for the
38 question.

39
40 MS. PITKA:Rhonda.

41
42 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Rhonda, you
43 have the floor.

44
45 MS. PITKA: Yeah, earlier, I believe
46 Robbin mentioned that if there's a request for
47 reconsideration then we don't need to -- I didn't quite
48 catch the whole gist of that. Like if there's a
49 request for reconsideration on a proposal then we could
50

0039

1 still go forward with putting the -- putting the --
2 with putting this special action forward; was that
3 correct? I'm not sure if I quite heard that correctly.
4 I just wanted to make sure before I -- before I vote.

5

6 MS. LAVINE: Through the Chair, this is
7 Robbin. And, Public Member Pitka, you are correct.
8 The -- a request for reconsideration in process would
9 not prevent Board action on the special action and
10 would not postpone regulation from being implemented
11 once the Federal Register is published.

12

13 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

14

15 MS. PITKA: Okay. So that could not be
16 one of the reasons to oppose this special temporary
17 action; is that correct?

18

19 MS. LAVINE: That -- through the Chair,
20 this is Robbin. I believe you may make, you know, and
21 refer to that as a reason why you might oppose, but it
22 is not the -- a request for reconsideration in process
23 on its own would not prevent these actions from going
24 forward and would not prevent this -- the
25 implementation of these temporary regulations, and the
26 temporary delegation of authority letter and it
27 wouldn't prevent implementation of this fishery once
28 the Final Rule is published. That doesn't mean you
29 can't come up with your own reasons why you might
30 oppose and include the request for reconsideration as
31 one of those.

32

33 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

34

35 MS. PITKA: Thank you for that
36 clarification, I really appreciate it.

37

38 MR. PELTOLA: Mr. Chair, BIA.

39

40 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Yes, go ahead,
41 Gene, you have the floor.

42

43 MR. PELTOLA: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I
44 was wondering if I could get a bit of guidance from
45 legal Counsel on to the criteria which a Board member
46 has to address if the Board votes in opposition to a
47 take issue from a Regional Advisory Council.

48

49 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

50

0040

1 MR. LORD: Mr. Chair, if I'm
2 understanding the question. If the recommendation
3 involves the taking of fish and wildlife, in other
4 words not an administrative function, but it's the
5 taking of fish and wildlife, then the Board is
6 obligated to agree to that recommendation unless the --
7 unless it's not supported by substantial evidence, it
8 violates recognized principles of fish and wildlife
9 conservation or it would be detrimental to the
10 satisfaction of subsistence needs.

11
12 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Was that all
13 you needed Gene.

14
15 (No comments)

16
17 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Did that answer
18 your question, Gene, sorry, I didn't hear you?

19
20 (No comments)

21
22 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Hello?

23
24 MS. LAVINE: We can hear you Tony.

25
26 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Okay, it got
27 quiet there for a minute. So the floor is still open
28 for discussion or deliberation, so I was just checking,
29 any other questions, comments from the Board. We have
30 a motion to support the special action with a second.

31
32 (No comments)

33
34 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: All right,
35 hearing no more Board discussion, I'll just make a
36 statement.

37
38 I just want to, you know, before we do
39 vote, you know, just thank everyone in this one that it
40 is a tough one, it is right down the middle here and --
41 and, you know, providing for a rural priority in the
42 taking of fish and wildlife is the Board's parameters
43 and so as we look at this one it's kind of got us all
44 over the map and just hat's off to everybody, and the
45 users on the river, I just, you know, hope that the
46 opportunity is provided all summer so that you can meet
47 your needs and can continue to maintain the lifestyles
48 that we've all become accustomed to.

49
50

0041

1 So with that I'll call for the
2 question.

3
4 MS. PITKA: Question.

5
6 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Roll call, Sue,
7 thank you.

8
9 MS. DETWILER: Okay, this is Sue, and
10 I'll start with the maker of the motion.

11
12 Greg Risdahl, Forest Service.

13
14 MR. RISDAHL: I support my motion.

15
16 MS. DETWILER: Thank you.

17
18 Thomas Heinlein, BLM.

19
20 MR. HEINLEIN: BLM supports the motion.

21
22 MS. DETWILER: Thank you.

23
24 Sara Boario, Fish and Wildlife Service.

25
26 MS. BOARIO: Fish and Wildlife Service
27 supports.

28
29 MS. DETWILER: Thank you.

30
31 Sarah Creachbaum, Park -- National Park
32 Service.

33
34 MS. PATTON: Thank you, Mr. Chair and
35 members of the Board. This is Eva Patton, ISC member
36 to the National Park Service Federal Subsistence Board
37 Member Sarah Creachbaum. She just needed to leave for
38 an appointment now. And her vote is to support for the
39 reasons stated -- presented by the Forest Service's
40 motion.

41
42 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

43
44 MS. DETWILER: Thank you, Eva.

45
46 BIA, Gene Peltola.

47
48 (No comments)

49
50

0042

1 MS. DETWILER: Gene may have dropped
2 off.

3
4 I'll move on to Public Member Rhonda
5 Pitka.

