

FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE BOARD

WORK SESSION MEETING

TELECONFERENCE - ALASKA
AUGUST 4, 2020

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Anthony Christianson, Chairman
Charlie Brower, Public Member
Rhonda Pitka, Public Member
Paul McKee, Bureau of Land Management
Greg Siekaniec, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Donald Striker, National Park Service
Gene Peltola, Bureau of Indian Affairs
Wayne Owen, U.S. Forest Service

Ken Lord, Solicitor's Office

Recorded and transcribed by:
Computer Matrix Court Reporters, LLC
135 Christensen Drive, Second Floor
Anchorage, AK 99501
907-243-0668; sahile@gci.net

1 P R O C E E D I N G S
2
3 (Teleconference - 8/4/2020)
4
5 (On record)
6
7 (Operator instructions)
8
9 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Thank you
10 Operator, appreciate that. And, again, like I said
11 welcome everybody. With that I'll turn it to Sue so
12 Sue can make sure that we have an established quorum
13 for the day before we get started and to see who else
14 we have on the call that's important for the meeting
15 today. So, go ahead, Sue, you have the floor.
16
17 MS. DETWILER: Yes, thank you, Mr.
18 Chair. We'll start out with the Board members.
19
20 BIA, Gene Peltola.
21
22 MR. PELTOLA: Roger. Roger. 10-4.
23
24 MS. DETWILER: Thank you.
25
26 BLM, Chris McKee in for Chad Padgett.
27
28 MR. MCKEE: I'm here.
29
30 MS. DETWILER: Thank you.
31
32 Park Service, Donald Striker.
33
34 MR. STRIKER: Good morning.
35
36 MS. DETWILER: Good morning.
37
38 Fish and Wildlife Service, Greg
39 Siekaniec.
40
41 MR. SIEKANIEC: Good morning, Sue, yes,
42 I'm here.
43
44 MS. DETWILER: Good morning.
45
46 Forest Service, Dave Schmid or Wayne
47 Owen.
48
49 MR. OWEN: Good morning, Sue. Wayne
50

1 Owen is here. Dave Schmid is out of the country.
2
3 MS. DETWILER: Okay, thank you, Wayne.
4
5 MR. OWEN: Thank you.
6
7 MS. DETWILER: Public Member Rhonda
8 Pitka.
9
10 MS. PITKA: Hi, I'm here.
11
12 MS. DETWILER: Thank you, Rhonda.
13
14 Public Member Charlie Brower.
15
16 MR. BROWER: (In Inupiat)
17
18 MS. DETWILER: Good morning.
19
20 Chair Anthony Christianson.
21
22 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Good morning,
23 everybody.
24
25 MS. DETWILER: Good morning.
26
27 I'll go around to some of the agency
28 folks now.
29
30 Department of Interior Solicitor's
31 Office, Ken Lord and/or Mike Gautier.
32
33 MR. LORD: Ken Lord's here.
34
35 MS. DETWILER: Thank you, Ken.
36
37 Jim Usheshefski, USDA, Office of
38 General Counsel.
39
40 (No comments)
41
42 MS. DETWILER: Do we have Steve
43 Wackowski, Department of Interior, Senior Advisor for
44 Alaska Affairs.
45
46 (No comments)
47
48 MS. DETWILER: Alaska Department of
49 Fish and Game, Ben Mulligan or Mark Burch.
50

1 (No comments)
2
3 MS. DETWILER: Okay. Moving on to the
4 Regional Advisory Councils.
5
6 Southeast Chair, Don Hernandez.
7
8 (No comments)
9
10 MS. DETWILER: Southcentral Chair, Greg
11 Encelewski.
12
13 (No comments)
14
15 MS. DETWILER: Kodiak/Aleutians, Della
16 Trumble.
17
18 (No comments)
19
20 MS. DETWILER: Oh, they actually may be
21 on -- in the -- not in the speaker's room, is there a
22 way to tell, Lisa Maas, if any of those -- any of the
23 Regional Advisory Council Chairs are on line but not
24 able to speak.
25
26 MS. MAAS: Yeah, thanks, Sue. This is
27 Lisa Maas for the record. And, yeah, I see Della
28 Trumble in the listen only mode, but the Operator just
29 opened her line and she's the only Chair I currently
30 see in the listen only mode, but, Della, your line
31 should be open right now.
32
33 MS. TRUMBLE: Yes, good morning, I'm
34 here.
35
36 MS. DETWILER: Thank you, Della. We're
37 just -- this is Sue Detwiler, we're just going through
38 -- we're just going through the agenda -- the roll call
39 here.
40
41 Let's see, Bristol Bay, Nanci Morris
42 Lyon, is Nanci on line?
43
44 (No comments)
45
46 MS. DETWILER: Yukon Kuskokwim Delta,
47 Alissa Rogers.
48
49 (No comments)
50

1 MS. DETWILER: Western Interior, Jack
2 Reakoff.
3
4 (No comments)
5
6 MS. DETWILER: Seward Peninsula, Louis
7 Green.
8
9 (No comments)
10
11 MS. DETWILER: Northwest Arctic, Mike
12 Kramer.
13
14 (No comments)
15
16 MS. DETWILER: Eastern Interior, Sue
17 Entsminger.
18
19 (No comments)
20
21 MS. DETWILER: North Slope, Gordon
22 Brower.
23
24 (No comments)
25
26 MS. DETWILER: Okay, well, some of
27 those folks may show up as the meeting progresses so
28 Lisa will keep an eye out for them.
29
30 So that is the roll call, and, Mr.
31 Chair, it looks like we do have a quorum. We have
32 eight out of eight Board members on line and I turn it
33 back to you.
34
35 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Thank you, Sue.
36
37 Well, thank you again, Sue, for that,
38 and I thank everyone again for calling in, good morning
39 and look forward to a productive work session here.
40
41 With that we will open the floor and
42 ask if any Board members have any additional changes
43 that they'd like to see to the agenda.
44
45 (No comments)
46
47 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Well, not
48 hearing an overwhelming response, we'll go ahead and
49 move on to open up the floor to make a motion.
50

1 MR. BROWER: I so move, Mr. Chair.

2

3 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: And once we
4 review and adopt the agenda we'll be able to vote on it
5 so.....

6

7 MR. BROWER: Mr. Chair, I so move.

8

9 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON:there's a
10 motion on the floor. There's a motion on the floor by
11 Charlie to accept the agenda as presented.

12

13 MR. SIEKANIEC: Second, Fish and
14 Wildlife Service.

15

16 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: A motion's been
17 made and seconded. Any discussion.

18

19 MR. BROWER: Yeah, Mr. Chair.

20

21 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Yes, go ahead,
22 Charlie.

23

24 MR. BROWER: Yeah, I'm trying to break
25 into these information and they ask for a pass -- and I
26 don't have a password, let me see, I need a password,
27 or maybe I'll find a way to break them in.

28

29 Thank you.

30

31 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Okay. Can one
32 of the Staff get a hold of Charlie and help him get
33 into his information.

34

35 Thank you.

36

37 MR. BROWER: Like this one, just for
38 information, Mr. Chair.

39

40 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Yes, go ahead,
41 Charlie.

42

43 MR. BROWER: ISC 2020 nomination
44 report, it says I have to have a password to open it so
45 if someone can text me the password so I can open it.

46

47 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Yeah, there is
48 a password for that. Yeah, I know which one you're
49 talking about Charlie, so can somebody send that to

50

1 him, Orville, I believe you have that one.
2
3 MR. LIND: Yep, I got it.
4
5 MR. BROWER: Yeah, on my phone.
6
7 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Okay.
8
9 MR. BROWER: Yeah, on my phone. Thank
10 you.
11
12 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Thank you.
13 Thank you.
14
15 MR. SIEKANIEC: Mr. Chair, this is
16 Greg.
17
18 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Yes, Greg.
19
20 MR. SIEKANIEC: Yeah, thank you, Mr.
21 Chair. So I see on our introductory information it
22 says that we -- the agenda will continue until
23 concluded. I have a 5:00 o'clock hard stop I need to
24 make so I would certainly like to make a recommendation
25 that we adjourn by 5:00 p.m., today.
26
27 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: I think we'll
28 be able to accommodate that, looking at the agenda I
29 don't see us not being able to finish the work load in
30 two days and so we'll respect your hard stop at 5:00
31 today.
32
33 MR. SIEKANIEC: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
34
35 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Yep.
36
37 Any other Board needs or comments or
38 questions.
39
40 MR. BROWER: Question on the motion.
41
42 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Question's been
43 called. Any opposition to the agenda as presented in
44 the motion, as presented.
45
46 (No opposition)
47
48 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Hearing no
49 opposition the motion carries unanimous so we'll adopt
50

1 the agenda.

2

3

4 So that will move us on to the
5 information exchange. This is a time where we open up
6 the floor for the Board to go ahead and discuss
7 anything that they'd like to share. And before we go
8 on, we just adopted the agenda and before I go on to
9 information exchange, Sue, I jumped over -- I was going
10 to have you just walk through the agenda so we know
11 what we have in front of us and what Staff can look, or
12 when they'll be coming up, and.....

13

14 (Teleconference interference -
15 participants not muted)

16

17 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON:executive
18 session stuff. And, so, Sue, did you just want to walk
19 us through what that agenda is that we did do and then
20 we'll move on to open the floor.

21

22 MS. DETWILER: Okay. Happy to do that
23 Mr. Chair.

24

25 So for the Board work session over
26 today and tomorrow the agenda consists of
27 administrative and informational items. No regulatory
28 decisions will be made. And so the items on that
29 agenda are:

30

31 Information exchange - Board Members.

32

33 Action on the Board's response to the
34 annual Regional Advisory Council reports.

35

36 Information on request for
37 reconsideration No. 15-01 regarding use of a community
38 gillnet in the Kenai River for Ninilchik residents.

39

40 Informational item which is an update
41 on Deferred Proposal 20- -- Wildlife Proposal 20-26
42 regarding use of snowmachines to position wolves and
43 wolverines for harvest on BLM lands in Units 9B, 9C,
44 17B and 17C.

45

46 An action item on proposed revisions to
47 the policy on closures to hunting, trapping and
48 fishing.

49

50 An action item on proposed

1 modifications to the policy on non-rural
2 determinations.

3

4 An action item on the National Park
5 Service request to the Board regarding individual
6 customary and traditional use determinations.

7

8 And, finally, an action on proposed
9 revisions to tribal consultation implementation
10 guidelines.

11

12 That is the work session. And the
13 Board, as you mentioned, is also scheduled to have an
14 executive session starting tomorrow at 1:00 p.m. The
15 Department of Interior's Senior Advisory -- or Senior
16 Advisor for Alaska Affairs, Steve Wackowski will be
17 present for a part of that meeting. The items for that
18 meeting are to take action on the Regional Advisory
19 Council nominations, that's a personnel action. And
20 then discuss delegated authority to Federal managers
21 and a clarification on budget review process.

22

23 So those are the agenda items for the
24 executive session and no regulatory decisions will be
25 made at that session.

26

27 So that is the summary of today's
28 public -- today and tomorrow's public meeting, and then
29 the scheduled executive meeting.

30

31 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

32

33 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Thank you, Sue,
34 appreciate that.

35

36 Again, right now offer and entertain
37 the floor open if there's any Board members have any
38 information they'd like to share or -- the floor is
39 open.

40

41 MR. PELTOLA: Mr. Chair, BIA.

42

43 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Hi, Gene, you
44 got it.

45

46 MR. PELTOLA: Good morning, Tony. It's
47 not necessarily informational sharing but I was
48 wondering if we could get an update of where the
49 Program is at with regard to Ahtna's framework and the

50

1 community harvest. And I'm not necessarily looking for
2 anything elaborate but just where we're currently at
3 with the process.

4
5 MS. MAAS: Yeah, Mr. Chair.

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

9
10 MS. MAAS: Thanks. Through the Chair,
11 Lisa Maas, the Acting Policy Coordinator at OSM and I
12 can respond to Member Peltola's question.

13
14 So the Ahtna or AITRC, Ahtna
15 InterTribal Resource Commission framework was developed
16 and reviewed by a number of OSM Staff and Park Service
17 and BLM Staff and submitted to the Board for approval
18 but as part of that review the Solicitor's Office also
19 reviewed that framework and had some edits. Most of
20 them were just editorial clarifying intent and some
21 language for consistency, but the main sticking point
22 was a conflict with 50 CFR 100.26(e)(2) which had to do
23 with harvest limits. And while the intent of that
24 regulatory text is not really accurately identified in
25 -- the way it currently reads, though, plain language
26 interpretation is that any harvest limit that's -- you
27 know, anything that's harvested under that community
28 harvest system counts against the harvest limit of
29 community members, whether or not they participate in
30 that community harvest system, and it does provide an
31 exception that could be made in unit-specific
32 regulations, and so to correct that OSM has submitted a
33 special action request to create that exception so that
34 then once the Board approves that special action, then
35 that framework can be implemented.

36
37 And so we have also -- so that special
38 action request has been submitted, it's out for review
39 and hopefully should get to the Board as soon as
40 possible, and so then once they approve that special
41 action they can approve the framework, which also there
42 were some edits, like I said that came up from the
43 Solicitor's Office and those edits and revisions were
44 sent to AITRC yesterday for review and so, hopefully,
45 we can come to another agreement with AITRC on
46 finalizing that framework, getting that special action
47 approved and then the framework, you know, will be
48 finalized and ready to be implemented.

49
50

1 And so hopefully that answers your
2 question on the status of the AITRC framework.

3
4 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

5
6 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Thank you for
7 that update, Lisa.

8
9 Any other Board members.

10
11 MS. PITKA: Hi, this is Rhonda Pitka.

12
13 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Hello, Rhonda,
14 how you doing, you have the floor.

15
16 MS. PITKA: I'm okay. Fishing this
17 summer on the Yukon River was a disaster. In my area
18 on the Upper Yukon, we didn't even catch a third of our
19 normal harvest. At the beginning of the season the
20 managers were telling us, you know, to catch half of
21 our normal harvest so that we can conserve so we were
22 all okay with that. But we barely got to one-third of
23 our normal harvest this year. The water was high, the
24 weather was bad and there were no fish in the river.
25 And that's starting to be reflected in the numbers at
26 Eagle Sonar. The cumulative numbers as of yesterday
27 were 22,400, so that means that there -- it's not
28 looking like there's going to be enough for escapement
29 for spawning on the Yukon River, which, it's -- it's a
30 disaster. It was so bad this year.

31
32 So when we have these disastrous
33 fishing summers, and we're being refused our emergency
34 actions for emergency hunts, it's just another slap in
35 the face, when, you know, we should be being guaranteed
36 our subsistence priority.

37
38 Thank you.

