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FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE BOARD
PUBLIC MEETING

REGAL ALASKA HOTEL
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA
FEBRUARY 3, 2000, 1:30 p.m.

Members Present:

- Mitch Demientieff, Chair (Telephonically)
- Niles, Cesar, BIA
- David Allen, U.S. F&W Service
- Fran Cherry, BLM
- Judy Gotlieb, NPS
- Jim Caplan, U.S. Forest Service (Telephonically)
- Keith Goltz, Solicitor

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P R O C E E D I N G S

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(On record)

5 MR. CESAR: In Mitch's absence, as the next
6 oldest senior, whatever, I'd like to call this meeting to
7 order and Tom would you go through the agenda please.

8
9 MR. BOYD: In the public session that we
10 have for this afternoon, we're going to be covering two
11 items. The first will be deliberation and discussion and
12 decision on a special action request that will be
13 considering opening a winter hunt for Unit 18, moose. And
14 the second item will be presentation of the 2000 projects
15 list, progress to-date and requesting Board approval on
16 some 17 projects that have been reviewed through the
17 councils. Both of these items will be open for public
18 comment.

19
20 So with that we can begin with the Unit 18, moose,
21 special action request. Pete DeMatteo, biologist from the
22 Office of Subsistence Management will be presenting the
23 staff analysis.

24
25 Before we get started, I'm somewhat remiss here, we
26 have several folks on-line today and I think I'll just go
27 ahead and acknowledge them. I may be backtracking here a
28 minute but we have Jack Olanna from Kawerak. Jim Caplan,
29 Forest Service Board member. Terry Haynes, Alaska
30 Department of Fish and Game. John Andrews with the Yukon-
31 Delta Refuge, coordinator for the Yukon-Delta Regional
32 Advisory Council. Mike Reardon who is the refuge manager
33 for the Yukon-Delta Refuge. Roy Ashenfelter with Kawerak
34 in Nome. And we will be on the record this afternoon, we
35 have Joe Kolasinski who will be recording the public
36 session this afternoon. We have been waiting for Harry
37 Wilde to join us. We have tried to call him and give him
38 the information again about the bridge number, and someone
39 just joined us and so we need to stop and find out who that
40 is. Who just joined us on the line?

41
42 MR. WILDE: Harry Wilde.

43
44 MR. BOYD: Great. You were the missing
45 ingredient Harry. We're glad you're here. Is that you,
46 Mitch?

47
48 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Yeah.

49
50 MR. BOYD: Great.

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1 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: I had trouble
2 getting on line.

3
4

5 MR. BOYD: Well, you almost had a coup
6 here, Niles was taking over. Okay, great, so we're all on-
7 line now. Let me backtrack again, Mitch, for your benefit.

8

9 The order of business for the meeting this
10 afternoon is the Unit 18, special action for moose and the
11 2000 projects for Board approval. And on-line, again, is
12 Jake Olanna, Kawerak. Jim Caplan, Forest Service. Terry
13 Haynes, Alaska Department of Fish and Game. John Andrews,
14 council coordinator for Y-K Delta region. Mike Reardon,
15 refuge manager for the Y-K Delta National Wildlife Refuge.
16 Roy Ashenfelter, Kawerak in Nome. And Harry Wilde. And I
17 mentioned while you were coming on that we are on the
18 record being transcribed, Mitch.

19

20 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Okay, thank you.

21

22 MR. BOYD: And the Board is all in
23 attendance as it was when we broke up this morning in the
24 work session but I'll quickly go around the table only and
25 then you'll hear from others as they testify and they'll
26 have to identify themselves. We have Keith Goltz,
27 solicitor. Ken Thompson, Forest Service. Curt Wilson and
28 Fran Cherry, BLM. Dave Allen and Greg Boz, Fish and
29 Wildlife Service. Peggy Fox, myself, Tom Boyd, Fish and
30 Wildlife Service Office of Subsistence Management. Dan
31 O'Hara, Bristol Bay Chair. Niles Cesar and Ida Hildebrand,
32 BIA. Willie Goodwin, Northwest Arctic Chair. Judy
33 Gottlieb and Sandy Rabinowitch from Park Service.

34

35 So we're ready to go and we have Pete DeMatteo
36 standing by to give us the Staff analysis on the Unit 18
37 moose.

38

39 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Okay.

40

41 MR. DeMATTEO: Mr. Chair, the special
42 action request was originally submitted by Mr. Sammie
43 Jackson of Akiak. He requested that the Federal Board
44 extend by special action the winter to be announced moose
45 season in Unit 18, the Kuskokwim River drainage and the
46 remainder of Unit 18 and this extension should be by 10
47 days.

48

49 The request was originally submitted by Mr. Jackson
50 in response to an extreme cold snap that prevented access

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1 for hunters from December 29 on through the rest of the
2 season. The season, again, was to be announced. The
3 regulatory season is anywhere between December 1st and
4 February 28th, and this year the announced season was
5 December 27th of '99 through January 5 of 2000. The winter
6 season was jointly opened by the Alaska Department of Fish
7 and Game and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

8
9 The population status, prior surveys revealed that
10 there was approximately 200 moose in the Lower Kuskokwim
11 drainage and this was from a 1993 survey. However, another
12 survey was conducted recently on January 15th, it was a
13 joint survey again between Federal and State biologists and
14 it was also conducted with the assistance from local
15 residents in the Yukon-Kuskokwim region. The results of
16 the surveys reveal the total of 47 moose were observed in
17 the lower Kuskokwim drainage and this is a substantial
18 decline from the 1993 survey estimate. It's also important
19 to keep in mind that this time of year the bulls have shed
20 their antlers and the extension of the season could prove
21 an inadvertent harvest of cows. This, combined with the
22 risk of inadvertent cow harvest could have a devastating
23 affect on the population. Additionally, an estimation of
24 harvest during the -- for the December 27th through January
25 5th season which recently occurred is not possible because
26 no harvest reports for Unit 18, the winter season exist for
27 the past four years.

28
29 That's basically all I have at this time and I'll
30 stop here and answer any questions.

31
32 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Is there any
33 questions?

34
35 MR. BOYD: I see nobody raising their hand,
36 Mitch. I think we're ready for -- the agenda that you
37 probably have in front of you has public comments next,
38 Mitch.

39
40 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Okay.

41
42 MR. BOYD: Okay.

43
44 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: I don't have the
45 agenda in front of me, I'm struggling here.

46
47 MR. BOYD: Okay. Well, then I'll get to
48 help you then.

49
50 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Okay, public

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1 comments then, is that where we're going next?

2
3 MR. BOYD: Yes.

4
5 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Who do we have?

6
7 MR. BOYD: I'm not sure if there's anyone
8 on-line, hang on a minute. What we have are some that came
9 in writing, I presume, so Pete.

10
11 MR. DeMATTEO: What I have is the Regional
12 Council comments if nobody else is prepared to read them.

