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ALASKA MIGRATORY BIRD
CO-MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

Barratt Inn
Anchorage, Alaska

October 14, 2004
9:00 a.m.

- Members Present:
- Herman Squartsoff, Chairman
 - Matt Robus, Vice Chair
 - Austin Ahmasuk
 - Doug Alcorn
 - Ralph Andersen
 - Attamuk
 - Peter Divine
 - Taqulik Hepa
 - Joeneal Hicks
 - Gordon Jackson
 - Myron Naneng
 - Patty Brown-Schwalenberg
 - Mike Smith
- Executive Director, Fred Armstrong

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1 P R O C E E D I N G S

2
3 (Anchorage, Alaska - 10/14/2004)

4
5 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Can we call this
6 meeting to order please. Before we get started here I
7 would like to ask everyone here, counsel members and the
8 audience to please have their cell phones turned off. No
9 cell phones allowed during the meeting time, thank you.

10
11 Can we have a moment of silence, please.

12
13 (MOMENT OF SILENCE)

14
15 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: All right thank you,
16 we'll go into our first item on the agenda is seating of
17 alternates. And I think Taqulik is one and -- no.

18
19 MR. ARMSTRONG: I think she's all ready a
20 designated alternate.

21
22 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Oh, she is already,
23 okay.

24
25 MR. ARMSTRONG: She's already designated.

26
27 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: She's a designated
28 alternate, okay and Patty you're already a designated
29 alternate right. And that should be it then right, I
30 believe.

31
32 MR. ARMSTRONG: Yes.

33
34 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Next item on the
35 agenda is the introductions and I'll go ahead and start off
36 with myself and we'll do the Council and then the audience.

37
38 I'm Herman Squartsoff. Yes, Doug.

39
40 MR. ALCORN: Thank you Mr. Chair. I
41 believe we need to do a roll call to establish a quorum.

42
43 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Okay, yes we can do
44 that. Can the secretary please do that. It's not on the
45 agenda so I didn't.....

46
47 MR. ALCORN: Well, that's the one job I
48 have so I thought I might remind of you it.

49
50 MR. ROBUS: Get it out of the way.

1 MR. ALCORN: Okay. All right, we'll start
2 with the roll call. Association of Village Council
3 Presidents.
4
5 MR. NANENG: Here.
6
7 MR. ALCORN: Bristol Bay Native
8 Association.
9
10 MR. ANDERSEN: Here.
11
12 MR. ALCORN: Chugach Regional Resources
13 Commission.
14
15 MS. BROWN-SCHWALENBERG: Here.
16
17 MR. ALCORN: Copper River Native
18 Association.
19
20 MR. HICKS: Here.
21
22 MR. ALCORN: Kawerak.
23
24 MR. AHMASUK: Here.
25
26 MR. ALCORN: Central Council of Tlingit and
27 Haida Indian Tribes.
28
29 MR. JACKSON: Here.
30
31 MR. ALCORN: Aleutian/Pribilof Island
32 Association.
33
34 MR. DIVINE: Here.
35
36 MR. ALCORN: Kodiak Area Native
37 Association.
38
39 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Here.
40
41 MR. ALCORN: Manilaaq Association.
42
43 ATTAMUK: Here.
44
45 MR. ALCORN: North Slope Borough.
46
47 MS. HEPA: Here.
48
49 MR. ALCORN: Tanana Chiefs Conference.
50

1 MR. SMITH: Here.
2
3 MR. ALCORN: Alaska Department of Fish and
4 Game.
5
6 MR. ROBUS: Here.
7
8 MR. ALCORN: And U.S. Fish and Wildlife
9 Service is here. Mr. Chair we have a quorum.
10
11 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Thank you, Mr.
12 Secretary. Sorry I jumped the gun on that one there, it
13 was right up there with call to order.
14
15 So, I am Herman Squartsoff, I represent
16 Kodiak Area Native Association. Fred.
17
18 MR. ARMSTRONG: Good morning, I'm Fred
19 Armstrong the Executive Director for the Council.
20
21 MS. BROWN-SCHWALENBERG: Good morning,
22 Patty Brown-Schwalenberg, Chugach Regional Resources
23 Commission.
24
25 MR. SMITH: Mike Smith, Tanana Chiefs
26 Conference.
27
28 MR. AHMASUK: Austin Ahmasuk, Kawerak.
29
30 MR. HICKS: Joeneal Hicks, Copper River
31 Native Association.
32
33 MR. NANENG: Myron Naneng, AVCP.
34
35 MR. JACKSON: Gordon Jackson, Central
36 Council.
37
38 MR. ANDERSEN: Ralph Andersen, Bristol Bay
39 Native Association.
40
41 MR. DIVINE: Peter Divine,
42 Aleutian/Pribilof Island Association.
43
44 MS. HEPA: Taqulik Hepa, North Slope
45 Borough.
46
47 ATTAMUK: Attamuk, Enoch Shiedt, Manilaaq
48 Service Area.
49
50 MR. ALCORN: I'm Doug Alcorn representing

1 the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

2

3 MR. ROBUS: And I'm Matt Robus representing
4 the state of Alaska from the Alaska Department of Fish and
5 Game.

6

7 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Okay. Then maybe we
8 can start with Robert out there in the audience and then
9 come up to first row here on the right and work over, thank
10 you.

11

12 (Introductions - away from microphone -
13 look to sign-in sheet for attendees)

14

15 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: All right, thank you
16 all and welcome. And Alex is also my alternate, and I
17 believe Gary's for -- with Patty there too, so, thank you.

18

19 Next Item on the agenda approval of the
20 agenda. Do we have any amendments or additions that we
21 need to make.

22

23 (No comments)

24

25 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Okay, then.....

26

27 MR. ANDERSEN: Well, Mr. Chairman, I move
28 to approve the agenda.

29

30 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Oh, sorry.

31

32 MS. HEPA: Second.

33

34 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: So moved and
35 seconded. Is there any additions or amendments. Yes
36 Myron.

37

38 MR. NANENG: Yeah, Mr. Chairman. After the
39 presentation on the black brandt yesterday, I think the
40 Council needs to think about what's going to be going on in
41 the NPR-A and the potential impacts on black brandt with
42 the oil and gas exploration that's being proposed right
43 now. I think we need to make some kind of official
44 statement so I would request that we put that on the
45 agenda.

46

47 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Yes. Fred where can
48 we put that at.

49

50 MR. ARMSTRONG: Maybe it could fall under

1 Item F, conservation issues. Would that be okay Myron?
2
3 MR. SMITH: Under F?
4
5 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Under new business,
6 first page.
7
8 MR. ARMSTRONG: Under new business, is that
9 okay?
10
11 MR. NANENG: Item F?
12
13 MR. ARMSTRONG: Yes.
14
15 MR. NANENG: Oh, I thought you said Item
16 10. Okay, yeah, we can bring that at that time.
17
18 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: All right, thank you.
19 And Austin I think you have.....
20
21 MR. AHMASUK: Yeah Mr. Chairman. The
22 Harvest Survey Committee would like to introduce a
23 resolution pertaining to the harvest survey improvements.
24
25 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: And you want to do
26 that with your Harvest Limitation Committee Report?
27
28 MR. AHMASUK: Yes, Mr. Chairman.
29
30 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Yes, thank you. That
31 would be under Item D, under old business.
32
33 MR. ROBUS: That's harvest limitations, not
34 harvest survey.
35
36 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Oh sorry I'm on the
37 wrong one.
38
39 MR. ROBUS: I don't know where Austin's
40 report is.
41
42 MR. AHMASUK: Next page.
43
44 MR. ARMSTRONG: Next page under new
45 business, Item G under new business.
46
47 MR. ROBUS: Yeah.
48
49 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Item G, okay. Sorry
50 correction, under Item G, new business. Do we have any

1 other amendments or additions.
2
3 (No comments)
4
5 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: If not I'll call
6 question.
7
8 MR. HICKS: Call for the question.
9
10 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Question's been
11 called for. All those in favor signify by saying aye.
12
13 IN UNISON: Aye.
14
15 MR. SMITH: Well.....
16
17 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Yes, Mike.
18
19 MR. SMITH: I'm sorry. I know.....
20
21 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Turn your mic on
22 please.
23
24 MR. SMITH: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I
25 noticed passing the gavel to incoming Chairman, is there
26 elections then.
27
28 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: It's I think right
29 after -- for the committees and all that you mean?
30
31 MR. SMITH: Well.....
32
33 MR. ALCORN: Mr. Chairman.
34
35 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Yes, Doug.
36
37 MR. ALCORN: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I just
38 looked at the by-laws and that's a rotating seat
39 assignment, and then the incoming chair would be the
40 current vice-chair. The only position that we elect
41 annually is the secretary by our by-laws. I just looked at
42 that.
43
44 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Yes, Ralph.
45
46 MR. ANDERSEN: Mr. Chairman. In that light
47 I suggest that we add an agenda item that we conduct an
48 election for a secretary, I guess, would be in this case.
49
50 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Right. And that

1 would be right after we pass the gavel over then before we
2 adjourn. Is that correct, is that what you're thinking
3 there Ralph?

4
5 MR. ANDERSEN: Well, I'd say that we'd
6 probably need to schedule it before we do that.

7
8 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Yeah, I guess we can.
9 Maybe the same time with the committees then Fred or.....

10
11 MR. ARMSTRONG: It's up to you guys.

12
13 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Yeah, okay we can do
14 it before then right under Item 10.

15
16 MR. ROBUS: After 10 and before 11.

17
18 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Yeah, after 10,
19 before 11, between the date and place of next meeting and
20 the passing of the gavel, okay, elect the secretary and
21 pick the committee's.

22
23 MR. ALCORN: Okay, done deal.

24
25 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Thank you. Do we
26 have anything else on it.

27
28 (No comments)

29
30 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: If nothing, thank
31 you.

32
33 Approval of the minutes is the next item
34 and action -- action item sorry. And that's under what
35 tab, Fred?

36
37 MR. ARMSTRONG: One.

38
39 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: One, yeah, it's under
40 Tab 1.

41
42 MS. HEPA: Mr. Chairman.

43
44 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Yes, Taqulik and then
45 Doug.

46
47 MS. HEPA: Mr. Chair. I'd like to make a
48 motion to approve the minutes of April of 1 and 2 of 2004.

49
50 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Thank you.

1 MR. ALCORN: I'll second the motion.
2
3 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Motion's been made
4 and seconded. Do we have any discussion on it.
5
6 MR. ALCORN: Mr. Chair.
7
8 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Yes, Doug.
9
10 MR. ALCORN: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I do
11 have a question, I was looking at these and on Page 5 of
12 the minutes, maybe it's not relevant for this discussion,
13 maybe Fred can explain it. But the last sentence in
14 italics, Page 5, top of the page it says motion to adopt,
15 third proposal from the Fish and Wildlife Service to
16 develop regional lists of species open to harvest.
17
18 I'm not sure what this sentence means. It
19 says, one report from the Kodiak region which is in the
20 process of developing a region list and a report from the
21 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Tetlin National Wildlife
22 Refuge Staff and that is a process that the Staff of that
23 to collect information about the birds that were
24 traditionally taken.
25
26 I don't understand what that means and if
27 it means that the -- if there is a commitment that the
28 Tetlin National Wildlife Refuge Staff have made then I need
29 to convey that commitment to them. I didn't do that
30 between last meeting and this meeting. I was unaware of
31 the commitment. So I would just need some clarification on
32 that particular element.
33
34 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: All right, thank you
35 Doug. And then the one where it was for the Kodiak, you
36 guys had wanted me to give a report on what process we went
37 through, what we're working on, that list.
38
39 MR. ARMSTRONG: Mr. Chair.
40
41 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Yes, Fred.
42
43 MR. ARMSTRONG: Could I clarify.
44
45 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Go ahead.
46
47 MR. ARMSTRONG: When the Tetlin Refuge
48 manager came and presented his proposals he did indicate
49 and expressed to the Council how they went about
50 determining the regional list. And that was the use of

1 elders, that they used elders, that they interviewed
2 elders. Remember that presentation by the Refuge manger,
3 that's -- I think that that is in the Tetlin proposal.
4

5 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: All right thank you,
6 Fred. Does that answer your -- Doug.
7

8 MR. ALCORN: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Well, I
9 guess I'm still not sure if that conveys a need for
10 additional action. Is that -- did we need to do anything
11 else Fred?
12

13 MR. ARMSTRONG: If I may Mr. Chair. The
14 idea -- I guess what we got out of this was that Herman was
15 going to provide a regional bird list report and what we
16 did was provide a copy of the Tetlin proposal. It's in the
17 Council handbook.
18

19 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Thank you, Fred.
20 Doug.
21

22 MR. ALCORN: Thank you Mr. Chair. I'm
23 satisfied.
24

25 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Thank you. Yes,
26 Austin.
27

28 MR. AHMASUK: On Page 4 there's references
29 to a second proposal in two paragraphs, you might want to
30 change that so it says.....
31

32 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Page 4 on what?
33

34 MR. AHMASUK: Page 4, next to the last
35 paragraph and the last paragraph mentioned second proposal.
36

37 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Motion to adopt the
38 second proposal.
39

40 MR. AHMASUK: Yeah, and then the following
41 paragraph says, motion to adopt second proposal. So you
42 need to change the numeration of those motions.
43

44 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Okay. Does that
45 sound okay with everybody.
46

47 MR. ROBUS: And it carries forward, this
48 would be the third proposal and this would be the fourth
49 proposal.
50

1 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Okay. All right,
2 thank you, Austin. Does anyone have anything else or all
3 you all still looking?
4
5 (No comments)
6
7 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: We'll take a few
8 minutes here to look.
9
10 (Pause)
11
12 MR. ALCORN: Mr. Chair.
13
14 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Yes, Doug.
15
16 MR. ALCORN: One last, I guess addition to
17 the minutes to the very last page, Page 6. The U.S. Fish
18 and Wildlife Service was going to appoint a Service person
19 named to the committee to work on the invitation to hunt
20 issue. And that name has been ident -- we've identified a
21 person, that's Meg Laws she's on the Migratory Bird
22 Management Staff of the Fish and Wildlife Service.
23
24 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Okay, I guess can I
25 go ahead and add that in here Fred or -- no, okay.
26
27 MR. ARMSTRONG: Mr. Chairman. This is a
28 summary of the Council actions, it's from the previous and
29 we can't.....
30
31 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Add anything to it.
32
33 MR. ARMSTRONG:mix it.
34
35 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Thank you.
36
37 MR. AHMASUK: Mr. Chair.
38
39 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Yes, Austin.
40
41 MR. AHMASUK: The minutes should probably
42 also reflect persons that were not there, I wasn't at the
43 last meeting. I was absent.
44
45 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Okay.
46
47 MR. AHMASUK: And on the first page it
48 probably should reflect my absence.
49
50 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Right. On the first

1 page, right, okay.
2
3 MR. AHMASUK: There was also no Kawerak
4 person here either so Kawerak rep, whoever that was.
5
6 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Yeah, you had a
7 Kawerak rep here, yeah, right. I don't remember who that
8 was it should be right here someplace.
9
10 MR. ARMSTRONG: I don't think we had
11 anybody.
12
13 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Oh, you know what no
14 we didn't have anybody because we had to call you,
15 remember.
16
17 MR. AHMASUK: Yeah, there was no Kawerak
18 rep.
19
20 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Yeah, there was no
21 Kawerak rep.
22
23 MR. ANDERSEN: Mr. Chairman, I have a
24 question.
25
26 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Yes.
27
28 MR. ANDERSEN: I mean under the -- again
29 the first page, Fred's name is mentioned twice, is there a
30 reason for that?
31
32 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: What's mentioned
33 twice Ralph?
34
35 MR. ANDERSEN: Look at the bottom of the
36 Council members.
37
38 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: I don't know.
39
40 MR. ARMSTRONG: Somebody likes me.
41
42 (Laughter)
43
44 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Yeah, I guess they
45 must like Fred. That probably could be scratched, one of
46 them, I imagine. Which one do you prefer Fred?
47
48 (Laughter)
49
50 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: We'll scratch the

1 bottom one.

2

3 MR. SMITH: There used to be a restaurant
4 that had ham and cheese sandwiches and cheese and ham
5 sandwiches.

6

7 (Laughter)

8

9 MR. SMITH: You could buy either one,
10 cheese and ham cost more though because it had more cheese
11 in it.

12

13 (Laughter)

14

15 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: All right. Okay, do
16 we have anything else on the minutes.

17

18 (No comments)

19

20 MR. ANDERSEN: Question.

21

22 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Question's been
23 called for. All those in favor signify by saying aye.

24

25 IN UNISON: Aye.

26

27 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Thank you. Next item
28 on the agenda, invitation for public comments. Do we have
29 anybody out there in the public that wants to make any type
30 of comments, and please don't be bashful, step forward.
31 Thank you.

32

33 MR. ARMSTRONG: We should move that table
34 back.

35

36 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Yeah, that table
37 maybe we should move back a little more. Then you guess
38 won't have to worry about being right in our face, or
39 surrounded by us.

40

41 (Laughter)

42

43 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: There you go. But we
44 did have some good public comments yesterday from a few
45 people so now's the time if you want to address them again,
46 it'll on record, so now would be the time.

47

48 Thank you.

49

50 When you come up to the microphone please

1 turn it on and state your name and where you're from.

2

3

Thank you.

4

5

MR. MALIK: Good morning my name is Robert
6 Malik Jr. I'm the alternate for Manillaag, and I just
7 wanted to say, reiterate what I said yesterday in a brief
8 form.

9

10 One of the things that we still have in
11 hand in our area is that we have subsistence as our main
12 ways of living and probably about 80 percent of our diet if
13 from the game that we have. We've taught -- we've been
14 taught all aspects of hunting, respecting the animals and
15 all this other stuff right here. So we still rely heavily
16 on our subsistence way of life. And if you'll notice that
17 when Attamuk does talk he goes over there and talks with
18 passion because our people still heavily rely on this type
19 of food, and the lifestyle and it's by choice.

20

21 And yesterday I gave you a little example
22 in terms of what can happen if things begin to start
23 unraveling in terms of being overly regulated. I gave you
24 an example of the size of your hunting license can be and
25 you'll impose a lot of different kind of things and I also
26 made a statement in terms of the responsibility that you
27 Council have in terms of during your deliberation that has
28 to do with your hunting or the migratory birds that we rely
29 on.