39
40 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Thank you for
41 that Rhonda. It's always valuable to have that insight
42 from on the ground. Again, we're struggling down here
43 in Southeast, too, having basically a failure in
44 sockeye returns right now in all the lower Southeast, I
45 haven't even put my net in the water and it's almost
46 mid-August so I feel your pain there. So thank you for
47 that Rhonda.

48
49 Any other Board who would like to share

50

1 information, public sharing.

2

3 MR. OWEN: Forest Service.

4

5 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Go ahead,
6 Wayne, you have the floor.

7

8 MR. OWEN: Thank you, Mr. Chair. The
9 Forest Service is proud to announce that our local
10 research station has recently hired a social scientist
11 with whom I've been engaged in conversation, she's very
12 much looking forward to working in subsistence related
13 to issues. In fact I'm going to be supplementing her
14 first season with that and continuing some of the other
15 great subsistence related research that the Forest
16 Service has done over the years and so we're very
17 grateful for -- well, I want to get her name correct,
18 Hailey Wilmer is her name. So welcome to her.

19

20 Also an update, the Forest Service
21 Subsistence Program Leader, Tom Whitford, retired this
22 spring. We are deep in the process of refilling behind
23 him. We expect maybe this week, maybe next week the
24 advertisement for that job to come out. You know it
25 was advertised government-wide so look forward to that.
26 Of course, the Forest Service will distribute it to the
27 other agencies when -- when we get that out and on the
28 street for applicant.

29

30 Thank you.

31

32 That's the update from the Forest
33 Service.

34

35 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Thank you,
36 Wayne.

37

38 MR. SIEKANIEC: Mr. Chair, Fish and
39 Wildlife Service.

40

41 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Yes, Greg.
42 Good morning, you have the floor.

43

44 MR. SIEKANIEC: Good morning and thank
45 you, Tony.

46

47 So yeah there's a few items here I'd
48 bring up. We often hear that how important it is for
49 us to be able to fill Refuge managers and I do want to

50

1 let folks know that Izembek National Wildlife Refuge,
2 Maria (Indiscernible) recently joined us and has moved
3 to Cold Bay. She comes with experience in kind of the
4 mid-central area of the Lower 48 but is very excited
5 and pleased to be able to join our Staff out there in
6 Cold Bay.

7
8 The Yukon Delta National Wildlife
9 Refuge has a new Refuge manager, Floyd Lahote (ph). He
10 has joined us just recently with him and his family,
11 two children, so they have moved to the Bethel area and
12 are very, again, excited and anxious to be learning and
13 working in the Yukon Delta area.

14
15 Koyukuk, Nowitna, Innoko, Bob Rebarchik
16 is the new Refuge Manager there. Bob is actually not
17 new but he was reassigned from the Deputy Refuge
18 Manager to the Refuge Manager and has been there for
19 quite some time so he's an experienced manager here in
20 Alaska with over 12 years now.

21
22 And, of course, many of you know, that
23 Kenton Moos has moved from the Galena area down to
24 Togiak National Wildlife Refuge and is now selected as
25 the manager for Togiak.

26
27 And Jeff Anderson, who many of you
28 know, who has been our fisheries resource specialist on
29 the Kenai River and working with Ninilchik and their
30 subsistence fishery has moved to Oregon to work for the
31 Bureau of Land Management, and Ken Gates is in an
32 acting capacity there now until we can get that
33 position filled.

34
35 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

36
37 If there are any questions around that
38 I certainly would entertain them, but just a short
39 update there.

40
41 Thank you.

42
43 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Thank you for
44 that Greg. Any questions.

45
46 (No comments)

47
48 MR. PELTOLA: Tony, BIA.

49
50

1 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: You've got the
2 floor.

3
4 MR. PELTOLA: Thank you, Mr. Chair. So
5 I just want to followup just a little bit on Rhonda's
6 comment about the status of the Yukon run.

7
8 The runs in Western Alaska also, you
9 know, were not only reduced on the Yukon but the
10 Kuskokwim as well. Here the recent chinook run was
11 the third worst run on record. The chum run and the
12 sockeye run were the worst on record. And that is with
13 reduced escapement goals from historical highs in years
14 past. So, I think, as a Board, we missed the target in
15 our last special action on the Kuskokwim. And it is
16 affecting not only the Yukon, but also the Kuskokwim
17 region as well.

18
19 I just wanted to pass that on.

20
21 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

22
23 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Thank you,
24 Gene. All right, any other Board members who would
25 like to share information, have anything they would
26 like to offer, the floor is still open.

27
28
29 (No comments)

30
31 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: As of today we
32 have 750 sockeye by our weir so if you guys want to
33 hear what a collapse sounds like, 750 sockeye is
34 supposed to feed 400 of us. But the fortunate thing is
35 we have community buy in here and only one person has
36 fished this summer and got 30 fish and so we have a
37 pretty good community volunteer program going on here
38 and so really fortunate, you know, OSM and the funding
39 that we've put in place over the years has paid off and
40 that, you know, being able to educate the community on
41 what the run is and the timing and what the returns
42 are, has been instrumental in allowing us to protect
43 these sensitive stocks when they're having a hard time,
44 you know, the work priority of biologists, Fish and
45 Game, there and keeping the lines back commercially to
46 try to make sure there's no interception, has been a
47 positive one as well and so just want to put that out
48 there. Appreciate those connections that we've made
49 over the years and being able to have, you know, local

50

1 impact that has a lasting effect, hopefully, on getting
2 some spawning population of sockeye into the river.

3
4 And so, yeah, definitely a low fish
5 year and, again, Rhonda, back to what you said, you
6 know, as we consider looking forward at this pandemic
7 and food security issues, what level of criteria we
8 have to add into these deals as we look at moving
9 forward.

10
11 So, thank you.

12
13 Again, the floor is open.

14
15 MR. BROWER: Mr. Chair, just a
16 question.

17
18 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Go ahead.

19
20 MR. BROWER: Yeah, good morning
21 everyone. This is Charles. On that food security
22 issue, there was some issues with the Care Act, with
23 the coronavirus, there was some misunderstanding, or is
24 there something being done about that issue?

25
26 (Pause)

27
28 MR. BROWER: You know for food shortage
29 and stuff, there were -- in some cases, there was a
30 discrepancy between the Care food security and the
31 hunting.

32
33 (Pause)

34
35 MR. BROWER: Anyone know what I'm
36 talking about?

37
38 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Yeah, Charlie's
39 got a question for Staff there, could you repeat that,
40 Charlie, I think they missed it?

41
42 MS. DETWILER: Well, this is Sue
43 Detwiler and I do know that the InterAgency Staff
44 Committee has asked by the Board to come up with some
45 additional guidance on how to address the request --
46 the special action requests that come in from
47 communities who are requesting additional seasons or
48 harvest as a result of the Covid or pandemic-related
49 food shortages and so there was some discussion among

50

1 the Board members and Steve Wackowski at the Department
2 of Interior, and -- requesting some additional work to
3 come up with some additional guidance for the Board at
4 -- as well as the delegated Federal managers to -- to
5 better under -- to get additional -- to reconcile some
6 of those differences, recognizing that there's
7 differences among some of the agencies in, you know,
8 what a food security issue is, and so kind of taking a
9 look at what some of the existing guidance is and then
10 helping the Board determine how to apply that guidance
11 that already exists for food security issues to the --
12 to Title VIII, the food security -- or public safety
13 provisions under Title VIII. So that is an issue that
14 the InterAgency Staff Committee is discussing now to
15 come up with some guidance on how to further reconcile
16 those differences.

17
18 MR. BROWER: Okay, thank you. But once
19 you get some information we'll be notified on what the
20 actions are?

21
22 Thank you.

23
24 MS. DETWILER: Yes.

25
26 MR. BROWER: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

27
28 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Thank you,
29 Charlie.

30
31 The floor's still open for the Board.

32
33 (No comments)

34
35 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: All right, if
36 that concludes the Board's information sharing, thank
37 you guys for that.

38
39 That moves us on from information
40 exchange to annual report replies, and we'll call on
41 Katya Wessels for that to provide the summary and
42 presentation on the annual report replies.

43
44 MS. WESSELS: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
45 Can you hear me okay?

46
47 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Loud and clear,
48 Katya.

49
50

1 MS. WESSELS: Thank you. Good morning,
2 Mr. Chair, Members of the Board. For the record my
3 name is Katya Wessels. I am a Council Coordinator with
4 the Office of Subsistence Management.

5
6 Last year I was an acting Council
7 Coordination Division Chief so I presented the annual
8 report replies to this Board and I've been asked to do
9 it again this year. So today I will be presenting to
10 you a synopsis of the Councils' annual reports and the
11 Board replies to these annual reports.

12
13 I would like to remind this Board that
14 the Subsistence Regional Advisory Councils' authority
15 to submit annual reports originates in Section .805 of
16 ANILCA, Title VIII. It states that a Regional Advisory
17 Council in each subsistence resource region shall have
18 an authority to prepare an annual report to the
19 Secretary, which shall contain.....

20
21 1. Identification of current and
22 anticipated subsistence issues of fish and wildlife
23 populations within the region.

24
25 2. Evaluation of current and
26 anticipated subsistence needs for fish and wildlife
27 populations within the region.

28
29 3. A recommended strategy for the
30 management of fish and wildlife populations within the
31 region to accommodate subsistence users and needs.

32
33 4. A recommendation concerning
34 policies, standards, guidelines and regulations to
35 implement this strategy.

36
37 So this opportunity to give an annual
38 report to the Secretary were modified by Secretarial
39 regulations to be a report to the Board, to this Board.

40
41 I would like to remind this Board that
42 the annual reports are not obligatory for the Regional
43 Advisory Councils to submit. Rather, the Councils have
44 an option to submit this report. However, this past
45 fiscal year all Councils had issues of concern that
46 they wanted to share with the Board, and all Councils
47 chose to submit their reports, which is great, since it
48 gives the Councils an avenue to share concerns with the
49 Board that cannot be addressed through the regular

50

1 regulatory process.

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

And I would like to say that, you know, through my presentation if any of the Board members have any questions about any of the items feel free to interrupt me and ask the question.

So development of annual reports encompasses a lot of subject matter, and I'm going to talk about some of those subjects in a little bit, but first I would like to provide a quick overview, particularly, for the benefit of our new Board members on how the annual report reply process works.

Are our annual reports are a fiscal year annual report. And the reports and replies to these reports that you have in front of you in your books, and those replies are on Page 1, they are prepared from the previous year, 2019, so at the fall 2019 meetings, the Councils were asked to identify issues of concern they would like to include in their annual reports, with that input the OSM Staff wrote draft annual reports for each Council that the Councils then reviewed during their winter 2020 meeting cycle. After annual reports were finalized during winter 2020 meetings, OSM Staff in collaboration with other agency Staff drafted the replies to the issues outlined in the annual reports. Then all this was collated and reviewed by OSM leadership team and then by the InterAgency Staff Committee.

And at this point I would like to acknowledge the incredible amount of work that went into preparation of these replies. Pretty much every division at OSM contributed to drafting the replies. The timing was challenging for us this year because the Councils winter 2020 meetings needed to be rescheduled to later in the year, some of them were rescheduled twice, therefore the final reports were late. OSM Staff who were working on these also were developing proposal analysis for the fisheries cycle. In the preparation of some of the replies we worked closely with the Forest Service, BLM, NPS and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Staff, as well as we received information to compile in the replies from non-DOI or USDA agencies. ISC committee members played a crucial role in developing and editing the replies. Their contribution is invaluable in developing substantive replies from the Board to the Councils. And I would

1 like to thank all the ISC members for their
2 contribution to developing a final draft version of the
3 replies that you have in front of you. And every year
4 we do replies, I think we put out a much better and
5 better project. Of course there is always room for
6 improvement. But I want to recognize that there's a
7 lot of incredible work that went into the development
8 of these annual report replies. And I would like to
9 thank all the Staff for the work that they did and I
10 would think the Board appreciates that as well.

11

12 So what you have in front of you are
13 the final draft versions of the Board replies to the
14 Councils' annual reports, and they're before you for
15 your review and approval.

16

17 So my intent is to provide a short
18 review of issues brought up by the Councils in their
19 reports and subsequently provide an overview of the
20 replies.

21

22 And for your visual aid I provided you
23 with a synopsis that shows the Regional Advisory
24 Councils' annual reports duplicative issues. So that's
25 what the supplemental that can also be found on our
26 website under the Board meeting materials. There is a
27 table and the table identifies the issues and concerns
28 that were raised by more than one Council, that comes
29 up fairly often, therefore, this table can serve as an
30 indicator of a potential bigger, or overarching issues
31 that can be of importance to more than one region.

32

33 As you can see the first one in this
34 table is climate change. And it has been on the minds
35 of the Councils for quite a few years now. Within the
36 last five years nine of the 10 Regional Advisory
37 Councils have raised this issue in their report. In
38 their FY19 annual reports, six Councils; Southcentral,
39 Bristol Bay, YKDelta, Seward Peninsula, Eastern
40 Interior, and North Slope raised the issue of the
41 effect of climate change on the environment and
42 subsistence resources. For example, the Southcentral
43 Council talks about necessity to monitor impacts of
44 heat and the resulting increased water temperatures on
45 fish mortality and increase in the types and numbers of
46 parasites, their impact on wildlife populations. The
47 Bristol Bay Council is concerned about how climate
48 change affects the environment of the finfish and
49 wildlife population and requests assessing the

50

1 influence of climate change on spawning beds and marine
2 water environment. The Eastern Interior Council
3 requests documentation of, and more information on
4 climate change and historical comparison of climate
5 change trends.

6
7 So these kind of requests lead into the
8 next duplicative issue, and this is the most popular,
9 the most often brought up issue that was on seven out
10 of 10 Councils' annual reports this year, and that is a
11 request for data and research. The Councils very often
12 want to have the best information and research results
13 available to them because they want to prepare to have
14 an informed discussion and make decisions based on
15 that. OSM gets a lot of requests from the Councils on
16 the research that needs to be done and we always get a
17 lot of requests for data.

18
19 Many times -- a lot of times topics
20 related to climate change are interwoven with the
21 request for data or research as the Bristol Bay Council
22 would like to see collaboration of local agencies to
23 conduct baseline studies on how climate change has
24 affected Mulchatna caribou and moose populations. This
25 year Bristol Bay Council had more than one topic
26 requesting research. They additionally requested an
27 investigation to develop survey or study methods on
28 invasive species in their region and requested that
29 Federal and State managers begin investigating why the
30 sockeye salmon are returning in low numbers.
31 Kodiak/Aleutian Council repeated their request for
32 annual survey of Adak Island Caribou. Seward Peninsula
33 Council requested researchers collect data on toxins in
34 the environment in the Seward Peninsula region and
35 alert locals of any dangerous chemicals found in their
36 food sources. Northwest Arctic Council requested
37 information on the evaluation of current and
38 anticipated subsistence needs for fish and wildlife
39 within the region and project area, including but not
40 limited to moose and sheep.