13
14 MR. BOYD: Okay.

15
16 MR. DeMATTEO: Harry's on-line -- Harry
17 Wilde is on-line.

18
19 MR. BOYD: We can move then to some of the
20 agency comments and I think we're talking about Mike
21 Reardon and -- well, ADF&G would be next then, okay Mike
22 Reardon.

23
24 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Okay.

25
26 MR. REARDON: This is Mike Reardon, I'm
27 calling from Bethel, Mr. Chairman. I really don't have too
28 much to add to what Pete DeMatteo gave in the summary. It
29 should be understood that we saw 47 moose on this survey,
30 however, that, of course, was not a complete, statistically
31 significant survey so we did miss some moose, I'm sure.
32 But we still have a strong feeling that the numbers of
33 moose in the area are significantly lower than the 200 that
34 we earlier had estimated. And probably more importantly
35 the moose that we did see were all bunched up in a very
36 small area right on the edge of Unit 18 close to Unit 19,
37 between the villages of Tuluksak and Lower Kalskag. In the
38 remaining portion of the area we only saw six moose. So
39 there's a very low number of moose in the majority of the
40 areas between the -- on the Lower Kuskokwim between Bethel
41 and Lower Kalskag.

42
43 As part of the survey we also flew a section of the
44 Yukon River about 25 miles north of the primary survey area
45 and during that time in an hour and 56 minutes of survey
46 time we counted 445 moose. These are areas with comparable
47 habitat. And part of the reason we did that was to
48 demonstrate the potential for the habitat. It's not a
49 habitat concern, it's a lack of moose at this time.

50

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1 MR. BOYD: Okay.

2

3 MR. REARDON: Thank you.

4

5 MR. BOYD: I think we can go to Alaska
6 Department of Fish and Game at this time.

7

8 MR. HAYNES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This
9 is Terry Haynes in Fairbanks. The Department doesn't have
10 any information to add to the comments we presented on the
11 original request last month. And we would also note that
12 the Board of Game addressed a similar request at its
13 meeting last month and chose not to support that request
14 for additional hunting opportunity given the low numbers of
15 moose present in the area as well as the other points that
16 we made in our original comments on this special action
17 request. So we do not believe that this season should be
18 open and continue to maintain that the best situation for
19 the moose population is to eliminate hunting pressure at
20 this time of the year and hopefully it will be in a
21 position to grow and expand into the habitat that's
22 available.

23

24 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

25

26 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Thank you.

27

28 MR. BOYD: We're ready for Regional
29 Advisory Council at this point.

30

31 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Okay, who do we have
32 on-line? Harry's on-line?

33

34 MR. BOYD: Yes.

35

36 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Harry.

37

38 MR. WILDE: Yeah, Mr. Chairman, Harry
39 Wilde, Chair Yukon-Kuskokwim Regional Advisory Council.
40 During Federal Subsistence Management training in
41 Anchorage, one area that we accomplished and we looked at
42 moose survey in Unit 18 there were 12 advisory councils in
43 that meeting. During the meeting we're looking at two
44 planes -- using two planes in counting and also including
45 one of the members of AVCT, Jim Andrew, and also one of the
46 local village members, Ry Williams from Akiak. So looking
47 at the numbers we decide -- we call for the vote, how we
48 going to handle and now this -- and so during that meeting
49 12 regional council attending here is how they vote, they
50 vote not to extend that request, Unit 18 10 days, moose

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1 season with a vote of nine yes, two abstained, one no, so
2 that's the way council votes.

3

4 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Thank you. Is there
5 any other Regional Council comments?

6

7 MR. BOYD: I think we're ready to move
8 forward to Board deliberation, Mr. Chair.

9

10 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: We don't have any
11 other public on-line?

12

13 MR. BOYD: No, we do not.

14

15 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Okay. Is there any
16 discussion by the Board members.

17

18 MR. D. ALLEN: Is the Chair ready for a
19 motion?

20

21 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Yeah.

22

23 MR. D. ALLEN: Mr. Chairman, I move that we
24 accept the Staff Committee's recommendation. It has been
25 supported, upon review, by the Regional Advisory Council to
26 not extend this season during this period, and primarily
27 for conservation reasons. And also, as I understand, and
28 maybe this is something that we need to get clarified, but
29 as I understand there are alternative resources, mainly
30 caribou still available in that area.

31

32 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Thank you.

33

34 MR. CESAR: Second.

35

36 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Is there a second?

37

38 MR. CESAR: I'll second it.

39

40 MR. BOYD: Niles seconds.

41

42 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Okay. Discussion.

43

44 MR. D. ALLEN: Mr. Chairman, this is Dave
45 Allen again.

46

47 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Yes.

48

49 MR. D. ALLEN: I'd like Mike, or anyone
50 else, again, to speak to the question of alternative

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1 resources.

2

3

4 MR. REARDON: Mr. Chairman, this is Mike
5 Reardon in Bethel again. We still currently have anywhere
6 from 25 to 40,000 Mulchatna caribou in the area bordering
7 the Kuskokwim primarily on the eastern side to the
8 Kuskokwim. And they remain in the area the majority of the
9 winter and just recently, in the past couple of weeks, have
10 moved closer to the Bethel/Akiak/Akiachak area.

11

12 MR. D. ALLEN: Also, Mike, if you'd just
13 briefly explain what your plans are with regard to
14 developing a management plan for moose in that area?

15

16 MR. REARDON: Yes. Mr. Chairman, we've
17 started working with the local Fish and Game Advisory
18 Committee and also members of the Regional Council that are
19 from this area in devising a strategy to work with the
20 villages on developing a moose conservation plan. We
21 intend to have other meetings this coming spring and hope
22 that in the future will be submitting proposals to the
23 Federal Subsistence Board and the State Board of Game as a
24 reflection of these meetings that we're having. There's
25 been a lot of interest. If anything, this proposal has
26 been a catalyst for a lot of us to talk about the issue and
27 I've had a lot of discussion with people from along the
28 Kuskokwim and there seems to be a lot of support for
29 beginning the process of developing this conservation plan.

30

31 MR. D. ALLEN: If I may, Mr. Chairman, just
32 one final comment. As you know at our last meeting one of
33 the main concerns of the Board was not having current
34 information with regard to the moose population in that
35 area. And I just wanted to -- and I'm sure the Board
36 shares my feelings here, express my appreciation to you,
37 Mike, and your staff, in your responsiveness and to gather
38 that information and also, particularly in working with
39 local residents to do the best we could in coming up with a
40 more current number. And I certainly want to encourage and
41 support your continuing efforts to develop a sound moose
42 management plan in that area for the future.

43

44 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

45

46 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Thank you. Any
47 other discussion?

48

49 MR. BOYD: Judy.

50

MS. GOTTLEIB: Mr. Chair, I also want to

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1 thank the Fish and Wildlife Service for making the effort
2 to do the survey and for working with local experts as
3 well. And also to the Regional Advisory Council for taking
4 it up because I know we had the Chairman on the line last
5 time and he was not willing to act without having the
6 information so we appreciate the extra time that he took
7 during the evening to come up with that recommendation.