30

31 But at the same token, you know, need to be
32 also, you know, mindful of the conditions, you know, I know
33 all and well is that somebody with a biological degree and
34 goes over there and shows you all these statistics, you
35 also got to keep in mind is that sometimes some things are
36 just plain common sense, kind of rationale that has in it.

37

38

39 And you should be reminded too is that
40 remember that we've been living in this land for thousands
41 and thousands of years, we know -- we must know what the
42 heck we are doing to be able to survive this long as well
43 as to pertain it and preserve it and to, you know, and to
44 have it up until this point right here. And the main point
45 of all this right here is respecting the animals. There's
46 a certain way that what we do is that we release the spirit
47 of the animal. In some areas ones that begin to start not
48 being followed, what's going to happen is that you're going
49 to have problems with your animals moving else where.

50

1 Yesterday I kind of got the feeling in
2 terms of the frustrations that some of you have and I've
3 been asking questions and Attamuk felt it be important for
4 me to attend the meeting with him to get a general idea of
5 who's in here and you know, who's the aggressive ones, no,
6 but he just wanted me to get the feel of you know, who you
7 are and to make sure that I come prepared with my own back
8 and my philosophy is speak softly and silently and carry a
9 big bat, no.

10
11 The other thing is that what -- let me just
12 close in this one right here, is that we were taught the
13 bird is a significant part of our ways and means of
14 survival but that also tells us the weather conditions of
15 how it's going to happen. There was an elderly man in our
16 area named (In Native) Daniel Foster and one of the things
17 that my dad used to -- that was my dad's uncle. Before we
18 went down duck hunting in the spring time, when we go (In
19 Native), he would go there in the grass, his uncle, and his
20 comment used to be like, what the birds say Daniel. And he
21 had the ability to go there and to communicate or whatever
22 or see all the signs including what the birds. And he
23 would tell my dad and he'd say in four days all that snow
24 in the tundra is going to melt and my dad followed that
25 with great respect.

26
27 So when we're as young hunters they teach
28 us the migration -- I mean the birds, the importance of the
29 birds. Those are the ones that give us sign, you know, a
30 lot of you know about the eagle, a lot of you know, you got
31 stories about your ravens and all this other stuff right
32 here. What we do is we watch the influx of the birds that
33 come into our area. Each bird that comes in there, it
34 shows a sign meaning that we're on the process of our
35 summer. And this summer we got burned, I mean a lot of
36 people that didn't know how to watch the trend and observe
37 that sign got burned this spring with the ducks, not
38 getting their share of ducks, because what happened the
39 snow melted so fast to where we couldn't go hunting in our
40 traditional areas out in the tundra, so the people that
41 know the ice conditions and know when to go hunt along the
42 river were able to hunt. And I say that because -- and not
43 only that is that what we're taught to do is have two years
44 of supply of our food.

45
46 Because we did have special person in the
47 area called Manilaaq, he was considered Eskimo prophet and
48 all the things that he had predicted, or foresee the future
49 have come true. The only few of them that are significant
50 that haven't come true yet -- become true is that we're

1 going to have two consecutive winters in a row.

2

3 So what they teach us to do is watch the
4 birds as they come in, because as it gets warmer there's a
5 certain bird that comes in and when I say birds I mean
6 ducks as well.

7

8 The last two that we watch was very
9 tentatively closely is the robin. When the robin comes in
10 we know spring is here and then what we do is we watch the
11 last two birds that come in is the Arctic tern and the
12 swallow, we know summer's here. Sometime in between the
13 robin and the swallow is that there's a gap in between two
14 or three months or weeks, they would go and tell us that if
15 there's a cold weather, it starts snowing, they would tell
16 us that this is what the birds see (In Native) meaning this
17 is what the bird has seen, that cold weather, is how come
18 the swallow didn't come in.

19

20 So what we do is we do have a lot of
21 history in terms of of the birds, of how we rely on them
22 and we watch them with great interest and a lot of you have
23 that great responsibility of doing that because I gave you
24 an example yesterday in terms of if you let all things go
25 and get over regulated what you'll do is you'll be like my
26 in-laws down in North Dakota have to wear orange vest and
27 orange hat in order for them to hunt to be prevented from
28 being shot.

29

30 And I thank you for the time and
31 opportunity that you gave me.

32

33 (In Native)

34

35 Thank you.

36

37 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Yeah, thank you
38 Robert. And thank you for that little bit of advice on
39 common sense and I think most of us should be able to use
40 that. Thank you.

41

42 Do we have anybody else out there in the
43 audience that would like to make comments.

44

45 (No comments)

46

47 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: If not then we'll
48 move forward. Oops, sorry, one more. Thank you.

49

50 MS. DEMIENTIEFF: Yes, my name is Clara

1 Demientieff, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Refuge
2 Information Tech for McGrath and the GASH villages which is
3 Grayling and Anvik, Shageluk and Holy Cross.

4
5 I'd like to continue a little traditional
6 story after this gentleman here. And as I was telling Mike
7 Rearden and Myron yesterday that before my grandmother
8 died, she's an Athabascan Indian from Holy Cross around the
9 Bonzilla area on the Yukon. She used to tell stories in
10 her Athabascan language to my mom and she talked about the
11 traditional ways of living off the land with mammals and
12 birds and fish. And like a week before she passed away she
13 was telling a story to my mother about how, you know, in a
14 different language of about how global warming will be
15 affecting the earth and affecting the people and starvation
16 will be coming, and she said this will happen when your
17 little girl, Clara, which is me, when she turns, you know,
18 50 and over. And as I see it right now it is happening
19 very, very slowly. And each of us, you know, can also see
20 that.

21
22 So that was part of the story that I
23 remember. Because years ago before -- in her age, before
24 she turned 50 they had days of starvation which was, you
25 know, just like a global warming which we're having right
26 now.

27
28 The second thing I'd like to talk about is
29 the harvest surveys. This is my first year doing the
30 harvest surveys for the Fish and Wildlife Service and we
31 service the GASH area and also villages around McGrath.
32 And what I've done, I wrote letters to all the villages to
33 see which villages will be participating, in return I had a
34 response of only three villages, which I am doing surveys
35 of right now, and the first week of November will be my
36 last visit to pick up the fall surveys. I find it very,
37 very challenging because it is so hard to communicate with
38 each other. The villages are small, their technology is
39 very slow. Sometimes they have telephone problems, fax
40 problems, you know, everything just, you know, it kind of
41 intertwines with each other.

42
43 So I want to state that, you know, it's
44 hard to communicate with small villages. It's hard to
45 travel when you have bad weather and try to get there on a
46 certain day and then, you know, if the weather continues to
47 be bad you keep canceling and canceling and finally, you
48 know, the community just gives up on you because one day
49 you say I'm sorry, you know, I can't get over there, and
50 then you try to make another appointment to be there, but,

1 you know, their schedule is full also besides our schedule.
2 So that's another thing that, you know, we have to keep
3 trying as surveyors, keep trying to get to their villages.
4

5 So I think communication, technology, with
6 the telephone system and everything is very slow.
7

8 After 23 years living in McGrath, I moved
9 back to my hometown which is Holy Cross and I lived there
10 for a year and two months, and I tell you everything was
11 very slow. I was used to this technology where I could
12 grab things in a minute or two instead of waiting five
13 minutes for an email to pop up on the computer, and I don't
14 work that way, you know, I like to work fast paced and get
15 everything done and make sure, you know, I've completed my
16 eight hour day.
17

18 Let me see, in order to kind of help this,
19 my supervisor and myself, we work, we sat down we talked
20 about it and probably making a timeline of the Fish and
21 Wildlife Service, a timeline of the villages, maybe the
22 Refuges can write, you know, a little newspaper and
23 hopefully fax it out or mail it, I think mail is the best
24 possible way to try and get anything to the villages.
25 We're thinking about setting up meetings each month with
26 the tribal organizations, either with the city, but most
27 people like to work with the tribal organizations and go to
28 their once a month meetings, you know, if the funding is
29 available.
30

31 Okay, I wrote a little more but I can't
32 find it now.
33

34 About the duck stamps and the licenses that
35 we were talking about yesterday, just to live traditionally
36 as, you know, I do follow my mom and my pop in living in
37 subsistence and traditional lifestyle, I'll say this
38 personally, not for the Fish and Wildlife Service, but
39 personally for myself. I don't think we need the duck
40 stamp and the license. If that's going to cost, what is
41 it, like \$5 or \$15, I mean these people, they spend a lot
42 of money on food to take out on their hunting, they spend a
43 lot of money on gas, they -- it's hard work when the water
44 is low as this year's condition, to get any subsistence
45 food for their families so, you know, I don't really agree
46 on having a duck stamp and a license, you know, to go hunt
47 birds.
48

49 And this is all I have, Mr. Chairman.
50

1 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: All right, thank you,
2 Clara. Yes, Austin -- wait, I think Austin might have a
3 question for you, Clara.

4
5 MR. AHMASUK: Thank you, Ms. Demientieff.
6 You had mentioned some things that I'm kind of intrigued in
7 and that is global warming. And maybe, Mr. Chairman, I'd
8 like to call back up Mr. Malik, had some questions for him,
9 too, if he'd like to respond as well.

10
11 Maybe if you could list out like specific
12 instances of global warming events like coastal erosion or
13 ponds drying up or colonization of like vegetation or
14 things like that. What are some things that you've
15 noticed, like specific events regarding global warming?

16
17 MS. DEMIENTIEFF: In these things, like,
18 it's been the weather has been warmer than usual. I was
19 talking to the elders in the GASH area villages, the
20 different routes the birds are taking each year. There's a
21 few elder people that go out and they make their little
22 hideout. Okay, the ducks -- or any birds usually just come
23 really low so that you can get a shot at it, but right now
24 they're saying that they're flying really, really high and
25 they're overpassing. So what I observed this past spring
26 is that the GASH area villages didn't get very much birds
27 and, you know, this is one of the reasons why. I mean you
28 can shoot so many feet and not, you know, some may get some
29 but some may not.

30
31 We observed that the water's really low.
32 While over at our Regional Advisory Council meeting over in
33 Anvik we observed the Kuskokwim Rivers and the Yukon River
34 with a whole bunch of sand bars and, you know, everything
35 is -- what they call, the river is being rerouted in
36 different ways than it usually is.

37
38 All right, now you see as I was talking to
39 one person in Anvik, the birds are usually gone when -- or
40 start taking -- you know, going home to the south real,
41 real early when it first starts getting cold, but right now
42 he rides down to the Bonzilla area and he said they're
43 still sitting around the lakes, you know, eating their food
44 before flying off.

45
46 Another thing that was noticed is that
47 after taking our moose this year and cutting it up and
48 quartering it and trying, you know, to take the skin, the
49 fur just peels right off like, I don't know what, but it
50 just peels right off and just leaves, you know, the skin

1 area which I'd never seen before.

2

3 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: More like a shedding
4 or something of the fur?

5

6 MS. DEMIENTIEFF: Yes.

7

8 MR. AHMASUK: Thanks.

9

10 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Thank you, Clara.

11

12 MR. MALIK: To answer that same question,
13 this spring the snowbirds is the first birds that come to
14 our area, they came around in February and January, usually
15 they don't come in until March.

16

17 The other one was we had unusual birds that
18 came up that were the summer birds, and I think Barrow had
19 a little documentation -- I think we had the same bird that
20 came up this winter and that was unusual because it -- it
21 doesn't come up here, only during the summer, some kind of
22 wren, I forget what it was. And the other thing was that
23 the black birds that do come in in the fall time came in
24 July. So if you learn how to observe all these things
25 right here, you can see all the signs.

26

27 We didn't have a lot of snow but, you know,
28 when we listen to the elders stories and I love to listen
29 to the elder stories, they have a lot of knowledge, I can
30 tell you story after story, but one of the things about 20
31 years ago, we had an elder who told us that our weather was
32 changing at that time, 20 years ago, and told us that we
33 would notice a dramatic change of the weather by our fire,
34 meaning, this summer, you know, we have -- my brother is a
35 fire boss, a crew boss, and he's been, I think all summer
36 out firefighting, and, you know, that weather -- the ground
37 is dry and it burned all summer and that's another danger
38 that you need to be aware of. At the same time, this
39 spring, when we were out hunting we hardly see any ducks.
40 Why, because the way the ice broke up, meaning rather than
41 floating on down, because we didn't have enough snow to
42 fill up on the edges of the river, what the ice did it
43 practically melted right on place, so when the ice were
44 being pushed, what happened is that the ice crumble up into
45 many, many little small pieces and it covered the whole
46 river to where these ducks, you know, that used to be along
47 the river that we hunt were not there, they were someplace
48 else. You know, animals and birds adapt like a human
49 being. We're not the only ones that -- I mean some people
50 tend to think, you know, like we're the ones with the

1 brains, but sometimes I question that. Plus at the same
2 time the animals go there and survive by instinct and seem
3 like if you -- we, as Inupiat, we learn how to survive by
4 watching the animals, you know, we learn, we watch that
5 spider and he made a web and can survive from that and the
6 concept of net and, you know, watch the mice and their
7 concept of survival in the ground and our traditional homes
8 with that.

9
10 And it's coming, you know, they told us at
11 that time the weather is going to change and we're seeing
12 it right now in terms of our animals. I think the key
13 thing is to be observant. To be observant of your
14 environment and we're the greatest conservationists in this
15 world, and the key thing is to watch what you have around
16 you, the animals that you have around you, they're
17 indicators in terms of what's to come. And by the way, the
18 animals are aware of death too. If you're going to have a
19 death in your family or even you, is that, the game don't
20 go there they're afraid of you. So, see, there's a lot of
21 things that we observe very closely.

22
23 The other thing is that our caribou, you
24 know, all these biologists go there and tell us how -- the
25 expert of the caribou and we rely heavily on caribou. When
26 the caribou migrates, what it does is it -- you know, like
27 some people say it goes from North Slope area down to where
28 the tree area is. But what happen is that the caribou drop
29 off some caribou along the way as they migrate down. They
30 don't all take off and migrate down to one place or back.
31 What they do is they never overgraze. In my area which is
32 the NANA region, is that we got about eight different
33 places to where we have caribou during the course of winter
34 that stay the whole year because they know they can't
35 overgraze their food and that moss grows during the winter
36 time, and that's affecting our caribou right now as well,
37 being that moss grows on to the snow and if you have less
38 snow and it melts right away, that moss is a unique plant.
39 If it doesn't have all that snow it doesn't grow, it
40 doesn't stay soft and fresh. If it goes over there and
41 gets exposed to the air, what happens, it gets hard. And
42 it's -- like some of you like to eat fresh bread, right,
43 you keep it out in the air, what happen to the bread, get
44 hard.

45
46 So all these things, you know, you be
47 observant of your environment that you have and you learn
48 from your elders and those are all the signs that you can
49 have.
50

1 Those are just a few that I could share
2 with you.
3
4 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Thank you. Clara,
5 you have a little more.
6
7 MS. DEMIENTIEFF: Mr. Chairman, I found my
8 two X's.
9
10 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Okay.
11
12 MS. DEMIENTIEFF: May I go ahead?
13
14 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Yes.
15
16 MS. DEMIENTIEFF: Yesterday we were talking
17 about participation in surveys for each of the regions and
18 how much money or funding we'll be expending to each of the
19 regions to spend. What I had put down is that each region
20 is different. Each region has different birds. And also
21 with the design, you know, whatever birds that we have in
22 the McGrath/Holy Cross area that we don't have, you know,
23 birds from the North Slope area, so, you know, I -- you
24 know, the design here, I was thinking just to leave
25 everything the way it is or have the organization make
26 their own design of what kind of birds they have in their
27 area.
28
29 As for the dollars for each of the regions,
30 in order to get, you know, what we really need for our
31 region is that my thought was that we should do like a
32 questionnaire and see how much participation we will have
33 from that region and get the money thereafter.
34
35 That's all I have, Mr. Chair.
36
37 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: All right, thank you,
38 Clara and Robert.
39
40 MR. MALIK: You bet.
41
42 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Very, very
43 informational so I hope besides us here on the Council a
44 lot of the biologists who are out there are taking notes of
45 what they were saying on the different -- it sounds like
46 there's different migratory patterns, you know, how the
47 weather affects it and all that and everything else, so
48 where they might think they might be declining in one area
49 they're actually not, they're moving, they're going
50 different places.

1 MR. ANDERSEN: Mr. Chairman.
2
3 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Yes, Ralph.
4
5 MR. ANDERSEN: Mr. Chairman, I'd like to
6 direct Staff to -- and I mean we've all noticed the changes
7 in temperature in our state, rising and falling water
8 levels as a result, temperatures in the 90s in areas that
9 have never experienced 90 degree weather before, so my
10 request, I guess is to direct Staff to first of all
11 investigate -- I guess, well, to investigate the agencies
12 or someone that's been tracking this stuff, and present us
13 with some information on the potential impacts of global
14 warming on migratory birds and other animals if, you know,
15 I mean because I think what we've heard here is some -- you
16 know, we've heard some real grassroots concerns and issues.
17 We've heard some grassroots observations. And I think it's
18 up to us to really, you know, take some action to focus on
19 that to get some more information so that it would help us
20 make our decisions.
21
22 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: All right, thank you,
23 Ralph. Fred, we probably could do that, right, have
24 somebody do that.
25
26 MR. ARMSTRONG: Yes, we'll see what we can
27 do.
28
29 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Yes, Mike.
30
31 MR. SMITH: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I was
32 just curious if there was any Federal Staff who has
33 thoughts on this and whether or not there has been any
34 indication as to whether or not global warming is changing
35 migration patterns or nesting sites or what's the latest
36 literature on that, if somebody could talk to that?
37
38 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Yeah, Donna, could
39 you step forward? It sounds like Donna could have
40 something to that effect. Thank you, Mike.
41
42 MS. DEWHURST: Donna Dewhurst. When I
43 stepped out of the meeting yesterday afternoon, I was
44 covering for Fred to -- there was a briefing from a
45 represent Nunivat that was in the area, and one of the
46 things -- well, probably the man topic of conversation with
47 him between him and our regional director and the different
48 department representatives was global warming. And he
49 expressed a real concern. The discussions were what sort
50 of information we have, basically the primary agency

1 working on that is the Council for Arctic Flora and Fauna
2 CAFF, they have some research they're trying to publish but
3 it isn't published yet, it's still internal, but they're
4 the primary ones. And those of you that are familiar with
5 CAFF, it's not just the U.S., it's all the Arctic countries
6 that are working together. So this is a global effort,
7 it's not just the U.S., there is a lot of research going
8 on.

