

00001

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE BOARD PUBLIC MEETING

8

9

August 2, 1999

10

Fish and Wildlife Service

1101 East Tudor Road

Anchorage, Alaska

Gordon Watson Conference Room

15

16 Members Present:

17

18 Mitch Demientieff, Chair (Telephonically)

19 Niles, Cesar, BIA

20 David Allen, U.S. F&W Service

21 Curt Wilson, BLM

22 Judy Gotlieb, NPS

23 Ken Thompson, U.S. Forest Service

24

25 Keith Goltz, Solicitor

00002

P R O C E E D I N G S

1  
2

3 MR. BOYD: We have Ken Thompson who is representing  
4 Jim Capland, and is with the Forest Service. Keith Goltz  
5 from the Solicitor's office. Ida Hildebrand, BIA. Niles  
6 Cesar, Board member, BIA. Dave Allen, Board member, Fish and  
7 Wildlife Service. George Constantino, Fish and Wildlife  
8 Service. Judy Gottlieb, Board member, Park Service. Sandy  
9 Rabinowitch, Staff Committee, Park Service. Curt Wilson,  
10 BLM. I'm assuming, Curt, that you're representing the BLM  
11 Board member?

12

13 MR. WILSON: Yes.

14

15 MR. BOYD: And that's the Board that's present today,  
16 Mr. Chair.

17

18 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Okay, good.

19

20 MR. BOYD: The first item is to review the agenda.

21

22 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Unit 23 sheep, is that right?

23

24 MR. BOYD: Yeah, we have Unit 23 sheep status report  
25 and then we go to the special actions on 99-02 and 99-04.

26

27 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: 99-04 and 99-02.

28

29 MR. BOYD: Right. It doesn't appear that anyone in  
30 the room has any comments on the agenda.

31

32 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Okay, good. Well, let's go  
33 ahead then.

34

35 MR. BOYD: All right. We'll go ahead with the status  
36 report on Unit 23 sheep. I'm assuming that's going to be  
37 you, Mr. Spirtes.

38

39 MR. SPIRTEs: Hi, this is Dave Spirtes. Do you want  
40 me to go ahead with that status report?

41

42 MR. BOYD: Yeah, go ahead, Dave.

43

44 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Please.

45

46 MR. SPIRTEs: Yeah, okay, on Friday, July 16th, NPS  
47 wildlife biologist Brad Shults informed me of the results of  
48 the cooperative sheep count in the Baird and DeLongs that was  
49 done by our wildlife biologist and an ADF&G biologist. And I  
50 asked that he set up a meeting with Jim Dau, ADF&G wildlife

00003

1 biologist and with Willie Goodwin to review that count that  
2 day. The two biologists informed us that the number of 7/8th  
3 or larger rams counted in the Bairds had dropped from 70 to  
4 28, and they stated that this was the lowest number counted  
5 in 13 years.

6  
7 The told me that the decline was probably caused by  
8 older sheep reaching the end of their life span in addition  
9 to the 16 that were harvested under the Federal subsistence  
10 hunt in 1998. And in the De Longs, they only counted 12  
11 7/8ths or larger rams. Based on these numbers, Jim Dau  
12 stated that ADF&G supported an emergency closure for sheep in  
13 the Bairds and DeLongs. And they scheduled an open public  
14 meeting on Wednesday on July 21st to inform the public about  
15 the results of the hunt. We attended that meeting and Jim  
16 presented the count numbers along with Brad Shults. The  
17 public was satisfied that the general population trend was  
18 still encouraging and that land production still favored  
19 recovery, however, they also agreed that the number of full-  
20 curl rams was dropping off and that there was no longer a  
21 harvestable surplus. Jim Dau asked the public if anyone was  
22 interested in supporting a sheep hunt, no one responded.

23  
24 I wanted to make sure to see if there was any  
25 traditional, ecological knowledge that any local person might  
26 have to indicate a difference of opinion. Willie Goodwin  
27 supported the closure and Barb Armstrong consulted with  
28 several other RAC members who also supported a closure.  
29 Based the advice of the wildlife biologist, we -- that is,  
30 Ken Adkisson and Jim Dau went to discuss the numbers on the  
31 radio and I talked this over with John Cody, who agreed that  
32 we -- we should coordinate an ADF&G emergency order closing  
33 the hunt with my announcement that there was no harvestable  
34 permits for the sheep. And this was done -- we were trying  
35 to wait for the state of Alaska to put out an emergency order  
36 but because our hunt was scheduled to begin on August 1st, on  
37 the 28th I released a press release stating that no Federal  
38 subsistence permits would be issued for sheep in the Bairds  
39 and DeLongs. And just a few minutes ago I spoke with Jim Dau  
40 and he's anticipating the actual release of emergency order  
41 by ADF&G at any time.

42  
43 MR. BOYD: Okay.

44  
45 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Tom, I'm going to ask you to  
46 go ahead and help me out because I don't have any of the  
47 materials here.

48  
49 MR. BOYD: Sure. Dave, does that conclude your  
50 report?

00004

1 MR. SPIRTE: Yeah, pretty much. Either Ken Adkisson  
2 or I would be happy to answer any questions.

3  
4 MR. BOYD: This is a status report, Mr. Chair. I  
5 think the upshot here is that the Park Superintendent does  
6 have the authority, as delegated by the Board, not to issue  
7 permits this year. It's already been delegated so no Board  
8 action is required.

9  
10 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Okay.

11  
12 MR. BOYD: Based on the survey that has been done.

13  
14 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Okay, thank you. Are we ready  
15 to move on to 99-04?

16  
17 MR. BOYD: Yes.

18  
19 MR. WOLF: Excuse me, Mr. Chairman.

20  
21 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Yes.

22  
23 MR. WOLF: Yes, Hi, this is Matt Wolf. I am also  
24 representing Foundation for North American Wild Sheep and I  
25 asked the Federal Subsistence Board if they would consider  
26 changing the airplane -- use of aircraft in the harvest of  
27 these sheep for this hunt.

28  
29 I don't think that proper customary and traditional,  
30 if any, has been used, and at this time I ask the Federal  
31 Subsistence Board to withdraw the use of airplanes for this  
32 hunt if, in fact, it does happen to occur in the future.

33  
34 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Yeah, I think we could  
35 probably deal with that in terms of our normal regulatory  
36 process in the spring. When is our deadline for proposals,  
37 Tom?

38  
39 MR. BOYD: We'll be submitting a call for proposals  
40 in late August.

41  
42 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Right.

43  
44 MR. BOYD: And it will culminate in early November.

45  
46 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Right. Because there's not  
47 going to be a hunt this year so we can deal with that -- your  
48 request in terms of the normal regulatory process.

49  
50 MR. WOLF: Very good, thank you.

00005

1 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Any other discussion on this  
2 matter?

3  
4 MR. OLSEN: Yeah, Mark Olsen here. Just curious as  
5 to why we have such a tight rope here between the season and  
6 the emergency closure? It just seems that we could have had  
7 information or should have had information prior to such a  
8 deadline here.

9  
10 MR. SPIRTE: Yeah, this is Dave Spirtes. I think  
11 the real problem is that timing of the count. We basically  
12 have to wait until the snow melts before we can get an  
13 accurate count. So we really weren't able to start until  
14 about the 4th of July. And then by the time you get several  
15 weeks of good weather to count all the sample areas, we're  
16 basically only about a week before the season starts. But  
17 the wildlife biologists tell me there's no other option for  
18 doing an accurate count.

19  
20 MR. OLSEN: Is this normal as far as time frames?

21  
22 MR. SPIRTE: Yes. Normally that's the -- normally  
23 we have to wait for the snow to melt and we really can't get  
24 an accurate count until July.

25  
26 MR. OLSEN: Thank you.

27  
28 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Any other discussion? If not,  
29 let's move on to 99-04 then.

30  
31 MR. BOYD: Okay. 99--04, we have Donna Dewhurst that  
32 will be moving forward to present the Staff report.

33  
34 MS. DEWHURST: 99-04 is the request for a Federal  
35 subsistence harvest in Unit 10, Unimak Island. It would be  
36 for one caribou harvest limit and the season would be  
37 September 1st through March 31st of the year 2000. And it  
38 would include a designated hunter provision.

39  
40 As far as the analysis goes, to boil it down to a  
41 nutshell, the current estimate for Unimak Island is 600  
42 caribou. Recent surveys have shown good calf production so  
43 the population appears to be healthy and appears to have good  
44 growth potential. So biologically, there's no reason to  
45 oppose the request for a Federal subsistence harvest for this  
46 year.

47  
48 MR. BOYD: That concludes the Staff report, Mr.  
49 Chair. The Staff Committee recommendation is that they  
50 recommend adopting the proposal to open a caribou hunt in

00006

1 Unit 10, Unimak Island, September 1 to March 31. One caribou  
2 harvest limit with a designated hunter provision. The most  
3 recent population estimate for caribou is 600. Just in  
4 short, we feel like there is no real problem biologically.

5  
6 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Okay, thank you. Now, are we  
7 ready for public testimony?

8  
9 MR. BOYD: Well, we have Refuge comments, then State  
10 comments and then public comments.

11  
12 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Okay.