8
9 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Thank you. Any
10 other comments?

11
12 MR. BOYD: I see no other indications of
13 comments at this time.

14
15 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: If there's no
16 further comments then all those in favor of the motion
17 signify by saying aye.

18
19 IN UNISON: Aye.

20
21 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Those opposed same
22 sign.

23
24 (No opposing votes)

25
26 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Motion carries.

27
28 MR. BOYD: We're now ready to move to the
29 second item which is a decision on the Year 2000 projects
30 to be implemented in February and we have Taylor Brelsford
31 and Dr. Chuck Krueger coming to the table to provide a
32 briefing for the Board.

33
34 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Okay, Taylor.

35
36 MR. BRELSFORD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
37 Let me just confirm as to we tried to fax up to you the
38 summary of the public comments. It's just a short
39 document.

40
41 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Oh, I do have that.

42
43 MR. BRELSFORD: Okay. And it includes the
44 Staff Committee recommendation on the back so that will
45 actually be the action item proposed to the Board at this
46 time. In view of the strong public interest expressed this
47 morning about doing the right thing as we start this
48 research program, this critical fisheries research program,
49 I'd like to take just a moment and talk about some of the
50 consultation that has already occurred in developing the 17

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1 projects. And I'll be quite brief in moving towards the
2 public comment and Staff Committee recommendation.

3
4 But in the 17 projects, the lavender package that
5 was provided at the Council meetings last week and has
6 previously been provided to the Board, I'd like to
7 highlight four ways in which we've really tried to work
8 with local people. First of those is to recognize local
9 priorities. And you'll see that in the projects concerning
10 char in the northwest Arctic and eastern Arctic, these are
11 mentioned as having come from concerns raised by the
12 Regional Councils repeatedly in the last several years. So
13 some projects respond to, identify priorities that have
14 been expressed through the Regional Councils.

15
16 A second way is to actually work with local
17 partners, and you would see an example of this in Project
18 4, where the Council of Athabaskan Tribal Governments will
19 be our primary partner in a project that will look at white
20 fish ecology and the impact of beaver dams. Again, a key
21 regional issue and priority and this is an instance where
22 we would work with a local partner.

23
24 In the Bethel area, there are two projects for in-
25 season and post-season harvest monitoring in which ONC, the
26 Bethel tribal council will be the organization conducting
27 the work.

28
29 A third instance in which we worked with local
30 people has to do with expressions of local support for
31 projects. In the Togiak River Weir Project is one in which
32 five letters of support from local village councils, tribal
33 councils were put forward to the Board.

34
35 And finally there are several projects that really
36 focus on local knowledge. Project 12 is an effort to write
37 down some very important observations that have been shared
38 over the course of many years with Molly Chythlook, a key
39 researcher in Dillingham with the Alaska Department of Fish
40 and Game, Subsistence Division. So this is an instance in
41 which she has worked with local experts in 12 villages over
42 the last decade or more, many of the interview notes that
43 she has gained over the years have never been
44 systematically written down and we believe that it's a way
45 of expressing some respect for the extra information shared
46 in a research project by trying to systematically record
47 that local knowledge. So that's a way of saying that
48 within the 17 projects before you there are some
49 foundations in local cooperation that we think are actually
50 very important.

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1 In relation to the comments themselves, the package
2 of the 17 projects was approved by the Board for
3 distribution to the Regional Councils, the major regional
4 tribal organizations and the public, your -- we distributed
5 the package beginning on January 15th. These proposals
6 were reviewed in some depth by the Regional Councils in
7 their caucuses in meetings last week and to summarize, very
8 quickly, all three of the major caucuses did express
9 support for the package of proposals. In some instances,
10 council members were directly involved in some of the
11 priority setting and putting together proposals and were
12 able to share more information. In other instances, in
13 Southeast, in particular, there is some very significant
14 ongoing discussions between the tribes and the Forest
15 Service that will result in some additional projects. But
16 overall, I think it's fair to say that the councils realize
17 the importance of this program, the importance of timely
18 initiative in this program and felt that these projects
19 really lived up to the purposes and the standards of what
20 we want to do in our first wave of fisheries resource
21 monitoring projects. At the same time, some council
22 members did share concerns about fuller consultation in the
23 regions in the future and some council members expressed
24 concern about how we might do a better job of specifically
25 involving the Alaska Native tribes in this program.

26
27 We did, in fact, have written comments from four of
28 the regional tribal associations and those are summarized
29 and attached if you want to read them in detail at a later
30 time. But the Association of Village Council Presidents,
31 the Bristol Bay Native Association, Kawerak, Inc., and the
32 Tanana Chiefs Conference submitted letters regarding the
33 package of proposals. Generally speaking the associations
34 offered their views on the proposals that affected their
35 regions and on some statewide proposals and, again, in
36 general, these comments were supportive of the package of
37 the proposals that are before us.

38
39 As with the council caucuses, there were some
40 concerns expressed about the extent of consultation
41 particularly with tribal entities and I think those are
42 best viewed as advice about how to do a better job in the
43 future rather than being seen as fatal flaws in the package
44 that's before you today.

45
46 And then finally, I'll note that other parties that
47 commented, the Western Interior Regional Council wrote a
48 letter in support of the Tatlawiksuk River Weir Operation,
49 the KNA project in that region. And again, on the Togiak
50 River Weir there were these five letters of support. At

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1 the village level these were the Twin Hills Village
2 Council, the Traditional Council of Togiak, the Tribal
3 Council in Dillingham and the Aleknagik Traditional
4 Council.

5
6 The Staff Committee, if I may proceed, reviewed
7 these materials yesterday and offered the following
8 recommendation to the Board, and that is to adopt the 17
9 fisheries resource monitoring projects contained in the
10 January 14th package. Specifically in regard to Project
11 17, the statewide subsistence fisheries harvest monitoring
12 strategy. The Staff Committee recommended initiating the
13 portion of that project that would be conducted by the
14 Alaska Department of Fish and Game Subsistence Division at
15 the present time and the Staff Committee recommended that
16 the Board direct the Office of Subsistence Management Staff
17 to reconvene discussions as soon as possible with AFN, AITC
18 and RuralCAP regarding the Alaska Native organization
19 component of that project. The Staff Committee recommended
20 a goal of reaching agreement, in principle, on the Alaska
21 Native organization component by February 14th of this
22 year.

23
24 And I believe that concludes the summary of
25 comments to date and the Staff Committee's recommendation.

26
27 Thank you.

28
29 MR. BOYD: I think we're ready for public
30 comments on this report as well as the recommendation to
31 move forward with the 17 projects.

32
33 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Okay. Do we have
34 anybody on-line who wishes to testify or in the room?

35
36 MR. BOYD: I'm looking about the room to
37 see if anyone is giving me any indication that they would
38 like to testify.

