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1 FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE BOARD PUBLIC MEETING

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MEMBERS PRESENT:

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10 Mitch Demientieff, Chairman

11 Greg Bos, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

12 Linda Rundell, Bureau of Land Management

13 Judy Gottlieb, National Park Service

14 Jim Caplan, U.S. Forest Service (Telephonically)

15 Niles Cesar, Bureau of Indian Affairs (Excused)

16

17 Keith Goltz, Solicitor

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P R O C E E D I N G S

(On record)

CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Well, we're going to go ahead and get started here. We'll convene the meeting of the Subsistence Board. We have all the agencies represented, except for the Bureau of Indian Affairs, I think Niles is on travel status.

OPERATOR: Excuse me, Jim Caplan now joined.

CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Jim Caplan.

MR. CAPLAN: (Indiscernible)

CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Okay, we just convened, Jim.

Greg, you're Forest Service, right? Judy.

MS. BOS: Fish and Wildlife Service.

CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Fish and Wildlife Service. Okay. Linda from BLM and Jim from really Forest Service.

(Off record - fix speaker)

(On record)

CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Okay. So we'll go on with the meeting. Let's see, you can introduce our guest on line, I guess.

MR. BOYD: Okay. On line we have Ron Sam. Ron is the Chair of the Western Interior Regional Advisory Council. I should have started with Mr. Jim Caplan who is the Board member for the U.S. Forest Service. Tom Gimmel is with the United Fishermen of Alaska and Sue Asplund with Cordova District Fishermen's United.

I might pause to check to see if there anyone else on line that I did not call. Is there anyone else on line?

(No response)

MR. BOYD: Okay.

CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Okay. Resource monitoring projects for the year 2000. For the review of the

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1 projects and consultations with the Regional Councils we'll  
2 call on Taylor Brelsford to present.

3  
4 MR. BRELSFORD: Thank you very much, Mr.  
5 Chairman.

6  
7 MR. BOYD: We might do a check to see if the  
8 people on line can you, Taylor. I presume they can. Did  
9 everyone hear Taylor Brelsford when he started speaking?  
10 Ron, did you hear?

11  
12 MR. BRELSFORD: It's pretty loud here.

13  
14 MR. SAM: Can you put him on again, because  
15 I may testify on the Henshaw Project.

16  
17 MR. BOYD: Okay.

18  
19 MR. BRELSFORD: Good afternoon, Ron, this is  
20 Taylor.

21  
22 MR. SAM: Okay, you're coming in loud and  
23 clear.

24  
25 MR. BOYD: Okay. Jim, can you hear  
26 everything?

27  
28 MR. CAPLAN: Yeah, I can hear him.

29  
30 MR. BOYD: Okay. I presume everyone can  
31 hear, if you can't, speak up. All right.

32  
33 MR. BRELSFORD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman and  
34 Board members. Our purpose this afternoon is to review the  
35 second round of resource monitoring projects. There are 22  
36 project in total that are before you for consideration this  
37 afternoon. These were, again, developed by an interagency  
38 committee that reviewed nearly 100 projects whittling this  
39 down to the 22 that met technical considerations. They  
40 represent good science, good research methods. They  
41 represent priorities for the management issues that will face  
42 the Subsistence Board in this coming year. And they meet the  
43 criteria of having local support and the appropriate  
44 partnerships as part of the approach in each of those  
45 projects.

46  
47 This package of projects was, as previously our  
48 practice, circulated for review and comment by the Regional  
49 Councils and by the general public. The public release  
50 document was distributed on March 17th. That allowed us an

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1 opportunity to meet directly with several of the Regional  
2 Councils, the last three meetings, winter meetings, the  
3 Regional Councils had an opportunity to discuss this in their  
4 public sessions. And in order to ensure that the other  
5 Councils had an equal opportunity we has what amounts to  
6 make-up teleconferences with the other Regional Council. So  
7 my purpose this afternoon will be to summarize the results of  
8 that review for you.

9  
10 I won't review the individual projects, assuming that  
11 you had an opportunity to read those and to have a briefing  
12 from your Staff Committee members. I would, however, like to  
13 make one correction in Project Number 21, having to do with  
14 the Dall River pike harvest monitoring population status on  
15 the Dall River. And we have had a later revision in the  
16 budget and it's a rather significant change in to the dollar  
17 amounts. The budget currently reads \$104,000 and, in fact,  
18 the total budget will be \$24,000, so it's a very significant  
19 reduction. I think what that means is the agencies have been  
20 able to redirect some internal resources in order to conduct  
21 their portions of that project. So, at this point, the total  
22 budget is 24,000 rather than 104.

23  
24 I would like to comment, just real quickly, on the  
25 kind of overall budgetary package. When we met on the first  
26 round of projects, we promised to come back with you with  
27 kind of an overview of how close we were to allocating the  
28 entirety of the resource monitoring budget for this year. So  
29 in the last pages of the package that went out on March 17th  
30 you will see that this particular package represents a budget  
31 allocation of 1.6 million dollars and, as we have done in the  
32 past, we've tried to break out he portions of the budget that  
33 were dedicated to rural organizations and local hires. In  
34 this packet you'll see that that's 50 percent of the total  
35 budget allocations. The portion directed to the Alaska  
36 Department of Fish and Game, in this package, is 37 percent  
37 and the portion directed to Federal agencies for direct  
38 management is actually quite low in this set of projects,  
39 it's 12.1 percent.

40  
41 Taking the first and the second round of projects  
42 altogether, at this point, with your action today we will  
43 have considered a total of 41 projects for year 2000 and  
44 taking all of those together that represents a combined  
45 budget of about four million dollars as you would see on the  
46 handout that was offered a few minutes ago, it's the one-page  
47 summary. Again, respecting the Secretary's direction that we  
48 would continue to build on the expertise of the Alaska  
49 Department of Fish and Game and of local organizations the  
50 break out of this budget total is shown on the bottom of the

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1 page and so the rural organizations and local hire total is  
2 now 40 percent of the aggregate budgets to date. The portion  
3 directed to the Alaska Department of Fish and Game is 33  
4 percent and then taking all of these projects together the  
5 portion under direct Federal agency management is 26 percent.  
6 We think we more than met the Secretary's guideline that a  
7 majority of the funding would actually go outside of the  
8 Federal government to work with the Alaska Department of Fish  
9 and Game and other organizations.