13  
14 MR. BOYD: And then we go to Council and Board  
15 deliberations.

16  
17 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Okay.

18  
19 MR. BOYD: We'll go to Refuge right now to see if  
20 Refuge has any comments on this particular proposal?

21  
22 MR. PEOTTER: This is Rick Peotter from Izembek  
23 Refuge. We have no comments but we support the proposal.

24  
25 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Okay, Fish and Game comments.

26  
27 MR. SELLERS: Hello, this is Dick Sellers. I was  
28 waiting to see if Matt Robus was going to respond, I don't  
29 know if Matt's still on the line or not.

30  
31 But in general, we support harvesting this Unimak  
32 Island population. And because the vast majority of the land  
33 is Federal land, it seems to be the most expedient way to  
34 allow for a harvest.

35  
36 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Was that Matt trying to  
37 comment?

38  
39 MR. SELLERS: No, this was Dick Sellers.

40  
41 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Okay, thank you. Public  
42 testimony, I'm not sure?

43  
44 MR. BOYD: Well, we don't have anyone in the room  
45 that wants to comment on this particular proposal. I'm not  
46 sure about those on-line. I might ask, Mr. Chair, there have  
47 been a number of people, about two or three beeps since we  
48 started this discussion and perhaps we should pause to get  
49 those people coming on line to identify themselves.

50

00007

1 MR. ROBUS: Yes, Mr. Chairman, Mr. Boyd, this is Matt  
2 Robus of Fish and Game. I was one of the beeps because I  
3 made an error here and dropped myself off, so I'm back up.

4  
5 MR. BOYD: Okay.

6  
7 MR. ROBUS: And I wondered, did you ask for any State  
8 input on this one, yet?

9  
10 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Yeah, we did. Dick Sellers  
11 made some comments. Do you have additional comments for us,  
12 Matt?

13  
14 MR. ROBUS: No, that's fine. If Dick covered it  
15 that's fine and I'll try to stay on the line here now.

16  
17 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Okay.

18  
19 MR. BOYD: And there were one or two other beeps.  
20 Are there any new parties that have joined us in this?  
21 Apparently not. We are at the point of public comment on  
22 Special Action 99-04 to open up a hunt Unimak Island, Unit 10  
23 for caribou.

24  
25 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Is there anyone on-line  
26 wishing to testify under public comment?

27  
28 (No response)

29  
30 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Hearing none, we'll move on  
31 into Regional Council comment.

32  
33 MR. OLSEN: Mark Olsen here.

34  
35 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Mark, go ahead.

36  
37 MR. OLSEN: I believe this is the first I have heard  
38 of the SAPCH herd being divided into two different units. Is  
39 this the first time it's being done? How is this strategy  
40 going?

41  
42 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Do you have someone that could  
43 respond to Mark, Tom?

44  
45 MS. DEWHURST: Yeah, I assume Dick Sellers would.

46  
47 MR. SELLERS: Dick Sellers with Alaska Department of  
48 Fish and Game. Just for a long time had different hunting  
49 regulations, the Unimak Island segment of the Southern  
50 Peninsula population and we could maybe have some discussion

00008

1 about how distinct the group of caribou are on Unimak Island.  
2 But given the logistics and the extent of the habitat there  
3 that it's appropriate to consider different regulations for  
4 those caribou on the island versus the mainland, and that's  
5 not a new phenomenon.

6  
7 MR. OLSEN: Is this open to the public or just the  
8 residents of the Unit?

9  
10 MR. BOYD: Mr. Olsen, this is Tom Boyd. The action  
11 before us is specific to those communities in the local area,  
12 you know, those who have customary and traditional use  
13 determination.

14  
15 MR. OLSEN: Thank you.

16  
17 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Any other comments?

18  
19 MS. TRUMBLE: This is Della from King Cove.

20  
21 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Hello.

22  
23 MS. TRUMBLE: Hi. Mr. Chair, we just wanted to say  
24 that we do support this hunt. And we also would just like to  
25 add of a concern that we've been sparse for these last couple  
26 of years and that is an accurate survey of the caribou on  
27 Unimak. But it hasn't been totally complete the last two  
28 years because of weather and various conditions and timing,  
29 whether someone can get out and fly.

30  
31 But we do support the hunt for the people in our  
32 region and we also, like I say, would really hope that this  
33 next year that an accurate survey by State and Federal can be  
34 completed.

35  
36 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Thank you.

37  
38 MS. SHELLIKOF: Gilda Shellikof.

39  
40 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Yes.

41  
42 MS. SHELLIKOF: Yeah, I would like to reiterate what  
43 Della said about getting an accurate count of the caribou on  
44 the island. Because I think that's very important especially  
45 when they're going to open up the seasons. Because we don't  
46 want to end up like we did the last four years and not have  
47 any caribou hunt at all.

48  
49 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Thank you. Is there any  
50 response to that, Tom?

00009

1 MR. BOYD: Let me go to either the Alaska Department  
2 of Fish and Game or the Refuge to see if they have a response  
3 to that.

4  
5 MR. ROBUS: This is Matt Robus from the Refuge.  
6 Everything is copacetic. Yeah, good comments. We did have  
7 trouble this year getting out and we've got some plans with  
8 Dick Sellers' office to step up on our efforts to get a good  
9 count on that, and we'll proceed that way.

10  
11 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Thank you. Any other Regional  
12 Council comments?

13  
14 MR. OLSEN: This is Mark Olsen again. Is there a  
15 number of permits that are going to be issued or is that an  
16 issue?

17  
18 MR. BOYD: It's not an issue. The proposal is not  
19 limiting the number of permits.

20  
21 MR. OLSEN: Thank you.

22  
23 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Any other Regional Council  
24 comments? Hearing none, let's go ahead and advance this to  
25 Board deliberation.

26  
27 MR. D. ALLEN: Are you ready for a motion?

28  
29 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Yes.

30  
31 MR. D. ALLEN: Mr. Chairman, Dave Allen, I move that  
32 we adopt Special Action S99-04 to open the season as  
33 represented in the Staff analysis proposal.

34  
35 MR. CESAR: I'll second that.

36  
37 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Okay, who seconded the motion?

38  
39 MR. CESAR: Mr. Cesar, Mr. Chair.

40  
41 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Okay, thank you. Discussion  
42 on the motion. Hearing none, all those in favor of the  
43 motion please signify by saying aye.

44  
45 IN UNISON: Aye.

46  
47 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Those opposed, same sign.

48  
49 (No opposing votes)

50

00010

1 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Motion carries. 99-02.

2  
3 MS. DEWHURST: 99-02 was originally submitted to  
4 close Federal public lands for caribou hunting in both Units  
5 9(D) and 10. Unit 10 is kind of a moot issue that we aren't  
6 really considering because there is not a State hunt. So  
7 there aren't any other users. The request is to close then  
8 primarily Unit 9(D) from September 1st through March 31st to  
9 all non-Federally qualified users.

10  
11 Unit 9(D) has about 20 percent Federal public lands,  
12 and that is all administered by the Fish and Wildlife  
13 Service. As far as the biology of the caribou herd, the  
14 caribou herd -- the Southern Alaska Peninsula Caribou Herd  
15 has gone through some very large fluctuations over the past  
16 100 years. And at its peaks it usually hits around 10,000  
17 animals and at its lows it moves down to a couple hundred.  
18 And it's done that. It just had a peak in the mid-80s and  
19 then it crashed after that and it closed hunting for several  
20 years.

21  
22 A few years ago we had the first Federal subsistence  
23 hunt, it allowed the opening of a very limited hunt. It was  
24 a bulls only. And then last year the hunt was expanded a  
25 little bit and granting up to 235 harvest permits for bulls  
26 only. This is also a Federal subsistence hunt only. In both  
27 years of the Federal hunt the harvest was low. Of course our  
28 reporting is only about -- it's been averaging about 60  
29 percent. But from the reporting we have, we're talking 20 to  
30 30 animals, and in one case 32. So even if the reporting,  
31 we're only getting half, you know, it -- you played that  
32 liberal and doubled it, you'd be looking at around a 50  
33 animal harvest. So the harvest has still been very low on  
34 both years. As far as the surveys go, the recent, most  
35 recent State survey indicates an estimate of the population  
36 of still around 3,500.

37  
38 The ADF&G wishes to cap the population between four  
39 and 5,000 animals. That is to -- mainly for range reasons.  
40 When the population grows up to 10,000 animals, the range  
41 can't support it being a limited size peninsula and hence the  
42 periodic cycles of crashes and booms. And so to try to  
43 prevent that, the State is trying to do a management strategy  
44 of capping off the population between four and 5,000. So the  
45 current estimate of 3,500, of course, is approaching that  
46 again. It rebounded quite quickly from the recent decline.  
47 And the indications from the past two years' surveys, last  
48 summer and this summer's indicate very good calf crop. Which  
49 indicates the potential for further growth to be high.

50

00011

1           So overall the population has recovered quite nicely  
2 from the decline, and it appears to be continuing to recover  
3 at this point.