39
40 MR. ASHENFELTER: Mr. Chairman.

41
42 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Yes.

43
44 MR. ASHENFELTER: Okay, this is Roy with
45 Kawerak.

46
47 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Roy.

48
49 MR. ASHENFELTER: This is Roy Ashenfelter
50 with Kawerak. I do have some comments I'd like to make.

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1 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Thank you, go ahead.

2

3 MR. ASHENFELTER: We received the packet
4 last week from the Federal Subsistence Board. Our comments
5 to the committee is more of a -- this is the first time
6 we've heard of this type of process. We were concerned,
7 obviously here in Kawerak, about our fisheries and some of
8 the questions we had were -- we would hope that we would be
9 able to answer and I don't know if we could do this at the
10 public comments portion because it seems like the questions
11 we have are more of an educational material for us to learn
12 about what exactly is happening here and we could recognize
13 it by looking at the 17 proposals. We'd like to know if
14 some of the proposals and work that we've done in our
15 region in regards to fishery issues would also -- might be
16 -- maybe added later on. Obviously the deadline for those
17 -- or to participate in the original 17 was never notified
18 of us so obviously we didn't put any in or make comments to
19 those to even have some put in there.

20

21 So I might sound a little -- obviously it's a
22 little confusing on my part, I apologize, because it's more
23 of an educational type thing. One of the things we want to
24 know is how does Norton Sound participate in the selection
25 process? Do projects have to be on Federal lands? When
26 can we submit proposals? And then we also noted in there
27 that there is some idea about having five tribal
28 representation and participating. We were wondering if the
29 working group took a very serious look at that and maybe,
30 obviously, that might be another branch to have others
31 participate in or is this organization still developing?

32

33 So those are some of the questions I have, Mr.
34 Chairman.

35

36 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Okay.

37

38 MR. BOYD: Mr. Chair, I might direct the
39 question to Taylor.

40

41 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Sure.

42

43 MR. BRELSFORD: Mr. Chairman, in hurrying,
44 I did neglect to note some of the additional offers that
45 were made -- advanced from Kawerak and, in particular, the
46 letter from Kawerak highlighted a number of regional
47 organizations including the Kawerak Natural Resources
48 Committee that are offered as avenues for fuller
49 consultation within the region. So Roy's comments are
50 certainly very welcome in that respect.

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1 On the question of whether projects have to be
2 directly involving Federal lands, I believe our basic
3 criteria have included the sort of starting point that the
4 resource monitoring projects have direct association with
5 the fisheries that occur on the Federal waters that would
6 be under direct Federal management. So in some instances
7 we will be monitoring populations that are harvested on
8 Federal waters although the weir project or the monitoring
9 effort itself might be further upstream. The key here is
10 it has to be tied to the Federal Subsistence Board's
11 responsibilities to manage those subsistence fisheries on
12 the Federal waters.

13
14 And thirdly, there is still time -- we will talk in
15 a few minutes about the April package that will be put
16 before the Board for additional projects in Year 2000. And
17 there is a fuller opportunity for us to discuss with
18 Kawerak some of the ongoing effort and some other
19 possibilities. Timing wise, some of these may be better
20 focused on the Year 2001 rather than squeezing in at the
21 present time but that door is not yet, not closed at this
22 point.

23
24 And finally I also neglected to mention that
25 several of the tribal association letters did specifically
26 support the suggestion of adding five tribal
27 representatives to the inter-agency team that is reviewing
28 these projects. For the benefit of those on-line, this was
29 discussed in the work session by the Federal Subsistence
30 Board this morning so I think we may look forward to more
31 further developments on that point.

32
33 MR. BOYD: And let me just add, Roy, that
34 what Taylor was referring to is the letters that were sent
35 in from several organizations, AFN, AITC, RuralCap and AVCP
36 regarding additional involvement on the technical
37 committee, i.e., the five tribal representatives. That is
38 an item that is still under discussion by the Board so
39 there is no response to your question there. There will be
40 one forthcoming in the near future, I think.

41
42 Also with regard to educating you on the process, I
43 think we would not take the time here but Taylor would be
44 more than happy to, I think, speak with you in more depth
45 about your involvement as this unfolds through April and
46 the remainder of the process.

47
48 MR. ASHENFELTER: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

49
50 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Thank you. Is there

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1 additional testimony? Is there any other request for
2 additional public testimony?

3
4 MR. BOYD: I'm not seeing any in the room,
5 Mr. Chair.

6
7 MR. O'HARA: Will there be an opportunity
8 for the Chairs?

9
10 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: I'm not hearing any
11 on-line so let's move on.

12
13 MR. BOYD: We may go to Board deliberation
14 and I don't know if ADF&G wanted to comment or not and I'm
15 seeing Jim Fall shake his head no. I only ask that because
16 when we ask for public comments maybe they thought we were
17 going to go forward to them in a minute like we did in the
18 earlier proposal.

19
20 Okay, we're probably ready for Board discussion and
21 I would think that would include Dan and Willie as well?

22
23 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Yes. Unless they
24 have opening comments you'd like to first, Dan or Willie.

25
26 MR. O'HARA: Mr. Chairman, this is Dan
27 O'Hara, Chair of Bristol Bay. And I apologize to the
28 Federal Board for not being here earlier but with no power
29 and no phone and.....

30
31 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: No roof.

32
33 MR. O'HARA:no roof and no nothing
34 else we were lucky to get out of there today, and it didn't
35 sound like Anchorage is much better in some areas. But I
36 appreciate being able to make a comment here.

37
38 Taylor, you made the comments that the Regional
39 Councils had an opportunity to look at these 17 projects in
40 depth. I think maybe we should reword that a little bit
41 because I don't think we had an opportunity to look at
42 these in depth, we weren't here for that purpose to look at
43 the 17 projects in depth. However, we gave a lukewarm nod
44 to go ahead with the 17, and I think that's a good idea.
45 We gave that support because with the fisheries coming on-
46 line in October 1 and Staff, you know, maybe it was going
47 to come on-line October 1 and maybe it wasn't going to come
48 on-line by midnight of that time so it really was an iffy,
49 iffy project situation taking place.

50

00016

1 I think it would have been real difficult for Staff
2 to have come up to what we thought would be a number 1
3 priority, we did not have a public meeting of our RAC so we
4 were, not lukewarm, pretty happy to be able to say take
5 these and go for the first year and see what we can get
6 into our computers by the Year 2001.

7
8 Without public input and a RAC meeting, we were
9 getting fairly happy about saying the 17 projects were
10 okay. We were not overly impressed with them because I
11 think when we kind of caucused and talked among ourselves,
12 the number 1 priority that we have, a couple of them would
13 be, one of them would be at Iliamna Lake, of course, which
14 drives Bristol Bay and a second one being Lake Clark which
15 has had such a low return of salmon for the last few years,
16 that we're concerned about what might happen there. When
17 we have our meeting March 24th and 25th, there will be
18 considerable input and you'll have Staff there at that time
19 and we will have some ideas on what projects we'd like to
20 look forward to in the future.