10  
11 I believe the one additional point I should make  
12 about the package today is that we have essentially concluded  
13 the project selection process in the northern part of the  
14 state, in the Yukon and Kuskokwim Rivers, in Bristol Bay and  
15 in most of Cook Inlet. Where we still have some work to  
16 bring before you in early May would be in Southeast Alaska.  
17 At this point we have a small number of two projects that  
18 have moved ahead in Prince William Sound in the package today  
19 and one or two from Southeast itself, but we will have an  
20 additional package of projects to bring to you in early May.  
21 As we've mentioned previously, the Forest Service and the  
22 Alaska Department of Fish and Game and tribal organizations  
23 and others in Southeast engaged in a, perhaps, more complete  
24 consultation process within the region and as a consequence  
25 those projects weren't really fully formulated in time for  
26 deliberation in the April package, they will be back to you  
27 in May. But for all of the other regions of the state we're  
28 virtually at the point of conclusion for the 2000 season.

29  
30 Turning to the public review on the summary of  
31 results. As we've done before the package with all of the  
32 project descriptions was mailed out to the Regional Council  
33 members on March 17th, it was additionally distributed to  
34 some of the key Alaska Native organizations on March 21st and  
35 then a subsequently mailing that was by e-mail and then later  
36 copies were mailed to 34 tribal organizations with natural  
37 resource department around the state, the material was posted  
38 on the website and e-mailed for redistribution to the Federal  
39 field stations throughout the state.

40 In summary, the Regional Councils, the tribal  
41 organizations and the public review comments had generally  
42 expressed support for the projects proposed in this second  
43 set of proposals. In some instances Regional Council members  
44 made suggestions about additional consultation with  
45 neighboring communities that might also be affected by a  
46 particular project and, in some cases, the recommendation was  
47 made to expand the scope of the project, generally in future  
48 years rather than in the first year before us.

49 So if we consider the comments region by region  
50 starting in the north for the Arctic, Kotzebue and Norton

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1 Sound area, the three Regional Councils affected would be the  
2 North Slope, the Northwest Arctic and the Seward Peninsula  
3 Council. This was a situation in which the winter Council  
4 meeting had already occurred and so we were obliged to  
5 consult with the chairs of these Councils by teleconference,  
6 so Chairman Willie Goodwin for the Northwest Arctic and Chair  
7 Grace Cross for the Seward Council met with us by  
8 teleconference. Fred Armstrong, the Fish and Wildlife  
9 Service Native Issues Advisor was able to join in and this is  
10 his home region so he was able to make substantive comments  
11 about the merits of the proposals.

12  
13 There's only a single project, number 20, concerning  
14 Kotzebue winter subsistence sheefish harvesting in this  
15 region as a whole and there was unanimous support for that  
16 project. However, it is important to say that Chairman  
17 Willie Goodwin for the Northwest Arctic recommended an  
18 expansion in the subsequent year, year 2001, to ensure that  
19 we're also paying attention to changes in the summer harvests  
20 of sheefish on the Kobuk River. And we think that would be  
21 consistent with the issue of monitoring population status on  
22 this species. There is rising pressure and we believe that  
23 that recommendation can be incorporated in the coming year.

24  
25 On the Yukon River we have three Regional Councils  
26 with responsibility in this are. Those are the Yukon-  
27 Kuskokwim Delta, the Western Interior and the Eastern  
28 Interior Regional Council. The Y-K Regional Council was able  
29 to discuss these projects during their meeting in Nunapitchuk  
30 in late March. They focused on the Lower Yukon River  
31 projects, these would be the Hooper Bay test fishery and the  
32 Pilot Station sonar technician support. We later had one of  
33 these make-up teleconferences for the Eastern and Western  
34 Interior Regional Councils and, I want to say, this was  
35 another example of a lot of dedicated consideration by the  
36 Eastern and Western Interior Regional Councils. We had very  
37 strong attendance by the members of the Councils and fairly  
38 detailed discussion, one project at a time, pretty specific  
39 questions that were asked about the purposes and the methods  
40 and the scope and the focus of individual projects. And at  
41 the end of nearly two hours of discussion on the Yukon River  
42 projects the Council members were unanimously supportive of  
43 the projects that were proposed in this second round.

44  
45 There was one specific instance, Project Number 23,  
46 concerning white fish distribution studies in the Tetlin  
47 National Wildlife Refuge. The suggestion was that that  
48 project should be expanded in the next year to examine the  
49 possible impacts of toxic contaminations from military sites  
50 in the region, the Kursell River. Other members mentioned

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1 that when we are able to establish new knowledge about life  
2 histories of some of the fresh water species that have not  
3 been studied as fully in the past, specifically white fish  
4 and pike, many communities in the region have concern about  
5 basic science of those species in their regions. And Ray  
6 Collins on the Western Interior Council was really kind of  
7 urging us to ensure that we report results of these projects,  
8 not just to the local communities, but to ensure that people  
9 throughout the region are able to follow and learn from the  
10 results of these monitoring projects.

11  
12 Moving next to the Kuskokwim River, both the Yukon-  
13 Kuskokwim Delta and the Western Interior Regional Councils  
14 have responsibility in this area. Again, the Y-K Council met  
15 in their winter session and expressed support for the four  
16 projects on the Kuskokwim River. During the make-up  
17 teleconference, the Eastern and Western Interior Regional  
18 Council representatives were also supportive. This was a  
19 region in which there were actually some letters of support  
20 from local communities, so the Native Village of Goodnews Bay  
21 submitted a proposal, a letter of endorsement for the project  
22 on the Goodnews River, this is an extension into the late  
23 part of the season of weir project that currently monitors  
24 salmon returns on the Goodnews River.

25  
26 In the Bristol Bay, Alaska Peninsula and Kodiak areas  
27 we have two Councils, Bristol Bay and Kodiak/Aleutians.  
28 During the March 24, 25 Bristol Bay Regional Council meeting  
29 the Council did have the material, the package in front of  
30 them, and was able to talk about this as a complete Council  
31 in their public session. The Bristol Bay Council continued  
32 to defer its judgment to the interagency committee in this  
33 first year. Their thinking is that the Councils haven't had  
34 the time to follow the proposal selection process from the  
35 ground up and, in particular, really look at the criteria  
36 that are being used to weigh and evaluate the individual  
37 projects. And, for that reason, they were more interested in  
38 looking ahead to next year and sort of starting on the ground  
39 floor, but basically accepting the recommendation of the  
40 Technical Committee that the projects for this year met these  
41 criteria of technical soundness, of meeting management  
42 priorities, of working with the right partnerships.