41
42 For the last several years, a number of
43 the Councils include topics related to the fisheries
44 research monitoring program, FRMP. And this year it
45 was four Councils that included these topics on their
46 annual report. The Southcentral Council would like to
47 see project proposals for Copper River coho salmon to
48 be submitted to FRMP. The Eastern Interior Council
49 requests funding for small projects in the Fisheries

50

1 Resource Monitoring Program and requests to include
2 environmental monitoring component into FRMP. The
3 North Slope Council seeks to work with FRMP to address
4 critical subsistence fisheries research needs in the
5 North Slope region. The Kodiak/Aleutians is requesting
6 to maintain FRMP full funding and evaluation of the
7 FRMP project selection process.

8
9 I need to note that the Councils very
10 often have questions regarding the FRMP selection
11 process because they don't have a very good
12 understanding of it, which naturally brings us to
13 another overarching issue brought up by four Councils
14 involving youth into the Federal Subsistence Management
15 Program and educating them as well as educating the
16 older Council members to have better understanding of
17 the Federal Subsistence Management Program, and to be
18 able to be effective contributors and members of the
19 Council. Our Councils are always eager to serve the
20 communities they represent to the best extent possible
21 and therefore ask for additional opportunities to learn
22 about the aspects of the Federal Subsistence Management
23 Program and the Councils' roles and responsibilities.
24 Both Kodiak/Aleutian and Eastern Interior Councils are
25 seeking educational opportunities for Council members
26 and the benefits of 2016 All Council meeting held in
27 Anchorage. The Northwest Arctic Council requests
28 support for the development of a youth education
29 program, provide training for greater participation in
30 the subsistence Regional Advisory Councils and the
31 Federal regulatory process.

32
33 Over the last few years many Councils
34 were reminiscing about the great success of the All
35 Council meeting that was a comprehensive meeting, all
36 Councils together that took place during the winter of
37 2016 in Anchorage. This All Council meeting provided
38 to be very educational, eye opening and empowering for
39 every Council member involved and OSM received a lot of
40 positive feedback. Since then we've received many
41 requests from various Councils to hold another All
42 Council meeting, which allows wide sharing of regional
43 issues and ideas, collaboration across the board and
44 in-depth educational and training opportunities.

45
46 Then another duplicative issue brought
47 out by several Councils, which is quite important for
48 the Councils; Southcentral, Kodiak/Aleutians, Bristol
49 Bay and Eastern Interior are requesting to form working
50

1 group or subcommittees to address various issues in
2 their region. For example, Southcentral region, they
3 have a recurring issue related to hunting moose and
4 caribou on Federal public lands in Unit 13, they want
5 to address these issues. Kodiak/Aleutian Council wants
6 to form a working group to begin a dialogue with
7 impacted communities and user groups and to look for
8 alternative ways to manage the growing population of
9 sea otters. Bristol Bay wants to form a working group
10 involving stakeholders to help inform management about
11 the Mulchatna Caribou Herd. The YKDelta and Western
12 Interior Councils expressed interest in a similar
13 working group as well. The Eastern Interior requests
14 to form a subcommittee to work on Arctic Village Sheep
15 Management Area issues.

16
17 Another duplicative issue brought up by
18 several issues is higher than usual number of vacancies
19 on the Councils, delayed Council appointments or the
20 lack of the appointments to fill the vacant seats and
21 concerns over the executive order on evaluation and
22 improving the utility of the FACA committees. Besides
23 being concerned of the issues mentioned above, the
24 Kodiak/Aleutians requests clarification on how the
25 alternate appointment process will work to fill
26 vacancies on the Council. The Southcentral Council
27 specifically requests that this Board sends a letter to
28 the Secretaries of Interior and Agriculture regarding
29 these Council concerns about the loss of vital
30 presentation on the Councils across all subsistence
31 regions.

32
33 And another very similar overarching
34 issue for many Councils is balance, geographic, and age
35 membership balance of the RACs. For example, the
36 YKDelta Council talks about the importance of
37 appointing more of the Yukon River and coastal
38 representatives for balanced membership on the Council
39 because the region is very vast and issues are
40 different for different areas in the region. The
41 Eastern Interior Council requests geographical
42 membership balance because for quite a few years they
43 didn't have representatives from Arctic Village,
44 Chalkyitsik, Venetie on the Council. And the Eastern
45 Interior also would like to see more younger members on
46 the Council. The North Slope feels that it is
47 important to have representatives from each of the
48 eight villages in the North Slope region.

49
50

1 Yet, another important to several
2 Councils, is receiving agency and tribal reports in
3 ample time prior to the Council meetings to be able to
4 read and review provided materials.

5
6 So these are the -- there are several
7 duplicative issues brought up by the Councils but I
8 also want to bring to the attention of this Board to a
9 couple of single issues important to specific Councils.

10
11 For, example, the Southeast Council
12 brings up some issues related to correspondence review
13 by OSM. The Council would like to see the Board direct
14 OSM to streamline the correspondence process so that
15 all correspondence is processed within one week. The
16 Council would also like to see parameters regarding
17 oversight be established so that an exorbitant amount
18 of time is not spent rewriting letters unnecessarily.
19 The Council would like to see the OSM review process of
20 correspondence more formally outlined. The Council
21 would like to see a revised program correspondence
22 policy incorporating strategic and realistic steps and
23 accountability within the coming year.

24
25 Then another specific issue for a
26 Council is that -- for the Bristol Bay Council, the
27 Bristol Bay Council brought up an issue of conflicting
28 specific agency regulations with ANILCA in regards to
29 the Board's vote on the wildlife proposal WP18-24 that
30 requested that Federally-qualified subsistence users to
31 be allowed to use a snowmachine to position caribou,
32 wolves, and wolverines for harvest in Unit 17 provided
33 the animals are not shot from a moving vehicle.
34 Multiple existing Federal agency regulations are in
35 conflict as stated by the Board regarding subsistence
36 hunting of caribou, wolves and wolverines, the Council
37 seeks an explanation and reasoning behind how the Board
38 votes and how it makes the decision when existing
39 Federal regulations conflict with ANILCA.

40
41 So those are just two examples of
42 specific issues for separate Councils.

43
44 So now if you don't have any questions
45 about the issues that were brought up by the Councils I
46 would like to provide you with a short overview of the
47 responses that were developed on behalf of the Board to
48 the issues brought up in the Councils' annual reports.

49
50

1 First of all.....
2
3 MR. BROWER: Mr. Chair.
4
5 MS. WESSELS: Yes.
6
7 MR. BROWER: Mr. Chair.
8
9 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Yes, go ahead,
10 Charlie.
11
12 MR. BROWER: Okay, thank you. Katya,
13 thank you for the report, the question I have is all
14 these requests and information wanted by the Regional
15 Advisory Councils to analyze the species of hunting, to
16 see the data to work around with the scientists or the
17 agency, is there a time lapse on those or where -- is
18 it too much of a hassle to provide them information as
19 they request, I think in the long run, it's just my
20 concern that if you help them at their annual meeting
21 to provide all these information at their requests,
22 won't it be easier, just a thought.
23
24 Thank you.
25
26 Thank you, Mr. Chair.
27
28 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Thank you for
29 that Charlie.
30
31 MS. WESSELS: Mr. Chair.
32
33 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Go ahead, you
34 have it.
35
36 MS. WESSELS: So I want to respond to
37 what Charlie just said -- Mr. Brower said. You know,
38 I'm going to -- Mr. Brower, I'm going to provide what
39 was developed for the Board as their replies to these
40 concerns in regards to where the Councils can obtain
41 the information that they're requesting on the research
42 and data and also the Board's reply on the efforts that
43 will be put forward to make sure that this information
44 is provided to the Councils in ample time for them to
45 review it prior to the meetings. So I'm going to
46 address that now in the overview of the Board's replies
47 if I may.
48
49 MR. BROWER: Thank you.
50

1 MS. WESSELS: So first of all I would
2 like to say that we endeavor to provide specific
3 substantive responses rather than standard agency
4 canned responses. We really want to give the Councils
5 good information in the replies from the Board. And
6 even if it is, in many cases, an issue outside of this
7 Board's jurisdiction, we want to make sure that we
8 provide the Council with the tools, information or
9 options to address the issue that is of concern to
10 them.

11
12 For example, many Councils are
13 concerned with climate change and in its reply the
14 Board advises the Councils to invite the specific
15 representatives from academics, governmental and non-
16 governmental organizations to speak on the climate
17 adaptation models and other climate change research.
18 And, of course, the Council coordinators can help
19 locating and inviting those specialists. Also in its
20 reply, the Board provides information on the latest
21 research conducted in the area of interest by the Board
22 member's agency. In one of its replies, the Board
23 encourages cooperating land management agencies to
24 develop investigative plans that examine how recent
25 changes in the environment affect fish and wildlife
26 populations. It was also suggested that if another All
27 Council meeting is conducted, that the topic of climate
28 change and its effect on subsistence practices can be
29 possibly elevated as a key issue. When the Councils
30 are requesting research to be done or information to be
31 provided, the Board replies quite similar, some of the
32 research can be conducted through identifying priority
33 information needs for the Fisheries Resource Monitoring
34 Program, FRMP, although it only applies to subsistence
35 issues. If the Board cannot sponsor the research
36 directly it might advise to go through its Federal
37 partners, NPS, U.S. Fish and Wildlife, BLM, NOAA, et
38 cetera. Land management agencies already have direct
39 responsibility as well as specific programs to address
40 these issues.

41
42 There are some topics that have to do
43 with the Fisheries Resource Monitoring Program project
44 selection, process of funding and replies provide a
45 detailed explanation on how selected projects are
46 evaluated and ranking criteria. When one of the
47 Councils was concerned that smaller projects are being
48 overlooked in favor of large scale projects it was
49 shared with the Council in their reply that in, 2016,
50

1 because of the increasing cost of high end proposals,
2 the FRMP instituted a funding limit for projects of
3 \$215,000 (ph) per year and this limit is still in
4 place. It was also shared with the Councils that the
5 FRMP does support monitoring of environmental
6 parameters like water temperature, river flows, et
7 cetera, so many of the sonar and weir projects provide
8 this information. The Councils often desire to have
9 the representatives of the FRMP Technical Review
10 Committee but it was explained in the replies that
11 conflicting requirements from the Federal Advisory
12 Committee Act, and contracting rules and the non-agency
13 participation on the TRC review process, however, the
14 Council members can still be active participants in the
15 FRMP process through development of priority
16 information needs for their region.

17
18 The Board and OSM is always seeking to
19 engage and educate youth and provide diverse
20 educational opportunities to the seated Council
21 members. Although within last years it was
22 increasingly difficult to provide these opportunities,
23 OSM still plans to provide possible training on line,
24 already OSM does have several existing informational
25 videos geared towards the public which may also be of
26 interest to new Council members. The videos that we
27 have on line on the Federal Subsistence Management
28 Program website, they cover four different topics and
29 the four topics are; becoming involved in a Regional
30 Advisory Councils, submitting a proposal, submitting a
31 special action request, submitting a cultural
32 educational permit. So all four of these videos are
33 available on our website.

34
35 The Board agrees that it would be
36 beneficial to have another All Council meeting and
37 inform the Councils that it might be possible to hold
38 the meeting during the winter of 2022 meeting cycle,
39 but the final decision, of course, depends on OSM
40 Staffing at that moment and funding availability.

41
42 Another important group of topics that
43 the Board addresses in the replies is forming a working
44 group or a subcommittee. In some situations the
45 Councils already form informal working groups but want
46 to formalize them. According to the regulations
47 membership on a working group formed by a Council is
48 limited to the Council members only and any working
49 group suggestions will need to be presented to the

50

1 Council for official recommendation making. Another
2 option available to a Council is a formation of a
3 formal subcommittee which allows membership to be
4 expanded to include beside the Council members, for
5 example, public representatives, tribal and/or agencies
6 Federal representatives, there are no restrictions on
7 who can become a member. The Federal Advisory
8 Committee Act designated Federal officer is required to
9 attend the meeting of a subcommittee. So it would be
10 one of the Council coordinators attending the meeting
11 of a subcommittee. So a little bit more work for the
12 Council coordinators, however, before making a request
13 to form a subcommittee the Board urges the Council to
14 reach out to stakeholders who might be interested in
15 participating in the subcommittee and to gage their
16 interest and potential level of commitment. And if the
17 Council decides that they want to form a subcommittee,
18 the Board recommends that an official request for a
19 formation of a FACA subcommittee to address a specific
20 issue or some specific issue is developed. So that
21 request would be submitted to the Board and the Board
22 would address these requests at one of its meetings.
23 So since several Councils potentially want to form a
24 subcommittee, they would need to develop this request
25 if they choose to form a subcommittee.

26
27 Alternatively the Council members may
28 participate in a working group formed by other agencies
29 or entities, there are no restrictions of that, that's
30 what the Board advises in their reply.

31
32 And in the replies the Board also
33 addresses Councils concerns regarding vacancies and the
34 executive order on FACA committees. So that executive
35 order of FACA committees, it was issued on June 14th,
36 2019, last year, and the full title of it is the
37 Executive Order on Evaluating and Improving the Utility
38 of Federal Advisory Committees. It was specifically
39 looking at all Federal government advisory committees
40 across the nation, with a goal of reviewing current
41 advisory committees and limiting the establishment of
42 new advisory committees and the Board says that to its
43 knowledge the Executive Order did not intend, or was
44 directed to decrease the number of seats of the Federal
45 Subsistence Regional Advisory Councils in Alaska. It
46 was also pointed out in the replies that the Board
47 currently has no intent or reason to reduce the number
48 of membership seats on any of the Councils and it was
49 noted that in 1992 Record of Decision for subsistence
50

1 management for Federal public lands in Alaska, it was
2 stipulated that the number of members on the Council
3 will be determined by the Board and will vary from
4 region to region depending on the number and
5 distribution of subsistence users in the region, the
6 variety of subsistence resources used and the nature
7 and extent of management issues. The size of the
8 Councils was developed from discussions with the
9 regional leaders, former State Council Chairs, State
10 coordinators and Federal personnel, that was in the
11 beginning, and now the charters signed by the Secretary
12 of Interior establishes Council sizes.

13
14 The replies also describe the details
15 of the appointment process. The ISC asked me to bring
16 to the attention of this Board, a statement on Page 18
17 of your meeting materials book, in the first paragraph.
18 The statement in the Board's reply to the Southcentral
19 Council, the report says, the Board will consider the
20 Council's request to write a letter to the Secretaries
21 of Interior and Agriculture about the Council's
22 concern. If the Board doesn't consider it necessary to
23 write a letter to the Secretaries regarding these
24 concerns, that some Council seats were not filled
25 during the 2019 round of appointments, then this
26 sentence should be deleted from the reply. So I would
27 like the Board to let me know if they would like me to
28 remove this sentence from the reply.