21
22 But the purpose of the meeting, I think, and the
23 training that we had just a week or so ago was for the
24 purpose of all of us getting together, not necessarily
25 looking in depth of the fisheries projects.

26
27 Thank you, Mitch.

28
29 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Thank you.

30
31 MR. BOYD: I think Willie's ready to say
32 something, Mitch.

33
34 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Willie.

35
36 MR. GOODWIN: Mr. Chairman, members of the
37 Board. For this process I began working with the Park
38 Service probably back in August on projects that we thought
39 should be included in the program and we came up with four
40 but due to the timing and the timing of when the takeover
41 happened and the time needed to prepare proposals we
42 decided since the State had these in proposal form, we
43 would be better off putting our full support in allowing
44 the State to submit these. So that's what we did. And at
45 the same time when these proposals were being drafted and
46 such I did ask my coordinator to get a hold of the North
47 Slope Chair and the Norton Sound Chair to see if they had
48 any projects that they wanted to go forward with and she
49 never did get a response. But I understand now that the
50 Regional Advisory Councils from both areas are going to be

00017

1 working closely with the tribal organizations and see what
2 kind of proposals they should put forth. With the North
3 Slope they're going to be working with the North Slope
4 Borough to submit proposals that the Borough's been doing
5 on their own but now they've cut back because of the budget
6 cuts that they're making up there.

7

8 So I think from the northern part of Alaska we're
9 going to be okay. I feel confident. Thank you.

10

11 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Thank you. Is there
12 any other comment?

13

14 MR. BOYD: We may be ready for Board
15 discussion at this point.

16

17 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Okay. Is there -- I
18 guess I do have one thought. How many meetings would we
19 expect to have to come up with the list -- I'm particularly
20 concerned about 2001?

21

22 MR. BOYD: 2001, I'm going to refer to
23 Taylor.

24

25 MR. BRELSFORD: This is Taylor. The next
26 item before you will actually be our updated version of the
27 2001 process. And to answer your question specifically, we
28 would convene in -- we would start the 2001 process next
29 month in the winter Regional Council meetings. All 10 of
30 the Council meetings starting Barrow, ending in Dillingham
31 will devote a portion of their agenda to identifying
32 priorities and issues in their regions followed through the
33 summer by developing projects to address those priorities
34 and Board deliberations in the fall. So all 10 regions will
35 be the building blocks for a statewide package that the
36 Board would adopt later in the year.

37

38 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: I'm not hearing you,
39 Taylor, but anyway, we'll have another shot at your
40 explanation on the next agenda item. I don't want to mix
41 them up. I've just been thinking about that a little bit
42 and I want to talk about it some.

43

44 Is there any other discussion?

45

46 MR. D. ALLEN: Mr. Chairman.

47

48 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Yes.

49

50 MR. D. ALLEN: If I might ask Taylor to

00018

1 just give us a brief summary on exactly what we can
2 anticipate in what we're calling the second wave of the
3 2000 projects, which we're anticipating right now to have
4 before the Board in early April for approval.

5
6 MR. BRELSFORD: Thanks, Mr. Chairman. Let
7 me make sure I'm -- maybe I can improve on the microphone
8 here. The question then was do we have any ability to
9 anticipate the scope of the package that would be before
10 the Board in April.

11
12 We have at the present time something on the order
13 of 30 initial projects that have been submitted and
14 retained for further discussion. We do expect additional
15 projects to be submitted by some of the tribal associations
16 that have now become more actively involved. And at the
17 same time, some of the earlier projects that were put to us
18 are being consolidated, that is to say, there were
19 overlapping proposals on the Copper River as an example. I
20 would guess, but I don't have any real scientific reason to
21 estimate this, that we're talking about a set of projects
22 that will be on about the same scale as what we're putting
23 to you now.

24
25 The current package of proposals to the Board today
26 represents about 1.2 million dollars and in the actions you
27 adopted in early December, you committed about \$700,000.
28 So at the present time we're up to about 1.9 or 2 million
29 dollars out of the roughly 6 million that is available for
30 the resource monitoring program. I think the April package
31 will take us close to using the full funding but probably
32 not 100 percent of it.

33
34 MR. D. ALLEN: And one follow-up question
35 then Taylor. How do we hope to engage the RACs in the
36 second phase?

37
38 MR. BRELSFORD: Very good question, Mr.
39 Allen. Actually we do have a proposal to review with you
40 for the steps leading to the April package. And Dr.
41 Krueger was going to walk you through that briefing
42 document in a moment's time.

43
44 MR. D. ALLEN: Thank you.

45
46 MR. GOODWIN: Mr. Chairman.

47
48 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Yes.

49
50 MR. GOODWIN: Yeah, this is Willie again.

00019

1 During our caucus last week for Norton Sound, Northwest and
2 North Slope, we did review and discuss possible projects
3 that could be considered for the April meeting and also for
4 2001 and we made some modifications to the existing
5 proposals that were already put forth. So for the North
6 again, we did talk about it, to answer some of your
7 questions David.

8

9 MR. D. ALLEN: Thanks, Willie.

10

11 MR. CHERRY: Mr. Chair, this is Fran
12 Cherry. Listening to the conversations from this morning
13 and then also some of the deliberations this afternoon, I'd
14 like to suggest maybe a recommendation for the Staff and
15 that is, that we're working really fast to get this first
16 set of projects on board, extremely fast to get them
17 allocated and we're always talking about doing some catch
18 up with the public and getting some documents out so that
19 the public is more on board. And here we're moving quickly
20 into the second half of these projects, you know, the rest
21 of the money as Taylor just indicated, and it looks like
22 we'll spend all of the money and there's probably several
23 Native groups that would like to have a chance to
24 participate and I think as indicated more proposals coming
25 in. It would seem to me to be advantageous that we take a
26 couple of days and develop some criteria of what the
27 projects are about, the description of the effort, how a
28 person would apply, what's the area that you could -- you
29 gave a very succinct description of, you know, that it has
30 to affect public fisheries at some point. But to spend a
31 few days so that people can get an application package
32 together that's meaningful and that is widely disseminated
33 to folks.

34

35 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Yes. Further
36 discussion.

37

38 I guess we might as well approach it because we
39 still do have the April decision points here. And with
40 regard to the request, worried about the budget, you know,
41 we do have a request for five tribal people to be at the
42 Staff level. I'm just wondering if that would also be
43 possible for five representatives from the Regional
44 Councils, you know, and that's -- I really and firmly
45 believe that, you know, I don't want any tribal
46 consultation to outweigh the consultation by the RACs. But
47 if we're able to afford to do that, to expand this group to
48 10, we would have the potential to have a representative
49 from every one of our 10 regions in that Staff process and
50 have every one of our 10 regions have a representative in

00020

1 recommending the package.