43  
44 I will note, however, that the Bristol Bay Council  
45 was very anxious to have a fuller discussion with the Board  
46 members in early May when, as you might recall, there's a  
47 work session between the Regional Council Chairs and the  
48 Federal Board members the first day of the May meeting. And  
49 the Bristol Bay Council, in particular, is suggesting that  
50 the Council Chairs and the Board have a chance to take a

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1 fresh look, a bit more unhurried look, if you will, at the  
2 criteria that are going to help us choose projects. In the  
3 coming year we're going to have probably a larger pool of  
4 projects to choose among and we may find ourselves faced with  
5 some more difficult choices, so there's probably some wisdom  
6 in trying to lay a little stronger ground work in the fashion  
7 suggested by the Bristol Bay Council.

8  
9           The Kodiak/Aleutians Regional Council met on March  
10 21st and 22nd and they expressed strong support for the  
11 Buskin weir. The Buskin River weir project in Kodiak itself,  
12 Project Number 32. This is one that some of the Board  
13 members may recall has been raised up in the Annual Reports  
14 by this Regional Council for a number of years, so it's a  
15 longstanding management issue and we finally have the  
16 resources to dedicate a project on the ground to develop  
17 better data and provide the basis for regulatory changes that  
18 would be needed.

19  
20           There were letters of endorsement in the Bristol Bay  
21 Region, submitted by the Bristol Bay Native Association and  
22 the Levelock Village Council concerning Projects Number 31  
23 and 33. These are salmon escapement on the Alagnak River and  
24 an angler effort index on the Alagnak River. These are also  
25 issues, the Branch River or the Alagnak has been raised to  
26 the Board's attention in Annual Reports for many years so,  
27 again, we think these are timely projects to try and develop  
28 some data in order to get a handle on some management  
29 concerns increasing pressure on the resources in that river  
30 system.

31  
32           I will note that the village of Igiugig also  
33 submitted written comments on this project and expressed the  
34 concern that they are neighbors to the Alagnak River, also  
35 have an interest in involvement in that river system and they  
36 want to be sure that they're not left out of the discussions,  
37 the consultation on projects concerning the Alagnak River.

38  
39           Turning to Cook Inlet and the Gulf of Alaska, the  
40 Southcentral Regional Council, we were able to convene a  
41 teleconference with two members of the Southcentral Council,  
42 looking at eight resource monitoring projects in Prince  
43 William Sound, the Kenai Peninsula and the Copper River.  
44 This was another case in which the Council members asked a  
45 number of probing questions. Many of these projects actually  
46 sponsored were submitted by our colleagues in the Forest  
47 Service and several people were on line to answers the  
48 questions that were raised by the Council members. I think  
49 there was a lot of fairly detailed and constructed discussion  
50 of each of the projects in turn. The end result was that the



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1 Council members did speak in support of the whole package of  
2 projects in this region.

3  
4 The Native Village of Eyak submitted written review  
5 comments concerning five of the projects. I have to say they  
6 were somewhat critical of the timing and particularly the  
7 short review period for these projects in their region, and  
8 I think that's something that we have to do a little better  
9 at in the coming year. But, at the same time, the Tribe did  
10 offer support for several of the projects most closely  
11 located near Cordova. For some of the projects in Western  
12 Prince William Sound the Eyak urged that we think of them as  
13 also involved and interested in Western Prince William Sound,  
14 even though it's not, you know, directly adjacent to their  
15 community. And they felt that in the same way that we've had  
16 discussions with the Villages of Chenega and Tatitlek, the  
17 Eyak Tribe in Cordova ought to be involved in those projects.

18  
19 The Eyak Tribe also supported, but wanted to see more  
20 opportunity to be involved and to have their concerns taken  
21 into account in Project Number 40. This is a fairly  
22 significant subsistence harvest monitoring project on the  
23 Upper Copper River. And the purpose of that is to ensure  
24 that we're able to monitor changes in subsistence  
25 opportunities on the Upper Copper River in the park that  
26 might be changed as a result of the Alaska Board of Fisheries  
27 having designated the Chitina dipnet fishery a subsistence  
28 fishery for -- this for the first time. In the past it's  
29 been a personal use fishery and there's a fair alarm on the  
30 Copper River that there may be some changes in uses patterns  
31 and potential impacts on the resource, due to this regulatory  
32 change. So, again, I believe a very timely project that will  
33 allow us to follow any changes in the resource or in the use  
34 patterns that have resulted from that change.

35  
36 For the Southeast area there are actually no projects  
37 in the current package and, as I mentioned previously, the  
38 consultations and discussions in the region have continued.

39  
40  
41 The Staff Committee was able to review the projects  
42 in some detail and they were briefed on the public review  
43 comments, the Regional Council reactions that were available  
44 at the time of the Staff Committee meeting. And the  
45 recommendation from the Staff Committee is to adopt the March  
46 17th package of 22 fisheries, resource monitoring projects.  
47 The Staff Committee accepts the recommendation or the  
48 representation of the technical committee that these are  
49 projects that meet the priority setting criteria. They are  
50 directly associated with subsistence fishing on Federal

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1 lands, they address the conservation of fish populations,  
2 they ensure that we will be able to provide for subsistence  
3 needs. They are responsive to public controversies on  
4 subsistence issues, fill important information gaps and  
5 provide data for sound management. And then focus on the  
6 fisheries resources that have both a numerical importance to  
7 local communities and, in some instances, a cultural or  
8 qualitative importance for the subsistence harvest.

9  
10 So, with that, I'm finished and will answer any  
11 questions that that the Board members might have.

12  
13 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Thank you, Taylor.  
14 Are there any questions of Taylor?

15  
16 (No audible responses)

17  
18 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: If not, we'll move on.  
19 We don't have anybody signed up for public testimony. Do we  
20 have anybody -- I'm sorry.

21  
22 MS. STICKWAN: Yes, this is Gloria Stickwan.

23  
24 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Okay, Gloria, we'll  
25 give you a chance in a minute here, okay?

26  
27 MS. STICKWAN: Okay.

28  
29 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Is there anybody?  
30 Okay. We'll just give people on teleconference a chance  
31 after. Fred, you got something first?

32  
33 MR. F. ARMSTRONG: Yes, I was just wondering  
34 about was there any plan for any coordination meetings with  
35 the State and the Federal government and the local people  
36 prior to implementation of these projects? I know that  
37 there was a couple issues of consultation that you pointed  
38 out from a couple of the tribes and I was wondering if there  
39 were meeting set up in those villages?

40  
41 MR. BRELSFORD: Thank you, Mr. Armstrong. I  
42 had not emphasized in opening comments the fact that many of  
43 the projects are, in fact, joint projects that will involve  
44 a State or Federal agency and local organizations, often  
45 tribal organizations. We have, as part of the staff work on  
46 this really, in short, have done our best to ensure that  
47 those local consultations have occurred. And, I believe,  
48 we've -- the representation on the Technical Committee, those  
49 representatives speak for several divisions in the Alaska  
50 Department of Fish and Game and the various Federal agencies.