29
30 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Any Board
31 members have any thoughts on that for Katya as far as
32 that letter, to include that statement or not, any food
33 for thought?

34
35 (No comments)

36
37 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: I guess we'll
38 go with your discretion there, Katya, since we got no
39 feedback.

40
41 MS. WESSELS: Okay. Well, the Board
42 members still have until the vote to -- you know, if
43 they have any other thoughts later during this
44 discussion then you can provide your thoughts a little
45 bit later.

46
47 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Okay, thank
48 you.

49
50

1 MS. WESSELS: I'll just -- yeah, I'm
2 going to continue then with the rest of my presentation
3 but I'm almost finished.

4
5 So for the Councils that were concerned
6 about the geographic balanced membership, the
7 recommendations provided by the Board was to increase
8 the outreach for efforts to ensure the recruitment of a
9 balanced and diverse pool of applicants and nominees
10 and for this Board in order to provide recommendations
11 to the Secretaries, to fill all the vacancies and
12 forward a full set of the appointment recommendations
13 to the Secretaries of Interior and Agriculture, the
14 Board needs to have an ample number of applications
15 and/or nominations. Additionally, during the next
16 biennial charter review that will happen in 2021, the
17 Board recommends that Councils that are concerned about
18 their geographic membership balance can, if they
19 choose, submit a request to add geographic membership
20 balance language to the Council charters. This was
21 already done and the Board recommended this change and
22 the Secretaries approved this change -- not change, but
23 this language for two Councils, Kodiak/Aleutians and
24 Western Interior region. For Kodiak/Aleutians the
25 membership balance language was added in 2015 and for
26 the Western Interior the membership balance language
27 was added in 2019.

28
29 So as for the Councils concern
30 regarding timely receipt of the agency reports, this
31 Board advises that it recognizes the importance of the
32 Councils receiving these reports in advance of the
33 meeting to allow the Council members to read and
34 process the information. And the Board, through OSM,
35 will continue to reiterate the importance of this
36 request to the agencies and tribes and send out the
37 call for the reports 90 days prior to the -- I'm sorry,
38 not 90 days, 60 days prior to the Council meetings.

39
40 And I also wanted to point out the
41 specific reply to the issue brought up by the Bristol
42 Bay Council, which I talked about earlier, about the
43 conflicting specific agency regulations that are
44 conflicting with ANILCA and this Board advises that it
45 took up this issue of conflicting regulations during
46 its April 2020 meeting and at that meeting, and at many
47 before, there was extensive tribal and public testimony
48 that was concerned about how decisions are made when
49 agency specific regulations are in conflict with

50

1 ANILCA. After considering possible options, the Board
2 concluded that it would ask the Secretary of the
3 Interior to provide a policy on resolving issues when
4 laws are in conflict. Currently, several Board
5 members, BLM, Fish and Wildlife, NPS are raising this
6 issue with the Secretary's representative and you can
7 see that reply on Page 46 of your meeting materials
8 book.

9
10 MR. PELTOLA: Mr. Chair, BIA.

11
12 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Yes, go ahead,
13 Gene, you have the floor.

14
15 MS. WESSELS: Yes.

16
17 MR. PELTOLA: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I
18 recall from that meeting that was not the only option
19 that the Board had required for, that was a mention
20 after the fact. We also requested a position from the
21 Alaska Solicitor's Office.

22
23 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

24
25 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Thank you,
26 Gene.

27
28 Katya.

29
30 MS. WESSELS: Okay, thank you, Gene.

31
32 So I guess I have a question then, Mr.
33 Peltola, should I then consult with the Solicitor and
34 add something to this reply?

35
36 MR. PELTOLA: Mr. Chair, if I may.
37 Yeah, Katya, I would such that we get the verbiage
38 correct. I just wanted to be clear that that was not
39 the -- the option that you mentioned was not the only
40 option presented forth by the Board.

41
42 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

43
44 MS. WESSELS: Thank you. Okay, so I
45 also -- that leads me to the second table that I
46 provided you that also can be found on our website and
47 the table is titled; Keeping Track of Fiscal Year 2019
48 Annual Report Reply. A lot of the times annual report
49 replies make a lot of representations, you, the Board,
50

1 telling these Councils that we'll provide you with
2 these resources, we'll make this happen, we'll do this
3 or that, so this table will help us, OSM, to keep track
4 of what was in these replies, what was promised and to
5 make sure that we followup on behalf of the Board.

6
7 So in this table you could see that
8 there is just maybe one or two items we'll need to
9 refer to the Secretaries and there are a few items that
10 we'll need to refer to other agencies. I broke the
11 followup items by the Council and you can see what
12 issue they're related to and what we will do, the
13 Board's promises and a lot of these things, directing
14 Staff, encouraging followup, encouraging monitoring of
15 a particular issue, like organizing of the possible new
16 Council member training in Anchorage, you know, in
17 January of next year and that can be like -- like the
18 followup can be done directly by OSM.

19
20 So this concludes my brief overview of
21 the replies that will be provided to the Councils and,
22 again, they were developed with substantial involvement
23 from the InterAgency Staff Committee members and
24 InterAgency Staff Committee members reviewed these
25 replies.

26
27 And in conclusion I would like to say
28 to the Board that at this moment if you have any
29 suggestions for any changes we still can change the
30 language in these replies until you vote and approve
31 them, and if you would like to ask me any specific
32 things about any of the replies, please ask, and if you
33 want to insert any new language in the replies, now is
34 the time to make the suggestion of the proposed changes
35 and discuss them.

36
37 This is all I have, thank you, Mr.
38 Chair.

39
40 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Thank you,
41 Katya. Any other questions or comments in relation to
42 the replies.

43
44 (No comments)

45
46 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: All right,
47 well, thank you Katya for that.

48
49 MS. PITKA: This is Rhonda.

50

1 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Rhonda, go
2 ahead, yes, Rhonda you have the floor.

3
4 MS. PITKA: So I noticed in some of
5 your replies it said we were going to continue active
6 efforts to recruit. So can you detail some of those
7 active efforts?

8
9 MS. WESSELS: Yes, thank you, Rhonda,
10 for this question. Well, each year we begin the
11 outreach -- okay, I'll start from the beginning.

12
13 Each year in September we issue the
14 call for applications and nominations to serve on the
15 Councils. This call for application nominations is
16 usually open from September until middle to end of
17 February. So we begin with issuing this call for
18 nominations so that's like a news release that goes
19 out. And that would begin the -- over all these months
20 we have a big outreach campaign, we put advertisements
21 in the newspapers in the region looking for new Council
22 members, new applications. We have repeated
23 advertisements on the radio. So we have ads in the
24 newspapers, advertisements on the radio. Then we send
25 letters specifically to the communities and to the
26 tribal entities looking for new Council membership
27 applications. Also Council coordinators do an outreach
28 effort in their region besides just sending the letters
29 out, they usually try to call their region contacts and
30 so one on one conversations, recruit potential
31 applicants to serve on the Councils.

32
33 The issue that we've encountered, you
34 know, within the last two years, again, because of the
35 shortage of Staff at OSM, we were really running short
36 on time, you know, to really contact the one on one
37 outreach in a more effective manner. Because it's very
38 important, the -- I believe that the radio and
39 newspaper ads are very important but at the same time
40 one on one conversations are even more important in
41 order to recruit potential applicants to serve on the
42 Councils.

43
44 So that's kind of in a nutshell the
45 extent of our outreach campaign to recruit new Council
46 members.

47
48 MS. PITKA: Thank you, Katya. I
49 noticed in some of our materials it was saying that we

50

1 had difficulty recruiting in certain areas and do you
2 think it could be because -- it says that we've had an
3 insufficient number of applications, do you think that
4 that is because it's taken so long for appointments to
5 go through, that people lose interest, or is there some
6 other reason going on?

7

8 Thank you.

9

10 MS. WESSELS: Thank you for this
11 question, Rhonda, it's a good question. Of course it
12 will be speculation on my part, I think to some degree
13 it might play a role when a certain individual like
14 applies to serve on the Council and they maybe apply
15 one, two years and they don't get appointed or they
16 wait for so long for an appointment, they might get
17 discouraged from applying again. That's quite
18 possible. I guess it depends on an individual case. I
19 think in some areas we do not have sufficient number of
20 applications because the outreach efforts need to be
21 stepped up and in order to be able to step up these
22 outreach efforts, we basically need -- have sufficient
23 Staff at OSM to be able to do that, so Council
24 coordinators can dedicate more time and the subsistence
25 outreach coordinator can dedicate more time to these
26 efforts.

27

28 MR. LIND: Mr. Chair, if I may add on
29 to that.

30

31 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Yes, you have
32 the floor.

33

34 MR. LIND: Good morning everyone,
35 Orville Lind, Native Liaison for OSM. I'd just add on
36 to what Katya said and to fill in to Rhonda's concern,
37 a question is also that we are really trying extra
38 efforts in OSM to get the information out to folks out
39 in rural Alaska and one way we were doing that, we were
40 utilizing the Refuge Information Technicians that are
41 out there in the different regions. All the efforts we
42 made in the last couple years I think one of the
43 problems we ran into was, of course, the people that
44 were applying and the ones that ranked high did not get
45 appointed for some reason and so there was a problem
46 arised, saying why didn't I get reelected, or why
47 didn't I make the cert and that type of deal, and there
48 was a lot of frustration there which really showed that
49 these people were discouraged and didn't apply again.

50

1 And so now we've got a new effort in the last year to
2 really get the word out and understanding how important
3 it is to be on the Regional Advisory Council and we've
4 gotten some replies, and I think here in the near
5 future we may have a great turnaround, I'm hoping that
6 folks are going to get involved, especially with the
7 effects of this pandemic, food security, and the
8 passion for their resources out there.

9

10 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

11

12 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Thank you,
13 Orville. Any questions for Orville.

14

15 MS. WESSELS: Mr. Chair.

16

17 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Yes, go ahead.

18

19 MS. WESSELS: I also would like to add
20 that holding meetings in the rural communities really
21 help Council coordination to recruit more new members
22 from those communities. Because when we come to a
23 remote community and have a meeting there then members
24 of the community can attend these meetings that allows
25 them to get more familiar with the Federal Subsistence
26 Management Program. So that's very helpful when we
27 hold the meetings in the non-hub communities in the
28 region. And also another thing that can help with
29 recruiting additional members is to expand the
30 education to the communities about the Federal
31 Subsistence Management Program because in many cases
32 the people do not really understand what the Federal
33 Subsistence Management Program is doing and there were
34 some efforts done by Orville, for example, who went
35 into the rural communities and provided the
36 information, like in the Chignik area for example, what
37 is the Federal Subsistence Management, and what's it
38 doing and how it can benefit the people that live in
39 the rural communities, that kind of education is very
40 important in order for the members of the rural
41 communities to apply to serve on the Councils.

42

43 Thank you.

44

45 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Thank you,
46 Katya. Any other Board discussion or conversation or
47 questions pertaining to the reply.

48

49 (No comments)

50

1 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: All right,
2 hearing no more questions or comments I truly
3 appreciate the Staff's effort they put into this and
4 the additional outreach effort that go into making sure
5 that people can get access to the Federal program and
6 get educated on what it is that the Program can
7 actually do in helping our rural residents meet their
8 food needs in the subsistence program arena, so I
9 definitely thank the Staff and all the outreach efforts
10 that go into it. And, you know, we have meetings and
11 it seems like, you know, the attendance in them and the
12 interest in, at least at meetings and the substance of
13 what it is we're meeting about has increased, my
14 involvement over the time, so good job to the Staff for
15 at least getting the issues out and getting the
16 feedback that we have been able to get from the public
17 on some of these very, very, very touchy subjects, you
18 know, when we're talking about food security in Alaska,
19 and it's getting sensitive, and so definitely
20 appreciate that.

21
22 I'm going to call for a five minute
23 break before we move on to the next so please don't
24 hang up, just need to go.....

25
26 MS. WESSELS: Mr. Chair.

27
28 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Yes, Katya.

29
30 MS. WESSELS: Mr. Chair, I'm sorry, the
31 Board needs to vote on the annual report replies in
32 order to approve them.

33
34 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Okay.

35
36 MR. BROWER: Mr. Chair, just a
37 question.

38
39 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Yes, go ahead,
40 Charlie.

41
42 MR. BROWER: Are we allowed to approve
43 in the executive session or the work session on these
44 issues or do they have to be at a regular meeting, just
45 curiosity, if not, I would make a motion to approve as
46 presented.

47
48 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Yes, we can
49 make a motion and the floor is open, Charlie. So the
50

1 floor is open for a motion, motion has been made to
2 accept the annual report replies as stated by the Staff
3 and.....

4

5 MR. OWEN: Second.

6

7 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: It's been
8 seconded. And now the floor is open for Board
9 discussion on the annual reply. All right, it sounds
10 like we've.....

11

12 MS. PITKA: This is Rhonda. I'd like
13 to thank Katya for her in-depth answers, and her
14 ability to put out information that is not a canned
15 response to these subjects, and thank you for your
16 answers to my questions, I really appreciate that.

17

18 MS. WESSELS: Thank you, Rhonda.

19

20 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Yes, thank you,
21 Rhonda, as well, for recognizing that. Any other Board
22 members have any comments.

23

24 MR. BROWER: Okay, just one more.

25

26 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Go ahead.

27

28 MR. BROWER: Just one more question,

29

30 Mr. Chair.

31

32 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Go ahead,

33

34 Charlie.
35 MR. BROWER: And I appreciate, you
36 know, the investigators that do the research on these
37 species would work closely with whoever, I know it
38 takes time to complete a report, but the investigators
39 should be able to come in every three or four months or
40 so to make a report on their request so they can get a
41 better understanding.

41

42 Thank you.

43

44 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Thank you,

45

46 Charlie.

47

48 Any other Board discussion, comments,

49

50 deliberation.