2

3 I don't know budget wise if we can handle that.
4 Anybody want to take a shot at that one?

5

6 MR. BOYD: I can't answer your question,
7 Mr. Chair. I'd certainly have to go take a hard look at
8 that. I mean we certainly have made every effort to move
9 people around to various meetings when we saw a need to do
10 so and I think we would continue to do that. What it would
11 mean for me is determining if we thought this to be a
12 fairly important issue, what wouldn't get done as opposed
13 to what would get done.

14

15 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Right.

16

17 MR. BOYD: And we're not talking about just
18 one meeting, I don't think, I think we're talking about
19 several meetings. So, you know, I haven't run the numbers
20 to say what your proposal would mean since this is the
21 first I've heard of it. But it -- we're talking, four, I'm
22 looking at Chuck and Taylor right now, we're talking four
23 to five meetings, is that what I understand?

24

25 MR. BRELSFORD: Yes.

26

27 MR. BOYD: And we're talking 10 additional
28 folks to bring in to be involved in the meetings.

29

30 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Yeah, well, that's
31 fine. I mean, you know, that's just something we need to
32 look at. Because it's certainly going to have an impact on
33 how we're going to approach this tribal consultation and
34 Regional Council participation in, you know, the selection
35 or the nominations of these projects basically because
36 that's what it is, it's just a nomination until it gets to
37 the Board.

38

39 MR. BOYD: Right. You'd be in the ball
40 park of \$20,000 I would think.

41

42 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Yeah.

43

44 MR. BOYD: Very quickly.

45

46 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: You know, so that's
47 just what I wondered, you know, because I want to be
48 equitable in the tribal participation as well as the
49 Regional Council participation of it. That's one thing I
50 feel is very important to us.

00021

1 MR. BOYD: We were going to take up the
2 discussion of tribal consultation and the recommendations
3 of the letters that we discussed this morning at a work
4 session after the public session, maybe that.....

5
6 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: And I understand
7 that.

8
9 MR. BOYD: Okay.

10
11 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: I understand that.

12
13 MR. BOYD: Okay.

14
15 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: But that's just one
16 of the things that I was wanting to get out and get some
17 thought, too. It's just a thought that had occurred to me.
18 But I thought it would also be somewhat cumbersome, you
19 know, and hard to get on-line, certainly for the April
20 decision points.

21
22 But anyway, we'll deal with that.....

23
24 MR. ASHENFELTER: Mr. Chairman.

25
26 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Yes.

27
28 MR. ASHENFELTER: Mr. Chairman, this is Roy
29 at Kawerak in Nome. You know, if the group down there
30 decides that maybe having additional tribal members is too
31 cumbersome but at least maybe one of the considerations
32 that might be thought about is having the meetings
33 throughout the state of Alaska at various times in the year
34 and maybe that's already thought of. But what that would
35 do in the long-term is that would start educating people to
36 the process and how, one, projects are submitted and two,
37 how they're discussed and some of the workings of the
38 Federal Subsistence Board in regards to these projects.

39
40 Thank you.

41
42 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Is there any other
43 Board discussion? I think we're ready for a motion.

44
45 MR. CHERRY: Mr. Chair, I move that we
46 accept the Staff Committee's recommendation as submitted
47 with the following addition, that a clear, concise
48 statement of the purpose of the projects and project
49 submittal details and the considerations be developed and
50 widely submitted.

00022

1 MR. D. ALLEN: Second.

2

3 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: It's been moved and
4 seconded. Any other discussion. I'm sorry, I didn't catch
5 that.

6

7 MR. BOYD: There were no other comments.

8

9 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Okay. I guess we're
10 ready for a vote. All those in favor of the motion please
11 signify by saying aye.

12

13 IN UNISON: Aye.

14

15 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Those opposed same
16 sign.

17

18 (No opposing votes)

19

20 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Motion carries.

21 Okay.

22

23 MR. BRELSFORD: Mr. Chairman, if I may,
24 this is Taylor, we do have two other items that we would
25 like Board oversight on. The next one in sequence is
26 actually the April package process and we have suggested
27 some additional consultation steps in comparison to what we
28 were able to fit in developing the January package. So Dr.
29 Krueger would take a minute and brief the Board on our
30 proposed process and we would like your concurrence.

31

32 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Okay.

33

34 MR. KRUEGER: This is Chuck Krueger. What
35 we're looking for today is to seep Board concurrence on the
36 process. There is a handout that says, Abbreviated Year
37 2000 Process, Phase II. This has four pages to this
38 handout. So if you can find that it says Abbreviated Year
39 2000 Process and then there's some steps on the front page.

40

41 What we're looking for is Board concurrence to go
42 and proceed in the manner that's described in the first
43 page. Page 2 shows the material that was presented, I
44 believe, at the December 14th Board meeting that
45 concurrence was obtained. And then for your information
46 Pages 3 and 4 are the list of titles that the projects
47 committee has dealt with so far that have been, in a sense,
48 deferred for further discussion and further development and
49 are under consideration in this Phase II process. In
50 addition there'd be other projects as well.

00023

1 Okay. So moving back to the first page, we would
2 continue to work on projects and the development of those
3 projects. There were a number of ones that either were
4 submitted by more than one party or there needed to be
5 additional consultation developed. That sort of function
6 and process would occur between February 3rd and the end of
7 this month. And anyway, what we would anticipate, that at
8 about the end of the month or the first of March would then
9 be kind of a closure date with respect to projects within
10 this Abbreviated 2000 process. For about a two week period
11 we would then do a project review, discussion and then
12 eventually a project package development similar to what we
13 developed and distributed on January 14th. That would be
14 just in time for some of the RAC meetings that are planned
15 between March 14th and March 25th. And the hope was that
16 we could make some presentation at least at those RAC
17 meetings and gain some immediate feedback on that package
18 development. We also recognize that some other RAC winter
19 meetings will have already taken place plus the meetings
20 that are planned on March 14th, they will have had very
21 little time to review the package. So again, as needed,
22 certainly for the ones where we haven't been able to
23 discuss we'd have teleconference going on sometime the
24 first week of April as well as for others, as needed. And
25 then sometime in early April, based on input received,
26 present again to the Board.

27
28 So in summary, what we're looking for is seeking
29 Board concurrence in concept, the dates may vary a bit but
30 these were the steps that we saw as being important.

31
32 MR. D. ALLEN: Mr. Chairman.

33
34 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Yes.

35
36 MR. D. ALLEN: This is Dave. A question
37 for Chuck. I realize that the schedule you have here
38 indicates that once you have a complete proposal package
39 put together you want to get it to those RACs that still
40 have their scheduled spring meetings. I believe the RAC
41 meetings actually start as early as next week, Tom.

42
43 MS. FOX: The 17th.

44
45 MR. D. ALLEN: The 17th, in a couple of
46 weeks. What provisions have been made to, at least, have
47 some dialogue during those RAC meetings for projects that
48 are still being looked at and still being built?