9
10 The problems -- the representative asked,
11 well, what are we doing about it and the answer was what
12 can we do about it other than try to educate folks, it's a
13 more a political thing, our dependence on fossil fuels,
14 things like that, that is a huge thing to try to turn
15 around. So primarily it's just education. But the main
16 research agency right now is CAFF and they are going to be
17 releasing some documents probably in the next year, so when
18 those become available, we can certainly pass them on but
19 they aren't available yet.

20
21 MR. SMITH: Yeah, thank you, Donna. I
22 appreciate that. And I appreciate CAFF but I'm kind of
23 interested in birds, you know, we've seen migration
24 changes that may be attributed, we've seen habitat
25 degradation, things of that nature, specifically, or
26 nobody's looking at it.

27
28 MS. DEWHURST: The main research that.....

29
30 MR. SMITH: Or is nobody really looking at
31 in that light.

32
33 MS. DEWHURST:I'm familiar with is --
34 well, the University of Alaska-Fairbanks has been studying
35 it pretty extensively and the main information I'm familiar
36 with is that we're seeing over the past 20 or 30 years,
37 gradual drying of the tundra, primarily in the Arctic
38 region, the water bodies are getting smaller and we're
39 seeing encroachment of shrubs into an area that was pure
40 tundra before. And so what you can expect is birds that
41 are dependent on water bodies and more wetlands are going
42 to decline or move elsewhere and birds that like shrubs and
43 like a drier nesting area will do well or birds that are
44 more adaptable.

45
46 Like the issue that was brought up was snow
47 geese, and how they're having a huge problem with them on
48 the East Coast because the population has exploded and
49 they're actually causing habitat degradation in the tundra
50 and in agriculture fields. It really hasn't been a problem

1 in the Pacific Coast but it's a huge problem on the
2 Atlantic Coast and that was one example that was brought
3 up. And then also probably the big one that most of the
4 folks in the Arctic are concerned about is polar bears and
5 how things are changing for them.

6
7 But birds-wise, that was the main
8 discussion.

9
10 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Yeah, go ahead, Mike.

11
12 MR. SMITH: And them finally, thank you,
13 Mr. Chairman, and thank you Donna for that, and for
14 Austin's benefit and anybody else who happened to not see
15 it there was a great show that was put on, episode of
16 Scientific America, that show with Alan Alda on global
17 warming and specifically in Alaska, fascinating show and
18 I'd recommend tracking that down and looking at it if you
19 get a chance.

20
21 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Thank you, Mike.
22 Myron. And I hope this -- Robert and Clara this is helping
23 you a little bit on some of your concerns that you had,
24 what Donna said there. We are actually still in public
25 comments but we're kicking in from the Council here. Go
26 ahead, Myron.

27
28 MR. NANENG: I know that global warming is
29 a big topic and discussion itself and I think at some point
30 in the future if the Council members want more information
31 on it, I think we can request for a presentation on habitat
32 impact and stuff like that. So I'd like to make that as a
33 suggestion so we can move on.

34
35 MR. ANDERSEN: Mr. Chairman, that was my
36 motion.

37
38 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Thank you, Myron.
39 Yes, Ralph, right. Thank you. If we don't have no other
40 public comments out there we'll go ahead and move on to the
41 next agenda item.

42
43 (No comments)

44
45 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: It's under old
46 business and it'll be the SRC action reports. SRC
47 representatives. I think Fred might have some stuff here
48 on that too.

49
50 Thank you. Fred.

1 MR. ARMSTRONG: Thank you, Mr. Chair. As a
2 result of the action that the Council recommended during
3 the spring meeting, there were four recommendations to the
4 SRC. The first being the addition of St. Lawrence Island
5 for the use of auklets, that passed the SRC, they
6 recommended it to be put into regulation.
7

8 The next one was the use of yellow-billed
9 loons on the North Slope. That also was adopted by the
10 Service Regulations Committee. Actually was a good point
11 or at least a good topic to educate, not only the Flyway
12 representatives, the Council, but the Service Regulations
13 Committee to some of the many different traditions we have
14 in Alaska. And after educating them with what occurs, the
15 Service Regulations Committee was very receptive to finding
16 a way to make this legal for North Slope residents to use
17 yellow-billed loons for ceremonial purposes.
18

19 Another action item was the addition of
20 three Southeast communities for inclusion in the
21 spring/summer harvest program. With the specific intent of
22 just harvesting gull eggs. Those communities were
23 Yakutat, Craig and Hydaburg. The Council did not take
24 action on Klawock because there was an incomplete petition
25 and I think Bill Ostrand is going to let Klawock know that
26 it was rejected by the Council and for what purpose.
27

28 The last one was the harvest of tundra
29 swans in Unit 9(D), that's the Izembek Refuge area and
30 there was a good effort on the part of the Refuge in
31 working with the regional management body that made this
32 really a non-issue and actually that was viewed as a very
33 important step in working together with the Native
34 community and the government the State of Alaska. They
35 were really pleased with the effort that the Council is
36 making in trying to recommend regulations that fit the
37 regions. In fact, in Tab 2 is a letter from the Service
38 Regulations Committee Chair, commending the Council for its
39 efforts. I think that's really a noteworthy letter that,
40 you know, we need to take heed of and recognize that you
41 guys are doing a really great job here, and we just need to
42 continue on with the process.
43

44 I'll let Herman add on to that, but those
45 are the four recommendations that went through the Service
46 Regulations Committee.
47

48 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Yes, being one of the
49 representatives for the past four years, or five now, I've
50 been really observant on how well the Pacific Flyway and

1 the SRC has been real receptive to us in all the stuff that
2 we've been doing in our proposals and everything. And when
3 we go down there they do shoot questions and stuff at us
4 and even some little simple little answers that we give
5 them back helps the whole board there on their decisions
6 and everything, to ease their minds on things that they
7 were worried about and everything else. And besides us as
8 representatives and the administrator being down there,
9 Matt sits on the Flyway.....

10

11 MR. ROBUS: Pacific Flyway Council.

12

13 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Pacific Flyway
14 Council, and then Doug's been down there with us on, you
15 know, I'm not really remembering exactly what it was, but
16 he was there on the SRC at one, and they've been working
17 real hard for us, our regional director, Roland Gould is
18 down there on the SRC, and believe me they back us up.

19

20 And I'd also like our secretary to read
21 this letter that we got from the SRC for the record, so the
22 public can hear it too. So if you wouldn't mind doing
23 that, Doug.

24

25 Thank you.

26

27 MR. ALCORN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The
28 letter is dated September 8th, 2004. It's sent by Mr. Paul
29 Schmidt, he's the assistant director for the Migratory
30 Birds state programs and program in the Fish and Wildlife
31 Service in the Washington, D.C. office, he's also the
32 Chairman of the Service Regulation Committee.

33

34 He writes:

35

36 Dear Mr. Squartsoff: On behalf of the
37 Service Regulations Committee I would like
38 to extend our appreciation and gratitude to
39 the AMBCC for its hard work and commitment
40 as it establishes management regulations
41 for migratory bird subsistence harvest in
42 Alaska.

43

44 The SRC is pleased with the Council's
45 collaborative effort to work with other
46 entities as it pursues regional
47 recommendations for harvest management.
48 The SRC encourages the Council to continue
49 to work with others in all aspects of the
50 regulatory process that it is engaged in.

1 We acknowledge that the conservation of
2 migratory birds cannot be done alone and
3 encourages the creation of partnerships
4 such as the ones that the AMBCC has
5 developed. We are also aware that it is a
6 method whereby Alaska Natives can educate
7 people about customary and traditional
8 practices of bird harvests in Alaska.
9

10 In closing, we would like to thank the
11 Council for its participation in this
12 regulatory process and wish you all the
13 success.
14

15 Sincerely, Paul R. Schmidt, Assistant
16 Director Migratory Birds and State
17 Programs.
18

19 And he also writes a note, a handwritten
20 note, he just says:
21

22 Thank you, Herman, for your leadership in
23 this important conservation effort.
24

25 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Yeah, thank you,
26 Doug. And I want to comment on this letter, too, because I
27 don't feel that it's properly addressed. I don't feel it
28 should be addressed with just my name because I'm the
29 Chair, it's the whole Council here that's been doing all
30 this effort and it's been all of us. So that's what I
31 wanted to comment on.
32

33 Thank you.
34

35 One second, Myron, Joe, did you want to add
36 anything to this, Joe was our other rep that was down
37 there.
38

39 (Shakes head negatively)
40

41 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Okay, thank you.
42 Myron.
43

44 MR. NANENG: Yeah, I request in the future
45 that we have a summary of the actions taken by AMBCC
46 regarding the recommendations that came from here and the
47 results of what passed and what did not pass at SRC as part
48 of the packet. I think that would give us a good track
49 record of what actions have been accepted and what has not
50 been so that somebody in the future, whoever takes our

1 place, will have a good working document to go by as they
2 work with these.

3
4 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: All right, thank you,
5 Myron. I think Fred wants to respond to that.

6
7 MR. ARMSTRONG: Thanks, Myron, for bringing
8 that up. I had to kind of ad lib because I had the folder
9 that I have on the SRC, it's on my desk at work. I dropped
10 by but I had so many things on my mind trying to remember
11 the protocol and some other things, and that's just an
12 oversight on my part, we'll certainly make an effort to do
13 that in the future.

14
15 Thanks.

16
17 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Yeah, thank you,
18 Fred. We can move on to the next item agenda, which would
19 be the Exclusion Committee report -- oh, sorry, Regulatory
20 Calendar, I have it checked off already. I had a cup of
21 regular coffee this morning and I'm not supposed to drink
22 that so I'm going to be a little ahead of myself so you've
23 got to excuse me.

24
25 The Regulatory Calendar by the AMBCC Staff.
26 And we went over this yesterday in our workshop and I
27 understand, too, all these other reports are going to be
28 kind of brief and not very long either, so thank you.
29 Donna.

30
31 MS. DEWHURST: Thank you.

32
33 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: And this is also an
34 item thing that we're going to have to.....

35
36 MR. SMITH: Action.

37
38 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF:take action on.
39 Thank you, Mike.

40
41 MS. DEWHURST: It's Tab 3.

42
43 MR. ANDERSEN: Mr. Chairman.

44
45 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Yes, Ralph.

46
47 MR. ANDERSEN: I have a suggestion.

48
49 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Go ahead.

50

1 MR. ANDERSEN: Because we held a workshop
2 on all the main agenda items, I think really the purpose
3 for Staff would be to answer questions that we may have
4 come up with since yesterday. I don't think it's necessary
5 to go through the whole presentation again, because if what
6 we discussed at the informal meeting a few days ago was
7 that really the use for the workshop yesterday was not a
8 dress rehearsal for what's happening today. That I think
9 today, Donna and other Staff members should be called up to
10 the table just to answer questions because we've been
11 through all this stuff yesterday.

12

13 Thank you.

14

15 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Right, Ralph, thank
16 you. I think Fred wants to respond to that now.

17

18 MR. ARMSTRONG: Thanks, Ralph. I think
19 what we need to do, though, is perhaps summarize for the
20 record what the Council's taking action on. And you're
21 right, all of this was discussed yesterday, and just for
22 the record we need to summarize.

23

24 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Right, Fred, thank
25 you. That was going to be my suggestion also, and that
26 would also be for the public that wasn't here yesterday.

27

28 Thank you. Donna.

29

30 MS. DEWHURST: We came up with some
31 regulatory calendar options. The purpose was during the
32 spring meeting of the Council at Alyeska last spring, there
33 was a request to come up with options to change our
34 regulatory calendar to allow for more regional vetting of
35 the proposals. That there wasn't enough time at the
36 regional level to reach out to all the villages and get
37 local input and then get it back to the Council.

38

39 So what we did was we came up with a whole
40 pile of different options, there's quite a few of them.
41 They boil down to kind of three categories. One is, of
42 course, status quo, staying where we are right now. The
43 next set of options are basically a half a year delay. We
44 would take the proposals up in the spring and deal with
45 them in the fall or vice versa. And then the third set of
46 options is an entire year delay, where proposals would be
47 presented as issue papers the first year and the second
48 year they would actually be taken up as proposals.

49

50 And that's it in a nutshell. And then once

1 one of those tiers is decided upon, then the next decision
2 tree is whether we want to try and work with the late
3 season regulations or the early season regulations as far
4 as on the national level and which calendar we're going to
5 try and fit into so that's basically the two main decisions
6 that have to be made.

7
8 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: All right, thank you,
9 Donna. I think with the workshop that we had yesterday and
10 all the discussion we had on it the Council has kind of got
11 an idea of what they want to do here. So if we want to
12 have a little bit of discussion on it, if not I'd like to
13 see if maybe somebody would like to make a motion in the
14 effect of what we want to do on these three options, which
15 one.

16
17 MR. ANDERSEN: Mr. Chairman.

18
19 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Ralph.

20
21 MR. ANDERSEN: I make a motion that we
22 adopt and just stay with the status quo.

23
24 MS. HEPA: I'll second that, Mr. Chairman.

25
26 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: The motion's been
27 made and seconded. Do we want to have a little more
28 discussion on it here before we go into a question. Yes,
29 Myron.

30
31 MR. NANENG: If a proposal comes up that is
32 of an emergency nature, where we need to come up with
33 issues like the presentation that was made regarding black
34 brandt and Canada geese yesterday, are we going to go on
35 the status quo and wait until it gets to the point of dire
36 emergency need to try and address them or there are other
37 proposals that may not necessarily have to be done right
38 now or take time to do, you know, to try and find ways to
39 address because some of the proposals that are coming from
40 AVCP may not be immediately responded to but will have to
41 take some time, even for the regional management body to
42 have an opportunity to review and support and, you know,
43 I'm just questioning that status quo issue.

44
45 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: All right, Myron. I
46 think there is ways that we can work around some of the
47 concerns you had here and I think, Donna, do you want to
48 respond to one of them?

49
50 MS. DEWHURST: Just as far as to just

1 remind everybody that there is an emergency closure
2 regulation in our regs that we can, if needed, and it's
3 with consultation with the Council, consultation with the
4 State as part of the Council, and then the regional
5 director has the power to take action as long as the action
6 does not last more than 90 days we can do it. If it's
7 going to last more than 90 days then we have to go through
8 the whole regulatory process, so that's the only aspect as
9 far as we do have the ability to respond quickly if we need
10 to. And, of course, if we have to delay because something
11 is more complicated, proposals can easily be deferred.

12

13 MR. ARMSTRONG: Mr. Chairman.

14

15 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Yes, Fred.

16

17 MR. ARMSTRONG: The presentations that the
18 Council was provided yesterday was to give the Council a
19 head's up that these were issues on the horizon and kind of
20 need action now. Donna expressed one way and I'd prefer
21 not to go is emergency closure route because it shows that,
22 you know, we're not really managing well, but I think that,
23 you know, there's a -- such as -- another method is we have
24 the proposed rule and the final rule process whereby public
25 can provide comments and input, any concerns that they
26 raise would have to be considered at that time also so
27 that's another avenue that can be. But I think the
28 appropriate way that we're going to try to do in the future
29 is for the agencies to work with the affected regions to
30 get ownership of the proposal and bring it forward.

31

32 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Austin, and then
33 Myron.

34

35 MR. AHMASUK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Is
36 an emergency action, you've described it as an emergency
37 prohibition, are there also emergency like liberations,
38 does it work both ways or is it only emergency closure or
39 emergency restrictions?

40

41 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Donna, go ahead and
42 respond.

43

44 MS. DEWHURST: That issue was brought up
45 last year or two years ago and was basically killed as far
46 as rewriting the regulation to swing the door both ways in
47 an emergency, and it hasn't been brought up again as far as
48 trying to rewrite the regulation to allow the door to swing
49 both ways. If there's interest we can pursue that in the
50 future to look at that.

1 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Go ahead.

2
3 MR. AHMASUK: Where is the -- when you
4 refer to the regulation regarding emergency action, was
5 that something that we were supposed to have taken action
6 on or is this emergency provision something that Fish and
7 Wildlife Service has -- what do you mean by that action?

8
9 MS. DEWHURST: If I remember correctly,
10 it's been awhile ago, I think it was getting -- it went to
11 the Flyways, it was something that we wrote, Staff wrote,
12 and it went to the Flyways and I don't believe it actually
13 went to the SRC because the concern was the Council didn't
14 take action and so we didn't present it, it didn't go any
15 further until the Council could take action and then it was
16 never actually presented as a proposal after that, so it
17 never came back around. There was a lot of opposition to
18 it and concern, and it never came back around.

19
20 I think was it one year or two years ago,
21 it's been a couple of years, I think, now, that that issue
22 came up.

23
24 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: I think Donna -- Fred
25 can respond to that.

26
27 MR. ARMSTRONG: That was a couple of years
28 ago that we tried to do the reverse and provide an
29 emergency opening. Nothing gets killed at the Flyway
30 level, it just provides comments. It went to the SRC but
31 the SRC refused to take action on that because I think
32 there was some things that needed to be worked on. I think
33 they actually sent it back to us, if I can remember right,
34 I'm not -- you know, it was a couple of years ago but it
35 wasn't adopted by the SRC.

36
37 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Thank you, Fred. I
38 have Myron, Doug and Ralph next, thank you.

39
40 MR. NANENG: Yeah, thank you, Mr. Chair.
41 The reason why I asked those questions because we are
42 officially on record and we need to ask those questions
43 officially on record and that's the reason why I brought
44 them up and it's part of the discussion since somebody made
45 the motion.

46
47 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

48
49 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Right. And Myron, I
50 hope your questions were answered then?