1 (No comments)
2
3 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: The motion on
4 the floor is to accept the annual report replies as is.
5
6 MR. BROWER: Question.
7
8 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Question's been
9 called. Sue, you want to do roll call on this one,
10 please.
11
12 MS. DETWILER: Yes. National Park
13 Service, Don Striker.
14
15 MR. STRIKER: I support the motion and,
16 again, I really thank you, Katya, for the very, very
17 thorough analysis, 138-plus pages, wow, thank you.
18
19 MS. WESSELS: Thank you, Mr. Striker.
20
21 MS. DETWILER: Thank you.
22
23 BLM, Chris McKee.
24
25 MR. MCKEE: I vote to approve.
26
27 MS. DETWILER: Thank you.
28
29 Fish and Wildlife Service, Greg
30 Siekaniec.
31
32 MR. SIEKANIEC: Thank you, Sue. I vote
33 to approve and also extend thanks to Katya for the
34 amount of work that has been put in to providing these
35 responses.
36
37 MS. WESSELS: Thank you, Mr. Siekaniec.
38
39 MS. DETWILER: Thank you.
40
41 Forest Service, Wayne Owen.
42
43 MR. OWEN: The Forest Service supports
44 the motion and also would like to thank Katya and the
45 rest of the Staff for the overwhelming amount of work
46 that they've done this year and in past years on this
47 topic.
48
49 Thank you.
50

1 MS. WESSELS: Thank you, Mr. Owen.
2
3 MS. DETWILER: Thank you.
4
5 BIA, Gene Peltola.
6
7 MR. PELTOLA: Approve.
8
9 MS. DETWILER: Thank you.
10
11 Public Member Rhonda Pitka.
12
13 MS. PITKA: Support. Thank you.
14
15 MS. DETWILER: Thank you.
16
17 Public Member Charlie Brower.
18
19 (No comments)
20
21 MS. DETWILER: Public Member Charlie
22 Brower, is your phone muted?
23
24 MR. BROWER: Yes, it is.
25
26 MS. DETWILER: Okay. And how do you
27 vote on this motion -- on your motion?
28
29 MR. BROWER: Oh, I voted -- I support
30 it, I wanted to thank Katya for all of the hard work,
31 and the Staff on these reports.
32
33 Thank you.
34
35 MS. WESSELS: Thank you, Member Brower.
36
37 MS. DETWILER: Thank you.
38
39 And, finally, Chair Christianson.
40
41 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: I support.
42
43 MS. DETWILER: Thank you. Motion
44 passes unanimously.
45
46 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: All right,
47 thank you guys for that. What is next on the agenda, I
48 don't have my agenda here right before me, I'm sorry,
49 I'm in another room.
50

1 MS. DETWILER: You were asking what's
2 next on the agenda, Mr. Chair?
3
4 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Yes.
5
6 MS. DETWILER: It's an informational
7 item, request for reconsideration 15-01 regarding use
8 of a community gillnet in the Kenai River for Ninilchik
9 residents. It's an update.
10
11 MR. BROWER: Mr. Chair, are we taking a
12 five minute break before the next item.
13
14 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Yeah, gee,
15 sorry, I had my phone muted, I was literally talking
16 away to you guys. Yes, let's take a break. Thank you,
17 Sue, for that. So let's take a five, 10 minute break,
18 please don't hang up, stay on the line, mute it, and
19 we'll get some coffee, use the bathroom and come back
20 at 10 to.
21
22 (Off record)
23
24 (On record)
25
26 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: All right,
27 everybody for coming back after the break.
28
29 MS. DETWILER: Mr. Chair, would you
30 like me to do a roll call to make sure we have a
31 quorum?
32
33 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Yes, please,
34 just make sure, yes, the Board members are here.
35
36 MS. DETWILER: Thank you.
37
38 BIA, Gene Peltola.
39
40 MR. PELTOLA: Roger. Roger. 10-4.
41
42 MS. DETWILER: Okay.
43
44 BLM, Chris McKee.
45
46 MR. MCKEE: Present.
47
48 MS. DETWILER: Thank you.
49
50

1 NPS, Donald Striker.
2
3 MR. STRIKER: I'm here, thank you.
4
5 MS. DETWILER: Thank you.
6
7 Fish and Wildlife Service, Greg
8 Siekaniec.
9
10 MR. SIEKANIEC: I'm here, Sue, thanks.
11
12 MS. DETWILER: Thank you.
13
14 Forest Service, David Schmid -- or I'm
15 sorry, Wayne Owen.
16
17 MR. OWEN: One of us is here.
18
19 MS. DETWILER: Thank you.
20
21 Public Member Rhonda Pitka.
22
23 MS. PITKA: Here.
24
25 MS. DETWILER: Thank you.
26
27 Public Member Charlie Brower.
28
29 MR. BROWER: I'm here.
30
31 MS. DETWILER: Thank you.
32
33 Mr. Chair, with you here that makes a
34 total of eight out of eight so we have a quorum, so
35 back to you.
36
37 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: All right.
38 Well, we're back from our break here and we'll move on
39 to the next agenda item and I believe -- who are we
40 calling on there, Sue?
41
42 MS. DETWILER: This would be Jared
43 Stone, he's a fisheries biologist with OSM.
44
45 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: All right,
46 we'll call Jared, you have the floor.
47
48 MR. STONE: All right, thank you, and
49 good morning Mr. Chair and Board Members. My name is
50

1 Jared Stone and I'm a fisheries biologist at the Office
2 of Subsistence Management. I'm here with you today to
3 discuss the Kenai River community gillnet fishery and
4 the request for reconsideration RFR15-01.

5
6 This is a briefing and not an action
7 item for the Board. The materials for this item start
8 on Page 141 of your meeting book.

9
10 The Federal Subsistence Board adopted
11 Fisheries Proposal FP15-10 at its January 2015
12 regulatory meeting establishing the Kenai River
13 community gillnet fishery for residents of Ninilchik.
14 The Federal Subsistence Management Program received
15 over 700 requests for reconsideration following that
16 action and went through a process to review each of the
17 requests for identification of substantive claims. 37
18 specific claims were identified and included in the
19 RFR15-01 threshold analysis. The OSM conclusion for
20 the threshold analysis was that four claims may have
21 merit. At the January 2017 fisheries regulatory
22 meeting this Board found possible merit with three of
23 those four claims and directed Staff to work on a full
24 analysis following several other specific actions that
25 I'll cover next.

26
27 During that same 2017 regulatory
28 meeting the Board agreed to specific changes to the
29 Kenai River community gillnet fishery as part of a
30 settlement. The changes are listed in appendix 4 of
31 the RFR. The pathway table for implementation of the
32 agreement, which is on Page 182 of your materials.

33
34 Changes were implemented, in part,
35 through modification of a regulatory proposal at the
36 same January 2017 regulatory meeting, Proposal FP17-10,
37 and, in part, through rulemaking action. Both actions
38 are now complete and the regulations for this fishery
39 now reflect all changes from the settlement agreement.

40
41 The three claims that the Board found
42 potential merit with during the threshold process
43 related to the new fishery creating conflict with the
44 existing regulations at that time. Two were about the
45 required live release of rainbow trout and Dolly
46 Varden, 18 inches in length or greater from the
47 gillnet, and one was about the harvest of early run
48 chinook salmon without a season. The claims can be
49 found on Pages 142 and 143 of your materials.

50

1 We have provided, starting on Page 141
2 of your materials, the full analysis of the request for
3 reconsideration. It covers the background information
4 I have just provided as well as the OSM conclusion,
5 that there is no need for further Board action on the
6 request for reconsideration. This conclusion is based
7 on the assessment that all claims previously identified
8 by the Board as having potential merit through the
9 threshold process have now been resolved by the passage
10 of Fisheries Proposal FP17-10 with modification and the
11 Cook Inlet Final Rule. We have provided these
12 materials to the Southcentral Regional Advisory
13 Council, the InterAgency Staff Committee and to the
14 State of Alaska for any comments that they would like
15 to provide to the Board. The Southcentral Council
16 provided no comments. The ISC's comment can be found
17 on Page 144 and states that the InterAgency Staff
18 Committee agrees that all claims requesting the Federal
19 Subsistence Board's reconsideration of its actions on
20 Fisheries Proposal 15-10 have now rendered moot and no
21 additional Board action is needed. The State of Alaska
22 has not provided any comments but may wish to do so
23 during your discussion.

24
25 I'm happy to answer any questions that
26 you might have at this time.

27
28 Again, it is OSM's conclusion that no
29 further Board action is required on this topic as the
30 three claims that were found to have potential merit
31 have now been rendered moot through regulatory changes
32 to this fishery.

33
34 And, with that, I'd like to thank you
35 for your time and will open up the floor for any of
36 your questions.

37
38 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Thank you,
39 Jared, appreciate that presentation. Any questions
40 from the Board for Jared.

41
42 MR. SIEKANIEC: Yeah, Mr. Chair, this
43 is Greg.

44
45 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Yep, Greg, you
46 have the floor.

47
48 MR. SIEKANIEC: Yeah, Jared, thanks for
49 the update on that. And my only question would be so
50

1 has this been run through Ken Lord's office just to
2 make sure that we have a Solicitor's prospective on
3 meeting the intent of the Kenai gillnet fishery?
4

5 MR. STONE: Thank you Member Siekaniec.
6 That is a good question. I am fairly new to this
7 entire fishery and the changes that were made to the
8 fishery. I, myself, have not spoken with the
9 Solicitor, Mr. Lord, but I probably should be.

10

11 Thank you.

12

13 MR. DOOLITTLE: Greg, this is Tom.
14 Yeah, it's been -- the whole process was vetted through
15 Ken and Ken can concur that.

16

17 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

18

19 MR. SIEKANIEC: Perfect. Perfect,
20 thank you, Tom. I had suspected it likely had been
21 given the interest in this so thank you very much.

22

23 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Okay, thank
24 you. Any other questions for Jared.

25

26 (No comments)

27

28 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Hearing none,
29 we'll call for an update on the 20-26, Ms. LaVine and
30 Donald Mike, WP20-26.

31

32 MS. LAVINE: Thank you, Mr. Chair, can
33 you hear me?

34

35 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Yes, I can hear
36 you fine.

37

38 MS. LAVINE: All right, thank you, Mr.
39 Chair and the Board.

40

41 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Thank you,
42 Robbin, go ahead.

43

44 MS. LAVINE: Yep. This is Robbin
45 LaVine, and I'm an anthropologist for the Office of
46 Subsistence Management. My colleague, Donald Mike and
47 I will be presenting an update on this deferred
48 Wildlife Proposal 20-26 requesting that Federally-
49 qualified subsistence users be allowed to use a

50

1 snowmachine to position wolves and wolverines.

2

3 The deferred proposal can be found on
4 Page 183 of your Board book. This is a briefing and
5 not an action item.

6

7 Donald, as the Council coordinator for
8 the Bristol Bay Regional Advisory Council was
9 responsible for the working group organization and so
10 he'll be providing a background on Board action and the
11 working group and I will provide a summary on the
12 recent meetings and next steps.

13

14 Donald.

15

16 MR. MIKE: Thank you, Mr. Chair. This
17 is Donald Mike, Council coordinator for OSM. Can
18 everyone hear me?

19

20 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Here you loud
21 and clear Mike, how you doing?

22

23 MR. MIKE: I'm doing well. I'm doing
24 well. I hope everybody's doing well in these times.
25 Thank you for this opportunity to speak to the Board.

26

27 As you know, the Board, at its April
28 2020 meeting deferred Wildlife Proposal 20-26 to a
29 working group. And the working group, I modeled it
30 after the working group on the positioning of caribou
31 in Unit 17. So the working group consisted of Bristol
32 Bay Council members, Mr. Dan Dunaway of Dillingham, Ms.
33 Nanci Morris Lyon of King Salmon and we made several
34 attempts to get a public participant on this working
35 group and during the fishing season it's hard to get a
36 volunteer, and from BBNA we had Gayla Hoseth, Federal
37 and State Staff, from OSM, the working group is Ms.
38 Robbin LaVine, our anthropologist, Ms. Lisa Maas, our
39 wildlife biologist, and from the Alaska Department of
40 Fish and Game we had Mark Burch, and from the Togiak
41 National Wildlife Refuge, Kenton Moos, and the National
42 Park Service Lake Clark, Susanne Fleek-Green, the
43 Superintendent and acting for Katmai National Park is
44 Dave Sarafin, and I made an attempt contact with the
45 Federal and State law enforcement Staff to be
46 participants on this working group but during the
47 summer season all field Staff are out in the field
48 doing some work.

49

50

1 So to get started, the working group
2 met on July 29th via teleconference, and as a
3 facilitator I got some comments back and we worked
4 towards a consensus trying to come up with some
5 recommendations for the Federal Subsistence Board to
6 consider as far as the regulatory language to address
7 positioning of animals for wolves and wolverines, and
8 we tried working towards a consensus but the working
9 group did not come to a consensus so we will be
10 reconvening in October again.

11
12 Thank you.

13
14 I'll turn it over to Ms. Robbin LaVine
15 for the regulatory background information.

16
17 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

18
19 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Thank you,
20 Donald.

21
22 MS. LAVINE: Hello, thank you everyone,
23 this is Robbin again. Actually, Donald stole my
24 thunder, I didn't -- I wasn't prepared to read the
25 regulatory background on this unless you found it
26 useful. The main thing was just to update you on, you
27 know, the -- what happened, the discussion in the
28 working group meeting and the fact that they were going
29 to be meeting again.

30
31 I guess I can add that in reviewing
32 transcripts from the April meeting, additional Board
33 discussion on working group direction included
34 expanding the analysis to include Fish and Wildlife and
35 Park Service lands in Unit 17 and 9, identify specific
36 language that may reduce complexity between State and
37 Federal regulations, and to anticipate and address
38 regulatory conflicts between the newly proposed
39 regulatory language and the agency specific
40 regulations.

41
42 So as Donald said, upon meeting last
43 week, the working group agreed on proceeding with an
44 expanded analysis, you know, all Federal lands in Units
45 9B and 9C and Units 17B and 17C instead of just BLM
46 lands, but the group did need more time to come up with
47 a consensus on the regulatory language of the proposal.
48 So some folks were interested in proceeding with the
49 same language as was used in Wildlife Proposal 20-27, a
50

1 snowmachine may be used to assist in the taking of, and
2 others were just as interested in remaining with the
3 current language, a snowmachine may be used to
4 position, arguing that positioning an animal is a
5 traditional practice of hunters in Alaska and across
6 the nation.

7
8 So, additionally, the working group is
9 once again seeking Board guidance and assistance on
10 determining a course of action when ANILCA is in
11 conflict with agency specific regulations. The group
12 sought Board guidance on this issue would assist as
13 they deliberate regulatory language when they meet
14 again in October. So, once, again, the working group
15 will meet the first week of October to finalize their
16 recommendations to the original proponent, the Bristol
17 Bay Regional Advisory Council, which meets the last
18 week of October.

19
20 So if you all are interested, I could
21 read a background on the regulatory history, otherwise,
22 we're ready for your questions.

23
24 Thanks.

25
26 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Thank you,
27 Robbin. Any questions for Robbin, or anybody
28 interested in the background regulatory history.

29
30 MR. SIEKANIEC: Mr. Chair, this is
31 Greg.

32
33 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Yes, Greg, you
34 have the floor.

35
36 MR. SIEKANIEC: Thank you, Tony.
37 Robbin, thanks for the report and Donald Mike as well.

38
39 I don't know that I have any questions
40 but I just want to say thank you for one, expanding
41 this to include perhaps more areas that are having
42 these same types of deliberations and discussions, and
43 particularly for paying attention to the items that the
44 Board sort of tends to bring up, you know, to try and
45 reduce the regulatory conflict and, you know, address
46 this in a more holistic manner.