4  
5           Harvest wise, it really isn't a biological issue here  
6 as far as being able to support a harvest. At the Staff  
7 Committee meeting Dick Sellers was asked what his harvest  
8 goal is and he had mentioned basically one percent or three  
9 to 400 animals were the harvest goals right now. When you  
10 look at the history of the harvest, the concern -- this was  
11 mainly presented, this proposal was presented as a user  
12 conflict issue, not so much that the animals, the population  
13 couldn't support the harvest.

14  
15           The specific issue that was raised in the actual  
16 proposal request was the issue of the Cold Bay road system.  
17 The Cold Bay road system does have a history of conflicts.  
18 But that was primarily in the mid-1980s when hunting of  
19 Arctic nesting geese was still permitted and caribou  
20 population was at a thousand animals and the bag limit was  
21 more than one. So there was a lot more interest and there  
22 was pretty good harvest pressure back then. But even at that  
23 peak, the harvest pressure was around 400 animals. And that  
24 was when the population was three times the size it is now.  
25 So that's the highest the harvest ever got when things were  
26 wide open and everybody was allowed to come down. And there  
27 was a lot of interest in Arctic nesting geese which brought  
28 other hunters into the area.

29  
30           To try to prevent that sort of a situation again, it  
31 was part of why when the Board of Game approved the State  
32 hunt which is currently what's on the books for this year, it  
33 was closed to Alaska residents from September 21st through  
34 November 14th. That was an attempt to prevent the conflicts  
35 -- potential conflicts with goose hunters or waterfowl  
36 hunters. And the only issue left then became nonresident  
37 hunt which is only limited to a 15 day period from September  
38 10th through the 25th, bringing nonresident hunters into Cold  
39 Bay. But most of those nonresidents will probably be guided  
40 and will probably be off the road system. And then the issue  
41 came of conflicts after November 15th or after the State  
42 residency system would open back up.

43  
44           And as far as Staff analysis was concerned, it was  
45 felt that there probably isn't going to be that much of a  
46 harvest pressure from nonlocals, given the high cost of air  
47 transportation being six to \$800 to get there, and then a one  
48 caribou limit. There are a number of places in the state  
49 where you can get more caribou than that, like for example,  
50 the Mulchatna herd. You could fly a lot cheaper to

00012

1 Dillingham and get four animals versus paying that money to  
2 go to Cold Bay. So it was felt that there probably is not  
3 going to be a big incentive out there to draw in-state  
4 residents like Anchorage based residents down to Cold Bay.  
5 And there was concern from the Staff of -- if there really  
6 would be an issue of all these folks coming down to Cold Bay.  
7 All of these issues of user conflicts are basically a  
8 potential risk, not anything we have any real history of.  
9 The hunt has been closed for a number of years to state  
10 hunters so there hasn't been any competition for a number of  
11 years. So anything, as far as what we're looking at this  
12 year is speculation on the part of both the subsistence  
13 hunter and anybody else looking at the situation. We are  
14 playing a little bit of a game of trying to guess at what  
15 could happen.

16  
17 The bottom line is biologically the herd could  
18 support a wide open hunt right now, a full -- if the harvest  
19 was kept three to 400 animals. And as far as the user  
20 conflict issue, it's the -- the information right now doesn't  
21 lend itself to show that the potential is very high for that.  
22 But that's hard to say because it is a potential.

23  
24 That concludes the Staff analysis.

25  
26 MR. BOYD: Mr. Chair, this is Tom Boyd. The Staff  
27 Committee recommends adoption of the proposal to close  
28 Federal public lands in Unit 9(D) and Unit 10 for the taking  
29 of caribou by non-Federally qualified subsistence users from  
30 September 1 to March 31 with the modification that Federal  
31 lands be closed to non-Federally qualified subsistence users  
32 only in 9(D), given that the issue is moot in 10.

33  
34 In regard to 9(D) the Staff Committee supported the  
35 concern expressed by the Council members who stated that  
36 local residents who are heavily dependent on caribou are not  
37 able to hunt this resource now for several years. And then  
38 were prevented by bad weather from doing much hunting when  
39 the Federal harvest was open to subsistence users for two  
40 years. The Staff Committee members agree that, especially  
41 since there have been wide fluctuations in the herd's  
42 population, it's better to move slowly in the opening of the  
43 harvest.

44  
45 It was also noted that Federal land is only about 20  
46 percent of the Unit in 9(D) and that State had been unable to  
47 accurately monitor hunting of caribou in the Unit.

48  
49 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Okay. Department comments.

50

00013

1 MR. BOYD: I think we want to go to Refuge comments.

2

3 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Okay, yes. Refuge comments.

4

5 MR. PEOTTER: This is Rick Peotter, Izembek Refuge.  
6 In essence, we do agree with the subsistence Staff comments  
7 that Donna just put forward. So all of that information is  
8 agreed upon. And we recognize the Regional Council's  
9 concern, and because of that, I guess, we'd like to make the  
10 recommendation, basically it would be to close Federal lands  
11 within the Izembek Game Guide Unit. In essence, this is the  
12 road system bear hunt area as described in Page 48 of the  
13 Alaska hunting regulation, State regs.

14

15 Basically surrounds the road area of Izembek Refuge  
16 and portion of Alaska Peninsula Refuge. And in essence,  
17 that's where the prime public interaction would be located.  
18 And this would free up the area north of here to allow the  
19 guides access to Refuge lands and fill their nonresident  
20 permits, 50 of them are being issued for that. Provide for  
21 other local or Alaska residents to be able to come here and  
22 be able to go outside to provide some of the caribou that are  
23 in here.

24

25 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Thank you. Department  
26 comments.

27

28 MR. ROBUS: Yes, Mr. Chair, this is Matt Robus. The  
29 Department has approached this State hunt, the institution of  
30 a State hunt pretty conservatively. And as was mentioned  
31 during the earlier report, hunting may become a pretty  
32 important tool to cap this herd at a healthy level but  
33 doesn't damage the range.

34

35 One of the things that happened at the Board of Game  
36 meeting in spring was to carefully craft the timing of the  
37 season to reduce user conflicts. And we believe that that's  
38 sufficient to give local hunters an opportunity to hunt  
39 caribou without a lot of outside influence or conflict. And  
40 the Staff analysis, the Federal Staff analysis dated July  
41 15th agrees with that approach, and so we ask that --  
42 rejected. We don't feel that it's necessary to protect local  
43 hunters.

44

45 And I'd like to defer to Dick Sellers, who's actually  
46 managing this herd, to make any specific comments that he'd  
47 like.

48

49 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Mr. Sellers.

50

00014

1 MR. SELLERS: Thank you, Mr. Chair, this is Dick  
2 Sellers. I'd first like to bring the Federal Board up to the  
3 latest in terms of population numbers. At last week's Staff  
4 Committee meeting I didn't have the photographs from this  
5 post-calving census. I've since then been able to count the  
6 caribou off the photos and the photo count for this year was  
7 3,612 caribou with 26 percent calves. And that represents  
8 another good calf production year following the kind of  
9 banner year that we had last year. And given this number of  
10 caribou and the level of productivity the last two years, I  
11 think the appropriate harvest level is between three and 400  
12 caribou.

13  
14 I would like to emphasize that given the last two  
15 banner years in calf production, we can anticipate a rather  
16 large potential for increase two to three year from now when  
17 these young caribou reach a maximum reproductive potential.  
18 So I think it's incumbent upon us to look ahead a little bit  
19 and start to ratchet back on the rate of growth. I'd also  
20 like to recognize that during this period of population  
21 decline there's been huge public sacrifice in terms of closed  
22 seasons from 1993 to 1996. During that period, starting in  
23 both 1995 and 1996, there were public proposals to reopen the  
24 season and in both those years the State and the Federal  
25 system took a very conservative approach and hunting was not  
26 reinstated until 1997, with two recent Federal openings.  
27 And I would again like to emphasize the harvest estimates  
28 were achieved during those two recent Federal harvests of 32  
29 and 23 caribou. And I recognize that might be somewhat  
30 under-reported and I also recognize that the weather  
31 conditions were not real favorable to wintertime hunting the  
32 past two season, but the difference between what could be  
33 anticipated under continued Federal closure of the lands and  
34 just an open season, I think it's pretty minuscule. I think  
35 the benefits to be gained in terms of competition, reduced  
36 competition for overall harvest levels are not significant.

37  
38 That will wrap up my comments.

39  
40 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Thank you. Do we have anybody  
41 wishing to testify from the public?

42  
43 MR. BOYD: We do have Mr. Gunlogson in the room. He  
44 would like to address this proposal.

45  
46 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Okay.

47  
48 MR. BOYD: I might add, while he's coming forward,  
49 that he has passed out a handout and I presume he may address  
50 that also.

00015

1 MR. GUNLOGSON: Board members, thank you for the  
2 opportunity to testify on this issue. I have given you  
3 written comments and I am reluctant to read them all into the  
4 record if you're going to read them and consider them. On  
5 the other hand, if that's necessary, I could so do. I know  
6 your time is valuable and so I'll forgo that except for maybe  
7 some brief comments to that.

8  
9 I am an Alaska registered master guide number 51.  
10 And I've hunted this area for over 35 years now, every year  
11 that there has been a season for a bear or caribou to hunt.  
12 And I currently hold special use permits to hunt on the  
13 Refuge land. That is traditionally a part of the area that I  
14 have hunted over the years. I also have the only, to my  
15 knowledge, and I think that's accurate, permanent lodge in  
16 Unit 9(D) that is an ongoing facility.