1 MR. NANENG: Not necessarily because I
2 think this is a process that's also going to have to go to
3 the regional management bodies as well, you know, if
4 something comes up it's not -- I don't think that Fish and
5 Wildlife or the State should take unilateral action but
6 work with the affected regions and bodies because, you
7 know, the ones that are really the most impacted and the
8 ones that are going to be cooperating are working co-
9 management-wise are the people that are using the resource
10 at the village or regional level.

11
12 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: All right, thank you.
13 And I think Doug's going to respond to you on that. Thank
14 you.

15
16 MR. ALCORN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. What
17 we're talking about here is -- I guess the question on the
18 table is whether or not to leave our process with the
19 status quo. And the reason that this whole issue came up
20 and the reason why I proposed a change in our process at
21 the last meeting was because there was a lot of
22 consternation, a lot of dissatisfaction from my perspective
23 and I think from everybody that sat at this table at the
24 last meeting in the way that we -- our process is designed
25 to get these things out on the table for discussion and
26 that they were submitted in the form of proposals and then
27 the Council, by virtue of our process was expected to make
28 a decision on those proposals in the spring meeting and, in
29 fact, there wasn't enough time for some of the regional
30 representatives to take those proposals out to their
31 respective villages, there wasn't enough time for -- in the
32 case of the Fish and Wildlife Service's proposals, for us
33 to -- enough time and opportunity for us to work with the
34 regions that would be affected by those proposals, to build
35 any common level of understanding or support. And because
36 of that, I propose that we extend the time.

37
38 Now, what we're talking about, I think, is
39 a little bit different process, in that, I have a
40 commitment from my regional director that the U.S. Fish and
41 Wildlife Service, at least, will only submit proposals when
42 we have had an opportunity to work with the affected
43 regions and to at least make that announcement and make it
44 known what our intentions are and what the proposal is
45 designed to accomplish. That's a commitment from my
46 regional director, so I believe that the status quo process
47 can work better from the perspective of an agency, the U.S.
48 Fish and Wildlife Service submitting proposals, which was
49 the cause of some of that consternation last year.

50

1 That's one of the things I wanted to say
2 and also to respond to what Myron asked, the Chairman has
3 the prerogative, under our by-laws to call an ad hoc
4 meeting to address an issue. So if we're talking about the
5 need for an emergency closure or in the case of an
6 emergency opening, there is nothing that prohibits the
7 Chair from convening this Council to discuss one agenda
8 item and that's something that's in our by-laws and
9 something that I would recommend. I would never advise my
10 regional director to take unilateral decision -- make a
11 unilateral decision without consulting first this body and
12 I believe he would agree with that and I believe that he
13 would not take unilateral action without consulting. So I
14 believe that we're all right in that regard.

15
16 And then finally, we're talking about
17 whether or not an emergency opening is allowed and I
18 believe, Austin, one reason for rejecting the request for
19 allowing the regional director to do that was because it
20 circumvents the process that we have in place now through
21 the SRC in consultation with the Flyway Councils. The
22 Flyway Councils comment at the SRC meeting on all of the
23 regulations that are being proposed by the Flyway Councils
24 and in this case the AMBCC, when we make recommendations,
25 the Pacific Flyway Council, the Central Flyway Council and
26 I believe the Mississippi Council all have their
27 representatives make a statement to whatever effect the
28 Council has determined that they ought to. So I believe
29 that that's the process that's in place and by establishing
30 an emergency opening it would not allow those Flyway
31 Councils then to have any part in that decision.

32
33 Thank you.

34
35 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Thank you, Doug. We
36 have Ralph next, and then Matt.

37
38 MR. ANDERSEN: Well, I was just going to
39 say that I'd really like to hear about -- I mean I'd really
40 like to hear that something -- a species or an area was
41 given an emergency opening because that tells me that
42 things are going great, that there's an abundance of
43 migratory birds, that would tell me that the population is
44 great and that the regions and the SRC and our Council is
45 doing a good job and the agencies.

46
47 So I'm kind of hard-pressed trying to think
48 if that will ever happen.

49
50 It seems like an emergency opening would be

1 made for on the basis of need rather than abundance of
2 resource. And, you know, in those cases, and I guess in
3 every other emergency case, whether it be an emergency
4 opening or closing, Doug's right, I mean I was going to
5 just remind the Council of some things.

6
7 One is we have the right to defer. We can
8 take action, or take no action or defer. Another thing is
9 that in the bylaws, if you take a look at the bylaws, one
10 of the provisions calls for a special meeting of the
11 Council which can be requested by any member of the
12 Council, it's not, you know, the request needs to be made
13 in writing and the purpose for the meeting needs to be
14 clearly stated and the 30 day rule can be waived by the
15 Chairman so that we can meet immediately. So we've worked
16 really hard to get to the status quo in place. I mean
17 there are a few of us that kind of fell by the way side
18 along the way but some of us are still here as we were
19 organizing this group.

20
21 One of the reasons that, I mean even the
22 status quo has gone through a number of changes. The
23 status quo, I mean started out with -- I mean with the way
24 it finally fell into place right now, I mean we -- it
25 wasn't the first and only process that we had developed.
26 We had modified it several times. And early on we did get
27 a lot of -- I mean we were considering a lot of proposals
28 from the regions, we were just really in a mad rush to open
29 and close, you know, to set dates for openings and
30 closures, mainly because the Treaty could not be
31 implemented unless we opened and closed a season, we've
32 done that. And now I think as we move along, we're going
33 to see the number of -- and we have our base regulations in
34 place, openings, seasons and legal methods and means and
35 bird lists and this and that, we have our base regulations
36 in place, and as we move forward now I think we could slow
37 down a little bit. I mean we should take actions to defer,
38 we should use that prerogative rather than changing a whole
39 system, rather than changing the whole process, we could
40 defer, or we can call special meetings.

41
42 I think we have the nuts and bolts in place
43 right now and I don't see any reason to change.

44
45 Thank you.

46
47 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Thank you, Ralph. We
48 have Matt.

49
50 MR. ROBUS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As

1 usual, if I let Ralph speak first he takes care of most of
2 the things I was going to say and so I'll be brief.

3

4 I'm fine, I support the motion as long as
5 the regions have thought about it and feel that the problem
6 that occurred last May isn't a problem anymore and with the
7 change in procedure within the Service, I think that
8 there's a good argument that the existing system is going
9 to work satisfactorily.

10

11 Talking about the emergency closure which
12 may not be exactly the point of the motion but is
13 definitely related as a Flyway member, I guess I'll say
14 since this is a shared resource, which we talked about
15 yesterday and the day before, actually, I think there is
16 just as much discomfort with the potential for some sort of
17 emergency opening without consultation with all the users
18 of that resource that would happen here as this Council
19 would have with an emergency liberalization down south on a
20 resource that we expect to be able to take here. So that's
21 why it gets a little cumbersome to share all that
22 communication and go through the process. But I think in
23 reality in almost all cases, if we can stay within a yearly
24 cycle we can cope with most of the biological issues about
25 as fast as we need to. And then the emergency closure
26 procedure is available if things, for some reason really
27 require it, on a short-term basis.

28

29 Finally, if we can have special meetings to
30 address issues that pop up that may be more related to need
31 than to the biology of the situation I think we've got all
32 our bases covered and so I would support the motion that
33 Ralph put on the table.

34

35 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Thank you, Matt.
36 Austin.

37

38 MR. AHMASUK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I
39 just wanted to test that issue and get it on the record.
40 It was thrown out there and I felt that there was a hole of
41 information that we didn't talk about sufficiently.

42

43 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Thank you, Austin.
44 Is there any other comments from the.....

45

46 MR. ANDERSEN: Question.

47

48 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Question's been
49 called for, all right. All those in favor signify by
50 saying aye.

1 IN UNISON: Aye.
2
3 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: All right, motion
4 passed.
5
6 MR. ARMSTRONG: Those opposed.
7
8 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Oh, sorry, was there
9 anybody that wants to oppose.
10
11 (No opposing votes)
12
13 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Hearing none, motion
14 passes.
15
16 MR. ANDERSEN: Mr. Chairman, I got a
17 procedural question or observation that I think the way
18 the Council is set up it would be more proper for you to
19 ask for an objection, if there are any objections to the
20 motion rather than calling for a vote.
21
22 Thank you.
23
24 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: All right, thank you,
25 Ralph. And on that note can we take a 10 minute break with
26 no objection.
27
28 (Laughter)
29
30 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Thank you.
31
32 (Off record)
33
34 (On record)
35
36 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Come to order,
37 please. Our next item agenda is the Exclusion Committee
38 report by Doug Alcorn.
39
40 Doug.
41
42 MR. ALCORN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I
43 would just as a point of reference, in the last meeting
44 that we had in the spring, under Tab 3 in the binder,
45 probably none of you have it, but I do. It had in it the
46 proposal, the proposed process that our committee had come
47 up with regarding how we would consider proposals to
48 exclude communities. And what we had attempted to do was
49 apply the criteria, the five criteria that are in our
50 procedural guidelines for including a community and those

1 criteria had to do with customs and traditions of handing
2 down knowledge of customary and traditional subsistence
3 uses, sharing in the community and a tradition of
4 subsistence use dating back at least to 1999. Those are
5 some of the criteria that are described in the procedural
6 guidelines.

7
8 We, as a committee, attempted to apply
9 those in reverse to establish some sort of a threshold for
10 whether or not a community would no longer meet that
11 threshold. And we had, I would say, limited success. What
12 we recommended at the last meeting was this process but we
13 hadn't finalized, we hadn't refined it. And the
14 instruction that you all gave us was to go back and rethink
15 the proposal, discuss it and come back with an additional
16 -- or a new recommendation and I guess the report at this
17 meeting is that we haven't settled on a process that we can
18 agree to for excluding communities.

19
20 It was pointed out by Mike Smith, one of
21 the committee members, that there are issues that have been
22 raised in some of the proposals that were regarding
23 concerns or potential concerns about the conservation of
24 certain species or populations of birds and because of
25 those conservation concerns, the approach was --
26 recommended approach was to exclude communities and Mike
27 offered an alternative approach as opposed to excluding an
28 entire community which was other ways to address specific
29 issues. Specific means of addressing specific issues
30 versus excluding an entire community. And for lack of any
31 more comprehensive thinking about the issue, our committee
32 has forwarded that as our recommendation at this point,
33 that we would recommend that the Council address specific
34 conservation issues as they are raised in the form of
35 proposals with specific prescribed actions. And I'll let
36 Mike elaborate on that.

37
38 And that we also recognize the need for
39 developing a process to exclude communities in the event
40 that a community would have to be considered for exclusion.
41 We're not trying to avoid the responsibility to develop
42 that process, but I'm reporting that we are not there yet
43 and we would recommend, again, that a specific conservation
44 issue that's being raised by a petitioner might be
45 addressed in a different way than excluding the entire
46 community.

47
48 So my recommendation as Chair of the -- I
49 guess self-appointed Chair of that committee, because I
50 called the teleconferences, my recommendation would be to

1 allow the committee to continue working, continue
2 discussing this process and report back in the spring
3 meeting, and in the meantime address other specific issues
4 as they arise.

5
6 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Thank you, Doug.
7 Anybody else on that committee who would like to -- okay,
8 Mike.

9
10 MR. SMITH: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I
11 think Doug summarized it pretty well. We've touched on
12 this before, the issues surrounding the exclusion or
13 disenfranchise -- I mean I look at it as a disenfranchise
14 of a Federally protected right and I think that that
15 process needs to be fully vetted and fully established and
16 make sure all our checks and balances are covered to make
17 sure that we do that in a proper manner.

18
19 In regards to the issues that the proposals
20 sought to address, I think a couple of things need to be
21 reminded of, one is we have no baseline upon which to
22 determine whether or not an increase of harvest has
23 occurred. Having said that, we are mindful of the fact
24 that we need to be concerned about that and while we may
25 not have numbers now there may be or may not be some things
26 that we could or could not do.

27
28 I had the opportunity to go to Delta here
29 recently and talk to their Fish and Game Advisory Committee
30 about the Migratory Bird Co-Management Council, what we
31 were doing and what our efforts are and so on and so forth.
32 I mentioned to them the proposals that sought to exclude
33 their communities from the harvest and while they did not
34 think that that was such a bad idea because -- we have to
35 be careful about this because Delta, just for clarification
36 purposes is a predominately non-Native community, their
37 hunting activities thus are more geared toward the non-
38 Native way of hunting, I guess, you could say, in that,
39 they don't do a lot of spring harvest. As a matter of fact
40 they generally don't do spring harvest at all, they're fall
41 hunters primarily.

42
43 While they thought their area being
44 excluded was a possibility they also thought that there was
45 other things that could possibly be accomplished and I
46 wanted to publicly thank them for some of the comments that
47 they gave me and some of the ideas that they've given us
48 and we had talked about some of these previously as well.
49 One was road exclusions. They thought that road exclusions
50 were probably a pretty good idea. I briefly talked with

1 Nat about that, as we all know the State has prohibitions
2 against shooting from the roadway, the problem there, of
3 course, as soon as you step off you're no longer illegal.
4 But there are examples of corridors in the state that have
5 been established, anti-hunting corridors, there's the
6 pipeline corridor up north that prohibits the shooting and
7 hunting, I think it's within a mile of the road, or
8 something like that. There's fishing corridors, hunting
9 corridors been established for moose hunting where, you
10 know, local communities can hunt in those corridors. So
11 that's an option, I think we should probably explore is
12 just some of the more simple aspects of management such as
13 road closures.

14
15 The other area that I thought offered some
16 good protection and potential and I think it's something we
17 should probably consider is the exclusion of farm areas out
18 of -- to exclude farm areas out of those areas eligible for
19 hunting. Farm areas apparently in talking with the Delta
20 people they, and I don't know why I did not pick up on this
21 earlier because I have creamer's field right in Fairbanks
22 there, but they act as feed stations, and they're bait --
23 they ultimately end up becoming bait stations and the ducks
24 and the geese flock in there and feed and apparently the
25 people who take advantage of the spring harvest in the
26 Delta area use barely fields out there and stuff to do
27 that. We have other areas of the state where there are
28 large tracts of farm land, cleared areas with barely and
29 things of that nature and that is basically a buffet for
30 the migrating birds. Some of those areas will be
31 requesting inclusion into the hunting areas and I think
32 that that probably is something we need to consider as
33 well, is the exclusion of farm areas from the hunt.

34
35 So I mean I think some of the concerns that
36 are expressed as far as the expansion of the harvest goes,
37 I think we can address in other ways, take some proactive
38 actions to limit it to the extent that we can and possibly
39 in regards to some of the ways I just talked about. But as
40 far as the full exclusion of areas, the dynamics of such an
41 action become very complicated. You know, we talked about
42 all sorts of things, you know, we end up getting into
43 discussions about populations of Natives and non-Natives
44 and things like that and it just becomes a nightmare as to
45 how to go about doing that.

46
47 And with that, I would support Doug's
48 recommendation to continue trying to formalize a formal
49 exclusion process.

50

1 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Thank you, Mike.
2 Ralph.
3
4 MR. ANDERSEN: Mr. Chairman, I move that we
5 accept the Exclusion Committee report.
6
7 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Is there a second on
8 that.
9
10 MS. HEPA: Second.
11
12 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Yes, Myron.
13
14 MR. NANENG: Yes, Mr. Chairman, I'd also
15 request on this, a written summary of what they have found
16 that will help us pass the information back to our
17 membership when we go back to our villages, you know, this
18 is an important issue and if we just give verbal reports
19 it's not going to really convey the issues that our people
20 have to deal with. So I'd also request a written report on
21 this as well.
22
23 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Thank you, Myron. I
24 suggest that we do that for all of our reports. Joe.
25
26 MR. HICKS: I just wanted to say that what
27 Mike said is very real, it is a very, very complicated
28 issue. There's a lot of legal ramifications, legal
29 implications involved, and, boy, I don't think we really
30 want to go there when we really don't have the data. You
31 don't really have the expertise or the knowledge behind us
32 to back us up in our decision-making, so I really say that
33 any kind of decisions or any kind of actions that come from
34 this particular committee or even this Council that we have
35 the full backing of this Council behind us in regards to
36 those decisions.
37
38 With that, I do agree and call for the
39 question.
40
41 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: All right, thank you,
42 question been called for. Is there any objection to this
43 motion.
44
45 (No comments)
46
47 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: No hearing any, so
48 moved. Thank you. Doug.
49
50 MR. ALCORN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It

1 may be out of order but we had a committee of four that was
2 on the exclusion committee, Stanley Mack was one of those
3 committee members who's no longer on the Council. He has
4 been replaced by Peter Divine. And I would like to ask the
5 Council to approve committee member.

6
7 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Doug, I think we
8 could do that when we come up to that process between
9 changing the chairmanship and other, it's there, it's set
10 for that time.

11
12 MR. ALCORN: Okay.

13
14 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Thank you. I think
15 the next item on the agenda is the harvest limitations and
16 that's Matt.

17
18 MR. ROBUS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The
19 Harvest Limitation Committee met earlier this week. We've
20 been unable to get together for a telephone conference
21 prior to that. So this was our initial go at this and just
22 to review, the committee consists of myself, Joeneal,
23 Enoch, Herman, who hadn't made it to town yet when we met,
24 so he was not able to be there, Mike Rearden from the
25 Service is part of that committee and Bill Ostrand sat in
26 as Staff.

27
28 So to start out, we did a brief review of
29 why we, long ago, decided we needed to start looking at
30 harvest limitations as a management option and to just
31 briefly go through those, I think I stated and I think
32 there was agreement that if all we have is an on/off switch
33 in terms of allowing subsistence hunting in the spring and
34 summer, it's not a very satisfactory method because
35 eventually a species like brandt or cacklers or something
36 else will get to the point where there needs to be some
37 reduction in harvest and if all that's available is a
38 closure, there may be a situation where a reduced number of
39 birds may be taken without a biological negative impact and
40 we'd be giving up that opportunity if we don't develop some
41 way to limit harvest without actually turning it completely
42 off.

43
44 The voluntary reductions that were shown
45 through the YK goose planning process were brought up by
46 Mike as a good example of ways that you could approach
47 reductions in harvest without having to go all the way to a
48 closure. So we agreed that the on/off switch, black and
49 white situation is not a good one if it's all we've got to
50 work with.