47
48 And in regards to the conflict between
49 ANILCA and Federal Subsistence Board regulations or
50

1 agency specific regulations, I think the most recent
2 action that we took in the Bristol Bay area regarding
3 the use of snowmachines for the purposes of subsistence
4 hunting now sits as a stand-alone regulation under the
5 Federal Subsistence hunts that are authorized, whereas
6 the agency specific regulations would now speak to
7 sporthunt. So I think there's a avenue of clarity in
8 there, that should help gain some understanding when
9 you're having these discussions with, you know,
10 additional groups or with the groups that have been
11 identified.

12
13 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

14
15 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Thank you,
16 Greg. Any other Board questions, discussion, insight.

17
18 (No comments)

19
20 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: All right.
21 Well, thank you guys for your good analysis on that and
22 I think what we were looking for on this is information
23 only so we're not looking for action on this one, so
24 appreciate it, if there's no more Board discussion or
25 questions about this one, we'll go ahead and thank
26 Robbin and the Staff for that update and move on to the
27 closure policy with Theo and Lisa.

28
29 (Pause)

30
31 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Hello.

32
33 MR. MATUSKOWITZ: Yes, Mr. Chair,
34 Members of the Board. This is Theo Matuskowitz from
35 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of Subsistence
36 Management. I'll be covering the briefing today on the
37 amended closure policy.

38
39 The document supporting my discussion
40 begins on Page 207 of your meeting materials. I would
41 like to note up front that this is an action item and
42 what we will be asking you to do is to vote to accept
43 the amended closure policy.

44
45 At the 2018 work session you approved a
46 change in the policy for wildlife and fishery closure
47 reviews. After that meeting the Staff was directed to
48 revised the policy to reflect the changes that you
49 voted on. Once that was completed, the policy was sent

50

1 out to our Solicitor's Office, and the Solicitor
2 provided edits which suggested clarifying language but
3 did not make any suggestions that changed the content
4 of what you acted on during the 2018 work session. The
5 final amended closure policy has these final changes,
6 which is basically what you addressed in 2018.

7
8 OSM will maintain a list of all
9 existing closures and will review half of all closures
10 during each applicable regulatory year, which, of
11 course, is even numbers for wildlife and odd years for
12 fish and shellfish. Closure reviews will include
13 analysis of all the relevant considerations as listed
14 in the policy and OSM's recommendation to retain,
15 modify or rescind the closure. And the cycle of
16 closure reviews was changed to every four years instead
17 of every three years. That, of course, makes it more
18 in line with the current regulatory cycles that we have
19 to give the public an adequate opportunity for notice
20 and comment, each proposed rule that we publish in the
21 Federal Register for a new regulatory cycle will
22 announce closure reviews and include opportunities for
23 public comment for, you know, possible Board action.
24 The list of closures to be reviewed will be included in
25 the proposal book that we publish each regulatory cycle
26 after the proposal submission window is closed.

27
28 OSM Staff will present an overview of
29 relevant closure reviews to each affected Council
30 during the normal regulatory cycle and the Council will
31 develop a recommendation to the Board as they would
32 with a regular proposal. During the Board's regulatory
33 meetings, OSM's Staff will present an overview of all
34 closure reviews conducted during that regulatory cycle
35 and the Board will take action on proposals consistent
36 concerning existing closures during the applicable
37 regulatory meeting. I'd like to note also that any
38 individual or organization may submit, during the
39 normal proposal window, a proposal requesting that the
40 Board modify or rescind any closure, so that doesn't
41 change -- this policy doesn't change the public's
42 opportunity to submit regular proposals on these
43 closures.

44
45 Amendments to this policy have already
46 been enacted by OSM. If you'll remember during the
47 last wildlife cycle, which ended in your public meeting
48 in April of this year, the analyst presented an
49 overview of the proposal analysis and, you know,
50

1 presented them to the Board and allowed for public
2 comment and, you know, the Board could deliberate on
3 those specific actions. And moving forward, both with
4 wildlife and fishery regulatory cycles, we plan on
5 addressing closure reviews as we did, you know, in the
6 last wildlife cycle and at your April 2020 meeting.

7
8 That concludes my briefing. I'm here
9 for any questions and, once, again, we ask you to
10 conduct a vote adopting this amended closure policy so
11 we can include it in your book of protocols and
12 policies for the Board.

13
14 Thank you very much.

15
16 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Thank you,
17 Theo, for that thorough closure policy review for us.
18 And it's presented as an action item, the Staff is
19 looking for the Board to make a motion on this, so any
20 questions for Theo from the Board.

21
22 (No comments)

23
24 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Not hearing
25 any, I'll open up the floor for Board action.

26
27 MR. SIEKANIEC: Mr. Chair, this is
28 Greg.

29
30 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Yes, Greg.

31
32 MR. SIEKANIEC: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
33 I would like to move that we adopt the policy on
34 closures to hunting, trapping and fishing on Federal
35 public lands and waters in Alaska as Theo just
36 presented to us and as presented in our Board
37 materials.

38
39 MR. BROWER: Second.

40
41 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Motion's been
42 made and seconded to adopt the new closure policy, any
43 discussions from the Board.

44
45 (No comments)

46
47 MR. PELTOLA: Question.

48
49 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: All right,

50

1 question's been called. Roll call, please, Sue.
2
3 MS. DETWILER: On the motion to adopt
4 the proposed revisions to the closure policy.
5
6 Roll call vote start with Fish and
7 Wildlife Service, Greg Siekaniec.
8
9 MR. SIEKANIEC: Thank you, Sue. I
10 support.
11
12 MS. DETWILER: Thank you.
13
14 Forest Service, Wayne Owen.
15
16 MR. OWEN: The Forest Service supports,
17 thank you.
18
19 MS. DETWILER: Thank you.
20
21 BIA, Gene Peltola.
22
23 MR. PELTOLA: Support from BIA.
24
25 MS. DETWILER: Thank you.
26
27 National Park Service, Don Striker.
28
29 MR. STRIKER: The Park Service
30 supports, thank you.
31
32 MS. DETWILER: Thank you.
33
34 BLM, Chris McKee.
35
36 MR. MCKEE: Support.
37
38 MS. DETWILER: Thank you.
39
40 Public Member Rhonda Pitka.
41
42 MS. PITKA: Support, thank you.
43
44 MS. DETWILER: Thank you.
45
46 Public Member Charlie Brower.
47
48 MR. BROWER: Support.
49
50

1 MS. DETWILER: And, finally, Chair
2 Christianson.
3
4 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: I support.
5
6 MS. DETWILER: The motion passes
7 unanimously.
8
9 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Thank you guys
10 for that, appreciate it. Now we move on next to the
11 non-rural policy, Robbin LaVine. This, again, is also
12 an action item so, Robbin, we'll call on you to present
13 the summary to the Board.
14
15 MS. LAVINE: Thank you.
16
17 (Pause)
18
19 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Hello, it got
20 kind of quiet there, did we lose Robbin?
21
22 (Pause)
23
24 Hello, did we get some people dropped
25 there, Sue?
26
27 MS. DETWILER: Yeah, Lisa, can you
28 check and see if Robbin got dropped off?
29
30 MS. MAAS: Yeah, thanks I'm working on
31 it.
32
33 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Okay, thanks,
34 let's take a second here and let them get back on.
35
36 (Pause)
37
38 MS. DETWILER: Yeah, it looks like
39 Robbin is trying to call in right now.
40
41 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Let's give her
42 a minute.
43
44 (Pause)
45
46 MS. LAVINE: Hello, this is Robbin
47 LaVine, can you hear me?
48
49 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Yes, Robbin,
50

1 thank you for coming back on line. You have the floor
2 now.

3

4 MS. LAVINE: Thank you so much, and
5 very sorry about that. Okay, so once again this is
6 Robbin LaVine, and I'm here to brief you on suggested
7 revisions to the non-rural policy and provide a quick
8 update on where we are in the new non-rural
9 determinations regulatory cycle.

10

11 This is an action item.

12

13 Materials for this agenda item begin on
14 Page 210 of your Board book.

15

16 If you recall in August of 2019, the
17 Board approved recommended revisions to Section B of
18 the policy clarifying the threshold requirements, the
19 timeline and approving the new threshold assessment
20 templates. These new edits for the policy before you
21 today, these occurred while finalizing the Board
22 approved version from 2019. So it went from one last
23 leadership team review and then to the Solicitor's
24 Office, the suggested edits you are reviewing are those
25 made by the Solicitor's Office that clarified language
26 and intent but did not change the content or the
27 timeline.

28

29 So, once, again, I am bringing what
30 amounts to some administrative edits for your approval,
31 but let's take a quick look. The edits begin on Page
32 212 of your Board book. And from there you can find
33 edits on every page from 212 through to Page 216 and
34 within Sections B, C and D of the policy.

35

36 So please review page by page and let
37 me know if you have any questions on a specific edit or
38 wording. And I'll wait just for you to review and if
39 you don't have any edit, I'll just pause for just a
40 moment, then we'll proceed with the end of my
41 presentation, so I'm going to pause.

42

43 (Pause)

44

45 MS. LAVINE: Okay, with no further
46 questions on the edits I'll wrap up with a reminder, we
47 are halfway through our third year of the non-rural
48 regulatory cycle. The analysis for Moose Pass will be
49 presented to the Southcentral Regional Advisory Council

50

1 this fall and will come before the Board for action
2 during the January Board meeting in 2021.

3
4 So in summary you are taking action on
5 suggested administrative edits to improve clarity in
6 the non-rural policy starting on Page 212 of your Board
7 books in Sections B, C and D of the policy. Edits to
8 the timeline and the process have not been made.

9
10 Thank you, and I'm ready for your
11 questions.

12
13 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Thank you,
14 Robbin. Any questions from the Board to Robbin as it
15 pertains to the non-rural policy or any of those
16 changes that have been made in the book there.

17
18 (No comments)

19
20 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: All right,
21 hearing none, this opens up the floor for a motion.

22
23 MR. SIEKANIEC: Mr. Chair, this is
24 Greg.

25
26 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Yes, Greg.

27
28 MR. SIEKANIEC: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
29 Yeah, I would like to move that the Board accept the
30 policy on non-rural determinations as presented by
31 Robbin with the recent Solicitor's edits that did not
32 change the substance of the policy that we had
33 approved, but added clarity to it from my read the
34 policy.

35
36 Thank you.

37
38 MR. STRIKER: Second, Park Service.

39
40 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Thank you.
41 There's a motion on the floor, it's been seconded.
42 That opens up the floor for discussion and
43 deliberation.

44
45 (No comments)

46
47 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Hearing none,
48 call for the question.

49
50

1 MR. BROWER: Question.

2

3 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Question's been
4 called. Roll call, Sue, please.

5

6 MS. DETWILER: Okay. So the motion is
7 to accept the policy as presented by Robbin with
8 changes made by the Solicitor's Office, it didn't
9 change the policy but added clarity.

10

11 And we will start with Greg Siekaniec,
12 Fish and Wildlife Service.

13

14 MR. SIEKANIEC: Thank you, Sue. I
15 support, I approve.

16

17 MS. DETWILER: Thank you.

18

19 Forest Service, Wayne Owen.

20

21 MR. OWEN: Before I cast my vote, I
22 will -- I would like to express a degree of frustration
23 with this policy. When I made the motion that put this
24 process into the system, you know, we had envisioned
25 this would take one year and due to bureaucracy this
26 has grown into a multi-year process and I don't think
27 that it serves rural subsistence users well, and I
28 understand we're constrained by a lot of things, I
29 don't like it, but the Forest Service will vote to
30 support it.

31

32 MS. DETWILER: Okay. Thank you, Wayne.

33

34 BIA, Gene Peltola.

35

36 MR. PELTOLA: BIA supports.

37

38 MS. DETWILER: Thank you.

39

40 National Park Service, Don Striker.

41

42 MR. STRIKER: Park Service supports,
43 too, thank you.

44

45 MS. DETWILER: Thank you.

46

47 BLM, Chris McKee.

48

49 MR. MCKEE: BLM supports, thank you.

50

1 MS. DETWILER: Thank you.
2
3 Public Member Rhonda Pitka.
4
5 MS. PITKA: Support, thank you.
6
7 MS. DETWILER: Thank you.
8
9 Public Member Charlie Brower.
10
11 MR. BROWER: Support.
12
13 MS. DETWILER: Thank you.
14
15 And, Chair Anthony Christianson.
16
17 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: I support.
18
19 MS. DETWILER: Thank you. Unanimously
20 supported so it passes, and that takes us to the next
21 agenda item.
22
23 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Yep, thank you
24 very much, and that would be the individual C&T process
25 for Joshua Ream.
26
27 MR. REAM: Good morning, Mr. Chair and
28 Members of the Board. Can you hear me okay?
29
30 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Can hear you
31 fine, Josh, you have the floor. Thank you.
32
33 MR. REAM: Thank you. So my name is
34 Joshua Ream, and I am the Regional Subsistence Program
35 Manager for the National Park Service.
36
37 I intend to give you a brief overview
38 of the individual customary and traditional use
39 determinations and the reason that the National Park
40 Service is seeking delegated authority from the Board
41 to make these determinations moving forward.
42
43 The draft delegation of authority
44 letter can be found on Page 217 of your Board book.
45 You should have received a brief PowerPoint
46 presentation that covers these materials that I'll be
47 walking through. And I'll pause just a moment to allow
48 you to pull that up.
49
50

1 (Pause)

2
3 MR. REAM: Okay, moving to the second
4 slide of that presentation, to begin it's important to
5 recognize that eligibility to engage in subsistence
6 activities in National Parks and National Monuments in
7 Alaska is different from that of National Preserves and
8 other types of Federal public land. To be eligible in
9 these units one must not only be a Federally-qualified
10 subsistence user but also have his or her primary
11 permanent home located within a resident zone community
12 or have obtained a 13.440 subsistence eligibility
13 permit. Additionally, the hunter must also have a
14 customary and traditional use determination for the
15 area and species that they intend to hunt.

16
17 Customary and traditional use
18 determinations acknowledge an existing pattern of
19 subsistence use. The Board frequently receives
20 requests to evaluate or reevaluate these predominately
21 for inclusion of communities or areas. For areas
22 managed by the National Park Service, determinations
23 can also be made for individuals pursuant to 50 CFR
24 100.16. For areas managed by the National Park Service
25 where subsistence use are allowed, the determinations
26 may be made on an individual basis.

27
28 Slide 3.

29
30 The request for individual customary
31 and traditional use determination have been rare in the
32 history of the program, and less than a dozen requests
33 have been made to date. We have no reason to believe
34 that this is going to change. Given this rarity, and
35 the applicability to only National Parks and National
36 Monuments, the National Park Service feels that the
37 Program and its stakeholders may be better served if
38 the National Park Service Regional Director is given
39 delegated authority to make individual customary and
40 traditional use determinations.