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1 And I think we've been able to meet the goal of ensuring that  
2 there intergovernmental coordination, particularly on the  
3 State and Federal side. As I say, we, as a matter of trying  
4 to maintain quality in the staff work, have really paid  
5 attention to the consultation with the local communities.

6  
7 I believe the way I would -- we have some suggestions  
8 for adding, for augmenting local consultation and I think  
9 what we will do is when the Board has approved projects, we  
10 go back to the project managers and begin to finalize  
11 research designs and then prepare the cooperative agreements.  
12 And I think what we will do is bring the feedback from the  
13 public review process to the attention of the project leaders  
14 at that time and urge them to meet with neighboring  
15 organizations or ensure that all of the appropriate parties  
16 are together on their projects.

17  
18 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Judy.

19  
20 MR. GOTTLIEB: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I  
21 found it pretty interesting that you had about a hundred  
22 proposals come in, I think that's great for a program we have  
23 just recently started up and just underway, but that's an  
24 excellent response and I think that these projects look very  
25 good. I find it useful though, maybe the next time, to just  
26 have perhaps a list of titles or organizations who proposed  
27 those that we did not approve or forward, just to have a  
28 bigger picture of who's interested and wants to be involved  
29 in this program.

30  
31 Thank you.

32  
33 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Okay. Anybody else?

34  
35 (No audible responses)

36  
37 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Okay, we got one  
38 request here in the room for testimony and then we'll going  
39 to give the folks on line a chance to testify. Hazel Nelson  
40 representing Lake and Pen Borough. We're going to need  
41 to.....

42  
43 MR. BOYD: Chuck and Taylor will probably  
44 have to make some room.

45  
46 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Welcome.

47  
48 MS. NELSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, Board  
49 members. I'm Hazel Nelson and I'm here representing the Lake  
50 and Peninsula Borough. I attended the Bristol Bay RAC

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1 meeting last month in Dillingham and I'm going to share with  
2 you the same recommendations that the Borough Assembly gave  
3 to the Bristol Bay RAC.

4  
5 We encourage the Federal Subsistence Board to weigh  
6 their recommendations on research proposals that are strongly  
7 supported by the affected villages. The Assembly feels the  
8 recognitions of individual community proposals is important  
9 for several reasons. Number 1, because the local proximity  
10 to the resource is the most important to identifying  
11 subsistence needs. Two, most local knowledge is current on  
12 any changes in available resources in the area. Three,  
13 locals will be most directly affected by any conservation  
14 measures. And, four, most locals are capable to do field  
15 work and should do the administration, if possible, to assure  
16 accuracy to the situation and to maintain direct contact with  
17 the Federal managers themselves.

18  
19 We also recommend requiring a problem statement from  
20 each proposer that directly relates to any existing  
21 subsistence need. The research funding may otherwise be  
22 spent on perceived problems. The criteria also needs to  
23 include all available subsistence harvest data that  
24 correlates to that project, full disclosure of available data  
25 with making decisions is important in keeping integrity in  
26 the process.

27  
28 We would also like to see that the affected local  
29 users be given a chance to try and solve any problems among  
30 themselves first. We believe that a clearly recognized  
31 opportunity to settle any catch in harvest disputes before  
32 the Fish and Wildlife takes action should be allowed and that  
33 could be done in a couple of different ways. I think the  
34 Bristol Bay RAC had recommended that there be an  
35 establishment of a Regional Council which would include the  
36 Fish and Game Regional Advisory Committee Chairman. And in  
37 Bristol Bay I think there's five Fish and Game Regional  
38 Advisory Committees.

39  
40 We also want to address definitions. We recommend  
41 that the key -- well, there's probably a lot of definitions  
42 that need to be clarified, but we all need to be working from  
43 the same understanding when we're speaking to research or  
44 management changes because the two are very related, and it's  
45 important for the managers and the public to be working from  
46 the same understanding.

47  
48 We believe that more important, at this point -- it's  
49 more important, at this point, to develop the criteria and  
50 establish a process that will identify projects through sound

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1 decision-making in order to build integrity in the process.  
2 We're concerned that communities understand the expected  
3 outcome of research projects and the scope of the study.  
4 And, of course, a list of contributors who are funding the  
5 study are important.

6  
7 We also requested that a map, at least for Bristol  
8 Bay, I'm sure for the whole state is important, but a map is  
9 included and be made available to the public, including  
10 identification of all navigable waters and any marine areas  
11 along the coast. A close set of navigable waters will help  
12 many communities to identify potential concerns in the area.

13  
14 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

15  
16 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Thank you. Are there  
17 any questions?

18  
19 MR. O'HARA: Mr. Chairman.

20  
21 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Yes.

22  
23 MR. O'HARA: Well, Hazel, it's nice to see  
24 you today, I'm glad you come and testify before. We just sit  
25 here kind of as a sounding board, but the Federal Board and  
26 we don't really have any authority, but we're just kind of  
27 here and maybe helping out a little bit on some fisheries  
28 issues if we get a chance. And we have had, and we  
29 appreciate very much the Board asking us to do a little bit  
30 of advising.

31  
32 The Branch, the Alagnak has a lot of fish, I mean,  
33 you know, like -- it was really interesting at our Council  
34 meeting to find out that -- I think that they had 1.3 million  
35 reds go up that river, that's an incredible amount of fish.  
36 And then the biggest problem there, of course, is the  
37 competition for sports with the subsistence user, and that's  
38 a big concern we have. The Lake Iliamna itself is having a  
39 pretty sizeable research program going on through the  
40 disaster fund that State of Alaska is doing and then  
41 University of Washington up in Porcupine Island with Oly  
42 McFesson and that group is doing some pretty thorough  
43 research in there, too, on that project.

44  
45 The tail end of the dog is the Lake Clark area, which  
46 affects probably the real subsistence issue up in that lake  
47 country. And that is not -- I think our concern there may be  
48 enough and, of course, what affects Lake Clark is an early  
49 run coming into Bristol Bay, which affects you and I and  
50 others down the chain in the Bristol Bay area and make people

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1 nervous, but I think it's very. There's money going into  
2 over the Nushagak area for research on State waters there by  
3 the State of Alaska, so I'm glad to see that we're going to  
4 be getting that kind of support. And, of course, this  
5 affects you so much because you're Lake and Pen and those are  
6 your communities, so I appreciate that a lot.

7

8 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Yes, Hazel, go ahead.