1 We did talk for a few moments about bag
2 limits just because that's a common way of controlling the
3 amount of birds taken by people. And I think that even
4 though some members felt that in certain cases with enough
5 explanation some people might accept a bag limit approach,
6 in general, it's pretty much a non-starter and we felt from
7 what we've heard before on the Council, that this certainly
8 is not the primary way that the committee wants to approach
9 harvest limitations. Some day in some particular instance,
10 you know, perhaps, but that's not the main thing we want to
11 talk about.

12
13 So then we really did start talking more
14 about, at this point, kind of a two tiered approach, where
15 the first thing that we would try to do is go with a
16 voluntary approach in a situation where we needed to reduce
17 the number of birds taken and it very clearly depends on
18 effective outreach and so we were a committee, you know,
19 charged with talking about harvest limitations but we were
20 then talking about outreach, which wasn't really our
21 purview. But it's clear that unless we can really convince
22 people why there's a need to reduce harvest, what the
23 problem is, what are the benefits of reducing take and that
24 type of thing, not only coming in a letter from Anchorage
25 or Juneau or Washington, D.C., but it really has to be
26 delivered out there in the place where the harvesters live,
27 that outreach is critical to getting the voluntary
28 reduction approach to work. So there's a linkage there
29 that the Council needs to keep in mind.

30
31 Then the second tier is to focus the
32 reductions in the specific areas, obviously where the birds
33 occur, so that you -- we would avoid going with a huge
34 broad-brush approach if something much more specific could
35 address the issue more effectively. And there are examples
36 of that type of thing. On the YK Delta, Mike brought to
37 our attention during the meeting and Myron was discussing
38 it a little bit with us this morning, that in certain
39 situations where you have breeding colonies of birds and
40 there is a problem with habitat or disturbance or hunting
41 you could have a very specific closure or restriction for
42 the area that would not be a bag limit for people but it
43 would keep the hunting or the disturbance from affecting
44 birds that were breeding and bringing up broods. So that
45 would be the second layer of the approach.

46
47 And then in addition to outreach, the other
48 area we got into discussing was the good old harvest survey
49 because it's going to be very necessary to have information
50 about what those populations or sub-populations of birds

1 are doing in order to determine the need for and the
2 effectiveness of restrictive measures. So, again, there's
3 a linkage with another important part of what the Council
4 and the agencies and the partners are doing.

5
6 And then we talked just a little bit about
7 other things we might work on more or might decide aren't
8 worth working on, things like time-related closures,
9 community bag limits, I mean we just touched on that.
10 There's a lot of complications and problems with that and
11 we certainly don't have a suggestion for how to do that but
12 it's kind of a creative approach, we want to probably touch
13 back on at some point.

14
15 And then we mentioned the voucher system or
16 the proxy system and most of us kind of started shuttering
17 at that point and backed away from it. I know from my
18 experience on the State system, we're not real enthused
19 with the proxy system in a lot of ways and it's a very
20 paperwork intensive complicated record keeping system that
21 has a lot of down side to it.

22
23 So this, again, was just the first meeting
24 and those are the ideas that we batted around. So I guess
25 I would recommend that if you accept what we've talked
26 about so far that you signal that to us and we would like
27 to continue meeting on a periodic basis by phone call to
28 try to flesh out some of these things and stay mindful of
29 the need to work the outreach and the survey angles as well
30 as just pretending we can do harvest limitations by
31 ourself.

32
33 And my last note written here is I think
34 Myron's idea is a good one and I'll come up with a written
35 summary of that Tuesday morning meeting and provide it to
36 the Council as soon as I can.

37
38 So, Mr. Chairman, that concludes my report
39 and I would ask that any of the people on the committee, if
40 I've left anything out or misrepresented it, feel free to
41 chime in and otherwise I'll try to answer questions.

42
43 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Thank you, very much,
44 Matt. Do we have anybody else on the committee, Mike.

45
46 MR. SMITH: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Our
47 current mechanism right now is simply an on/off switch,
48 that's correct, you mentioned that. And I was just --
49 yeah, how would you suggest, I mean do we need to adopt the
50 regulation that offers us other alternatives other than an

1 on/off switch and then do we need to direct Staff to come
2 up with a regulation that allows us to do that or what have
3 you. And the reason I'm bringing it up is because we might
4 end up in that situation pretty quick with cackling geese
5 where they start limiting harvest in the Lower 48 but they
6 may not limit it altogether, eliminate it, and if that's
7 the case and they start pushing pressure on us and we only
8 -- the only alternative we have is a complete closure we're
9 going to be hurting and I was just curious as to whether or
10 not we need to expedite some sort of regulation or
11 something that allows us the flexibility to do the type of
12 things you had mentioned.

13

14 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Thank you, Mike.

15

16 MR. ROBUS: Can I respond?

17

18 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Anyone else -- yes,
19 Matt.

20

21 MR. ROBUS: Mr. Chair. Mike, if there is a
22 regulation to propose I don't know what it is at the moment
23 and I think that you don't need a regulation for this
24 Council to be able to adopt a resolution asking agency
25 Staff and the Council to begin an outreach effort for
26 voluntary reductions. So I don't think we need to go to
27 the regulatory level to at least get this process started.
28 If the Council decides on some sort of issue specific
29 closure then a regulation would need to be proposed but,
30 you know, we are not at the point of having any specific
31 regs to put in front of the Council at this point. If one
32 of the regions wants to put something like that together
33 for the spring meeting then we would discuss it along with
34 the other regulatory stuff.

35

36 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Go ahead, Mike.

37

38 MR. SMITH: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It
39 was my understanding that the Pacific Flyway Council is
40 getting ready to meet, when they'll meet in July -- or when
41 will they meet again?

42

43 MR. ROBUS: March would be the next formal
44 meeting of the Flyway Council.

45

46 MR. SMITH: March. And at that point
47 they're going to be considering cackling geese reductions
48 maybe, if the numbers, I thought that's what the comment
49 was we got from Staff, was that they anticipated some
50 restrictions being imposed on cackling geese this next go

1 around. If that's the case then are we not going to be at
2 our next meeting with reductions coming from the Flyway
3 Councils and them seeking us to do something, you know, in
4 response to it as well?

5
6 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Yeah, can I intervene
7 here real quick. It sounds like the discussion is between
8 committee members and maybe you guys can just bring these
9 up in your committee meeting.

10
11 MR. ROBUS: I think we can get through this
12 real quick, Mr. Chairman.

13
14 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Okay, thank you.

15
16 MR. ROBUS: Mr. Chair, perhaps Tom or Bob
17 Leedy remind me, do we deal with cacklers at the spring
18 meeting or the late season meeting?

19
20 MR. ROTHE: Mr. Chairman.

21
22 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Yes, Tom.

23
24 MR. ROTHE: I think, just personally, I
25 think Russ really made a point that there's some
26 convictions in Region 7 and our Department as well as
27 raised concerns about cacklers. I don't think the Service
28 has taken a position as to what it's going to recommend to
29 the Flyway Council yet so that's yet to come down, January
30 SRC meeting is when they give us a head's up, to expect
31 something.

32
33 So the first round of action would be to
34 get January and February notice from the Service on issues
35 to be addressed to the Flyways. In March is when the
36 Alaska regulations are discussed and recommended. So the
37 first shot would be restrict or don't restrict the Alaska
38 sport hunt. But we aren't going to do that alone unless we
39 got Oregon and Washington right by the ear with us, so this
40 will all play out at the March meeting, which is at the
41 very end of February, the technical meetings and then the
42 Council will meet.

43
44 And then the July process would be where
45 final frameworks are established for Washington, Oregon and
46 California.

47
48 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Thank you, Tom.

49
50 MR. ROBUS: Mr. Chair, it's responsive to

1 this.

2

3 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Okay, you bet, thank
4 you, Matt.

5

6 MR. ROBUS: So to fill in in response to
7 Mike's question, it will be a two-step process there, too,
8 both March and mid-summer, but Tom attends that as the
9 technical representative for the State and I do as the
10 Council member for the State so whatever the Council is
11 thinking is going to be presented at that Flyway Council
12 meeting if and when that issue comes up. And we usually
13 have at least somebody from the AMBCC there as well, Fred,
14 has gone in the past and other members.

15

16 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Okay, thank you.
17 Ralph.

18

19 MR. ANDERSEN: Mr. Chairman, I move that we
20 accept the Harvest Limitations Committee report with the
21 recommendation by Matt that the committee will continue
22 meeting through teleconference and as these things that
23 were just being discussed arise, nothing's happened yet.

24

25 But if they do come up, that the committee
26 should be ready to respond or react in an appropriate way.

27

28 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Thank you, Ralph.
29 Myron is next but I think we don't -- we shouldn't really
30 have to take action to move these, they're just committee
31 reports so I don't think we should have to take action on
32 them.

33

34 MR. ANDERSEN: Well, I'm moving to accept
35 them because they make recommendations.

36

37 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Okay, thank you.
38 Myron.

39

40 MR. NANENG: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I
41 appreciate that Mike Rearden is representing the AVCP
42 region, the YK-Delta Region on this harvest limitation
43 committee. But I do feel that someone from the Waterfowl
44 Conservation Committee should also be a member of that
45 because 80 percent of the waterfowl that's harvested in the
46 state of Alaska is from the YK region, and in a way I'm
47 saying I don't appreciate being excluded from this because
48 our people in the YK-Delta have dealt with this for many
49 years.

50

1 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Yeah, thank you,
2 Myron. I think we could bring that up and you could ask
3 for that when we do the committee thing.
4
5 MR. ARMSTRONG: Mr. Chair.
6
7 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Yes.
8
9 MR. ARMSTRONG: I think it was after you
10 left when they formed this exclusion committee at their
11 last meeting.
12
13 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Yeah.
14
15 MR. ARMSTRONG: But we're going to do the
16 same, and if AVCP if they want to express an interest can
17 identify somebody then.
18
19 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Joeneal and then
20 Matt.
21
22 MR. HICKS: Well, first of all, Ralph took
23 everything that I wanted to say out of my mouth.
24
25 MR. ANDERSEN: So you second.
26
27 MR. HICKS: So if there's a motion on the
28 floor, I will be seconding it.
29
30 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Okay. Matt.
31
32 MR. ROBUS: Thanks, Mr. Chair. I just
33 wanted to assure Myron there's no attempt to exclude anyone
34 who is interested from the committee and we went off of the
35 official minutes of that meeting for committee membership
36 and I forgot to mention, you know, it's a relatively small
37 committee, if other people are interested we could expand
38 it a bit, I think and still be fairly efficient and
39 effective. So I'm perfectly willing and eager to talk
40 about new members when we get to the committee section at
41 the end.
42
43 Thanks.
44
45 MR. HICKS: Call for the question.
46
47 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Question been called
48 for. Anybody have any objection to accept this report?
49
50 (No comments)

1 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Seeing none, so
2 moved. Thank you. Next item on the agenda is Invitation
3 Process for family members, and I believe that's Bill
4 Ostrand. I know Bill is always brief, so thank you Bill.

5
6 (Laughter)

7
8 MR. OSTRAND: The short report is that the
9 committee did not meet. The members of the committee and
10 all the other committees are given behind Tab 10 so the
11 Invitation Committee is composed of Mike Smith, Ron Stanek,
12 Ralph Andersen, Tom Rothe and the Fish and Wildlife Service
13 has nominated Meg Laws (ph) to be a member of the
14 committee. And it's the wish of the Council to continue to
15 pursue holding a meeting.

16
17 (Laughter)

18
19 MR. ANDERSEN: Mr. Chairman, I move that we
20 accept the Invitation Process for family members living in
21 excluded areas report.

22
23 MS. HEPA: I'll second it.

24
25 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Moved and seconded.

26
27 MR. HICKS: Question.

28
29 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Question's been
30 called for. I ask if there's any objections.

31
32 (No comments)

33
34 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Seeing none, so
35 moved. Thank you. I knew Bill was brief. We're rolling,
36 let's keep the roll here. The next one is -- yes, Mike.

37
38 MR. SMITH: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I
39 guess, you know, I sat on that committee and I was kind of
40 very forceful in my discussions at previous meetings on the
41 process by which village councils are allowed to invite
42 people or not back to the areas. And there's some concerns
43 with that and how that process is going to be implemented
44 and I think my thoughts on the matter were that it's kind
45 of entwined with the whole issue of duck stamps, State
46 hunting licenses and what have you.

47
48 There is some serious, I think,
49 disagreement as to what this process needs to look like,
50 whether or not this is just another piece of paper that the

1 individual would have to get to go hunt a goose.
2 Currently, as far as I can count right now there's at least
3 three.....

4
5 MR. ANDERSEN: Mr. Chairman, I call point
6 of order, I mean I think we -- the committee hasn't met and
7 I haven't -- I'm a member of the committee and I haven't
8 been involved in the meeting that you're talking about, if
9 there was a meeting held, so I think we've moved on, we've
10 already accepted that report.

11
12 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Thank you, point of
13 order accepted.

14
15 MR. SMITH: What?

16
17 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Point of order has
18 been accepted.

19
20 MR. SMITH: By the Chair?

21
22 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Yes, Mike.

23
24 MR. SMITH: Thank you, Ralph, appreciate
25 the consideration.

26
27 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: The next item on the
28 agenda is AVCP proposals, deferring from spring meeting and
29 it's listed, three different ones, State license
30 requirements, law enforcement, limited harvest to Alaska
31 Natives. And we do have a process here, I believe that we
32 need to go by. And the first number on the process is
33 introduction of proposal petition, and I believe that would
34 be Myron.

35
36 MR. NANENG: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
37 Before I start off on this I want to remind all the Co-
38 Management body members that you're working for the
39 protection of the subsistence rights of Alaska Native
40 people regardless of where they're located at. Exclusion
41 is one of the issues that was put in there because there
42 are family members from villages who are not living in the
43 communities but would like to be able to participate in the
44 harvest of waterfowl. And that process needs to be worked
45 on, it's part of the language of the Migratory Bird Treaty
46 Act. And because the committee has not met does not mean
47 that we need to think about that and start putting a plan
48 together.

49
50 So I'd remind each and every one of the

1 AMBCC members that we're working and representing all the
2 people, our subsistence users so if there's an issue or
3 something that we need to bring up, let's try and address
4 it for the benefit of our people.

5
6 I know we're sitting here as
7 representatives and some of us have a tendency of leaving
8 before the meeting's are done because we have other things
9 to do but we try and address the issues that are brought
10 before us. So I just wanted to remind everyone of that.

11
12 So I'll go to the three proposals that AVCP
13 brought forward and I made a presentation on those
14 yesterday. AVCP's proposing that the State license
15 requirement be waived for subsistence users who have
16 customarily and traditionally used migratory birds during
17 spring time and summer for their subsistence resource. We
18 met this morning with Matt and with Doug, I know that they
19 have limitations because of their representation of the
20 State and also the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service that may
21 prevent them from being able to move on and proceed or vote
22 in favor of it even though they may believe that something
23 like this may be workable, but, you know, they have
24 limitations and I understand that and we discussed that.

25
26 However, I think that the Migratory Bird
27 Treaty Protocol was made not to place further restrictions
28 on our subsistence customary and traditional hunt and it
29 was the final recognition of what has been denied of us for
30 over 70 years. We got together this morning on the first
31 proposal and Matt is going to be working with us to draft a
32 letter to the State and try and get a position statement
33 from the State of Alaska regarding this.

34
35 So that's the State hunting requirement
36 proposal.

37
38 And if I can go on to the next one, Mr.
39 Chair.

40
41 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Do you want to kind
42 of -- maybe could he do these in a block or.....

43
44 MR. ARMSTRONG: Mr. Chair, actually for the
45 record we need to go by them individually and a motion is
46 in order to adopt the proposal, a second and then following
47 action for the record on these proposals.

48
49 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Okay.

50

1 MR. NANENG: You know, if you make a motion
2 you're going to have to vote it up or down and we know
3 where the State is going to be coming from. But we'd like
4 to make sure that these are still on the table for further
5 discussion and see how we could work it and that was the
6 agreement that we came up with.

7
8 MR. ARMSTRONG: If the action is to defer,
9 we still need a motion to put that proposal on the floor.

10
11 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Okay.

12
13 MR. ANDERSEN: Mr. Chairman, I move that we
14 adopt the proposal.

15
16 MR. DIVINE: Mr. Chairman, I second it.

17
18 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: It's been moved and
19 seconded. Now what, more discussion?

20
21 MR. ARMSTRONG: (Nods affirmatively)

22
23 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Okay, Doug, and then
24 Matt.

25
26 MR. ALCORN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We
27 did discuss this proposal this morning at breakfast and
28 Matt and I both explained what we perceive to be the legal
29 constraints of what we can or cannot do representing the
30 various agencies. We concluded, the three of us concluded
31 that maybe getting those sideboards explained is a place to
32 start, and that's what we agreed to do would be to write a
33 letter to the State and write a letter to the Department
34 asking for clarification on this proposal and Proposal No.
35 3.

36
37 It would contain an element of questions or
38 information needed from a State perspective as well as
39 information needed from the Federal perspective regarding
40 the legal nature of the two proposals.

41
42 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Thank you, Doug.
43 Matt.

44
45 MR. ROBUS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll
46 follow on what Myron and Doug have said. We felt this
47 morning that while the three of us have all received legal
48 advice from our respective counsels, in the case of the
49 Federal government and the State government to this point
50 it's been verbal, and it just seemed to us that if we can

1 ask for formal clarification from the various agencies it
2 would at least help everyone understand better what each
3 body can and cannot do and would provide at least a known
4 situation that one or more regions could try to get changed
5 or try to make some progress on.

6
7 So the idea was to ask that this proposal
8 be deferred while we write the letter that, I guess, would
9 be circulated from the Council for your knowledge and
10 hopefully support and then that letter would contain
11 questions that would go to the State government as well as
12 to the Federal government about the legal questions
13 involved.

14
15 Thank you.

16
17 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Myron.

18
19 MR. NANENG: Yes, just one additional
20 comment. I reminded both Doug and Matt that this is a co-
21 Management body, and I think as a co-management body we
22 need to work through this and State law or Federal law may
23 be there but as co-managers we need to work together for
24 the benefit of the users that we're representing.

25
26 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Yes, and thank you,
27 Myron. Can I go ahead and ask for a motion to defer this
28 proposal. Who can help me on this one, Ralph, maybe.