41
42 This delegated -- the process would
43 alleviate burden on the Office of Subsistence
44 Management and on the Board, as a whole, it would
45 provide a more substantive role for Subsistence
46 Resource Commissions, it would allow requests to be
47 acted upon outside of the normal regulatory cycle and
48 it would provide mechanisms for documenting and
49 archiving these decisions.

50

1 Slide 4.
2
3 The National Park Service recognizes
4 that with delegation comes responsibility. In
5 coordination with the National Park Service,
6 Subsistence Advisory Councils, OSM, the Solicitor's
7 Office and the InterAgency Staff Committee, we have
8 developed a standard operating procedure that appears
9 before you today. This can be found beginning on Page
10 219 of your Board meeting book.

11
12 Since the Board delegates authority for
13 individual customary and traditional use determination,
14 the National Park Service intends to follow these
15 procedures in order that the responsibilities of all
16 involved are clearly defined to provide consistency and
17 continuity across Park units to streamline both the
18 13.440 permit process and the individual C&T process
19 and to provide mechanisms for evaluating and
20 documenting the requests and subsequent decisions.
21 These procedures are consistent with Title VIII of
22 ANILCA and with existing regulations.

23
24 I will not walk the Board through every
25 step and document outlined in the operating procedures,
26 I will, however, point out that the eight criteria for
27 evaluating individual customary and traditional use
28 determinations is the same as those for community and
29 area C&Ts. The National Park Service would continue to
30 analyze these criteria in a manner consistent with the
31 Board's policy which states: A factor by factor
32 discussion is not required in the analysis and it is
33 also not necessary that all eight factors be addressed
34 to demonstrate a pattern of use. The eight factors
35 provide a framework for examining the pattern of use of
36 a resource. There are regional, cultural and temporal
37 variation and the application of the eight factors will
38 likely vary by region and by resource, depending on
39 actual patterns of use. The goal of customary and
40 traditional use determination analysis is to recognize
41 customary and traditional uses in the most inclusive
42 manner possible.

43
44 We have confidence that our subsistence
45 coordinators will analyze these requests with the same
46 rigor as the Office of Subsistence Management. The
47 process that you have before you also includes seeking
48 a recommendation from the relevant Park Subsistence
49 Resource Commission on any request. Similar to
50

1 Regional Advisory Councils, these ANILCA mandated
2 advisory bodies are well equipped to evaluate patterns
3 of subsistence use in their associated Parks and
4 Monuments. The final decision on requests for
5 individual customary and traditional use determinations
6 would then become the responsibility of the Alaska
7 region, Regional Director of the National Park Service.
8 The standard operating procedure and the delegation of
9 authority letter have been vetted by OSM, the ISC, and
10 the Solicitor's Office.

11
12 In conclusion, this process would serve
13 to streamline evaluation, decision-making and
14 documentation on exceedingly rare individual customary
15 and traditional use determination requests. It is
16 intended to provide efficiency and responsiveness to
17 Federally-qualified subsistence users making such a
18 request.

19
20 Lastly, please keep in mind that this
21 is an administrative action, and not a regulatory
22 decision.

23
24 I would be happy to try to answer any
25 questions that you have.

26
27 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

28
29 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Thank you,
30 Joshua, appreciate that.

31
32 Any questions for the C&T process as
33 laid out by Josh for us. And, again, it's an action
34 item for the Board to consider today.

35
36 MR. PELTOLA: Mr. Chair, BIA.

37
38 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: You have the
39 floor, Gene.

40
41 MR. PELTOLA: Thank you, Mr. Chair. So
42 Josh thank you, appreciate the presentation. There's a
43 couple things I'd like to try to get clarity on.

44
45 Going through the individual and
46 traditional use determin -- the SRC -- your packet, I
47 see there is an SRC recommendation but I don't see
48 within the delegation letter or within the packet a
49 Regional Advisory Council recommendation. Can you
50

1 explain why we have included the SRC but not the
2 Advisory Councils?

3
4 MR. REAM: Through the Chair, thank
5 you, Board Member Peltola.

6
7 The RACs are not included in the
8 process that we outlined, however, I will point out
9 that the Subsistence Resource Commission associated
10 with affected Park units do get to weigh in and they do
11 have representation by the Regional Advisory Councils,
12 individuals that are appointed to the SRCs from the
13 RACs. We do think that the SRCs may be better equipped
14 to address existing patterns of use in Parks and
15 Monuments, simply because that is their primary charge,
16 to advise the National Park Service on subsistence
17 issues affecting those lands.

18
19 Thank you.

20
21 MR. PELTOLA: Mr. Chair, followup, if I
22 may.

23
24 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Yes, you have
25 the floor, Gene.

26
27 MR. PELTOLA: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
28 And the reason I ask, Josh, is that the Federal
29 Subsistence Board, years ago, took the position to give
30 the Regional Advisory Councils deference with regard to
31 C&T, and if we don't have the Regional Advisory
32 Councils in the delegation letter for concurrence, or
33 if only a subset of the Regional Advisory Councils
34 representatives to the SRC, then we are not meeting the
35 self-imposed deference which the Board has chosen to
36 give to the Regional Advisory Councils with regard to
37 C&T.

38
39 So how would we go about rectifying
40 that?

41
42 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

43
44 MR. REAM: Through the Chair, this is
45 Josh, again. I guess I would seek input from the
46 Office of Subsistence Management or from the
47 Solicitor's Office on the requirements involved in
48 changing the process, or the policy that the Board has
49 regarding deference to the RACs on this matter.

50

1 MR. STRIKER: So, Mr. Chair, point of
2 clarification -- Don Striker, Park Service.

3
4 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Yeah, go ahead,
5 Don.

6
7 MR. STRIKER: Gene, I'm just trying to
8 make sure that I fully understand the question you're
9 asking. Are you suggesting that we get input from the
10 SRCs -- or from the RACs in this proposal that we're
11 making or are you suggesting that we modify the
12 proposed process to include RAC participation in C&T
13 participation, or both, or neither?

14
15 MR. PELTOLA: Mr. Chair. Either or,
16 and because the reason I brought it up, and I
17 understand why we have the inclusion of the SRC in the
18 Park Service proposal, but the Federal Subsistence
19 Board, years ago, acted and gave deference to the
20 Regional Advisory Councils with regard to C&T and the
21 process as outlined does not include the Regional
22 Advisory Councils, and I understand why the Park
23 Service has the SRC involved as part of your process
24 for your reviewing it, but with that being said, if the
25 Board committed to give deference to the RACs for C&T,
26 then we have a process with regard to C&T that doesn't
27 include the RACs, then there is a potential conflict
28 there -- conflict's not the right term, but it's
29 contrary to the direction the Board has taken in the
30 past.

31
32 MR. STRIKER: Sure.

33
34 MR. PELTOLA: My question would be,
35 then how do we -- with the Board's commitment to give
36 deference to RACs for C&T, how do we incorporate those
37 so that same -- that that deference is preserved in the
38 individual C&T process?

39
40 MR. STRIKER: Yeah, thanks, Gene. I
41 guess my suggestion would be that we defer action on
42 this until we can proactively obtain input from the
43 RACs if that makes more sense, right, because you're
44 right we're suggesting a process change that runs
45 counter to what we have previously determined, so we
46 should probably give them a chance to weigh in, yeah.

47
48 MR. PELTOLA: Yeah, and, Don, I'm not
49 voicing this in opposition to it but I just want to
50

1 make sure that when the Board, when we do act, we
2 aren't conflicting ourselves.

3
4 MR. STRIKER: No, I think that makes
5 abundant sense.

6
7 MR. LORD: Mr. Chair, this is Ken.

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

11
12 MR. LORD: So when the Board adopted
13 that concept of giving deference to the RACs on C&T it
14 was partly because the Regional Advisory Councils have
15 some expertise, they have knowledge of what communities
16 have used what areas, and when it would be appropriate,
17 they don't have that same expertise necessarily when it
18 comes to individuals here. That's where the SRCs come
19 into play and I concur that the SRC is the appropriate
20 body to be reviewing these requests rather than the
21 RACs, for that reason. And I don't think we, when the
22 Board adopted that policy, that it was really thinking
23 about individual C&Ts as much as community C&Ts, the
24 ones we normally do. So I don't really see a reason to
25 put this on hold unless, as Don pointed out, that the
26 request is for the RACs to review the process and weigh
27 in on the process, rather than on individual C&Ts
28 themselves.

29
30 MR. STRIKER: Mr. Chair, Park Service.

31
32 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Yes, Don, go
33 ahead.

34
35 MR. STRIKER: Just to give people a
36 little bit more background. We had a case where we
37 have one individual who applied actually in the Denali
38 area that I'm familiar with that had been denied a
39 permit, and so the only advantage to taking action
40 today is that we potentially could expedite processing
41 that and actually get that resolved in time for this
42 hunting season. You know, other than that I'm not at
43 all opposed to deferring this specifically so that we
44 can make abundantly clear our intent to fully inform
45 the RACs of any changes.

46
47 So I guess I'd be interested in hearing
48 from other Board members what -- sort of what their
49 thinking is about this need to balance sort of this one
50

1 specific case we have versus advanced notification or,
2 Gene, if that in any way sort of modifies your
3 interest.

4
5 MR. PELTOLA: Yeah, Mr. Chair, BIA.
6 And having been exposed to some Regional Advisory
7 Councils discussions about C&T, as a whole, I
8 personally feel that if we were to clarify that before
9 going into deliberation and potentially adoption, if we
10 clarify the Regional Advisory Council roles, we'd be in
11 a lot better footing moving forward.

12
13 I would not want to put an undue burden
14 upon the individual that was proceeding towards
15 acquiring an individual C&T, but I think that with more
16 clarification about the role or -- or the RACs role
17 and/or the SRCs role, in lieu of the RAC, I think the
18 Program would be better served.

19
20 Does that make sense?

21
22 MR. STRIKER: Yep, thank you.

23
24 MR. DOOLITTLE: And this is Tom, could
25 I interject, Mr. Chair?

26
27 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Yes, Tom,
28 please, I'd like to hear from you.

29
30 MR. DOOLITTLE: Yeah, and as far as the
31 hierarchy of the deference, the deference isn't
32 provided to the SRCs but it is provided to RACs, and
33 even though this is a C&T determination, within this
34 process, just for the pure reason of a courtesy seems
35 to be important in this, so I would want the Board to
36 consider that as well.

37
38 Thank you, Mr. Chair and the Board.

39
40 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Thank you, Tom.
41 Any other Board questions, or discussions or
42 deliberations.

43
44 MS. PITKA: Hi, this is Rhonda, in the
45 presentation, it mentioned that there were maybe a half
46 a dozen of these permits, is that across like the whole
47 National Park Service in Alaska and if it's such a
48 small number, is there really a need for this type of a
49 policy? Forgive me my ignorance of bureaucracy

50

1 sometimes, thanks.

2

3

4 MR. STRIKER: No, thanks for the
5 question. So this is Don. It really is that small of
6 a number, most of the people are part of a subsistence
7 community, right, there's only a few individuals who
8 aren't living within a rural resident zone, and the
9 reason that we're adding the process is actually to try
10 and streamline what the entire Board needs to pay
11 attention to since they are so small and they're
12 constrained within Parks and Monuments where we have
13 the local advice of Subsistence Resource Councils. We
14 thought actually it would be more efficient to just
15 delegate this, almost similar to what an in-field
16 manager would do, right, for local decision-making, as
17 opposed to every couple of years when of these comes up
18 the Board has to sort of reeducate yourself on what is
19 this thing, what is this phenomenon.

19

20

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

21

22

CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Yes, Ken.

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 for
that Ken. Any other questions.

(No comments)

CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: So it sounds
like we're here on the individual C&T process presented
by Josh, they're requesting action on this from the
Staff but we're also at a position where we may want to
hold off so I'm just trying to find out where we are
at.

1 MR. STRIKER: Mr. Chair, Park Service.

2

3 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Yes, go ahead,
4 Don.

5

6 MR. STRIKER: I would move that we
7 defer this action until the Board's regulatory meeting
8 in January of 2021 to provide an opportunity for the
9 public, tribes, ANCSA Corporations, and of course the
10 Regional Advisory Councils to weigh in. And if I get a
11 second on that motion I'll give you my justification.

12

13 MS. PITKA: This is Rhonda, I'll
14 second.

15

16 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: You have the
17 floor, Don.

18

19 MR. STRIKER: Yes, the suggested
20 revision to the Board's process in making customary and
21 traditional use determinations, it's an administrative
22 action and, thus, not subject necessarily to the normal
23 comment and consultation opportunities afforded to
24 regulatory actions, but I think that the point that
25 Member Peltola makes deserve our respect, and I think
26 there's ample justification in making sure that any
27 proposed changes like this are fully transparent and
28 the testimony today I think reveals that this courtesy
29 should be extended for other parties to weigh in before
30 the Board takes action.

31

32 So I look forward to receiving guidance
33 and advice of others to address this issue again in
34 January.

35

36 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

37

38 MR. BROWER: Question.

39

40 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Question's been
41 called, if there is no other Board discussion or
42 deliberation on this we now have a motion before us to
43 defer this to our January work session so we can get a
44 little more feedback from additional interested parties
45 and so with that the question has been called, we'll do
46 roll call, Sue.

47

48 MS. DETWILER: Okay.

49

50

1 Start with National Park Service, Don
2 Striker.
3
4 MR. STRIKER: Park Service supports.
5 Thank you.
6
7 MS. DETWILER: Fish and Wildlife
8 Service, Greg Siekaniec.
9
10 MR. SIEKANIEC: Yes, I support
11 deferral, thank you, Sue.
12
13 MS. DETWILER: Forest Service, Wayne
14 Owen.
15
16 MR. OWEN: The Forest Service supports
17 the deferral. Thank you.
18
19 MS. DETWILER: Thank you.
20
21 BIA, Gene Peltola.
22
23 MR. PELTOLA: BIA supports.
24
25 MS. DETWILER: Thank you.
26
27 BLM, Chris McKee.
28
29 MR. MCKEE: The BLM supports deferral.
30
31 MS. DETWILER: Thank you.
32
33 Public Member Rhonda Pitka.
34
35 MS. PITKA: I support deferral. Thank
36 you.
37
38 MS. DETWILER: Public Member Charlie
39 Brower.
40
41 MR. BROWER: Support.
42
43 MS. DETWILER: Chair Anthony
44 Christianson.
45
46 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: I support the
47 deferral.
48
49 MS. DETWILER: Okay. So the motion
50

1 passes unanimously to support deferral.

2

3 That brings us to the last action item
4 for today's agenda.

5

6 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Wow.
7 Implementation guideline revisions, are we going to do
8 that tomorrow?