49
50 MR. KRUEGER: One thing I wanted to do was

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1 to clarify, too, that if we're able to develop a package by
2 March 14th, it would be sent out as we had distributed
3 previously on January 14th so it would go to all the RACs
4 immediately at that point. Prior to that, our anticipation
5 is to be at -- some representation at each RAC meeting to
6 discuss not only the 2001 process but also to provide an
7 update as to where we are in the 2000 process. At a
8 specific locale, we have some projects, you know, that are
9 in hand. But the problem is is we won't be to the full
10 package development until probably mid-March.

11
12 MR. D. ALLEN: I understand that. But you
13 will have an opportunity to at least have some discussion
14 with regard to what priorities are?

15
16 MR. KRUEGER: Yes.

17
18 MR. D. ALLEN: Yes.

19
20 MR. KRUEGER: Yes.

21
22 MR. D. ALLEN: Okay.

23
24 MR. KRUEGER: Well, I'm hoping for
25 immediate, you know, interactive input at those RAC
26 meetings beginning this month.....

27
28 MR. D. ALLEN: Right.

29
30 MR. KRUEGER:on issues and that
31 should be helpful, actually in guiding the 2000 process as
32 well as setting the course for 2001.

33
34 MR. D. ALLEN: Thank you.

35
36 MR. BOYD: Mr. Chair, this is Tom. I might
37 interject here that this might be a place to maybe respond
38 to Mr. Ashenfelter's comment regarding the statewide
39 meetings where we could explain this process. And it's
40 built into our process, our system, that we would engage
41 with the Regional Councils and we're looking now at twice-
42 yearly and possibly even more as we expand into fisheries,
43 right now it's twice-yearly; we meet in the winter and in
44 the fall and the 10 meetings are held in the regions all
45 over the state and I'm not sure that responds to your
46 comment Roy. But I think just to make you aware that we do
47 have statewide meetings in 10 locations at least twice-
48 yearly.

49
50 MR. ASHENFELTER: Mr. Chairman.

00025

1 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Yes.

2

3 MR. ASHENFELTER: This is Roy. I assume
4 that they know there's going to be a meeting, a RAC meeting
5 at Unalakleet later on this month on the 21st or 22nd, I
6 believe.

7

8 MR. BOYD: 22nd and 23rd.

9

10 MR. ASHENFELTER: Are they going to be
11 there? Is somebody going to be there?

12

13 MR. BOYD: Yes.

14

15 MS. HILDEBRAND: There will be a work group
16 representative.

17

18 MR. BOYD: I'm being reminded there will be
19 a work group member, technical work group people who have
20 developed the projects in the process as well as -- who
21 else?

22

23 MS. HILDEBRAND: Staff.....

24

25 MR. BOYD: Staff.

26

27 MS. HILDEBRAND:assigned to respond
28 to the Councils about their respective projects.

29

30 MR. BOYD: So I mean as Mr. Krueger has
31 stated, there clearly will be an opportunity for the
32 Councils to be engaged in this process as well as the
33 public that attends those meetings.

34

35 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: All right, thank
36 you.

37

38 MR. BOYD: I think at this point we're
39 looking for Board concurrence on the 2000 process through
40 April.

41

42 MR. CESAR: Mr. Chairman.

43

44 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Yes.

45

46 MR. CESAR: I don't know if it's a motion
47 or just a concurrence -- I guess I'll make a motion that we
48 concur -- the Board concurs with the process as outlined,
49 Abbreviated 2000 Process Phase II.

50

00026

1 MR. D. ALLEN: Second if that's a motion,
2 Niles. Second.

3
4 MR. CESAR: Whatever.

5
6 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: It's been moved and
7 seconded. Discussion on the motion.

8
9 Now, was I understanding that we are going to have
10 -- at the Regional Council meetings we are going to have
11 some opportunities for the Councils to discuss this?

12
13 MR. BOYD: Yes.

14
15 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: And then are we
16 going to do a process for -- a presentation on the process
17 at those meetings?

18
19 MR. BOYD: Yes.

20
21 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Okay. So in that we
22 could send letters to all of the regional non-profits and
23 advise them that this session is going to be there and
24 maybe they could send, you know, send people as they wish
25 to the regional meetings.

26
27 MR. BOYD: Yes, we can do that.

28
29 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: It would seem like
30 that would be a good idea and they could distribute to
31 whoever they want. People could send people. If there is
32 a desire out there to learn about the process then it would
33 be a good chance it seems like and probably fairly close to
34 their homes.

35
36 MR. BOYD: Right. We've done that as a
37 matter of course anyway, Mr. Chair.

38
39 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Right, okay.

40
41 MR. BOYD: And we'll make sure there's a
42 special emphasis on it.

43
44 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Okay. Any other
45 discussion? Hearing none, all those in favor signify by
46 saying aye.

47
48 IN UNISON: Aye.

49
50 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Those opposed.

00027

1 (No opposing votes)

2

3 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Motion carries.

4

5 MR. BOYD: Okay, I think we want to go to
6 the 2001 process now, is that correct, Taylor.

7

8 MR. BRELSFORD: That's correct. This would
9 be the final item from the fisheries team. It's a green
10 colored sheet in the handouts in the room and, Mitch, this
11 should have come to you on the fax. It reads at the very
12 top, the large title, it says, Draft Resource Monitoring
13 Project Selection Process for Spring 2001. And there's
14 kind of a text box, it's organized a little bit like a
15 flier. The second and third pages are in a question and
16 answer format to identify some of the criteria that would
17 be used in selecting projects and some of the work groups
18 that would have a role.

19

20 So this process is one that we've kind of discussed
21 in general with the Board a time or two already. It was
22 discussed with the tribal association representatives in
23 December and there are a few changes here that I'll note in
24 a moment. What we've said on this page is that additional
25 roles for Alaska Native tribes are anticipated as a result
26 of discussions soon to start. That was our effort to
27 ensure that we were acknowledging the correspondence and
28 the concerns that had been raised from the tribal community
29 to the Board leaving the door open for the Board's further
30 discussion of that topic. What we have here is kind of a
31 skeleton that very much emphasizes the role of the Regional
32 Council meetings in the winter and again in the fall as a
33 primary public forum for identifying issues and providing
34 recommendations to the Board about the project package. So
35 it takes about 15 months. We're suggesting we would start
36 now to come up with the projects for next year in the
37 spring, Spring of 2001 and we want to go about it in a
38 wider consultative fashion.