9

10 MS. NELSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm  
11 glad you pointed that out, Dan, it's been really good working  
12 with the Bristol Bay Regional Advisory Committee. I'm glad  
13 that the RAC had pointed out concerns about there needs to be  
14 more discussion about the criteria being built for  
15 application because, yes, the Assembly is interested in not  
16 just Lake Clark, but all the other tributaries within the  
17 Borough.

18

19 MR. O'HARA: Yeah.

20

21 MS. NELSON: And this is why it's so  
22 important. And that's why I'm here again speaking to key  
23 definitions, you know, definitions such as what is healthy  
24 stock? Because if the different user group are going to be  
25 impacted, we definitely want to understand that what we're  
26 working on is the same sheet of music. And as research  
27 progresses we would like to see that that criteria be  
28 addressed soon.

29

30 You know, I woke up 5:00 o'clock this morning and  
31 what woke me up was coming to this meeting and I'd like to  
32 say that doesn't happen very often, but as a matter of fact  
33 it does. This is my first time with this group, but what  
34 troubled me and what immediately came to my mind when I woke  
35 up was I have to go there and tell them not to do ready,  
36 fire, aim, but to do ready, aim, fire. And I'm concerned  
37 that the approach, the need to respond in moving forward with  
38 all these research projects and getting the money spent and  
39 starting up the research projects is we're not paying enough  
40 attention to building the foundation and I think that needs  
41 to be addressed real soon and I'd like to see that addressed  
42 a lot more.

43

44 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

45

46 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Thank you. Any  
47 further questions for Hazel?

48

49 (No audible responses)

50

00015

1 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: If not, I thank you  
2 very much for your testimony.

3  
4 Gloria, is that you I heard? Is it Gloria Stickwan?

5  
6 MS. STICKWAN: Yes.

7  
8 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: You had testimony?

9  
10 MS. STICKWAN: I just want to make comments  
11 on these projects.

12  
13 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Sure, go ahead.

14  
15 MS. STICKWAN: On Project 34, about the Miles  
16 Lake sonar improvement. Forest Service called CRNA and asked  
17 what we thought about the project. And what I told them is  
18 I thought the State should fund the Miles (phone cut out)  
19 count, the weir count down there. That should be provided by  
20 the State of Alaska for that weir. Money should be funded  
21 through the State of Alaska not through U.S. Fish and  
22 Wildlife.

23  
24 And Proposal 40, Project Number 40, I met with Bill  
25 Simeon, Fish and Game subsistence person, we talked about  
26 this project and when I talked to him I told him that I  
27 wanted to expand on this project and add on to it. And I  
28 told him I would come up with a budget for the Native groups  
29 and so we came up with a budget of 53,909 and I faxed that to  
30 Bill Simeon and to Taylor Brelsford and when I met with Bill  
31 Simeon in Anchorage he told me that he would help me to write  
32 the narrative for this budget, but we did talk about what I  
33 wanted to see as part of this project added on.

34  
35 He, I thought, didn't have enough money in the budget  
36 for trips to come out here, so I added more meetings into the  
37 budget, two meetings in Copper Center, two in Anchorage, and  
38 trips to Cantwell. Our area covers like 22,000 square miles  
39 and with per diem during the summer, Federal rates, is very  
40 expense, so I increased those and I also added in here to  
41 take pictures of the Copper River during the fishing season  
42 with a digital camera during different period during the  
43 summer to show -- just to show pictures of what it's like --  
44 fishing is like during the busiest and the least busiest part  
45 of the summer. And just to get pictures of it, digital  
46 pictures, and so I wrote up this -- had the budget written up  
47 for this and Bill said I could add this in with this project  
48 and he will help me write up a narrative to include it in  
49 along with budget Project Number 40. And I told him this is  
50 what I would agree to.

00016

1 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Gloria, who does Bill  
2 work with?

3  
4 MS. STICKWAN: He works with Dr. Jim Fall.

5  
6 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Oh, he's a State  
7 employee?

8  
9 MS. STICKWAN: Yes, Alaska Department of Fish  
10 and Game Subsistence.

11  
12 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Okay. Did you have  
13 something to add, Taylor?

14  
15 MR. BRELSFORD: Mr. Chairman, perhaps I could  
16 help on this. Hi, Gloria, it's Taylor. Gloria and I have  
17 also talked a bit about how we go from the one-page proposal  
18 that is our first estimate of the tasks and the costs for the  
19 various parties. ADF&G Subsistence Division will be doing a  
20 lot of this project. In a sense, they have a large budget  
21 for this project. It's a restudy, so this actually repeats  
22 some work that ADF&G and Copper River Native Association did  
23 several years ago, so a pretty good feel for what it takes to  
24 do the work, but as I mentioned to Gloria these first  
25 estimates are always pretty rough and ready and so we have a  
26 further discussion with the tribe or with ADF&G when we get  
27 a little closer to costing it out and preparing actual  
28 cooperative agreements. And so we're at the stage where  
29 Gloria has looked at the overall approach and given some  
30 further consideration to the tasks that CRNA would make. She  
31 was going to fax me the revised budget and we'll talk a  
32 little further. I want ensure, on behalf of the Board, that  
33 it remains focused on the goals and purposes that were  
34 outlined in the original project. But where we've learned a  
35 little more about the actual cost of that, we have to provide  
36 the funding for that.

37  
38 If I could say that this is a fairly common thing in  
39 going from Board approval on the one-page proposals to  
40 actually finalizing agreements. If you remember when we had  
41 a project involving the Alaska Department of Fish and Game  
42 and the Alaska Intertribal Council in the February package.  
43 In the weeks following the Board meeting Ida and I and, at  
44 one point, Tom, met with ADF&G and with IATC and we ended up  
45 with some discussion about the budgets. To make a long story  
46 short, we originally estimated IATC would need \$50,000 to do  
47 the work, they came back with their first proposal, their  
48 revised proposal looking at \$70,000 and when we talked a  
49 little bit further about -- we were trying to make sure that  
50 every project budget is going to hold up under some scrutiny,



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1 we settled on an amount that was at about \$60,000, so there  
2 are fairly extensive staff discussion trying to go from Board  
3 approval, in principle, to the actual contract documents.  
4 And as you're probably aware, Tom Boyd, on behalf of the  
5 Board, on behalf of the Board and the agency staff, has to  
6 sign off on each of the contract documents, so, in a sense,  
7 there's a check, on your behalf, that the budget figures are  
8 reasonable and appropriate to meet the purposes and the tasks  
9 of each project.

10  
11 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Thank you.

12  
13 Is there anybody else on line wishing to testify?

14  
15 MS. STICKWAN: I have a question for Taylor,  
16 if that's okay.

17  
18 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Go ahead.