6
7 MS. PITKA: Hi, I'm going to vote to
8 oppose this motion. There's considerable conservation
9 concerns on this river that were raised by both the
10 public and Council members. I think the preseason
11 estimates are fairly low. And also we do have a
12 request for reconsideration in process and we should
13 pause on this until that goes through, or doesn't.
14 But, you know, we should follow some sort of coherent
15 order.

16
17 Thank you, very much.

18
19 MS. DETWILER: Okay, thank you for
20 that.

21
22 Moving back to BIA, Gene Peltola, have
23 you joined us.

24
25 (No comments)

26
27 MS. DETWILER: Okay.

28
29 Chair Anthony Christianson.

30
31 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Yeah, I'm on
32 here and I'm going to -- yeah, this is a strong one to
33 consider because if there is such a strong conservation
34 concern and based on the things I'm hearing today with
35 thresholds being lowered, user groups on the river
36 being pitted against each other, upper and lower, you
37 know, and in my optics of it, there seems to be a lot
38 of other user groups that, you know, are in the system
39 and we know how sensitive the comments get when we
40 start to touch on those but in reality if we don't shed
41 light on, you know, the big picture here, and continue
42 to allow the user groups that we're supposed to
43 prioritize, pit themselves against each other, then
44 we're going to struggle to do our job continuously and
45 so if this is if -- in the case I'd like to raise this
46 up to, you know, an extremely high and alerted position
47 of a conservation concern on the Copper River, whatever
48 the action is today that we do take, if it's already
49 going to pass based on the decision but it seems to me
50

0043

1 that we need to take a really hard look at this really
2 soon and if that threshold is being lowered, and there
3 was some critical component to it that we do look into
4 the situation going on with the numbers and the
5 thresholds and if there is something of a critical
6 stock that was supposed to be made throughout this
7 process or under the State's management or the our
8 management, that we really take a look at that and
9 analyze what those facts, figures are so we can make
10 the best decision here, not based on the emotional
11 outpouring and who could do the best marketing out
12 there and who could drive home the best scenario and
13 what if's that there are, but that we use facts to base
14 our information on. And if there's a lot of fish in
15 there there shouldn't be a problem the rural
16 subsistence users an additional couple fish with a
17 dipnet to fish in that system if there's enough for
18 commercial and every other user group in the state to
19 enjoy that lifestyle and resource.

20

21 And so right now I'm going to vote no
22 on this proposal, I think we need more time on it. But
23 I want to be clear and articulate my point of view that
24 the Federal subsistence priority on the river needs to
25 be established sooner than later and that I'm just
26 going to oppose at this time.

27

28 Thank you.

29

30 MR. PELTOLA: Mr. Chair.....

31

32 MS. DETWILER: Okay.

33

34 MR. PELTOLA:BIA.

35

36 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Gene, you have
37 the floor.

38

39 MR. PELTOLA: Yeah, I just got back
40 online. I was dropped the question, so I apologize for
41 that.

42

43 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: We just voted,
44 Gene, you're the last one to vote on this.

45

46 MR. PELTOLA: Okay, thank you. I
47 wanted to provide a comment and then I'm going to cast
48 my vote.

49

50

0044

1 But, normally, I am a strong proponent
2 of process. The concerning words that I've heard today
3 were about the Program's lack of continuity or lack of
4 process with regard to public -- public speaking. I
5 just experienced a, you know, a dropped call at a
6 critical moment as a Board member so I don't think that
7 this technology is working for us. Although I'm going
8 to state the reasons for casting my vote.

9
10 And BIA votes to oppose in a sense that
11 it would be minimizing the opportunity for one party
12 over another and put preference on conservation along,
13 more salmon up river, therefore, potentially more fish
14 that might be available for harvest for up river
15 residents.

16
17 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

18
19 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Thank you,
20 Gene.

21
22 MS. DETWILER: Okay. Mr. Chair, this
23 is Sue. So with the voting completed now, the vote of
24 seven people -- seven Board members present was four in
25 support of the motion to adopt and three opposed to the
26 motion to adopt. So the motion is adopted.

27
28 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Thank you, Sue.
29 Thank you to the Board. Is there any other order of
30 business today, Sue.

31
32 MS. DETWILER: No, I think that's it.

33
34 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: All right, if
35 there's no other comments from the Board I want to
36 thank the Staff, all the Board members, and all the
37 people that called in to day to publicly testify to
38 share your point of view and I just wish everyone the
39 best fishing season this year and that everyone fills
40 their needs and gets out there and enjoys the spirit of
41 the land and just God Bless all of you, it's a hard job
42 to try to figure out how we're all going to meet our
43 needs and we just want to continue to do the best we
44 can for the public and just thank you again, and the
45 Staff, the Board members and all the people it takes
46 all throughout the process to get this -- these issues
47 before us as a Board so we can try to find solutions.

48
49 So thank you all and have a good day.

50

0045

1

(Off record)

2

3

(END OF PROCEEDINGS)

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

30

31

32

33

34

35

36

37

38

39

40

41

42

43

44

45

46

47

48

49

50