29
30 MR. ANDERSEN: I'll move that we defer
31 action on the proposal pending response to a letter that's
32 being prepared by Matt, Doug and Myron.

33
34 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Thank you, Ralph.

35
36 MR. HICKS: Second.

37
38 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: It's been moved and
39 seconded. Patty.

40
41 MS. BROWN-SCHWALENBERG: Point of order,
42 there's already a motion on the table to adopt the
43 proposal, so the maker of the motion and seconder would
44 have to, Ralph and.....

45
46 MR. ARMSTRONG: Excuse me, the motion stays
47 -- or I mean the action stays on the table, they're just
48 deferring action so there's no requirement to amend. If we
49 don't take action to.....

50

1 MR. ANDERSEN: I'm asking to delay vote on
2 it.

3
4 MR. ARMSTRONG: If we don't take action to
5 defer the proposal dies for lack of action so by taking
6 action to defer it remains on the Council's agenda.

7
8 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: So then there'll be
9 no -- nothing to vote on it, right, or.....

10
11 MR. ARMSTRONG: We've got to vote on the
12 deferral, any objections to deferral.

13
14 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Right. Is there any
15 other discussion on it.

16
17 (No comments)

18
19 MR. SMITH: Just ask whether there is any?

20
21 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Right. Any other
22 discussion.

23
24 (No comments)

25
26 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Seeing none, is there
27 any objection on the deferral.

28
29 (No comments)

30
31 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Seeing none, so
32 moved. Thank you all for the help. Myron, you can go
33 ahead on the second one.

34
35 MR. NANENG: Yeah, the second one is the
36 law enforcement provisions that we'd like to add as
37 regulations, those are basically the language that we have
38 taken out of the Goose Management Plan.

39
40 And the reason why we have brought this up
41 is because we have a system that has worked out in the YK-
42 Delta and as a co-management body we feel that each of the
43 regional management bodies should be participants in the
44 law enforcement provisions of -- or things that come up
45 under the Migratory Bird Treaty Protocol Amendment. I know
46 that there's concerns of law enforcement, maybe from D.C.,
47 or elsewhere, but at the same time this is something that
48 has worked and I think that whatever has worked for the
49 benefit of the resource should be part of the document that
50 should be adopted by this board as a co-management body.

1 On this one here, too, Doug made the
2 suggestion that we sit down with the law enforcement
3 department to talk about what their position is and get a
4 clarification from them but I'd still say that this is a
5 co-management body and whatever we adopt here as a co-
6 management body should be the one that works for the
7 migratory bird issues within our region.

8
9 And if they say what about the rest of the
10 country and their concerns, the title of this group is
11 Alaska Migratory Bird Co-Management Council, so I think
12 whatever we decide to move forward with with the law
13 enforcement provision should be something that we should
14 consider here for Alaska because we're dealing with the
15 birds while they're summering here and we can work with the
16 other areas of the country where the birds winter through
17 the Flyway Councils.

18
19 And so I think the request of this also was
20 a deferment to have a joint meeting with law enforcement as
21 well as the State representative to get clarification on
22 their part. But we still maintain that I think law
23 enforcement should be dealt with at local levels too as
24 well. Because we know both State and Feds are not always
25 going to be present to work with us on some of these
26 issues, but I think that the best people to help manage the
27 resource are the local people.

28
29 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Thank you, Myron. Do
30 we need to adopt this before we start discussion on it -- I
31 believe, right, to move the proposal.

32
33 MR. AHMASUK: So moved.

34
35 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: So moved.

36
37 MR. ANDERSEN: Well, where are we, I'm
38 lost, have we moved to adopt it?

39
40 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Yes, we have to go
41 into that process to do that, Ralph, and we need a second
42 on it.

43
44 MR. ANDERSEN: Okay, I second.

45
46 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Thank you. Now we
47 can go into further discussion on it, I believe. Go ahead,
48 Doug.

49
50 MR. ALCORN: I guess I'm confused, did we

1 move to adopt the proposal as written or did we -- we did,
2 that was what you moved?

3

4 MR. AHMASUK: (Nods affirmatively)

5

6 MR. ALCORN: All right, then I will speak
7 against the motion for reasons that I spoke against it in
8 the spring, that there are some requests that are
9 articulated or written in the proposal that my agency
10 believes could be dealt with in a policy arena. And what
11 we had proposed as an alternative to passing the proposal
12 was to put our heads together and talk it through before we
13 vote it up or down.

14

15 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Thank you, Doug. I
16 thought we were go into the same process we did with the
17 first one, we have to adopt it and then we deferred it,
18 that's what we did with the first one, that's what I
19 thought we were going to do with this one.

20

21 Thank you. Yes, Doug.

22

23 MR. ALCORN: Maybe I misunderstood the
24 first one that we talked about. I thought that we had a
25 motion to defer, I didn't know that we had a motion to
26 adopt the proposal.

27

28 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Well, to put it on
29 the board we have to bring it up for discussion.

30

31 Now, if you want to, you can go ahead and
32 defer it.

33

34 MR. SMITH: Yeah, we're still on
35 discussion.

36

37 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Right.

38

39 MR. SMITH: And then after discussion if
40 you want it to be deferred, then somebody needs to make a
41 motion to defer it.

42

43 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Right. Thank you.
44 Is there any other discussion or does anybody want to make
45 a motion to defer it.

46

47 Mike.

48

49 MR. SMITH: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I
50 guess I was curious as to Matt, sorry, can shed a little

1 light on this for my own edification.

2

3

4 In other arenas we often adopt negotiated
5 management plans as regulations or refer to them in
6 regulations, the Kuskokwim Goose -- Moose Management Plan,
7 you know, what have you, those type of plans, and I was
8 just curious and I kind of forget and maybe Doug can help
9 on this, too, our discussion in the past about why we could
10 not adopt the Yukon Kuskokwim Goose Management Plan as our
11 formal plan for that area.

11

12

CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: I guess Matt.

13

14

15 MR. ROBUS: Mr. Chairman, as I recall the
16 primary legal objections to that occurred within the
17 Federal organization so if Doug would like to talk about
18 that I'll defer to him on that. I think you're certainly
19 right, that in the State process we adopt management plans
20 into State regulation or we at least reference them into
21 State regulation, however, this is largely an enforcement
22 issue as opposed to a wildlife management issue and, yeah,
23 of course, they're linked, but I guess I see a nuance of
24 difference between an organization like the Board of Game
25 adopting a recipe for managing moose in a valley and this
26 particular proposal that talks about how law enforcement
27 authority will be assigned. I mean for one thing on the
28 State side that's a whole different agency than what I
29 represent so that's a complicating factor on my side of the
30 coin.

30

31

Thank you.

32

33

34

CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Thank you, Matt.

35

36

37 MR. ALCORN: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Yeah,
38 Mike, I think the short answer is the Goose Management Plan
39 was a mix of policy and agreement. Well, in essence it is
40 a policy call that the Fish and Wildlife Service engaged
41 with the YK-Delta AVCP region, and the advice that we're
42 getting in the context of this particular proposal which is
43 a request to require a process and procedure for law
44 enforcement, the advice that I get -- the legal advice that
45 I get is that, number 1, much of this if not all of it can
46 remain being dealt with as a policy, a local policy between
47 the region and the AVCP. The other is that this proposal
48 would not be supported by the U.S. Attorney General. And
49 that is the advice that I get from my local legal counsel.

49

50

So I am speaking against it and offering

1 something else in lieu of that, which is to get our groups
2 together and talk about this in the nature of a policy.

3

4 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Thank you, Doug.
5 Myron.

6

7 MR. NANENG: The Goose Management Plan was
8 adopted back as the Hooper Bay Agreement in 1984. The
9 signators to that was U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, State
10 of Alaska, State of Oregon, State of Washington, State of
11 California as well as the Native Community of Waterfowl
12 Conservation Committee representatives. And throughout the
13 years up until -- and we still go through the process of
14 reviewing the document every two years, and the same
15 parties sign it as part of the management plan.

16

17 I really don't buy the argument by Doug,
18 you know, being, and sitting on the Waterfowl Conservation
19 Committee too as well, that the Federal agency will not
20 have flexibility when for the last 20 years they've been a
21 party to the agreement.

22

23 So I just wanted to bring that point out
24 and I know that Doug is going to be requesting for
25 clarification but that is history and I think that that in
26 itself should show that it has worked and it should work,
27 even with the Migratory Bird Treaty Protocol Amendment
28 being in place.

29

30 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Thank you, Myron.
31 Taqulik, and then Mike and Austin.

32

33 MS. HEPA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
34 Another example where the U.S. government has given a co-
35 management body is the Alaska Eskimo Whaling Commission and
36 when there is a violation of the management plan within the
37 Alaska Eskimo Whaling Commission, the commission members
38 can act to enforce the infraction.

39

40 Just as an example. And we've gone through
41 that process, and that's an agreement with the Alaska
42 Eskimo Whaling Commission and the Federal government.

43

44 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Thank you, Taqulik.
45 Mike, and then Austin.

46

47 MR. SMITH: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll
48 support this proposal but I'm not real sure exactly I'm
49 supporting because I'm not sure what the language is that
50 they hope to incorporate.

1 But my support is more centered around the
2 efforts that these people have put in for the last 20 some
3 odd years on this. They have a system that works fairly
4 well out there, it's a negotiated system that is re-signed
5 every couple of years by the same agencies that sit at this
6 table. And I guess I'm a little concerned, or a little
7 curious as to what the status is now and what the
8 relationship between that committee and this committee is
9 and how is that whole process going to be flushed out out
10 there, because I don't believe that Myron is ready to give
11 up his Conservation Committee yet in favor of this body,
12 and if that's the case then are we competing agencies and
13 how do we fix that problem and so on.

14
15 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Thank you, Mike.
16 Austin, and then Fred.

17
18 MR. AHMASUK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
19 Reading the proposal, reviewing it, I would tend to agree
20 with a lot of what the proposal is asking this Council to
21 adopt.

22
23 It seems like it's a feel good, sort of
24 ideas that YK-Delta folks would like to have or have
25 already have implemented through their association with law
26 enforcement. It's not necessarily different than what our
27 region does as well. I can't recall any formal agreements
28 that we have regarding enforcement as it's laid out here
29 with the -- I'm assuming -- or is the Yukon Delta Goose
30 Management Plan enforcement policies, and I guess I have
31 trouble with some of the ideas here not being able to be
32 implemented by Fish and Wildlife Service or State of Alaska
33 with a couple of exceptions in regarding travel,
34 enforcement folks traveling with NGOs. I can see some
35 friction there. But in regards to enforcement activity,
36 use of confiscated birds, a summary monitoring report,
37 summarizing investigations, reporting incidences and just
38 monitoring compliance, I guess I don't see too much of a
39 problem there.

40
41 And then Myron, this proposal says that the
42 regulation would only apply to the YK-Delta region yet
43 there are other regions listed. I was wondering how the
44 other regions were -- how are we situated, how do you
45 propose that we're situated with this policy or are we
46 being asked to situate ourselves, so there?

47
48 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Go ahead, Myron.

49
50 MR. NANENG: Yeah, the reason why we listed

1 the other regions separately is because, you know, the
2 system or the enforcement plan has worked under the Goose
3 Management Plan within our region, other regions may have
4 different situations of how they work with Fish and
5 Wildlife or with State of Alaska and we leave it up to you
6 to come up with a plan for your own region, that's why we
7 listed -- we did not write everything up for Norton Sound
8 or Kawerak or for Tanana Chiefs or for Chugachmiut or for
9 any other, Copper River or for any other region.

10

11 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Yes, go ahead.

12

13 MR. AHMASUK: Mr. Chairman, maybe just on
14 that point then just for the superficial nature of this,
15 maybe the other regions could be just left out of the
16 proposal, because -- well, frankly I don't agree with -- I
17 don't disagree with many of the provisions that are there
18 it's just that we do have some enforcement relations that
19 currently do exist that are friendly and, you know, make us
20 feel better about enforcement and don't necessarily need to
21 be written this way. But maybe just for the superficial
22 nature of this, the other regions, their names could be
23 withheld, because it clearly is a regulation for YK-Delta.
24 Other regions haven't put in their enforcement policies.

25

26 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Yeah, I think Myron
27 wanted to respond to you on that and then we have Fred and
28 Matt.

29

30 MR. NANENG: Yeah, I'll just respond this
31 way. The reason why we're trying to put this in is because
32 we don't want unilateral enforcement of the rules and
33 regulations. We want our people to participate because we
34 have seen the benefit of our people participating with both
35 the agencies who may be in law enforcement, or if there's
36 conservation concerns that we work together with them, so,
37 you know, the law enforcement issue was not just done over
38 night, there has been some amendments to it as a product,
39 you know, as the years have gone by and a lot of input has
40 been made by the people that live at the village to make it
41 more effective and for them to really feel involved.
42 Because more often than not, if law enforcement comes and
43 enforces the law then where is the village participation,
44 and the same thing goes to all the other court systems and
45 stuff like that, where there's no village participation,
46 but with this one here we want grassroots level
47 participation.

48

49 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Thank you, Myron.
50 Fred, and then Matt and Ralph.

1 MR. ARMSTRONG: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I
2 can't recall which meeting it was, the last meeting or
3 before that when there was a discussion on the Goose
4 Management Plan, and the ultimate result of that discussion
5 was that the Council adopted the concept of the Goose
6 Management Plan at that time. And it was indicated too
7 that the Goose Management Plan remains in effect even
8 though the AMBCC has gone into existence, because there's
9 numerous signatories to that plan, AMBCC, you know, was not
10 in existence then. So, you know, we have no control over
11 that.

12
13 And at the last meeting, in Tab 4, I tried
14 to capture the actions of the -- or the discussion of the
15 last meeting, and the end result was that the proposal was
16 deferred so that the region could work with the affected
17 parties, State of Washington, Oregon and California with
18 the State of Alaska, Fish and Wildlife and discuss the
19 contents of the plan to see what could be done to resolve
20 the issues.

21
22 I just wanted to mention that for your
23 guy's memory.

24
25 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Thank you, Fred.
26 Matt, and then Ralph.

27
28 MR. ROBUS: Thanks, Mr. Chairman. I just
29 want to clarify the conversation we had this morning so
30 that nobody gets the wrong idea. The agencies are not
31 against partnering for enforcement and we certainly think
32 that local enforcement is a smart and effective way to go.
33 What we've got here is a situation where my understanding
34 is the Federal agency has been advised that there's a legal
35 problem with signing on to this as regulation, although
36 policy it would be -- as policy it would be fine. And I
37 think the State situation may not be quite so clear cut,
38 but we've got similar concerns. So we have a commitment by
39 the Federal agency to convene a meeting including Federal
40 law enforcement, I commit to getting the State enforcement
41 people there to try to find out a way to do this approach
42 but if this goes to a vote on the proposal to go into
43 regulation, you're probably going to get no votes from the
44 agencies.

45
46 And I guess I put the question before you
47 as to whether that's a wise way to go. I would prefer to
48 see this formal vote on the regulatory thing put off until
49 after we can hold this law enforcement meeting with Myron's
50 involvement and the AVCP experience on the Delta and see if

1 we can arrive at a satisfactory way to agree to do this
2 without going through the step of regulatory formalization
3 that's difficult for the agencies.

4
5 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: I have Ralph and then
6 Austin.

7
8 MR. ANDERSEN: Mr. Chairman, based on that
9 and Myron's presentation that, you know, a joint meeting is
10 being scheduled, I guess I'd move that we defer action on
11 this pending the results of the joint meeting.

12
13 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Is there a second.

14
15 MR. AHMASUK: I'll second it for the
16 moment. Okay, now, regarding what I just heard, if we
17 defer action on it is that the same thing as taking no
18 action and kind of having no comment on it? And if we do
19 that, if that's the case and we have no comment on it
20 really, but we allow these ideas to be worked out through a
21 separate policy, not necessarily through regulation, then
22 it's probably most important that there be no comment, just
23 neutral, neutrality sort of as opposed to taking no action
24 or denying it because then it has the -- on the surface it
25 looks like the State and the Federal government would be
26 against these ideas when they really aren't against them.

27
28 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: All right.

29
30 MR. AHMASUK: So that's my question, is
31 deferring action the same thing as remaining essentially
32 neutral and then working forward.

33
34 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Go ahead, Fred.

35
36 MR. ARMSTRONG: That's correct, Austin.
37 We'll move the proposal on to the table, we're deferring
38 action -- you know, by deferring action nothing's taken. So
39 it still remains on the Council agenda.

40
41 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Mike, and then Doug.

42
43 MR. SMITH: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
44 Whether or not we move this into a formal regulation or not
45 is still -- the Goose Management Plan is still the adopted
46 policy of this body.

47
48 MR. ARMSTRONG: In concept and we also did
49 pass a resolution supporting the Goose Management Plan, if
50 I recall, awhile back.

1 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Yes.
2
3 MR. SMITH: And that it's still in effect.
4 So I mean in effect, we've adopted it as.....
5
6 MR. ARMSTRONG: We adopted the concept of
7 the plan. Mr. Chairman, we adopted the concept of the plan
8 we didn't move anything into regulation. In other words,
9 the Council supports the GMP.
10
11 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Yeah, Doug.
12
13 MR. ALCORN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just
14 for the record, because Matt made a statement that I do
15 want to correct very slightly. He made the statement
16 something to the effect that the Service doesn't oppose all
17 of the things recommended in here and, in fact, there are
18 some specific prescribed practices that we do oppose and
19 that's why we are not supportive of the proposal as
20 written. There are some specifically that we feel we don't
21 have the authority to implement. So just to correct the
22 record that we do support some and some we don't.
23
24 Thank you.
25
26 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Thank you, Doug. If
27 there's no other further discussion, can we have a
28 question.
29
30 MR. AHMASUK: Question.
31
32 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Question's been
33 called for. Is there any objection to the deferment.
34
35 (No comments)
36
37 MR. NANENG: Can I make a comment
38 regarding this.
39
40 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Yes, Myron.
41
42 MR. NANENG: I know that you just voted on
43 it. Last summer there was an incident within our region --
44 I know that we've adopted the Goose Management Plan as a
45 policy within the AMBCC, but right now what happened last
46 summer is that one of our people was cited for hunting
47 migratory birds and was arrested and brought up to
48 Fairbanks and law enforcement at that time said we don't
49 give a darn about what AMBCC does or has done, regarding
50 whatever agreements may have come up and this happened at

1 St. Mary's where a man was arrested and transported to
2 Fairbanks and put in jail because he wasn't able to come up
3 with the money to pay for his citation. And that's why I
4 think that it's an important issue, because, you know, at
5 some point this summer or next summer during the harvest
6 season if one of your people get cited, law enforcement is
7 going to go ahead and enforce the law, and whatever
8 agreement that we may come up with here and adopt as a
9 regulation or policy, they're not going to abide by. And
10 that's my primary concern. So I would think that we
11 definitely need to work on this, and in some way formalize
12 it as a regulation at some point.