19  
20 MS. STICKWAN: When does this have to be  
21 final, in written form, submitted to the Board then?

22  
23 MR. BRELSFORD: Gloria, this is Taylor. What  
24 we have today is the Board's approval of the approach, of the  
25 sort of general framework for this project and then the next  
26 step is you and I and Bill Simeon, on behalf of ADF&G, would  
27 finish what is called an Investigation Plan, it's the  
28 detailed research design for the project and then our staff  
29 in the Office of Subsistence Management would write up the  
30 cooperative agreement which actually transfers funding. It  
31 will take us about three weeks to a month to prepare and get  
32 signatures on the contract documents, the cooperative  
33 agreements here, so I understand that the start date for this  
34 project is the end of May and I'm thinking that we need to  
35 have the Investigation Plan fairly well settled by the 1st of  
36 May so that we'll have time to get the cooperative agreement  
37 all settled and both ADF&G and Copper River Native  
38 Association ready to go when the project starts in late May.

39  
40 MS. STICKWAN: Did you -- that kind of  
41 changed our project a little bit, just by adding pictures  
42 into it because what I want to do is added air time to take  
43 pictures of the dipnetters just for -- I just wanted to add  
44 that in there. And I added more meeting dates and that's  
45 about all I -- it's a little bit more money than what they  
46 gave us.

47  
48 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Well, Gloria, I think,  
49 you know, your going to have to work those out with Taylor  
50 directly.

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1 MS. STICKWAN: Okay.

2

3 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: I mean, basically, the  
4 Board votes on this package, you know, then it would clear  
5 the Board okay.

6

7 MS. STICKWAN: Okay.

8

9 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: And then you guys  
10 would just work out the final details in the final agreement,  
11 that's basically what he's saying.

12

13 MS. STICKWAN: Okay.

14

15 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Anything else, Gloria,  
16 or is that.....

17

18 MS. STICKWAN: Just the Miles sonar count  
19 should have been funded by the State of Alaska.

20

21 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Uh-huh.

22

23 MS. STICKWAN: Banished by the State of  
24 Alaska, it should be funded by them.

25

26 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Thank you. Anybody  
27 else on line wishing to testify?

28

29 MR. SAM: Ron Sam, I got more a question for  
30 Taylor than anything else.

31

32 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: You can do it in Board  
33 discussion or you can do it in testimony, Ron, you're a  
34 Regional Council rep, so.....

35

36 MR. SAM: I can do it later.

37

38 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Okay. Anybody else on  
39 line wishing to testify?

40

41 (No audible responses)

42

43 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Hearing none, is there  
44 -- maybe we'll take a motion to approve the Staff Committee  
45 recommendation or do we want to discuss things first, I don't  
46 care, we've done it both ways.

47

48 Greg.

49

50 MR. BOS: Mr. Chair, I move the Board approve

00019

1 the Staff Committee recommendation for the April projects  
2 packages.

3  
4 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Thank you. Is there  
5 a second?

6  
7 MR. CAPLAN: Second.

8  
9 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Okay, seconded by Jim  
10 Caplan.

11  
12 Ron, you want to go ahead and comment on your project  
13 now?

14  
15 MR. SAM: It more hindsight than anything  
16 else, I just wanted status of that Henshaw thing because we  
17 usually have broad support for this Proposal 25 on the  
18 regional teleconference with Eastern Interior because we've  
19 been declared a disaster for so many years, I just wanted to  
20 know the status.

21  
22 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Taylor.

23  
24 MR. BRELSFORD: Thank you. Thanks, Ron. Let  
25 me clarify, that at the time that we put the package out on  
26 March 15th, Project Number 25 was actually referred to as a  
27 contingent project, assuming that additional funding -- that  
28 adequate funding was available, and that's part of what Ron  
29 is referring to, have we been able to verify an adequate  
30 budget to include Project Number 25. And I can report that  
31 Tom went back through budgets and kind of looked at the whole  
32 package, first round, second round, on resource monitoring  
33 and assured us that there was, in fact, a budget sufficient  
34 to adopt the entire group of second round packages. So at  
35 this point the Staff Committee recommendation is to include  
36 all of them.

37  
38 Project Number 25 which was in the first version we  
39 called it contingent, and there was a second project that was  
40 also noted as contingent in the public review version, again,  
41 at this point we do have Tom's assurance about the budget  
42 and, therefore, the Staff Committee's recommendation to  
43 approve all of projects included in the round two package.  
44 So, Ron, we think we have a green light to go ahead on this.

45  
46 I might say that there's something kind of important  
47 for the people in Ron's region involved in this project. One  
48 of the things we've tried to do with the Federal projects is  
49 to get to some of the tributaries that have not received the  
50 attention that they should have in earlier years and this

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1 would be the first and only project on the Koyukuk River  
2 under the Federal program at this point. So we feel like  
3 trying to distribute projects throughout the regions and to  
4 fill gaps that would otherwise go unaddressed. That was one  
5 of the purposes of this, so this project at Henshaw Creek  
6 would strengthen stock assessment on a key tributary of the  
7 Yukon River.

8

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

11

12 (No audible responses)

13

14 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: I think, you know,  
15 it's fair to note the -- I guess it's permissive criticism of  
16 the way we had to force and we did that the first time we  
17 talked about the time frame we had. People really didn't  
18 like the time frame or, you know, the way we went about it  
19 this first year, but in order to get projects on the ground,  
20 of course, we abbreviated the schedule now. And, you know,  
21 we are hearing additional input on the projects that we have.  
22 When are we going to start for the year 2001 this process?

23

24 MR. BRELSFORD: Mr. Chairman, this is Taylor.  
25 We've actually begun to lay the ground work for the year 2001  
26 process during the winter meetings in February and March.

27

28 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Uh-huh.

29

30 MR. BRELSFORD: So what we did in five months  
31 this year we will do in 15 months for spring of 2001. We  
32 actually will try to take a few minutes later to mention to  
33 you the status of this priority setting. We were asking the  
34 Regional Councils to identify management issues and  
35 information priorities for 2001. We have a draft document to  
36 put before you today. So, again, we've already begun the  
37 planning process for year 2001.

38

39 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Okay. And  
40 methodology, are we going to look at methodology for criteria  
41 for selections and those -- are we going to revisit that  
42 stuff this year?