39

40 The first step then would be the priority setting
41 for management issues and information needs in each region
42 and in the winter Regional Council meetings coming up, the
43 subsistence users, public, the tribes, ADF&G, the agencies
44 and the Regional Councils would look at the management
45 issues and identify what kind of information would help
46 solve management problems. The Councils would make
47 recommendations to the Board about these priorities and the
48 Board ultimately would adopt a set of priorities for the
49 year. Those would become the targets for the resource
50 monitoring proposals or projects that would then come in

00028

1 the next step. Through the spring, we would develop
2 proposals. They can be put forward by tribes, by the
3 tribal associations, by a university, by ADF&G, by the
4 Federal field stations. We actually suggest that we kind
5 of ease into this, having a short pre-proposal and then
6 where those are on target, we would go back and develop a
7 fuller proposal with the parties suggesting this particular
8 project. Through the summer, Staff would put all of the
9 proposals together, weigh them and evaluate them based on
10 the ranking criteria that the Board will be adopting and
11 those would come out in the form of a draft annual plan, a
12 statewide package that tries to address management
13 priorities in each of the regions across the state. Again,
14 it's a draft plan, it would be out for public review and
15 importantly, during the fall Regional Council meetings
16 there would be this discussion opportunity among all of the
17 players, the stakeholders in the regions. And then again,
18 the Councils would recommend, would adopt formal
19 recommendations to the Federal Subsistence Board regarding
20 the package of resource monitoring projects. The Board
21 would deliberate and make its final decisions in December
22 of this year and then those projects would be implemented,
23 agreements written up and the projects commencing from
24 December of 2000 through the spring of 2001.

25
26 What you would find in the questions and answers,
27 there's some information about the criteria for setting
28 priorities. The criteria for ranking proposals. These are
29 directly out of the blueprint report and the pumpkin report
30 that the Board has reviewed and agreed to in principle.
31 I've noted our intention to make the opportunity to submit
32 proposals very wide. We believe that's what Section .809
33 provides for. And then on the second page you'll see a very
34 short -- or second of the Q&A pages, a short paragraph
35 about how the fisheries information service, this staff
36 group working with proposals and developing Staff
37 recommendations to the Board. The kind of folks that would
38 work in that group are outlined here and then similarly
39 this technical oversight committee that we've talked with
40 the Board about in the past is again laid out. These were
41 an effort -- these summaries were an effort to communicate
42 to the Regional Councils, kind of, who the players would be
43 as these projects go forward next year from the Council
44 meetings in the winter all the way up through the Board
45 meeting in December.

46
47 So with that I'll close and answer any questions if
48 you might have any.

49
50 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Thank you. Do we

00029

1 have any questions?

2

3 MR. D. ALLEN: Mr. Chairman, I don't have
4 a question but just to verify my understanding. This
5 process, as it's outlined, will be shared with the Regional
6 Advisory Councils during their spring meetings and an
7 opportunity for them is still available for further comment
8 on the process itself?

9

10 MR. BRELSFORD: I think that's correct. We
11 did actually share this package with the Regional Councils
12 in the caucus meetings last week. And our reason in
13 bringing it to the Board today is we're actually getting
14 started next week.....

15

16 MR. D. ALLEN: Yeah, I understand that.

17

18 MR. BRELSFORD:in this first phase.
19 And I think we wanted to be sure the Board was comfortable
20 with where we were going. I guess I do, indeed, believe
21 it's a work in progress, that we're likely to learn some
22 things as we go. But I believe the skeleton of steps will
23 probably survive intact. We may elaborate or refine as we
24 get started but we felt like it was important to have the
25 Board's okay as we really launch this thing with the
26 Regional Councils starting with the Barrow meeting next
27 week.

28

29 MR. CESAR: Mr. Chairman, are we ready to
30 make some decision? I'm assuming that you want to go
31 through a process like we did for the last, give an
32 endorsement or -- I hereby move that we accept the process
33 as outlined by the Staff for the 2001 Monitoring Project
34 Selection Process.

35

36 MS. GOTTLEIB: I'll second that.

37

38 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: It's been moved and
39 seconded. Well, then of course the Regional Councils will
40 have that and as we get input back to the 2001 process,
41 that will be reported to the Board at our very next meeting
42 right?

43

44 MR. BOYD: Yes.

45

46 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Because if there is
47 some fine-tuning recommendations by the Councils we're
48 going to want to hear them.

49

50 MR. BOYD: That's correct.

00030

1 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Okay.

2

3 MR. BOYD: Willie wants to speak.

4

5 MR. GOODWIN: Yeah, I have a question. Mr.
6 Chairman, as we go through the process of the Regional
7 Advisory Councils and we submit these proposals say, for
8 instance, to the Park Service or if the State wants to do
9 something -- well, I guess what I'm getting at is I'm not
10 too happy with some of the stuff the state of Alaska's done
11 in my region with sheefish and I'd rather have the Park
12 Service do it. That's what I'm trying to say, how do we do
13 that?

14

15 MR. BOYD: Talk to her.

16

17 MR. GOODWIN: Okay.

18

19 MR. CESAR: Sounds like they've been
20 talking already.

21

22 MR. BOYD: I was pointing to Judy, Mr.
23 Chair.

24

25 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: I figured that out.

26

27 MR. GOODWIN: Okay, we'll get it done.

28

29 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Okay. Further
30 discussion.

31

32 MR. CAPLAN: Mr. Chairman, this is Jim
33 Caplan.

34

35 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Yes.

36

37 MR. CAPLAN: Yeah, I just wanted to take a
38 minute and commend the Staff once again for all the hard
39 work on these procedural things. This isn't easy to get
40 through and I sure appreciate the work. I also appreciate
41 their sensitivity to the Councils and the tribal interest
42 in doing the work. So just very much pleased with what
43 they've accomplished.

44

45 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Thank you.

46

47 MR. BOYD: Well, as the leader of the group
48 that has very little to do with all the details, I'll
49 accept that thought, that appreciation.

50

00031

1 MR. CAPLAN: You bet.

2

3 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Okay, further
4 discussion. If not, all those in favor of the motion
5 signify by saying aye.

6

7 IN UNISON: Aye.

8

9 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Those opposed same
10 sign.

11

12 (No opposing votes)

13

14 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Motion carries.

15

16 MR. BOYD: That concludes the public
17 session, Mr. Chair and we might want to take a break at
18 this time before we go back into the work session.

19

20 (END OF PROCEEDINGS)

21

* * * * *

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C E R T I F I C A T E

1
2 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA)
3)ss.
4 STATE OF ALASKA)

5 I, Joseph P. Kolasinski, Notary Public in and for the
6 State of Alaska and Owner of Computer Matrix, do hereby
7 certify:

8 THAT the foregoing pages numbered 02 through 31 contain a
9 full, true and correct Transcript of the FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE
10 BOARD PUBLIC MEETING and TELECONFERENCE, taken electronically
11 by me on the 3rd day of February, 2000, beginning at the hour
12 of 1:30 o'clock p.m. at the Regal Alaskan Hotel, Denali Room 1,
13 Anchorage, Alaska;

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

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

20 DATED at Anchorage, Alaska, this 10th day of February,
21 2000.

22
23 _____
24 Joseph P. Kolasinski
25 Notary Public in and for Alaska
My Commission Expires: 4/17/00