17  
18 As Dick Sellers mentioned, we incurred a lot of  
19 financial loss starting in 1993 when we were unable to hunt  
20 caribou in this area. We chose not to -- because of our  
21 investment in this area and all, we chose not to wander off  
22 to other areas during that time to hunt in other places.

23  
24 The concern that I'm going to address in this issue  
25 right now has to -- it specifically relates to the  
26 nonresidence season September 10th to the 25th. This is the  
27 one that will enable us to participate in the hunt and the  
28 State has given us that opportunity. Our harvest will be  
29 very limited and it will be limited to a small number of old  
30 bulls. The biologists have agreed that there is a high  
31 percentage of old bulls in this herd to harvest. They're  
32 going to die anyway of old age. I further understand that we  
33 have -- have or are witnessing a modern miracle at this  
34 point, in that, the -- my understanding, that both the State  
35 and the Federal biologists in the field recognize that there  
36 is no problem with an opening of hunting on State and Federal  
37 lands jointly at this time.

38  
39 As a practical matter it won't make -- we will  
40 conduct our hunts either way for the small number of animals  
41 that we plan to take because we will take them on State land  
42 if that's the only thing that's available to us. It's a bit  
43 confusing in the field because the caribou haven't recognized  
44 the line between State and Federal land out there to my  
45 knowledge. The line angles kind of right through the middle  
46 of the area that we traditionally hunt in that area, and so  
47 it can be really confusing in the field if we were out with a  
48 client representing ourselves and the state of Alaska, to  
49 have a good hunt and we're pursuing a caribou and that  
50 caribou has proceeded a mile and now he's 10 yards across the

00016

1 boundary in the Federal land and we go back to camp and drink  
2 coffee. However, as I say, we will hunt one way or the  
3 other. It also limits our opportunity to take the oldest and  
4 most desirable of the harvest animals that are out there, the  
5 old bulls.

6  
7 Last year Federal land only was open in that area to  
8 any hunters. And my lodge is very close to Nelson Lagoon  
9 village and they're all old friends of mine. They have, you  
10 know, were not able to hunt on State lands which lies around  
11 their village, and Federal land is a long ways away. I think  
12 that at this point in time now that the State has cooperated  
13 by opening State land to these people, as well as other  
14 users, that it's time for the Federal government to share in  
15 that cooperation and allow hunting for all user groups on a  
16 limited basis because it's been already indicated it's  
17 biologically justified.

18  
19 I think that the rapid growth, as Dick Sellers  
20 referred to in this herd, is of an extreme concern at this  
21 point. If this herd goes into another crash within a short  
22 period of time due to the abuse of the habitat, it's going to  
23 be a long time in coming back again. This is, I think, as  
24 real a problem as there is in the whole area because caribou  
25 do not grow -- herds do not grow by addition. Caribou herds  
26 grow by multiplication. This herd has already doubled and  
27 more than doubled since its low point. And we are in real  
28 danger of abusing this herd if it is allowed to reach the  
29 point where it crashes again.

30  
31 If the Board does feel that there is a need to  
32 address closures in certain small areas such as the Cold Bay  
33 road system in November, they can so designate. But there is  
34 no reason at this time to close all remote areas in the  
35 September hunt of other users, especially based on the fact  
36 that this is going to be such a tiny harvest. As I say, I've  
37 hunted in that area an awful long time and I do not expect a  
38 deluge of hunters to show up in that area from the 10th of  
39 September to the 25th.

40  
41 Traditionally, in the past we have been virtually the  
42 only guide operation that was hunting on that. And I  
43 requested the State Board not to run the caribou season in  
44 conjunction with the bear season this fall so that there  
45 would not be a conflict between excessive number of  
46 nontraditional guides in that area hunting these caribou.

47  
48 One thing that the State -- or that could be done in  
49 regulation to control the Cold Bay road system is that there  
50 could be a regulation that no State or Federal employees can

00017

1 go to Cold Bay on an inspection trip when they hear the  
2 caribou just got in. And if this Board has an agenda that's  
3 unrelated to biological justification on this issue, I guess  
4 that would be of grave concern to me.

5

6 Thank you very much.

7

8 MR. BOYD: Mr. Chair, this is Tom again. I have some  
9 folks on line who may wish to testify as the public.

10

11 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Do we have any additional  
12 requests for public testimony at this time?

13

14 MR. WOLF: Yes, Mr. Chairman this is Matt Wolf.

15

16 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Yes.

17

18 MR. WOLF: Yes, I would like to reiterate the  
19 testimony of Mr. Dick Gunlogson and further it by stating  
20 that this proposal is driven by concerns about hunter and  
21 human conflict. I have been down in that area and have  
22 hunted for the last 15 years and I have never, ever in that  
23 time come upon a human conflict. That area is just so  
24 remote, no other operators are down there. And I stress  
25 leave this open for Federal open for nonresidents.

26

27 Thank you.

28

29 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Thank you. Any additional  
30 requests for public comments at this time? Hearing none,  
31 then we'll move on with Regional Council comments.

32

33 MR. TRUMBLE: This is Della Trumble in King Cove. I  
34 don't know where to start here. First of all, this rapid  
35 population growth. I'd just like to add that for those four  
36 years that we weren't allowed to hunt it was because of the  
37 decline in the caribou population. The people in this region  
38 were not able to hunt for the past two years. The first year  
39 we had extreme high winds and the people were not able to  
40 harvest their caribou. The second year, which is this past  
41 year, we had a tremendous amount of snow which is quite  
42 unusual for the region and it has been many years that we've  
43 had that much snow.

44

45 The permits that were drawn out -- a lot of people  
46 turned in the permits, their names to harvest the caribou,  
47 some people that maybe even don't hunt, people that normally  
48 do hunt maybe didn't -- weren't issued them. And still a lot  
49 of the people that do hunt that received the permits were not  
50 able to harvest because of the weather.

00018

1 Population over the four year period, this herd was  
2 not allowed to open, only by subsistence harvest, which we  
3 appreciated because of one thing, one major factor in these  
4 surveys. That local hunters for those two years were going  
5 out with the game biologists to survey these caribou because  
6 the low amount of numbers that were given to us as this  
7 population was increasing slow when we weren't able to hunt,  
8 that has also helped in determining where these caribou were.

9  
10 Another concern, the decline, ethnically in my mind  
11 and a lot of us here don't believe, you know, we're not  
12 really -- there's nothing that says exactly why this herd  
13 declined as fast as it did. People in this region have not  
14 been able to harvest caribou because of the weather. State  
15 lands are open and it's my understanding that it is to bulls  
16 and cows. At the last (inaudible - telephone cuts out)  
17 talked about this, that the areas around Pavlof and Morzhovoi  
18 are places these guys out here would rather hunt and normally  
19 do hunt. They've hunted Izembek and gone into -- tried to  
20 get into Izembek to hunt the past year and the weather has  
21 been bad.

22  
23 The lands that are open are closer to home. The  
24 Pavlof area, King Cove hunters go to, Sand Point and Nelson  
25 Lagoon. False Pass hunt the Morzhovoi area. With these  
26 lands open, all of our corporation lands and State lands, I  
27 think the impact of that is going to be a lot higher harvest  
28 in the next year even if we do have some good weather and  
29 these guys are able to get out and hunt.

30  
31 I really think that being able to go into Izembek and  
32 hunt if they can get up there is going to be a good thing.

33  
34 I'm really -- my concern is there's 2,300 residents  
35 in this region, and if the limit is three to 400 caribou, I  
36 think that those harvest limits are going to be higher  
37 because we're going to be able to hunt, not only closer to  
38 home, but areas that are easier to get to. And until we can  
39 get a little bit accurate hold of what's going on with this  
40 herd, I really feel that this -- a lot of the people here in  
41 this community have supported this, we feel that this should  
42 -- Izembek, or Federal lands should only be open to residents  
43 in this region, at least, one more year until we can  
44 determine what is happening with this herd; whether it can be  
45 harvested.

46  
47 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Thank you. Additional  
48 Regional Council comment.

49  
50 MS. SHELLIKOF: Yes, this is Gilda Shellikof.

00019

1 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Go ahead.

2

3 MS. SHELLIKOF: I feel much the same way Della does  
4 in talking to the people around here, you know, with being so  
5 long without any caribou hunt and then all of a sudden it's  
6 open up to everybody and nobody seems to really know -- they  
7 don't even know for sure how many are on this island, you  
8 know, it's obvious you don't have accurate numbers. And I  
9 feel like, you know, if we could just have this closed just  
10 one more year, which to try to make a more accurate counts.  
11 And so that -- and I think that it's going to be, with the  
12 State open, there's going to be a lot more caribou taken by  
13 local people this year. And we're just asking, you know,  
14 just for this one year so that we'll get a better handle on  
15 what's going on.