13
14 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Yes, Myron. Thanks.
15 And whatever we do here now today anyway will not go into
16 effect until next year, so, you know, it wouldn't be this
17 coming summer.

18
19 MR. NANENG: Yeah. The only concern that I
20 have is that law enforcement going out there, giving
21 citations, and then if the individual's not able to pay for
22 the citation, then they get arrested and put in jail
23 somewhere removed from their village.

24
25 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Right. I'm really
26 highly on your concern there Myron, and what you guys
27 discussed earlier between the three of you, maybe it will
28 help for working it out for this summer. Thank you.
29 Seeing no objections, then the deferment is so moved. Can
30 we go on to number 3, limit harvest.

31
32 Well, Fred, I'd like to, and then that way we'll be
33 pretty much done with this, and we'll be catching up to
34 ourselves here, so if we can go ahead and do this one
35 before we break for lunch.

36
37 Thank you. Myron.

38
39 MR. NANENG: Yeah, Mr. Chairman, the
40 proposal is to adopt the Japanese treaty as it's -- since
41 it's the most restrictive language that recognizes Alaska
42 natives and indians as being eligible to hunt, and that's
43 something that was the original intent of the Migratory
44 Bird Treaty until it got ratified by -- changed during the
45 ratification by the Senate, and, you know, since we've seen
46 a lot of restrictive languages from the other protocol
47 amendments with other countries, we'd like the agency, Fish
48 and Wildlife Service to be consistent with what they're
49 trying to bring up as things to be adopted by this co-
50 management body.

1 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Thank you, Myron.
2 And I believe you also had a discussion on this one with
3 Matt and Doug, and you guys had a plan for this one, so --
4 yes, Matt.
5
6 MR. ROBUS: That's right, Mr. Chairman, and
7 I'm not sure how Robert's Rules would deal with this, but
8 let me recount the conversation this morning.
9
10 This is another area where both the Federal
11 Government and the State Government have received legal
12 advice in an informal verbal manner. WE kind of agreed
13 this morning that it would be a good idea for us to
14 incorporate this question in the letter that I mentioned
15 with regard to Proposal No. 1 to try to get some sort of
16 formal read from both the State Government and the Federal
17 Government on this issue that again would at least be a
18 more concrete position than us trying to represent what
19 we've been told by our legal experts, when I'm really not
20 qualified to present that very well. So we would suggest
21 that this proposal be deferred as well, kept on the table
22 until -- and then we will include this question of
23 clarification in our letter requesting both a State and
24 Federal formal reply, and perhaps then we could make more
25 progress on this. So it's almost an attachment to the
26 first proposal and the way we dealt with that.
27
28 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Thank you, Matt. So
29 in that case hopefully it's possible that we can -- I guess
30 the procedure is to move it onto the table, and if possible
31 we could go right into the deferment maybe. Yes, Mike.
32
33 MR. SMITH: Mr. Chairman, I'll move
34 Proposal to limit harvest to Alaska Natives.
35
36 MR. NANENG: Second.
37
38 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: The motion's been
39 made and seconded. Can I hear a motion for deferral.
40
41 MR. HICKS: I'll move to defer it.
42
43 MR. NANENG: Second.
44
45 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: The motion's been
46 made and seconded. Question.
47
48 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Question.
49
50 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: The question has been

1 called for. Is there any objections to the referral --
2 deferral, sorry.

3
4 (No objections)

5
6 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: If none, so moved.

7
8 And I'll go right into the next item, and
9 that's going to be me with a report on regional lists, and
10 I'm not going to take very long, so we could be on track
11 here for lunch.

12
13 Thank you all.

14
15 There's one here also from -- you have I
16 believe in your packet, and there was some also available
17 on the table up there, what Tetlin did. That's basically
18 the process that I'm doing there in the Kodiak region. I
19 went out to all our villages and had meetings there, and
20 seen all the hunters and the providers, and asked them -- I
21 took the State bird list, which was I think the one we had
22 adopted before, of 90, 92, or something like that, birds,
23 and I took that out there and asked them specifically which
24 ones that they harvested in their area, that they went out
25 and targeted and all that and everything else, that they
26 caught, the eggs they gathered and all that and everything
27 else. And we did it in all the regions, we did it in
28 Kodiak.

29
30 I started off in my home village, went to
31 Port Lions, Kodiak. Everybody kind of blanketed pretty
32 much of what we started off doing, the first two villages,
33 because we all get basically the same ducks and all that
34 everything else.

35
36 The only difference that I would do, what
37 Tetlin had in here on their second one, how should the new
38 regulation read, it says, specify -- or species that would
39 be allowed for harvest in the Interior region are listed in
40 Attachment 1. The season would be closed for all other
41 migratory birds. I would also add there, and what I'm
42 planning on, is unless we feel that other birds are
43 necessary in the future, if they're not, you know, on the
44 closed list or endangered list of the population's up real
45 high or something, where they come back and they're going
46 to be opened back up, that we can go in and get these
47 ducks, like the spectacled, Stellar's eider, if that does
48 happen. That would be the only difference that I would do.

49
50

1 And the process we went through wasn't
2 really that hard to find out from everyone. But my key was
3 going through to the hunters and providers. Thank you.

4
5 Yes, Mike.

6
7 MR. SMITH: Why do you do that?

8
9 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: The reason I did
10 that, one of the good reasons I did that is we do not
11 target all the birds that are on that list. We don't take
12 them all.

13
14 MR. SMITH: You don't have time.

15
16 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: And we don't have to
17 hunt them, and there's no reason we should. And speaking
18 with law enforcement in the past, the last few years, the
19 guy I think that has been here is Steve that's been with
20 us, is right there, but talking, if we did get one
21 incidentally that was not on our list, enforcement out
22 there is going to be able to see it and see that we're not
23 really targeting that one species that we did get that's
24 not on the list. I don't think they're really going to,
25 you know, cite us for us and all that. And that was our
26 concern before, but we're not worried about that any more.

27
28 MR. SMITH: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I was
29 -- I just don't understand why a region would want to go
30 through this process, and why they would intentionally
31 limit themselves. And I guess that's the -- you know, and
32 then my feelings in the Tetlin National Wildlife Refuge,
33 that's the first time in context that I've seen this, and
34 then once again, it hasn't been presented to our region,
35 Doug, you know. You talked about the new reform process,
36 and that didn't occur on this. Certainly it hasn't been
37 vetted in my region. And I wasn't ever talked to about
38 this list personally. So I -- you know, and I'm not real
39 sure how the process was done, and I'm not sure it's
40 representative and all that stuff, so.....

41
42 In regards to the list, I just think, and,
43 you know, I've said this before at these meetings, that we
44 start doing regional lists, there's no reason for it. If
45 you do not hunt those birds in your region, fine, don't
46 hunt them. But why ruin the opportunity or why complicate
47 the issue by limiting -- you know, by making a line down
48 some river somewhere that says these birds are going to be
49 harvested on this side, but you can't harvest them on that
50 side. And that's -- you know, and I don't understand why

1 people would do that.

2

3 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Well, now, Mike,
4 another reason that we want to do it is they feel why have
5 all these birds on this list that we do not harvest. It's
6 not making a line down one river or the other, that these
7 birds are on this side and that side. If there's birds on
8 the other side of the river, obviously we're going to hunt
9 them. But it also helps ease down there on the Pacific
10 Flyway and also the SRC to show them and all these other
11 groups out there that are against us and opposing us of
12 harvesting these ducks, it's showing them that we do not
13 take every bird on this list in each region. That also
14 helps that way.

15

16 And I'll tell you what, it's a big relief
17 for them when we mention it down there, you know. And we
18 talk about this just about every time we go down there.
19 And it's a big help that way for the Audubon people, hey,
20 that's great, you guys are not -- you know, you guys are
21 not -- you know, they think everybody up here in each
22 region is targeting every one of them ducks on this list of
23 birds. That's the way they see it down there. And I feel
24 if we do this coming out of our region or wherever, it
25 would really ease that mind a lot and it will probably lay
26 back a lot of other stuff on us that they're, you know,
27 giving us.

28

29 Thank you.

30

31 Ralph.

32

33 MR. ANDERSEN: Mr. Chairman, I stepped out
34 of the room for a minute. Are we considering the proposal,
35 what's in the book here after -- I mean, are we considering
36 this here?

37

38 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: No, no, it was just
39 there for discussion along with my report, to show somebody
40 else that.....

41

42 MR. ANDERSEN: Thank you.

43

44 MR. ARMSTRONG: Could I interject?

45

46 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Yes, Fred.

47

48 MR. ARMSTRONG: Thank you, Mr. Chair. You
49 know, this proposal was before the Council I think last
50 spring, and there was several proposals that were

1 introduced. One of them, you know -- the others were the
2 exclusion petitions. So, Mike, this is nothing new. This
3 was brought before the Council before.

4
5 This was -- you know, because at the last
6 meeting the Council requested a report on regional bird
7 lists, and if some regions -- you know, these regulations
8 are not -- the regional regs are not statewide. They
9 pertain to a region, so if they feel that they want to go
10 with a regional bird list, I mean, you know, we have to
11 honor that. It's their option, but this is nothing new.

12
13 MR. SMITH: Mr. Chairman, if I might
14 respond. Thank you. This proposal is then just -- you
15 know, I mean, we defeated this proposal last year, and then
16 you're just going to send it again this year then?

17
18 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: No.

19
20 MR. SMITH: If -- I still haven't -- you
21 know, I didn't see how this list was developed, Fred. You
22 know, I mean, I guess that's the point I was trying to
23 make. Additionally I appreciate the fact that the region
24 wants to go to his list. I'm just pointing out that I
25 think the rationale is faulty, and that they should
26 reconsider it.

27
28 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Right. But, yeah,
29 before you come on, Ralph, we did -- this has been brought
30 up two years ago, four years ago, I think, Ralph, also that
31 we were supposed to take this statewide list and go back to
32 our region. I don't think you were around then, Mike, when
33 the process first started on this. When.....

34
35 MR. SMITH: (Indiscernible - no microphone
36 on)

37
38 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Yeah. Okay. Well, I
39 thought you said you didn't know, but, okay. Ralph.

40
41 Thank you.

42
43 MR. ANDERSEN: Well, the point that I
44 wanted to make was that if you take a look at the minutes,
45 page five, you know, where the proposal was deferred, I'm
46 wondering if the process hasn't been followed, I'm
47 wondering what it's doing back on the agenda again. If the
48 process hasn't been followed, if the Regional Councils
49 especially from -- you know, I understand yours had
50 considered it, but if the Regional Council from the

1 Interior hasn't reviewed the list, and they're the ones
2 that are being affected by the proposal, that if -- you
3 know, if that process hasn't been followed, then I suggest
4 we -- you know, we defer it again until the process has
5 been followed. I'd rather not see -- you know, have it be
6 considered by the Council until it has.

7

8 MR. ARMSTRONG: Mr. Chair, if I may?

9

10 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Yeah, Fred.

11

12 MR. ARMSTRONG: Yeah, this agenda item is
13 just a report. there's no action required. The Council
14 directed us to come up with a -- for Herman to report on
15 his regional bird list efforts, and also directed us to
16 provide the Tetlin bird list, and that's what we're going.
17 There's no action required by the Council.

18

19 MR. ANDERSEN: Okay. I understand that.
20 Then why did the proposal print in the book I guess is the
21 question.

22

23 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: All right. Okay.
24 Let me clarify that, Ralph, real quick. I used that right
25 now as an example of how we were doing ours. That's the
26 only thing. That's why I brought it up. That's why it's
27 here. That's the only reason it's sitting here.

28

29 MR. ANDERSEN: Okay. So no action is
30 required.

31

32 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: No action is required
33 on this.

34

35 MR. ANDERSEN: Okay.

36

37 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: No. Thank you.

38 Austin.

39

40 MR. AHMASUK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
41 Okay. I've got that no action cleared up, but I can see
42 some of Mike's points, but then I also respect the fact
43 that your region is crafting regulations specific to your
44 area, and actually can buy into it, because it actually
45 avoids some of the concerns that Mike has. The Kodiak
46 Island is clearly separated. There is a contiguous
47 boundary with other regions, but it's separated by a large
48 body of water. Other areas where there's pockets of areas,
49 the Southeast region, perhaps the Copper River area, I'm
50 not sure, regarding the issue of contiguous boundaries.

1 Where there aren't, I don't see a problem with the regional
2 lists. But where there are, I can see some of Mr. Smith's
3 concerns. And just will say that. Perhaps that can
4 formulate how we might think about this issue. Topic.

5
6 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: All right. Thank
7 you, Austin. We're not saying that everybody has to do
8 this either, you know. We're just asking to respect the
9 regionals that want to try and do it.

10
11 Thank you.

12
13 If there's no other further discussion,
14 we'd like to go ahead and -- oops, sorry. We have Doug and
15 Matt.

16
17 MR. ROBUS: No.

18
19 MR. ALCORN: Just one I guess point of
20 clarification. I'm reading in the proposal that was
21 submitted last year, and I think the utility of this
22 proposal is to describe the process that was gone through
23 to develop that regional list. I think that was one reason
24 why -- in looking back at the action item one reason why we
25 suggested this be included for discussion. And that was
26 that there were interviews conducted, oral histories taken,
27 and discussions with elders and what not in that region to
28 develop this list, and that's described in the proposal.

29
30 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Thank you, Doug.
31 Yes.

32
33 MR. HICKS: Just a short note there, Mr.
34 Chairman. I remember going back several years ago also
35 when we talked about birds of conversation -- or
36 conservation concerns, stuff like that, you know, that in
37 our particular area we did not make -- we did not want to
38 make a decision on birds that were, let's say, out in the
39 Norton Sound/Bristol Bay area, because we don't really
40 subsist on them, you know, in our particular area. So I
41 remember a big discussion that regard, and saying, why
42 should we make a decision for somebody else when we don't
43 know nothing about it. Anyhow, I do hear the concern in
44 other words, the regional-wide list. And I think maybe it
45 is good in a manner. And I also hear Mike to say why would
46 you want to limit it. So I think it's like tossing a coin
47 up in the air. But it's just a comment, and I want to
48 throw it out.

49
50 With that, I'd indicate a motion for lunch.

1 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Well, we'll go ahead
2 and break for lunch, and come back at 1:45. Thank you.
3
4 (Off record)
5
6 (On record)
7
8 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Can we call the
9 meeting back to order, please. Thank you.
10
11 The next item on the agenda is our
12 executive session, so can we ask the audience to go ahead.
13 We have a key here if you want. There's a conference room
14 over there, got a TV and all that and everything else.
15 It's 4201.
16
17 (Off record)
18
19 (On record)
20
21 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Can call this meeting
22 back to order.
23
24 MR. JACKSON: Yeah, Mr. Chairman.
25
26 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Yes, Gordon.
27
28 MR. JACKSON: I'd like to give notice of
29 reconsideration on the AVCP Proposal No. 1 regarding state
30 license requirement, and I'd like to take it up right now.
31
32 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Yes. I guess if
33 that's your request, I think we could do it.
34
35 MR. AHMASUK: Second.
36
37 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: There's been a motion
38 made and seconded to take up the consideration on the
39 Proposal No. 1 of AVCP. Yeah, Doug.
40
41 MR. ALCORN: I guess a point of order. I
42 think the way that it would have to be done is we would
43 have to suspend the rule of the day to take that up.
44
45 MR. JACKSON: Mr. Chairman, I would like to
46 suspend the rules for the purpose of reconsideration of
47 Proposal No. 1 set forth by the AVCP.
48
49 MR. AHMASUK: Second.
50

1 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Okay. Is that the
2 proper procedure, Doug, or.....
3
4 MR. ALCORN: Mr. Chairman, yeah. We have
5 to vote on the suspension of the rule, which means we set
6 aside the rest of the agenda, and then we take those other
7 -- the other items out of synch I guess. So, yeah, that's
8 the way to do it.
9
10 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: The one that he's
11 proposing right now we'll do.
12
13 MR. ALCORN: Yeah. Well, first we have to
14 vote on suspending the rule, and then we can take up
15 business as proposed.
16
17 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Well, then I guess
18 we've got to go into that procedure then.
19
20 MR. ANDERSEN: Question
21
22 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Ralph.
23
24 MR. ANDERSEN: I call for the question.....
25
26 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Question has been
27 called for.
28
29 MR. ANDERSEN:on the motion to
30 suspend the rule.
31
32 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: The question has been
33 called for. Then I guess we go into the procedure of
34 voting. All those in favor of this signify by saying aye.
35
36 IN UNISON: Aye.
37
38 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: All those opposed.
39
40 (No opposing votes)
41
42 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Gordon.
43
44 MR. JACKSON: With the suspension of the
45 rules, I'd like to reconsider Proposal No. 1 set forth.....
46
47 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: On tab 5.
48
49 MR. JACKSON: On tab 5, as proposed by the
50 Association of Village Council Presidents, No. 1, regarding

1 state license requirement.
2
3 MR. AHMASUK: Second.
4
5 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: The motion's been
6 made and seconded. Is there any discussion. Do we want to
7 have any discussion on it.
8
9 (No comments)
10
11 MR. ANDERSEN: Question.
12
13 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: The question has been
14 called for. And all those signi -- signify by saying aye
15 that are for it.
16
17 IN UNISON: Aye.
18
19 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: All those opposed?
20
21 MR. ALCORN: No.
22
23 MR. ROBUS: No.
24
25 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Thank you. Motion
26 does not carry, we don't have a consensus.
27
28 MR. JACKSON: Mr. Chairman, for the record
29 I'd like to know why they voted against it.
30
31 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Yes, Matt -- Mike,
32 just.....
33
34 MR. SMITH: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
35 Technically we're at a stalemate now as far as the body
36 goes, and so it requires you three guys to take a vote on
37 the issue now.
38
39 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Yeah, that's --
40 you're -- Mike's correct on that, sorry. So I'd like to
41 call a short Native caucus again to see how we're going
42 to.....
43
44 MR. ANDERSEN: Well, you guys will just
45 have to (Indiscernible - away from microphone) process.
46
47 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Yeah.
48
49 MR. ANDERSEN: Mr. Chairman, again I'd like
50 to speak to the process. Mike, I guess right now what it

1 calls for is a roll call vote between the three parties,
2 the Fish and Wildlife Service, the Alaska Department of
3 Fish and Game, and you as the Native representative.
4
5 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Okay. You bet.
6 Thank you. Well, the only reason I said Native caucus,
7 that's the process we normally did before. But I guess we
8 did it earlier. Thank you.
9
10 MR. ARMSTRONG: Mr. Chairman.
11
12 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Yes, please.
13
14 MR. ARMSTRONG: Okay. On the vote for
15 reconsideration on Proposal No. 1, the Native contingent.
16
17 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Just reconsideration
18 or passage or failure.
19
20 MR. ARMSTRONG: For passage, yeah.
21
22 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Passage. Passage,
23 yeah.
24
25 MR. ARMSTRONG: How do you vote.
26
27 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: I vote in favor of
28 it.
29
30 MR. ARMSTRONG: State of Alaska.
31
32 MR. ROBUS: No.
33
34 MR. ARMSTRONG: U.S. Fish and Wildlife
35 Service.
36
37 MR. ALCORN: No.
38
39 MR. ARMSTRONG: So the votes are two nos
40 and one yes. The motion fails.
41
42 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Thank you, Fred.
43
44 MR. JACKSON: For the record, Mr. Chairman,
45 I'd like to know why the State and Federal Government voted
46 against it, and if it's legal. I'd like to know if they
47 can come up with an opinion that basically says how to make
48 it legal.
49
50 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Do you -- Matt and

1 Doug, do you want to respond to that or -- thank you. Yes,
2 Matt.

3

4 MR. ROBUS: Yeah. Yesterday I struggled
5 through an explanation of why I didn't think I could vote
6 for this, and basically it's because State law and
7 regulation as I understand it include hunting of species
8 managed by the State Government as requiring a hunting
9 license. That's my understanding of how we've been advised
10 by the Attorney General's Office. And I met this morning
11 in an attempt to not have to vote no on the proposal so
12 that we could seek clarification and ask what could be done
13 to try to resolve it, but now I've had to vote no.