43

44 MR. BRELSFORD: We are, indeed. My  
45 understanding is that Peggy Fox had spoken with the Board  
46 members and with Regional Council Chairs about meeting on  
47 Monday, May 1st rather than just on the morning of Tuesday,  
48 May 2nd and this would allow a day and a half, the both  
49 together would allow a full day plus a morning to talk a  
50 little more fully about the resource monitoring program, the

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1 criteria, so we would like to provide some background  
2 information on the criteria we've been using so far and maybe  
3 draw some lessons from this first year of project selections  
4 and then basically have a pretty complete discussion between  
5 Regional Council Chairs and the Board. And that would then  
6 revise or refine the selection criteria that will be used for  
7 2001.

8

9 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Okay. Yeah, actually  
10 it's going to be Monday. The Board is going to meet with the  
11 Regional Councils all day Monday and we start our  
12 deliberation process on proposals Tuesday morning; is that  
13 correct?

14

15 MR. BOYD: Yes.

16

17 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: So it will Monday all  
18 day.

19

20 MR. BRELSFORD: I'm sorry, I wasn't up to  
21 date on that.

22

23 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Yeah. I guess I'll  
24 just point this out, you know, because I know -- Hazel, maybe  
25 you can get with Dan here prior to that May 1st meeting, you  
26 know, if there's some criteria suggestions you might have.  
27 He basically would be the one to carry your water with that.

28

29 MR. O'HARA: Mr. Chairman, Robin Samuelsen  
30 and I are going to have a list for you come that day.

31

32 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Good. Okay. Anyway,  
33 the train is leaving the station for 2001, we need to make  
34 sure we have -- we want to keep everybody involved, you know,  
35 I can just tell you from the Chair's point of view that we'll  
36 have as many meetings as we need to, you know, to make sure  
37 that we have a lot more input, you know, with regard to the  
38 RACs and all the affected parties, we'll just do what we need  
39 to do. Again, it's just a timing, timing, timing, thing,  
40 we're trying to get a program on the ground, we just did the  
41 best we can, I guess.

42

43 Any further discussion on this?

44

45 MR. SAM: Mr. Chairman, Ron Sam.

46

47 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Yes.

48

49 MR. SAM: Yeah, thank you, Mitch. I think  
50 most of trepidations are that everything was contingent on

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1 this or contingent on that and I think that the only way we  
2 can stop this disaster area every year up in this area is to  
3 get this thing off the ground, and I sure appreciate your  
4 time, Mr. Chairman.

5

6 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Thank you, Ron.

7

8 Any further discussion?

9

10 (No audible responses)

11

12 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Hearing none, all  
13 those in favor of the motion, please signify by saying aye.

14

15 IN UNISON: Aye.

16

17 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Those opposed?

18

19 (No opposing responses)

20

21 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Motion carries.

22

23 Okay. You got a little handout you want to -- I  
24 think we got a few minutes right now, is anybody pressed for  
25 time?

26

27 MR. BRELSFORD: If we could have your  
28 attention for a few more minutes, we do have a handout, a  
29 draft of the issues and information needs for fisheries  
30 projects in year 2001 that we would like to summarize for  
31 you.

32

33 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Yeah, maybe we ought  
34 to do that.

35

36 MR. BRELSFORD: I'm sorry, Dr. Krueger was  
37 actually meeting with the Technical Committee again this  
38 morning to focus on the Southeast package, the May package,  
39 and he'd like to provide a briefing on that very quickly.

40

41 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Go ahead.

42

43 MR. KRUEGER: Mr. Chair, this is Chuck  
44 Krueger. Essentially what we're hoping to do is by Friday be  
45 able to mail out two documents. One would be related to the  
46 May package, and this primarily focuses in the Southeastern  
47 Alaska and they're projects funded through the Forest  
48 Service. Plus there would be a project from Bristol Bay  
49 region. So I'd like to go over that.

50

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1 As well, we hope to mail on Friday, probably in the  
2 same package, a draft of issues or information needs, it's  
3 essentially a document to the input that was provided by the  
4 winter Regional Advisory Council meetings and it relates to  
5 that 2001 process.

6  
7 So, first, if I could just give you a little bit of  
8 an update on the Southeast Alaska situation, as well as we  
9 have some others, Cal is in the room and maybe Ken may have  
10 some comments as well. But there are six projects that would  
11 go forward from Southeast, as well, as I mentioned, a Lake  
12 Clark project up in Bristol Bay.

13  
14 The six in the Southeast includes one TEK project  
15 that's on traditional subsistence territories in Southeast  
16 Alaska. And the balance of the projects are on stock status  
17 and trends, although there is, I see that -- I recall, also,  
18 that in these there are nested subprojects and included in  
19 that are some patterns of harvest use that are included. The  
20 areas of interest are False Lake, Gut Bay Lake, I mentioned  
21 the historical harvest use patterns. Claywock?

22  
23 MR. BRELSFORD: Klawock.

24  
25 MR. KRUEGER: Klawock. I'm still working on  
26 pronunciations. Those projects would be \$800,000 in total.  
27 And so what we're seeking is -- these are essentially an  
28 outcome of a meeting this morning. What we plan to do is to  
29 prepare, as we have in the past, one-page proposals, same  
30 format, and solicit input from the Regional Advisory  
31 Councils. So, anyway, we're looking for approval to be able  
32 to mail that out. And that's as protocol that we've been  
33 doing in the past to keep the Board apprised of where we are  
34 and also look for your approval to make that contact  
35 externally.

36  
37 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: To mail this packet to  
38 the Regional Council is that what we're.....

39  
40 MR. KRUEGER: We would be sending out a  
41 package similar to the January package, as well as similar to  
42 the March package, now it would be an April package that  
43 would be primarily focused on Southeast Alaska.

44  
45 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Okay. Yeah, I don't  
46 think we have a problem with that, do we? Do we do those  
47 authorized by Board action or just consensus, is that -- I  
48 don't remember.

49  
50 MS. GOTTLIEB: We do it by consensus.

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1 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: I thought so, too.  
2 Okay. Does any Board members object to going ahead and doing  
3 a distribution?

4  
5 (No audible responses)

6  
7 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: If not, go ahead.

8  
9 MR. KRUEGER: Thank you.

10  
11 The last item that I wanted to bring before you is,  
12 as I mentioned, the 2001 information needs document. The  
13 draft that we have on Tuesday, I think, it's going to be a  
14 bit modified by Friday, but what this is, is primarily a  
15 document that records the input that we got from the Regional  
16 winter Advisory Council meetings where we asked them what  
17 their issues were in their region, what they thought would be  
18 important information that the 2001 program should focus on.

19  
20 So what we'd like to do is be able to also in the  
21 same mailing move this document out to the Regional Advisory  
22 Councils and ask for their review, especially focusing on  
23 their own region. And to provide comment, you know. In  
24 other words, the question is, did we hear correctly? Are  
25 there additions that we didn't have that we need to place in  
26 here?