9

10 MS. DETWILER: Mr. Chair, we could do
11 that tomorrow. We have the public meeting scheduled
12 for 9:00 to -- 9:00 a.m., starting on both mornings
13 until work finished. We have one more agenda item on
14 this public session which is the tribal consultation
15 implementation guidelines and then we also have the
16 executive session which is scheduled to start at 1:00
17 p.m., tomorrow.

18

19 And I do have a suggestion on your
20 executive session as well for one of the items whenever
21 you want to take that up.

22

23 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Okay. Yeah, I
24 think now is a good a time as any to discuss it.

25

26 MS. DETWILER: Okay. So for the
27 executive session tomorrow, the action item was on the
28 Regional Advisory Council nominations. You don't need
29 to take that up with Steve Wackowski, the DOI Senior
30 Advisor for Alaska Affairs, he will be at the executive
31 session starting tomorrow at 1:00 p.m, so if you wanted
32 to take up the Regional Advisory Council nominations
33 you could do that in an executive session, either after
34 this sess -- the public session concludes -- or today
35 if it concludes, today, if we take care of that one
36 additional item today, or -- or actually, no, we'd have
37 -- we'd have to take up the Regional Advisory Council
38 nominations tomorrow at 9:00 -- I'm sorry, Katya
39 Wessels is not available to go over the Regional
40 Advisory Council nominations -- so -- but the bottom
41 line is you have one more agenda item on the public
42 meeting for today, that's the tribal consultation
43 implementation guidelines and then you have the
44 executive session, which includes the RAC nominations,
45 which you may want to discuss either later today in
46 executive session, or tomorrow in executive session
47 before the 1:00 p.m., meeting with Steve Wackowski.

48

49 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Okay, thank you

50

1 for that Sue, a little lay out of where we're at with
2 what we have going on so it is coming up to lunch time
3 today, I don't know, should we deal with this one more
4 deal and then call it a day.

5

6 MR. BROWER: Mr. Chair.

7

8 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: I'm looking for
9 some Board feedback here on this. You have something,
10 Greg?

11

12 MR. SIEKANIEC: No, I think that was
13 Charlie, but, Mr. Chair, I would agree that we should
14 continue to address this tribal consultation
15 implementation guideline revision for today. And I
16 understood this correctly, I think we're obligated to
17 be on at 1:00 o'clock tomorrow with our discussion with
18 Steve Wackowski so we sort of have to hold that spot;
19 did I get that right, Sue?

20

21 MS. DETWILER: Yes, that is. And all I
22 was trying to point out was that for the executive
23 session, the RAC nominations don't need to be discussed
24 with Steve, so if Steve is going to be there at 1:00
25 p.m., you might want to take advantage of having some
26 time tomorrow morning to have an executive session to
27 discuss the RAC nominations and that would leave you
28 free starting at 1:00 p.m., for the regularly scheduled
29 executive session with Steve.

30

31 MR. STRIKER: So finish this afternoon
32 with the public and then we're on tomorrow at 9:00 for
33 executive and we're on tomorrow at 1:00 for executive?

34

35 MS. DETWILER: Yes.

36

37 MR. OWEN: Question from the Forest
38 Service.

39

40 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Go ahead,
41 Forest Service, you have the floor.

42

43 MR. OWEN: Thank you, Mr. Chair. And
44 just I'm a little confused. If we announced to the
45 public that we're having meetings today and tomorrow
46 starting at 9:00, don't we have to be available for the
47 public for 9:00 o'clock tomorrow morning, or is it the
48 work session is different than a regular reg meeting.

49

50

1 MS. DETWILER: This is Sue, I don't
2 know the answer to that, I would have to defer to Ken
3 or Tom.

4
5 MR. DOOLITTLE: Yeah, this is Tom. When
6 you're going into executive, you can call executive
7 session at any time, and that's not a public process.
8 And if you finish your Board meeting today, that was
9 part of the public process meeting, so unless Ken
10 disagrees you could -- once you're done with the public
11 part you could go into executive at any time.

12
13 Thank you, Mr. Chair and the Board.

14
15 MR. OWEN: Thank you.

16
17 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: All right,
18 thank you guys.

19
20 So let's go with the tribal
21 consultation implementation guidelines for now and
22 we'll call on Orville.

23
24 MR. LIND: Yes, good morning, Mr. Chair
25 and Board members. Can everyone hear me all right?

26
27 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Yep, yep, hear
28 you loud and clear Orville.

29
30 MR. LIND: Okay. Well, this is an
31 action item on your meeting materials on Page 238
32 you'll see the consultation guidelines there.

33
34 Back up a little bit, a few months ago
35 I brought to the attention of the ISC and some agency
36 managers -- or land managers that we have to review our
37 guidelines this year. And so that's what we're doing.
38 And we did have a couple of questions that came up
39 during that time and I'm going to read you the
40 questions and I'm also going to read you the answer to
41 each question and, again, if you look on Page 238 the
42 guidelines are there and we're referring to information
43 on special actions on your meeting materials, is Page
44 244 and part of 245.

45
46 And I'll go ahead and read the first
47 question.

48
49 The question was: What if there is no
50

1 delegation of authority in place? And the answer came
2 out to, well, if an in-season manager, they have to
3 have delegated authority from the Federal Subsistence
4 Board in order to announce a special action. There
5 would not be a time when a manager would act on a
6 special action without delegated authority from the
7 Federal Subsistence Board.

8
9 The second question that came out of
10 that was: Who would be responsible for consultation if
11 the requested actions span multiple units, multiple
12 agencies and multiple delegations? The Answer was
13 whoever the in-season manager is and as specified in
14 the delegation of authority of letter or unit specific
15 regulations, they would be responsible for coordinating
16 tribal consultation regarding that special action.

17
18 Now, if you look to the original
19 special actions and then go to your revision, you
20 should have that copy in front of you, it's very
21 straightforward. I believe it's not changed that much
22 really and a lot more clarification on what direction
23 -- the special actions -- and Lisa or Josh, if you
24 would add anything to that you can go ahead.

25
26 MS. MAAS: This is Lisa Maas for the
27 record. And, no, I think you covered it Orville, but,
28 yeah, we're also available for questions if any Board
29 members have questions.

30
31 MR. LIND: Okay. And that's what I
32 have, thank you.

33
34 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Thank you,
35 Orville. Any Board discussion, questions for the Staff
36 as it pertains to this, again, it is an action item.

37
38 MR. PELTOLA: Mr. Chair, BIA.

39
40 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Yes, go ahead,
41 Gene.

42
43 MR. PELTOLA: Thank you, Mr. Chair. So
44 with regard to emergency special action, are
45 delegations of authority, and I recall it being more
46 predominate in fisheries delegation than the wildlife
47 delegation, stipulates that if an emergency special
48 action request is made to the in-season manager, that
49 in-season manager, he or she, has the ability to act

50

1 upon it, or if it has long-term consequences for the
2 Program, and I'm paraphrasing, has the opportunity to
3 pass it on to the Federal Subsistence Board for
4 consideration. So with that being said, how would we
5 differentiate the responsibility of the consultation
6 requirement from the in-season manager to the Board, if
7 the Board is actually going to deliberate and make a
8 decision-making process?

9
10 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

11
12 MS. MAAS: Yeah, this is Lisa, I can
13 respond to that, Mr. Chair.

14
15 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Go ahead, Lisa.

16
17 MS. MAAS: So tribal -- first of all, I
18 mean for emergency special actions, tribal
19 consultations aren't required, they're kind of to be
20 conducted to the extent practicable, but if a special
21 action is deferred back to the Board, then that would
22 be OSM's responsibility to organize that special action
23 -- for that tribal consultation, if it's, you know,
24 deemed warranted or is able to be conducted in the
25 timeframe given. And basically what this revision to
26 the guideline is trying to clarify is that whoever the
27 decision-maker is, that's who's responsible for
28 organizing those tribal consultations. So in the case
29 of an in-season manager deferring an action back to the
30 Board, then the Board becomes the decision-maker so
31 that then becomes OSM's responsibility. But when the
32 Board delegates it to the in-season manager, then
33 that's the in-season manager's responsibility for
34 organizing those tribal consultations.

35
36 MR. PELTOLA: Yes, thank you, Lisa.
37 And the reason I ask that there have been times in
38 recent history where the Federal Subsistence Board was
39 met with a decision regarding an emergency special
40 action and the in-season manager's Staff had conducted
41 village meetings with a smaller sample size than what
42 was occurring by the Federal Program, and therein
43 direct conflict with regard to the results.

44
45 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

46
47 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Any other
48 questions. Thank you, Gene. Comments. Discussion on
49 this.

50

1
2 (No comments)

3
4 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: All right.
5 Hearing none we'll go ahead and open and entertain a
6 motion.

7
8
9 (No comments)

10
11 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: And that would
12 be a motion to approve the revisions as amended by
13 Staff on the tribal consultation implementation
14 guidelines.

15
16 MR. LIND: I would just add, Mr. Chair,
17 that this is a living document and it is designed to
18 provide guidance for our Staff and the Federal
19 Subsistence Program. And this is the first revision
20 we've had since 2015, January of 2015, so it has worked
21 very well and this additional revision, I think, will
22 just add to clarity.

23
24 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

25
26 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Thank you,
27 Orville.

28
29 MR. SIEKANIEC: Mr. Chair.

30
31 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Yes.

32
33 MR. SIEKANIEC: This is Greg with Fish
34 and Wildlife Service. Mr. Chair, I would recommend
35 that we accept the implementation guideline revision
36 that Orville presented for the Federal Subsistence
37 Board government to government tribal consultation
38 policy.

39
40 MR. BROWER: Second.

41
42 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: The motion's
43 been made and seconded to accept the revisions. Any
44 Board discussion, deliberation.

45
46 (No comments)

47
48 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Hearing none,
49 call for the question.

50

1 MR. STRIKER: Question.
2
3 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Question's been
4 called, roll call, Sue, please.
5
6 MS. DETWILER: Okay. Fish and Wildlife
7 Service, Greg Siekaniec.
8
9 MR. SIEKANIEC: Thank you, Sue, I
10 support.
11
12 MS. DETWILER: Okay.
13
14 Forest Service, Wayne Owen.
15
16 MR. OWEN: I support.
17
18 MS. DETWILER: Thank you.
19
20 BIA, Gene Peltola.
21
22 MR. PELTOLA: BIA supports.
23
24 MS. DETWILER: Thank you.
25
26 BLM, Chris McKee.
27
28 MR. MCKEE: BLM supports.
29
30 MS. DETWILER: Thank you.
31
32 National Park Service, Don Striker.
33
34 MR. STRIKER: The Park Service
35 supports. Thank you.
36
37 MS. DETWILER: Thank you.
38
39 Public Member Rhonda Pitka.
40
41 MS. PITKA: I support. Thank you.
42
43 MS. DETWILER: Thank you.
44
45 Public Member Charlie Brower.
46
47 MR. BROWER: I support.
48
49 MS. DETWILER: Thank you.
50

1 Chair Anthony Christianson.

2

3 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: I support as
4 presented.

5

6 MS. DETWILER: Thank you. Passed
7 unanimously so the motion to accept proposed revisions
8 passes.

9

10 MR. LIND: Quyana, everyone, and Mr.
11 Chair, I would like -- I will be able to give a short
12 overbriefing at the next full Federal Subsistence Board
13 meeting we have.

14

15 Thank you, very much.

16

17 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Thank you,
18 Orville, appreciate it and all the work that goes into
19 tribal consultation and making sure that we get to hear
20 the concerns of the constituents out there is really
21 important. And like I said, I've watched, I think, the
22 process improve over the time I've been involved, and
23 hopefully we just fine tune it a little bit and
24 continue to make the Federal Board available to consult
25 with tribes on all these big issues we've got ahead of
26 us. So thank you very much for that and appreciate the
27 Staff's work and time and energy that goes into this.

28

29 All right, I think it's getting close
30 to lunchtime and also that is the work load that we
31 have before us, we jammed it out in three hours guys.

32

33 MS. DETWILER: So, Mr. Chair, just if I
34 can, did you want to resolve the issue of when the
35 Board is going to take up its executive session
36 tomorrow?

37

38 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Yeah, that's
39 the only thing we have left to do is to do our
40 executive session. And we have basically two topics
41 that we needed, one was a hard time for Solicitor -- I
42 mean for Steve to be involved at 1:00 o'clock tomorrow.

43

44 MS. DETWILER: Uh-huh.

45

46 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: I don't know,
47 you know, we also are scheduled for 9:00 a.m., to
48 start, so I don't know if you guys just want to get
49 together at 9:00 a.m., and do a short one, or if we

50

1 should just go and do everything tomorrow at 1:00
2 o'clock.

3

4 MS. MAAS: Mr. Chair, this is Lisa.
5 And if you start at 1:00 you won't have time to get
6 through the entire executive session agenda.

7

8 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Okay. So
9 should we split that up then and we will take the --
10 how about we do the one in the morning and then which
11 -- we don't need Steve, right?

12

13 MS. DETWILER: Right, yes.

14

15 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Let's just
16 anticipate calling in then a 9:00 a.m., start tomorrow
17 with the non-Steve agenda items in executive session
18 and then we could reconvene again at 1:00 o'clock for
19 that part with Steve.

20

21 MS. DETWILER: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

22

23 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: If that works
24 for everybody.

25

26 MR. STRIKER: That works, Mr. Chair,
27 Don Striker. I just checked with Steve, too, and he
28 said he could probably be on tomorrow morning by about
29 10:00 o'clock.

30

31 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Alrighty, so
32 that sounds like our schedule of events for tomorrow.
33 So I guess what we'll do is adjourn this meeting for
34 today and come back at 9:00 a.m., tomorrow in executive
35 session.

36

37 MR. BROWER: Okay, thank you.

38

39 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Motion to
40 adjourn.

41

42 MR. SIEKANIEC: So moved.

43

44 MR. STRIKER: Second.

45

46 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON: Motion made to
47 adjourn and seconded, come back tomorrow.

48

49 Any opposition.....

50

1 (No opposition)
2
3 CHAIRMAN CHRISTIANSON:hearing
4 none, motion carries unanimous and we'll see you guys
5 at 9:00 a.m., tomorrow.
6
7 (Off record)
8
9 (END OF PROCEEDINGS)
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

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

C E R T I F I C A T E

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

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

THAT the foregoing pages numbered ___ through
___ contain a full, true and correct Transcript of the
FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE BOARD WORK SESSION taken
electronically on the 4th day of August 2020;

THAT the transcript is a true and
correct transcript requested to be transcribed and
thereafter transcribed by under my direction and
reduced to print to the best of our knowledge and
ability;

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

DATED at Anchorage, Alaska, this 5th
day of August 2020.

Salena A. Hile
Notary Public, State of Alaska
My Commission Expires: 09/16/22