16

17 So maybe if you guys know what's going on you should  
18 share it with the communities beforehand and maybe have  
19 community meetings so that people know what's going on.  
20 Because I know there was one year they had local people going  
21 up with the counters and that opened up a lot of  
22 communication, it made people feel more comfortable about  
23 what's going on. And you know, that's one of the things you  
24 should consider when you're doing counting. And so we just  
25 -- that's the reason for requesting that the Federal lands be  
26 closed, is just so that we don't end up back where we started  
27 from the first year, open to everybody.

28

29 Thank you.

30

31 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Thank you. Additional  
32 Regional Council comments.

33

34 MR. OLSEN: Yes, Mark Olsen here.

35

36 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Mark, go ahead.

37

38 MR. OLSEN: Thank you. I have to agree with what has  
39 been said as we have worked on this project here for four  
40 years as we have mentioned. I guess I have several concerns  
41 here as far as the opening proposed here.

42

43 I recall back as to what was designated as the reason  
44 for the decline of this herd from 10,000 animals, which was  
45 the grazing, which I had a hard time and still have a hard  
46 time ever believing that could have been it. For the simple  
47 fact is, we never did find 8,000 carcasses laying around at  
48 any given time or any -- any suggestion that that's what had  
49 happened. And here again, if the grazing was the problem we  
50 were told that it'd probably take an astronomical time, 10 to

00020

1 20 years before this grazing lands would be suitable for the  
2 animals once again.

3

4 Here, in the good times though we have experienced a  
5 good growth of the resource, production here. So that brings  
6 us a great question here as to we have not answered what has  
7 happened. I think we need more time to study these and look  
8 at the situations so we don't get ourselves in trouble again  
9 with a nonharvestable resource due to population.

10

11 The other concern that I have is to look at the way  
12 subsistence and the other user groups and how the government  
13 has set up for what's known as the peer hunts. Now, we have  
14 never, State or Federal, as far as I know, have never set up  
15 thresholds or counts or numbers that is going to alleviate  
16 this problem that we would know where and when -- when it'd  
17 open to public, when is it open to the commercial hunters,  
18 when's it open to sport hunters, when is it open to the  
19 subsistence hunters? I believe this is a very crucial tool  
20 that needs to be fulfilled, that we don't have to come  
21 through this year after year and have the displeasure of not  
22 being able to meet the needs.

23

24 At any rate, I certainly support the issue that we do  
25 hold off one more year and that we can once again get  
26 together with the State and Federal governments as well as  
27 the communities involved in these areas to once again sit  
28 down and look at a long-range plan of how this might be  
29 handled better.

30

31 Thank you.

32

33 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Regional Council comment.

34

35 MS. TRUMBLE: This is Della again, if I can add two  
36 more things, Mr. Chair.

37

38 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Go ahead.

39

40 MS. TRUMBLE: I think concerning to the growth of  
41 this herd. I think a lot of the contribution that has gone  
42 into this is the limited harvest in the region. They also --  
43 the State lands will allow for the nonresidents, the limited  
44 hunt on State lands.

45

46 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Any other comments. Hello?

47

48 MR. BOYD: Mr. Chair, are you there?

49

50 (No response)

00021

1 MR. BOYD: Mitch, are you there?

2

3 (No response)

4

5 MR. BOYD: Let's standby, it appears we lost the  
6 Chairman.

7

8 (Off record)

9

10 (On record)

11

12 MR. BOYD: Let's go ahead and get started again. I  
13 think we have some Board members taking a break.

14

15 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Just let me know when  
16 everybody gets assembled.

17

18 MR. BOYD: We're ready to go, Mr. Chairman.

19

20 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Okay, let's carry on. Is  
21 there any other Regional Council comments? If not, then  
22 we'll go ahead and advance this to Board deliberation.

23

24 MR. CHRISTENSEN: Is this an opportunity to say  
25 something?

26

27 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Who's this?

28

29 MR. CHRISTENSEN: This is Duane Christensen, Anchor  
30 Point.

31

32 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Are you a Regional Council  
33 representative?

34

35 MR. CHRISTENSEN: No.

36

37 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Oh, are you wishing to  
38 testify; is that it?

39

40 MR. CHRISTENSEN: Yes.

41

42 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: All right.

43

44 MR. CHRISTENSEN: I don't actually know how I got  
45 involved in this. I just tried to call and make some  
46 comments to the Board and they patched me through to you  
47 folks.

48

49 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Okay, go ahead, Mr.  
50 Christensen. Yeah, public testimony had ceased a little

00022

1 while ago but we'll go ahead and give you the opportunity to  
2 testify.

3

4 MR. CHRISTENSEN: Okay, well, my name's Duane  
5 Christensen, Anchor Point. I've been an Alaska resident for  
6 49 years. I'm a White male. And I had the unfortunate  
7 experience of overhearing some conversation with the Board  
8 down in Ninilchik, talking about subsistence and it got me a  
9 little bit upset over what's going on here with subsistence.

10

11 Like I said, I've been here 49 years and I'm about to  
12 be excluded, it looks like to me, from the right to hunt and  
13 to subsist because I'm White. And this is wrong, totally  
14 wrong. I heard these Board members in Ninilchik saying that  
15 it wasn't about culture, that it was about their right to  
16 take away my hunting privilege because I'm White, and I just  
17 -- I got to say, that if they're arguing for limited  
18 subsistence for the Native culture, then you have to consider  
19 what is culture. High powered rifles and snowmachines and  
20 four-wheelers and such are White man's culture, and it's not  
21 the Native culture. And I think it's totally wrong to start  
22 dividing the people of Alaska up, and I don't think that we  
23 have the right to say to somebody because they happen to live  
24 on Fourth Avenue in Anchorage that they can't hunt, subsist  
25 in this state.

26

27 So I guess I wasn't prepared to say, public  
28 testimony, but I guess I'll let it go at that.

29

30 Thank you.

31

32 MS. SHELLIKOF: Can I make a comment?

33

34 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Uh-huh.

35

36 MS. SHELLIKOF: This is Gilda. When we talk about  
37 our subsistence down here, we don't divide it into Native or  
38 non-Native, it's for the residents of this area regardless of  
39 what race they are.

40

41 MR. CHRISTENSEN: That's not what I heard at the  
42 Board.

43

44 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Yeah, I'm sure -- you're  
45 talking about something on the Kenai Peninsula?

46

47 MR. CHRISTENSEN: Yes.

48

49 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Yeah, okay, that's got nothing  
50 to do with what's on the agenda here today.

00023

1 MR. CHRISTENSEN: Oh, I'm sorry.

2

3 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: We're discussing (inaudible -  
4 telephone cuts out).

5

6 MR. CHRISTENSEN: Oh, I see, okay.

7

8 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Yeah.

9

10 MR. CHRISTENSEN: Well, they patched me through to  
11 the wrong people. I'm sorry. Okay, bye-bye.

12

13 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: It's okay, bye-bye. Okay,  
14 let's go ahead, is there any other -- if there are no other  
15 comments then we'll go ahead and move on to Board  
16 deliberations.

17

18 MR. GOODWIN: Mr. Chairman.

19

20 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Yes.

21

22 MR. GOODWIN: Yeah, this is Willie Goodwin from  
23 Kotzebue. I've been listening but I wasn't sure until I  
24 questioned a biologist of whether or not this herd fluctuates  
25 in population, and she told me it does. You know, up in  
26 Kotzebue, our Western Arctic herd fluctuates. Local  
27 knowledge says it's, you know, it's every 40 years or so it  
28 takes a nosedive down to about 100,000. Now, if this herd  
29 fluctuates every 15 years, it's a natural thing.

30

31 Because what our knowledge knows up north is that the  
32 herd can only eat so much food. So if the food is depleted,  
33 then naturally it's going to decline. So if this happens  
34 every 15 years, I think that the action that's before you  
35 would be consistent to make sure that the local people have  
36 the priority over these animals. Because at some point in  
37 time it will come back up, and then consideration for other  
38 users can be considered.

39

40 And as far as I can tell, just based on what I heard  
41 this morning, State regulations can't keep it stable, even if  
42 they open it up. So I think that with Federal action to  
43 close it to other people is consistent with what's happening  
44 with the natural growth and decline of the herd, and I  
45 certainly would support it.

46

47 Thank you very much.

48

49 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Thank you. Further Regional  
50 Council comments.

00024

1 MS. TRUMBLE: This is Della again. I just want to  
2 reiterate that we're really are only asking for one more  
3 year. Like we haven't been able to hunt for four years,  
4 weren't able to hunt because of weather for the past two  
5 years to at least get close to the harvest levels, and at  
6 least give us a chance to be able to hunt the State lands and  
7 see what that looks like for one year and then go from there.

8  
9 Thank you very much.

10  
11 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Further Regional Council  
12 comment. Let's move it on to Board deliberation.

13  
14 MR. D. ALLEN: Mr. Chairman, this is Dave Allen. One  
15 thing I wanted to get clear in my mind was the -- I  
16 understand the State regulation allows for a harvest in 9(D).  
17 This is the first time it's been open or was it open last  
18 year? Could you give me a recap on exactly what the State  
19 regulations have done to allow Federal harvest in 9(D)?