27  
28 We've had a few comments, phone calls, Mary's passed  
29 some things on and this document also reflects some of the  
30 additional input that's come from the Regional Advisory  
31 Council members since their meetings. So this is sort of a  
32 work in progress. It is a our first, sort of, step to work  
33 on this 2001 process to make sure that we've got the  
34 foundation laid, as was mentioned earlier, and that it is  
35 linked to local concerns.

36  
37 So what I'm asking here is similar to just a minute  
38 ago is permission to go ahead and mail this out, too.

39  
40 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Is there any objection  
41 from the Board members to that?

42  
43 (No audible responses)

44  
45 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Distribute it, I  
46 guess.

47  
48 MR. KRUEGER: Okay. I would note that I  
49 think that is going to be a work in progress for a very long  
50 time. That we're going to do a few iterations and then we'll



00025

1 be requesting pre-proposals that address the needs that have  
2 identified in here. But every winter Regional Advisory  
3 Council meeting every year, this needs to go back to, be  
4 looked at, to be added to, hopefully some things can be  
5 eliminated from it. So it'll be an ongoing type of document,  
6 planning document to lay the foundation for the studies  
7 program.

8  
9 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

10  
11 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Sure. You're all done  
12 with your presentations today?

13  
14 (No audible responses)

15  
16 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: I guess the only thing  
17 that I'm thinking, just basically thinking out loud here and,  
18 you know, once we get our consultation done with the RAC  
19 Chairs in May and if we start to revise our process we may  
20 wish, as a Board, to have a hearing at some point later in  
21 the year, you know, if we incorporate substantial changes as  
22 may be recommended by the RACs in May. So that (phone  
23 noises) Is anybody still on there?

24  
25 MR. CAPLAN: Yep, we're here.

26  
27 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Okay. Wasn't sure.  
28 But, anyway, we can also think about how we want to deal with  
29 that, but that's something we think of. We may want to  
30 entertain the idea if we do substantial revisions to do a  
31 Board hearing just directly on this issue, because it is  
32 creating quite a bit of interest and as the dollars and the  
33 programs get going it's going to create more interest as we  
34 actually get programs on the ground, so we need to make sure  
35 we're getting the right ones.

36  
37 Anybody have anything else?

38  
39 (No audible responses)

40  
41 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: If not then I guess  
42 we'll be -- we don't have any meetings scheduled between now  
43 and the 2nd of May, huh?

44  
45 Judy, you have something?

46  
47 MS. GOTTLIEB: Well, along those lines of  
48 something to think out for the summer, everybody is going to  
49 be busy. Maybe at the May meeting we could discuss some  
50 proposed dates where we might meet in the summer, so we could

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1 at least save those dates and not have to scramble at the  
2 last minute to assemble everybody. Just something to try to  
3 schedule for the summer.

4  
5 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Yeah, that would be a  
6 good thing to do. Let me see, because what is today, the  
7 18th?

8  
9 MR. BOYD: 18th.

10  
11 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: 18th already. Good  
12 grief. Yeah, it'll be May, so we're probably looking at  
13 something late May or something like that. But we're not --  
14 I mean, we're going to meet in May, but it's going to be a  
15 regulatory meeting, we're not going to have a chance to --  
16 I'm sure we're going to have something else in May. And  
17 maybe we can do that then.

18  
19 MS. GOTTLIEB: Okay.

20  
21 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: We'll try to work on  
22 a date for May because we're not just going to have the  
23 chance to meet informally, like we did this morning, and  
24 cover a range of issues, that's just not going to happen in  
25 the May meeting, that's purely regulation.

26  
27 MS. GOTTLIEB: Or even if we could schedule  
28 a few months out, just to save it.

29  
30 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Yeah. Well, maybe  
31 we'll schedule something for May anyway and then talk it over  
32 then. So let's start looking for a May date first.

33  
34 Yes, Taylor.

35  
36 MR. BRELSFORD: Mr. Chairman, I do hope that  
37 the Board members have been asked about it, a tentatively  
38 scheduled meeting on the May resource monitoring projects for  
39 May 9th, this would be the Tuesday after the Board meeting.  
40 And it may be possible to do it by teleconference rather than  
41 face to face but, in any event, we're putting the public  
42 review in process in order to be ready for an early May  
43 meeting and we would ask you to work with us on this because  
44 the fishing seasons are starting pretty soon and we're going  
45 to need to get these projects in Southeast approved and on  
46 the ground. So I hope I'm not surprising you with that date,  
47 I hope it's going to be possible for the Board members to  
48 participate.

49  
50 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Well, I know I'll be

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1 able to, whether it'll be by phone or however. I don't want  
2 to get too far into May before we -- I mean, we really need  
3 to start scheduling -- maybe, Tom, you can start working with  
4 the Board for the -- because that's not going to be our  
5 meeting where we can sit down and talk and we need to talk  
6 about this liaison position, we'll have all kinds of more  
7 information by then and it's something we need to keep  
8 moving, so something mid-May maybe.

9  
10 MR. BOYD: Yeah.

11  
12 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Go ahead.

13  
14 MR. BOYD: I don't know if we want to mention  
15 the letter we're sending to the Council Chairs on that? I  
16 haven't (indiscernible - simultaneous speech).....

17  
18 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Go ahead.

19  
20 MR. BOYD: .....they Board. Mitch asked me  
21 to draft a letter for his signature advising the Council  
22 Chairs of some of his thoughts regarding the Native liaison  
23 position and also encouraging their input, as well, on that  
24 position as an agenda item for the May 1 meeting.

25  
26 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Yeah, so it's going to  
27 probably sometime in May, we're going to have -- we'll have  
28 quite a bit of work done by then anyway, hopefully. So we'll  
29 start looking for a May meeting date and that'll be one of  
30 the things, we'll try to schedule our summer out the best we  
31 can at that May time.

32  
33 Okay, anything else?

34  
35 (No audible responses)

36  
37 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: If not, I thank  
38 everybody and we will adjourn. Thank you.

39  
40 (Off record)

41  
42 (MEETING ADJOURNED)

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA )

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STATE OF ALASKA )

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

THAT the foregoing pages numbered 02 through 27 contain a full, true and correct Transcript of the FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE BOARD PUBLIC MEETING and TELECONFERENCE, taken electronically by me on the 18th day of April, 2000, beginning at the hour of 2:00 o'clock p.m. at the Barrett Inn, Anchorage, Alaska;

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

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

DATED at Anchorage, Alaska, this 25th day of April, 2000.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Joseph P. Kolasinski  
Notary Public in and for Alaska  
My Commission Expires: 4/17/2004