20  
21 MS. DEWHURST: Okay. The last time the State hunt  
22 was open, I believe was '92, was the last year that there was  
23 a State hunt. What the Game Board did, and there are State  
24 folks on-line that can correct me if I state this wrong, they  
25 closed it to in-State residents from September 21st to  
26 November 14th, and that was to try to eliminate the conflicts  
27 with in-State residents coming down and shooting caribou as a  
28 separate -- or as a secondary thing. They were actually  
29 coming down either for goose hunting or bear hunting. And so  
30 the idea was to close it during that period to try to limit  
31 the conflicts.

32  
33 Then they also restricted the nonresident season to  
34 that September 10th to the 25th, and it is a bulls only with  
35 a cap on it. That is a restricted season.

36  
37 So those were the two restrictions the State did put  
38 on the State season to try to -- it is an attempt to reduce  
39 the number of potential conflicts.

40  
41 MR. D. ALLEN: Okay. So if I understand what the  
42 State has done in 9(D), is they have opened up 80 percent of  
43 the area which had previously been closed since '93. The  
44 Federal lands we have had a permit hunt for local users for  
45 what, the last two years?

46  
47 MS. DEWHURST: The last two years.

48  
49 MR. D. ALLEN: The last two years.

50

00025

1 MS. DEWHURST: Now, keep in mind, even though the  
2 80/20 split on Federal lands, I did look at the harvest data  
3 base and I looked at what information I had from the State,  
4 and historically a very large percentage of the harvest had  
5 always been from the Cold Bay road system. Even though that  
6 only represents 20 percent of the lands, most of the harvest  
7 has been from that 20 percent of the lands, upwards of 75  
8 percent or 80 percent of the harvest, so that's something to  
9 consider relative to the amount of land.

10  
11 MR. D. ALLEN: Well, that's what I wanted to zero in  
12 on. So given those facts, that the issue of concern seems to  
13 revolve around these levels associated with the road system,  
14 right?

15  
16 MS. DEWHURST: Uh-huh. (Affirmative)

17  
18 MR. D. ALLEN: And right now, the State has closed  
19 that area between September 21st and November 14th, right  
20 to.....

21  
22 MS. DEWHURST: And that was mainly during the goose  
23 season and the bear season to reduce the.....

24  
25 MR. D. ALLEN: .....to nonlocal users?

26  
27 MS. DEWHURST: Right. To reduce the potential for  
28 somebody wanting to come down and do a combo hunt.

29  
30 MR. D. ALLEN: Mr. Chairman, what I'm trying to get  
31 at here is I'm not -- you know, I'm having difficulty seeing  
32 what real impact the closure actually has on the lands. And  
33 given the actions that have already been taken by the State  
34 to close it during periods that are known to be potentially  
35 high user conflicts, and while it is open later on in the  
36 year, I guess the idea that it would be users that were  
37 interested in trophy hunting would be coming in the spring, I  
38 assume -- is there a bear hunt in the spring? Are the  
39 reasons hunters are in the.....

40  
41 MR. GUNLOGSON: The bear hunting season is in the  
42 spring in the even numbered years, and the bear hunt in the  
43 fall is the odd numbered years.

44  
45 MS. DEWHURST: This season ends March 31st.

46  
47 MR. D. ALLEN: So the State season actually closes  
48 right now for caribou before.....

49  
50 MS. DEWHURST: The spring bear hunt.

00026

1 MR. D. ALLEN: .....before the spring bear hunt.

2

3 MS. DEWHURST: Well, actually it's closed during the  
4 fall.

5

6 MR. D. ALLEN: Mr. Chairman, the reason for these  
7 questions was to try to bring some focus to the issue and  
8 maybe we can get some clarification. But it would seem that  
9 the greatest concern revolves around potential conflicts on  
10 the Izembek road system by some of the local users and others  
11 outside, but that, in fact, during the period in which we  
12 would expect most outsiders to actually be there from  
13 September 21st to November 14th is closed to those people for  
14 caribou.

15

16 I'm having some difficulty understanding, you know,  
17 completely, what we hope to accomplish by this particular  
18 closure to, in fact, benefit the local users. It seems to me  
19 that the combination of things and the normal user patterns  
20 would indicate that it would do very little if anything.  
21 What might be open to discussion is the period September 1st  
22 to September 20th currently open, and that would enable  
23 nonlocal users to use the road system.

24

25 But I'd be interested to hear anymore information,  
26 specifically about where people expect conflicts to actually  
27 occur and during what periods.

28

29 MR. SELLERS: Mr. Chairman, this is Dick Sellers.  
30 Can I comment on Mr. Allen's question?

31

32 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Go ahead.

33

34 MR. SELLERS: I'd just like to add that there were  
35 other considerations that played into the way the State  
36 season was crafted. And one of the most important was to  
37 have it closed during the rut and that's been done. And then  
38 in terms of when it reopened, November 15th, that was set  
39 recognizing that a good portion of the mature bulls will have  
40 dropped their antlers or in the process of it, so that the  
41 appeal of going to Cold Bay after November 15th for one  
42 caribou and not likely to be a trophy size or at least have  
43 trophy antlers would not be real appealing given the cost.  
44 So you know, we certainly recognize the need to accommodate  
45 local use and try to do that without incurring a big influx  
46 of nonlocal hunters.

47

48 MR. WILSON: Mr. Chairman.

49

50 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: yes.

00027

1 MR. WILSON: This is Curt Wilson, BLM. I wanted to  
2 follow up with the Refuge comments. I believe I heard  
3 something that they were maybe modifying the position that  
4 they were taking the other day a little bit in reference to  
5 the road system. Could somebody explain to me what you were  
6 thinking there?

7  
8 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: (Inaudible - telephone cuts out)

9  
10 MR. BOYD: Yes, we hear you. Is Rick Peotter there?

11  
12 MR. PEOTTER: I am, but I didn't hear the question.  
13 You guys cut out for some reason.

14  
15 MR. BOYD: Okay.

16  
17 MR. WILSON: Yeah, the question was, I thought I  
18 heard in your comments earlier, that maybe you had changed  
19 your thinking a little bit on the road system in Izembek.  
20 Could you follow up with some more on that?

21  
22 MR. PEOTTER: Yeah, I probably wasn't clear. The  
23 bottom line is we do not support the closure but as a  
24 compromise I would recommend just closing the area around  
25 Cold Bay. That's the bottom line of it.

26  
27 MR. WILSON: Would that be easy -- would that be  
28 relatively easy to show on a map and those kinds of things?

29  
30 MR. PEOTTER: It's currently described in the State  
31 regulations for brown bear hunting on Page 48, so yeah fairly  
32 easily. We're going to have to -- if we oppose the closure  
33 of Federal lands, we would have to develop maps here anyway  
34 that would show the open -- or actually the closed area.  
35 Because we have a -- well, a smattering of some Federal lands  
36 such as the FAA withdrawal inside the Refuge would be still  
37 open for a resident of Alaska for hunting. So, you know, we  
38 would be developing some maps plus there's other corporation  
39 lands, you know, that need to be identified around here.

40  
41 MR. WILSON: Thank you.

42  
43 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Additional questions.

44  
45 MR. GOODWIN: Mr. Chairman, this is Willie Goodwin.  
46 I'm just wondering if the State has a Tier I or Tier II hunt  
47 in the area?

48  
49 MR. BOYD: The answer, Mr. Chair, is that there is no  
50 Tier II permit -- there is no Tier II situation here.

00028

1 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Thank you.

2

3 MR. D. ALLEN: Mr. Chairman, this is Dave Allen  
4 again. If I may, again, I'm trying as best I can to  
5 understand and isolate the concerns of potential competition  
6 to make sure that our local users certain have the  
7 opportunity to take animals. But the picture so far to me is  
8 still not very clear as to how significant that potential  
9 competition is. Perhaps Della or someone else would like to  
10 comment, you know, once again, other than the road system  
11 around Cold Bay, is there something specific about Federal  
12 lands, an area on Federal lands that is of concern given the  
13 fact that outside of the Cold Bay road system, basically the  
14 Peninsula is unroaded and access is only by other means?

15

16 MS. TRUMBLE: This is Della. On the State land  
17 portion of it, like I say, there's some bays and areas that  
18 the people will hunt and they will go in by boat. As far as  
19 the Izembek/Cold Bay, the main concern is the road system.  
20 If you look at the past years and the harvest of caribou,  
21 then probably the Cold Bay residents that drew the permits  
22 were able to harvest, my guess is at least 100 percent of  
23 those permits.

24

25 I also know and am I aware that residents from Sand  
26 Point, were having designated hunters in Cold Bay harvest  
27 their caribou off that road system. The access is easier.

28

29 Our concern -- our major concern at this point, is  
30 not only just the impact of what's going to happen with the  
31 State opening is -- and not being clear, and whether the  
32 weather will be a factor. We've had winters that we've had  
33 this extreme good weather all winter. We don't know yet  
34 what's going to happen. And I feel, the major part of this  
35 is we feel that, given that we were closed down for four  
36 years, we weren't able to harvest the last two years, I think  
37 all of that has contributed to the population. Give us at  
38 least a chance, the people in this region, one more year to  
39 take a look at what's happening. And the road system in Cold  
40 Bay is a major concern for us.

41

42 And the other part that hasn't been mentioned in the  
43 seasons is there's a lot of sports fishing that happens in  
44 August and September in Cold Bay. People do fly in to Cold  
45 Bay to go sport fishing, and later the hunting and then we  
46 get into the bear season. But it's also been in our  
47 experience that we get stuck in Cold Bay a lot of times and  
48 when you're stuck there for two to three days -- if you're  
49 Alaska resident. And we have a lot of people flying back and  
50 forth -- back and forth between here and King Cove, that does

00029

1 give some other people an opportunity to hunt. And just --  
2 just maybe those thoughts to consider.

3  
4 MR. D. ALLEN: Mr. Chairman.

5  
6 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Yes.

7  
8 MR. D. ALLEN: Yeah, if I could have one follow-up  
9 question with Della then. Della, do you have an opinion  
10 you'd care to share with us about the alternative that the  
11 Refuge has recommended?

12  
13 MS. TRUMBLE: I appreciate, you know, they're trying  
14 to come to some terms with this. I guess if it's -- if the  
15 road system is closed to nonresidents but it's open to  
16 residents, then maybe there's something there. But I think  
17 the major concern about all of this is the fact that 80  
18 percent of these lands are open. Federal lands only take in  
19 20 percent. And the impact of those 80 percent, and I know  
20 just in King Cove you can drive out to the airport, get on a  
21 four-wheeler and go up toward Mt. Dutton and people can get  
22 caribou there.

23  
24 Just trying to look at the impact of this and for one  
25 year, give us one more year to look at it. We've suffered  
26 our losses for the past six years due to closures and  
27 weather, all we're asking for is one more year to truly  
28 determine what could happen here.

29  
30 MR. D. ALLEN: But again -- Mr. Chairman.

31  
32 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Yes.

33  
34 MR. D. ALLEN: You know, other than the road system,  
35 what are the concerns about conflicts with other users in  
36 this regard, and if so, you know, can you be specific, on  
37 Federal lands? I'm sorry, Della, I meant that question for  
38 you.

39  
40 MS. TRUMBLE: I'm sorry, could you please ask again?

41  
42 MR. D. ALLEN: Yeah. I was just asking, again, other  
43 than the road system in Izembek, are there some concerns  
44 about conflicts with nonlocal users, and if so, can you be  
45 specific where they might be?

46  
47 MS. TRUMBLE: I don't know specifically where that  
48 would be. Like I said, my understanding that the State regs  
49 will allow for a limited hunt by permit drawing for  
50 nonresidents. And I guess, like I say, the biggest conflict

00030

1 or concern is the fact that a lot more lands are open and  
2 what impact that will be.

3  
4 I'm not sure exactly where everybody goes to hunt up  
5 in Cold Bay over and above on the Federal lands around that  
6 area. Whether they're residents or nonresidents. Well,  
7 mainly nonresidents.

8  
9 Gilda.

10  
11 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Yes, go ahead.

12  
13 MS. SHELLIKOF: Yeah, I think, you know, what we're  
14 trying to say is that what we would like to see is what  
15 impact on the herd the State opening is going to have because  
16 as Della said, there's going to be a lot more caribou taken  
17 by local residents this year. And that, you know, 80 percent  
18 of the land that wasn't open the last three years is going to  
19 be open this year, and I think what we're trying to say is,  
20 is just to be more cautious and if we could have this 20  
21 percent of the land closed, you know, to nonresidents, just  
22 for this one year just so that we could see what kind of  
23 impact that it's going to have on the herd, you know, after.

24  
25 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Thank you. Go ahead, Dave, do  
26 you have another question?

27  
28 MR. D. ALLEN: Yeah, I've got another question.  
29 Could I have Donna tell us exactly what the Federal hunt is  
30 right now on Federal lands for caribou on 9(D)? What is the  
31 regulation?

32  
33 MS. DEWHURST: It isn't a Federal hunt. There is no  
34 Federal hunt, it's the State hunt.

35  
36 MR. D. ALLEN: In 9(D)?

37  
38 MS. DEWHURST: Oh, you mean the past two years?

39  
40 MR. D. ALLEN: Yes.

41  
42 MS. DEWHURST: The first year, you'll have to excuse  
43 me because this is not normally my area. The first year I  
44 believe it was 160 permits were issued for bulls only. Sixty  
45 of these were for False Pass for use on Unimak. Out of that  
46 32 caribou were reported harvested with about 63 percent  
47 reporting. Then the next year it was increased it 235 bulls  
48 only permits. Of those only 61 were issued -- or was applied  
49 for. Everybody that applied for got one. Only 61 people  
50 applied for permits out of 135 possible. Out of the 61

00031

1 people who got permits, 23 caribou were harvested -- reported  
2 harvested. That's the past two years of the Federal hunt.  
3 There is no Federal hunt on the books for this year. So the  
4 only hunt would be the State open hunt.

5  
6 MR. D. ALLEN: So the only hunt right now that's on  
7 the books is State open hunt which means that there's no hunt  
8 even for local residents between -- am I understanding this?

9  
10 MS. DEWHURST: The State open hunt is -- the Federal  
11 lands are not closed under the State hunt. Everybody -- you  
12 can hunt anywhere.

13  
14 MR. D. ALLEN: No, I understand that.

15  
16 MS. DEWHURST: Yeah.

17  
18 MR. D. ALLEN: But there is no Federal permit hunt  
19 regulation books in 9(D) at all?

20  
21 MS. DEWHURST: Correct. Correct, because both the  
22 previous hunts were special actions that were only good for  
23 one year.

24  
25 MR. D. ALLEN: How did we deal with this during our  
26 spring regulatory season? There was no recommended hunt,  
27 subsistence hunt for this year in.....

28  
29 MR. EDENSHAW: Mr. Allen, this is.....

30  
31 MR. D. ALLEN: .....9(D).....

32  
33 MR. EDENSHAW: .....Cliff.....

34  
35 MR. D. ALLEN: Go ahead.

36  
37 MR. EDENSHAW: Mr. Allen, this is Cliff Edenshaw, the  
38 Regional Coordinator for Kodiak Aleutians. At the meeting in  
39 February in Port Lions, Robert Willis, at the time who was  
40 the biologist for the regional team presented the proposal on  
41 behalf of the State. The State was not at the meeting.  
42 Mr. Sellers nor Steve Machita or Larry VanDaele, who normally  
43 speak on behalf of the State. Mr. Willis recommended to the  
44 Council in Port Lions that they should forego a Federal hunt  
45 in terms of a State hunt, that was his comments at the Port  
46 Lions meeting that was in February.

47  
48 MR. D. ALLEN: That was the Regional Advisory Council  
49 meeting?

50

00032

1 MR. EDENSHAW: Yes.

2

3 MR. D. ALLEN: So the Regional Advisory Council had  
4 no recommendation, in other words, for a Federal hunt this  
5 year. And what you're saying is that was because the State at  
6 that time was acceptable and agreeable to the Regional  
7 Advisory Council; am I correct in that?

8

9 MR. EDENSHAW: At the Regional Council meeting in  
10 Port Lions, the Board of Game wasn't to meet until March and  
11 Robert Willis' comments were that it would be more favorable  
12 for the residents of the region to forego a Federal hunt and  
13 to see what the outcome of the proposal, when the Board of  
14 Game was to address that in March, which was to have a wide  
15 open hunt. And basically Mr. Willis expressed to the  
16 Regional Council in Port Lions, that if the proposal went  
17 through then they would -- it would be more favorable for  
18 them to hunt on the State to....

19

20 MR. D. ALLEN: All right, well, thank you. I think I  
21 understand now so that this special action is just meant to  
22 further modify what they had more or less agreed to last  
23 spring in anticipation of a hunt this fall.

24

25 Mr. Chairman, I guess, I'm not prepared to make a  
26 motion but I'll just make a comment. I'm not sure I am  
27 prepared to make even a modified -- what I'm prepared to move  
28 on, but I am concerned at this point in just a blanket  
29 closure given the testimony that we've heard so far. I think  
30 it is important that we hear substantial evidence of need to  
31 close an area. What I have been hearing are many expressions  
32 and concerns about moving cautiously and I certainly would  
33 not disagree with that. I think we've -- I think our  
34 biologists, or at least my sense is, both on the part of the  
35 Federal biologists and the State biologists, have been very  
36 cautious. In fact, we've been -- we've taken a lot of  
37 criticism in the past for being too cautious, with respect to  
38 allowing and reopening this hunt.

39

40 So given that, I'm not -- should this motion be made,  
41 I think I would just make people aware of the fact that as  
42 it's presently constituted, I cannot support a complete  
43 closure to Federal areas in 9(D).

44

45 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

46

47 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Okay, is there a motion?

48

49 MR. THOMPSON: Mr. Chairman, this is Ken Thompson  
50 with the Forest Service. I guess I look around the room and

00033

1 I see nobody particularly jumping up ready to make a motion.

2

3 I know, given the evidence that I have listened to  
4 here and speaking on the side with our Staff about the  
5 relative likelihood of the desirable harvest of three to 400  
6 animals being met is nil to none, even if we leave all of  
7 these Federal lands open. I, as a biologist, understand the  
8 importance of trying to address and balance populations with  
9 habitat needs, desirability of trying to come to grips with  
10 achieving that balance.

11

12 So I guess I would offer the motion to reject the  
13 special action.

14

15 MR. D. ALLEN: I'll second that motion, Mr. Chairman.

16

17 MR. CESAR: Mr. Chairman, this is Niles Cesar. If I  
18 may make some comments. I, too, am troubled by the notion of  
19 shutting it down just as a general rule without some  
20 supportable biology involved. And what I keep hearing from  
21 the biologists and Refuge managers and the ADF&G, there seems  
22 to be more concern about the herd growing too big. And that  
23 when we've opened this thing up in the last two years,  
24 notwithstanding the weather problems that we've had, we've  
25 only gotten a fraction of the take that could have been  
26 taken. And that if someone were to craft a compromise which  
27 dealt with the Cold Bay road system, then I think that is  
28 something I'd be interested in. But I don't see a lot of  
29 support for even that. I see moving cautiously. We still  
30 have the ability to intervene on Federal public lands should  
31 we need to if, in fact, there is a lot of conflicts and there  
32 is some concern about overreaching the harvestable level.  
33 But everything I am hearing says, we're not going to come  
34 close to that harvestable level, and we're more concerned  
35 about the herd overreaching the carrying capacity.

36

37 And so I'm -- I as, of course, unlike some folks,  
38 I've only been here 58 years and maybe I haven't seen as much  
39 as other folks, but I'm not a hunter and so I defer, you  
40 know, to the guides who tell me from their perspective about  
41 what they're doing out there and what they're seeing out  
42 there. I don't see a major concern. I think that the  
43 concern of the Regional Advisory Councils and of the  
44 residents of King Cove and False Pass is duly noted, and it's  
45 something that if we believe or if I believe there is going  
46 to be a conflict or an expressed conflict, one that we can  
47 see on the ground, then I'm willing to support immediate shut  
48 down of Federal public lands. But I'm not willing, I don't  
49 think, to support a complete closure of Federal public lands  
50 given the information we have today.

00034

1 MS. GOTTLIEB: Mr. Chair, this is Judy.

2

3 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Further discussion.

4

5 MS. GOTTLIEB: Mr. Chair, this is Judy. I'm not sure  
6 if part of the compromise wording, if it would help, would  
7 have to do with what the Refuge manager had mentioned about  
8 the Izembek controlled use area. So if that's beneficial,  
9 I'm sure the Board would be open to modifying the motion.

10

11 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Was that a question, Judy, I'm  
12 sorry?

13

14 MS. GOTTLIEB: Yes, please. I wonder if the Refuge  
15 manager might have a comment on that?

16

17 MR. PEOTTER: Mr. Chairman, I'm not -- Judy, I'm not  
18 sure I understood your question, could you repeat it for me?

19

20 MS. GOTTLIEB: Sure. Well, I see the description of  
21 the Izembek controlled use area in the book and I didn't know  
22 if any of that wording might be helpful to answer some of the  
23 local and regional concerns, to be incorporated into a  
24 motion?

25

26 MR. PEOTTER: You say you did not find it or you did?

27

28 MS. GOTTLIEB: I see the wording, I'm wondering if  
29 that would be helpful to our discussions here?

30

31 MR. PEOTTER: Yeah, basically it reads, the south and  
32 west of a line from Moffet Point to the side of the eastern  
33 entrance of Kimseroff Lagoon (ph), and north of a line from  
34 the base of Cape Glazenet (ph) to Frosty Peak and to the  
35 mouth of Old Man's Lagoon.

36

37 MS. GOTTLIEB: Well, I guess, Rick, I don't have a  
38 sense of how much of the Refuge that encompasses. So if  
39 that's useful for our discussions, if you can give a brief  
40 description of that area in terms that we can understand not  
41 having a good map in front of us?

42

43 MR. PEOTTER: Okay, yeah. Basically that would cover  
44 the entirety of the road system and a small portion there  
45 beyond, you know, allowing for a little bit of walking  
46 access. It includes all of Izembek Lagoon, and a good  
47 portion of Moffet Lagoon. I guess the key is really, you  
48 know, the road system. Anybody that would access from there.  
49 Keep in mind out in this area you cannot use (inaudible -  
50 telephone cuts out) ATVs, all terrain vehicles off of the

00035

1 road system here so anybody that's going to hunt off the road  
2 couldn't be going more than a mile or two away from there, in  
3 generalities.

4  
5 I hope that helps.

6  
7 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Is there any more questions on  
8 the motion?

9  
10 MS. TRUMBLE: This is Della, can I make a comment?

11  
12 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Yes.

13  
14 MS. TRUMBLE: I'm curious about something. The  
15 Refuge wants to open these lands for caribou hunt then why  
16 can't they just stipulate that it's for residents as it has  
17 been in the past two years?

18  
19 MR. BOYD: Let me respond to that Mr. Chair. The  
20 State already has the area open through their regulation.  
21 And I think that we have been opening it up the last two  
22 years by special action. We have not had such an action  
23 before us to consider. The proposal before us now is simply  
24 to close Federal lands. I'm not sure that answers the  
25 question but it is open now under State regulations, and so  
26 locals can hunt under State regulations.

27  
28 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Thank you.

29  
30 MR. WILSON: Mr. Chairman.

31  
32 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Yes.

33  
34 MR. WILSON: This is Curt Wilson, again to pursue  
35 this question of some sort of compromise, I still don't have  
36 the exact wording but what I'd like to throw out for maybe  
37 some discussion is, reject Proposal -- this would be a move  
38 to reject the proposal to close public lands in 9(D) with the  
39 modification that lands near the Izembek Refuge road system  
40 be closed. And that may not be the exact wording but that's  
41 -- I think that's the idea.

42  
43 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Well, I don't have any of the  
44 wording so I'm not any help on this particular question.

45  
46 MR. D. ALLEN: Mr. Chairman, this is Dave Allen  
47 again. I guess, you know, once again, even the compromise  
48 language, as I understand it, seems more -- potentially more  
49 cosmetic, I hate to use that word but in terms of its real  
50 effect. Right now the area is open to all State residents

00036

1 from the 1st of September to the 20th of September but closed  
2 after that until November, when bear season opens and most of  
3 the waterfowler's are in that area. Though, as Della pointed  
4 out, during the month of September, you do have some people  
5 going to the Cold Bay area for salmon fishing that might be  
6 potential caribou hunters as well. And after November 15th,  
7 I think -- there's been no evidence to indicate that there is  
8 significant use by anyone other than local -- other than  
9 local residents. So I'm having a real, real hard time  
10 understanding what is being accomplished, either for  
11 conservation or concerns by local users, by any kind of a  
12 closure to nonlocal users.

13  
14 I would also suggest, Mr. Chairman, that concerns and  
15 questions raised about use levels certainly between Alaska  
16 Department of Fish and Game and the Fish and Wildlife  
17 Service, I would hope that as we monitor the growth and the  
18 reopening of this area, certainly it's important that we do  
19 gather good information on use in that area. Just an  
20 outright closure after it's been closed by the State already,  
21 since 1993, doesn't give us any information. I'm not sure I  
22 see that by keeping it closed to nonlocal users right now  
23 will be very helpful to anyone in addressing the question of  
24 nonlocal users. So actually there may be some advantage to  
25 get some information about what potential use level is  
26 incidental to people who hunt off the road purposes.

27  
28 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Any further discussion? Are  
29 we ready to vote?

30  
31 MR. D. ALLEN: I would call the question,  
32 Mr. Chairman.

33  
34 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Okay, the question's been  
35 called for. All those in favor signify by saying aye.

36  
37 IN UNISON: Aye.

38  
39 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Those opposed same sign.

40  
41 (No opposing votes)

42  
43 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Motion carries. Any further  
44 business to be brought before us?

45  
46 MR. BOYD: Mr. Chair, there's no further business  
47 with regard to the public session of the Federal Subsistence  
48 Board today.

49  
50 CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Okay.

00037

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15

MR. BOYD: We will reconvene at 1:00 in work session.

CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: What time is it right now?

MR. BOYD: I have seven or eight until noon.

CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Okay.

MR. BOYD: And we'll get in touch with you.

CHAIRMAN DEMIENTIEFF: Okay.

(END OF PROCEEDINGS)

\* \* \* \* \*

00038

C E R T I F I C A T E

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6

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

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

10  
11 THAT the foregoing pages numbered 02 through 37  
12 contain a full, true and correct Transcript of the FEDERAL  
13 SUBSISTENCE BOARD PUBLIC MEETING and TELECONFERENCE, taken  
14 electronically by me on the 2nd day of August, 1999,  
15 beginning at the hour of 10:00 o'clock p.m. at the Offices of  
16 the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Gordon Watson Conference  
17 Room, 1101 E. Tudor Road, Anchorage, Alaska;

18  
19 THAT the transcript is a true and correct transcript  
20 requested to be transcribed and thereafter transcribed by  
21 Salena Hile to the best of her knowledge and ability;

22  
23 THAT I am not an employee, attorney, or party  
24 interested in any way in this action.

25  
26 DATED at Anchorage, Alaska, this 8th day of August,  
27 1999.

28  
29  
30  
31 \_\_\_\_\_  
32 Joseph P. Kolasinski  
33 Notary Public in and for Alaska  
My Commission Expires: 4/17/00