14

15 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Thank you, Matt.
16 Doug.

17

18 MR. ALCORN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I've
19 explained my position a couple of times in the past, and
20 I'll do it again. We see that State hunting licenses
21 provide three principal things, or they're useful in three
22 particular ways. One is to identify and enumerate the
23 hunters. The other is to manage information regarding
24 those hunters, and the third is that by having a State
25 hunting license, hunters are compelled to respond to
26 surveys when surveyed.

27

28 The Fish and Wildlife Service at our May
29 meeting took the position that we could support this
30 proposal if -- oh, excuse me, the third reason was to
31 generate conservation revenue to the State. Managing
32 information regarding hunters, compelling hunters to
33 respond to surveys, and the third was to provide money and
34 resources to the State for conservation purposes.

35

36 The Fish and Wildlife Service took the
37 position that we would support the proposal if the data
38 needs were satisfied and the needs for enumerating hunters
39 and identifying hunters was satisfied, and also surveying
40 those hunters was satisfied. And the way that that motion
41 I believe last May -- or March, excuse me, was made, and
42 decided by this Council, was that the maker or the proposer
43 would work with his peers and come back and recommend, for
44 lack of a better way to describe it, some process to manage
45 that information. And that process has not been identified
46 nor demonstrated, and so I have nothing but this proposal
47 to go on, so I can't support it.

48

49 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Thank you, Doug.
50 Well, that -- yes, Myron.

1 MR. NANENG: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. For
2 information of everyone, there's a Board of Fisheries
3 sanctioned fisheries license exemption in the AVCP region.
4 And, you know, there is this precedence that already
5 exists, and I would request that if Matt or Doug look into
6 that, it -- also look into that as part of the reasoning of
7 why our people should be exempt from the State hunting
8 requirements. So there are some other things that are
9 already in existence that can be used as references to
10 allow for this to happen. So I just wanted to share that.

11

12 Thank you.

13

14 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Thank you, Myron.
15 Mike, I think we're going to be kind of out of turn here if
16 we start discussing a lot of this stuff here, so.....

17

18 MR. SMITH: I appreciate that, Mr.
19 Chairman. I would just like to seek a clarification from
20 Doug, because we're getting competing opinions out of the
21 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in regards to the denial of
22 permits based upon survey -- some sort of survey
23 requirement. Certainly that doesn't occur in subsistence
24 hunts, Tier II subsistence hunts, that doesn't happen. So
25 the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service through this body has
26 taken a much stricter interpretation and stricter stance
27 than in other areas, such as Tier II moose hunts. So I'd
28 like to seek some clarification out of the U.S. Fish and
29 Wildlife Service, their position on the denial of permits
30 to certifying subsistence users if they do not turn in some
31 sort of harvest survey.

32

33 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Yes, Doug, do you
34 want to respond to that?

35

36 MR. ALCORN: State licenses provide managers
37 with lots of information regarding who hunts, their
38 successive -- success in hunting, they can manage harvest
39 information, and this proposal is not offering any
40 alternative to that. I don't know that I'm holding
41 subsistence users for migratory birds to any higher
42 standard. All I am suggesting is, is the proposal as it
43 stands suggests that there be no longer a requirement of a
44 State hunting license, and based on what State hunting
45 licenses do, and the information that they provide, we
46 would like to see something in its place to provide similar
47 information, and we're not satisfied that that is in place
48 right now.

49

50 MR. SMITH: That one -- Mr. Chairman, but,

1 Doug, that doesn't speak why you would require that they
2 lose their permit if they don't respond to a service --
3 harvest survey.

4
5 You know, additionally the information you
6 seek -- I just want -- I mean, I'm sorry, about this, Mr.
7 Chairman, but I just have to say that, Doug, I think your
8 rationale is just a little flawed. One, the licenses do
9 not distinguish between a bird hunter and a moose hunter
10 and so on and so forth. Additionally the informational
11 requirements as far as harvest goes, that come out of
12 survey information that we can do.

13
14 Your stance on that, if they do not
15 complete those surveys that they lose their ability to hunt
16 is a unique stance as far as the U.S. Fish and Wildlife
17 Service goes, and I say that in regards to the other
18 proposals in regards to that type of thing, that the Fish
19 and Wildlife Service has not taken the stance that the
20 permits would -- you would not -- you would lose your
21 subsistence rights if you did not submit those through a
22 survey.

23
24 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Yes, Doug.

25
26 MR. ALCORN: I guess -- thank you, Mr.
27 Chair. I guess for the record, I don't recall ever saying
28 that a hunter would lose the right to hunt if they didn't
29 provide that survey information. At least we certainly
30 wouldn't deny that.

31
32 MR. SMITH: Well, what would be the
33 requirement to have them participate in the survey then?
34 What would the effect of that be? Inconsequential?

35
36 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Yeah. Thank you,
37 Doug and Mike. Maybe we could get back to the agenda here
38 now without any more surprises. Or, we've got one more
39 over there, Gordon.

40
41 MR. JACKSON: I just wanted to comment, Mr.
42 Chairman. This is an item we've been deferring for quite a
43 while, and one of the reasons why I brought it up for
44 reconsideration is that I really do think there are
45 solutions out there. There's a similar subsistence
46 proposal worked on over the last three years by the Halibut
47 Working Group that just required a one-page application on
48 the part of Alaska Natives, and was sent in to the National
49 Marine Fisheries, and everybody received a green card. It
50 took us thousands of years to get a green card, but at

1 least we got that. One of these days we'll be citizens.
2 But anyway, what happens is that you have the opportunity
3 to halibut -- subsistence fish for halibut, and a lot of us
4 did. and after the season, we get surveys, and basically
5 we outlined how much we caught through use of logs and
6 things like that. And no one to my knowledge has ever
7 violated the trust that is basically in that subsistence
8 halibut provision. And I'm not surprised that the
9 commercial fishermen are trying to knock down the
10 percentage of halibut this next year. And they'll continue
11 to do that even without the statistics coming up.

12
13 But I think there are real easy ways to
14 solve this. And I think that this is one way, a green card
15 that basically after the season's over requires people to
16 report, and does not require a halibut stamp. It -- all it
17 requires is trust in people who have carried out their
18 subsistence way of life for thousands of years. And I just
19 to not think anybody has violated that right to my
20 knowledge, and we monitor it very carefully.

21
22 Anyway, Mr. Chairman, I just wanted to
23 bring this out and bring it out for the record.

24
25 Thank you very much.

26
27 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Thank you, Gordon.
28 Hopefully we can get back to the agenda now and then with
29 the Council's consent, without any alarms going up here, I
30 would like to try to accommodate a few people coming down
31 on the agenda here, that they have to make other meetings
32 and doctor's appointments, if we could -- if I could
33 rearrange that little section just a little bit. I would
34 like to have Karen Laing come up first, she's down on c.
35 We'll try to move her up. And then after that have Donna
36 do hers, and then Gary Goldberg, and then the bird banding
37 one, Tom and them, four. If that's okay with everybody on
38 the Council. Yes, Myron.

39
40 MR. NANENG: In that case, Mr. Chairman, I
41 move to the suspension of the rules to change the agenda.

42
43 MS. HEPA: Second.

44
45 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Thank you. There was
46 a motion made and seconded. All those -- or question.

47
48 MS. HEPA: Question.

49
50 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: The question's been

1 called for. All those in favor signify by saying aye.

2

3

IN UNISON: Aye.

4

5

CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Thank you for
6 correcting me in the right procedures. Okay. Karen, it
7 sounds like you're up.

8

9

MS. LAING: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and
10 I'd also like to thank the Council very much for letting me
11 come before you. I'll be very brief.

12

My name is Karen Laing, and I've got a new
13 position at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service I just
14 wanted to let you know about, because I hope to work with
15 this group in the future. I'm eider coordinator, as you
16 can see on the card, and I'd like to just give you a brief
17 background on what that is, let you know how I hope to work
18 with you, and then answer any questions. But it should be
19 real short.

20

21

22

We have two species of eiders that are
23 listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act. I
24 think you guys are familiar with spectacled and Stellar's
25 eiders. I think you've all gotten this little ID guide,
26 and that was actually inspired by a discussion that Phillip
27 Martin had with you last year, and talking with Herman
28 about identification of these eiders. And this has been
29 produced in the last year to help identify those species,
30 as well as the two other eiders. And we're distributing
31 that, and I have more of them available. And if any of you
32 have needs to have them, I can give you bunches of them to
33 pass out to people. So we hope that they can be
34 distributed.

35

36

Both eiders are listed under the Endangered
37 Species Act, which means they have a recovery plan in place
38 which gives recovery goals for getting them back off the
39 list, and also a list of tasks that should be done to
40 recover the populations of the eiders. These have been in
41 place for a long time, up to 10 years for the spectacled
42 eiders, and since 1997 when the Stellar's was listed. We
43 have a recovery team that's made up of biologists both
44 inside and outside the government that advise the service
45 on how to do those tasks and what tasks should be high
46 priority for recovering eiders.

47

48

Robert Suydam with the North Slope Borough
49 is on that team, and they meet periodically to update
50 tasks. But they've never had anybody to make sure tasks

1 got done, and so finally this year a new position was
2 created called eider recovery coordinator. So it's my job
3 to try to see as many of those tasks get done as possible
4 so that we can move the eiders toward recovering, get them
5 off the list.

6
7 The most important tasks that relate to
8 your work are that for both species I've got tasks that say
9 we should do outreach, and continue and improve outreach
10 about not harvesting the two listed species of eiders. We
11 also have recovery tasks that encourage both outreach to
12 encourage people not to use lead shot in hunting all
13 waterfowls, since those -- the use of lead shot
14 particularly on the Yukon Delta has been shown to affect
15 spectacled eiders in particular, and probably Stellar's as
16 well, and maybe actually influencing their population.
17 I'll just add on the side that there's new information
18 we're hoping to get out soon that also indicate that if you
19 -- when people eat birds shot with lead shot, we actually
20 risk some exposure to lead. So there are lots of reasons
21 not to use lead shot, and we're hoping to increase our
22 outreach. And I'd love to work with you on outreach
23 projects to do these things.

24
25 There are other things, other outreach
26 items as well. Minimizing ATV use or controlling ATV use,
27 and I know that's a big concern for some of you in your
28 regions. And also a topic that Myron mentioned yesterday
29 in terms of making sure that researchers are aware of
30 disturbance and take of eiders that they might make in the
31 course of their work. And that would extend to the marine
32 area as well as researchers on breeding grounds or
33 elsewhere.

34
35 So we're hoping to do more of that
36 outreach, and Donna spoke with you yesterday about a
37 committee you guys are going to work on to develop the
38 issues that are most important to you on those topics. I
39 would love to be working with you after you -- that
40 committee works on your topics and I will be involved with
41 the outreach team that Donna mentioned that we hope some of
42 you will then be on, so that we can all work together for
43 these overlapping needs to do outreach on these projects.

44
45 There are all kind of other activities we
46 work on with eiders having to do with research, monitoring,
47 management actions, including looking at some predator
48 control in some area, and I'm happy to talk with you
49 individually at any time, any questions you have about
50 that, suggestions, concerns you have on any topics related

1 to these eiders.

2

3 I think that's about it, unless you have
4 any questions.

5

6 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Thank you. Anybody
7 have questions. Austin.

8

9 MR. AHMASUK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman,
10 thank you, Ms. Laing. In the harvest technical committee
11 on the 12th, you had joined our committee meeting, and
12 there was some mention of the Endangered Species Act, the
13 specific listing of the eiders you mentioned, as well as
14 our spring and summer migratory bird regulations. Could
15 you advise the Council or inform the Council on these
16 concerns, and how at least the initial concern that was
17 brought up in our work session yesterday, how that applied
18 now, and maybe how we could kind of come to realize how
19 this concern for these listed eiders should play out for
20 this year, specifically the harvest survey.

21

22 MS. LAING: I'm not sure what your question
23 is about the harvest survey. Oh, the -- oh, okay. I think
24 I know what your question is.

25

26 There are actually two different sort of
27 driving forces in terms of the harvest survey for eiders.
28 First of all, my job in recovery is to do these recovery
29 tasks, and one of my recovery tasks is to get good harvest
30 information on the eiders, so I have a need to know that,
31 and the recovery team wants us to have good information so
32 that they can better evaluate recovery and what recovery
33 tasks need to happen. So that's my interest, and that's
34 one reason I'm grateful that Austin let me come and talk to
35 the -- or listen to the harvest survey committee, and I
36 hope to continue to be able to follow what you guys are
37 doing there.

38

39 In addition, there's another process that
40 happens under the Endangered Species Act that I don't do,
41 and that's whenever a Federal agency has any kind of action
42 that could affect a listed species, and that could be, you
43 know, MMS doing lease sales, or, you know, any kind of
44 action where there may be an effect on eiders, that agency,
45 that entity consults with the endangered species folks, and
46 at the Fish and Wildlife Service. And in this case there
47 is then a biological opinion that the Endangered Species
48 Group does each year relating to that action and evaluating
49 what will happen. And in the biological opinion on the
50 harvest, which is a federal action, the there recommended

1 conservation measures which state that they need good
2 harvest information as well as these outreach needs that we
3 talked about.

4
5 So those -- both of those needs are driving
6 our interest in getting really good harvest information for
7 the listed species of eiders, and the area we have the
8 least information for so far has been the North Slope, so
9 we're particularly interested in kind of filling that area,
10 because we know least about harvest on the North Slope, and
11 we're working with you folks to do that. But we're
12 interested in good harvest information for all the areas,
13 and we understand that's difficult. These are rare species
14 and the system that you guys have set up to do harvest
15 surveys by necessity has to be best for more common
16 species. That may require special studies to look in areas
17 where these rarer species are to get good information.
18 We're more than willing to work with you to try to find
19 other types of fundings or ways to do that, and look
20 forward to doing that.

21
22 And that's one of the things on all these
23 topics, including outreach, that I will be doing, and
24 that's looking for partners to find funding, including
25 grants where we need partners to get things done. So I'm
26 hoping to think big on all these ways. I think there are
27 ways we can get money if we work together as partners.

28
29 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Thank you, Karen.
30 Are there any more questions for Karen. Mike.

31
32 MR. SMITH: Yeah, just for my own
33 edification, eiders are harvested elsewhere other than
34 Alaska?

35
36 MS. LAING: Yes. Spectacled and Stellar's
37 eiders are harvested in Russia.

38
39 MR. SMITH: Okay. And there is subsistence
40 harvest allowed under the Endangered Species Act?

41
42 MS. LAING: Yes. The harvest of listed
43 species in Alaska is an exemption in the ESA, so it's not
44 illegal to subsistence hunt those two species under the
45 Endangered Species Act.

46
47 MR. SMITH: So as long as that bird appears
48 on our lists, then it's okay for us to harvest. As soon as
49 that bird comes off our list and is an endangered
50 species, we can no longer harvest it, I guess.

1 MS. LAING: No, your list is working under
2 the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. It is -- these two species
3 are closed and therefore illegal to hunt under the
4 Migratory Bird Treaty Act. They are not illegal to hunt
5 under the Endangered Species Act. But the Migratory Bird
6 Treaty Act has precedence in this area, and so it is
7 illegal to take eider. It's just not illegal under the
8 ESA. It's illegal under the MBTA.

9
10 MR. SMITH: Okay. Thank you. Mr.
11 Chairman, that's just a clarification I wanted, because it
12 was kind of interesting, because when we were developing
13 the list, we were told that these birds were on the
14 Endangered Species list and that we shouldn't put them on
15 our lists, when in fact I guess it's apparently the other
16 way around from what you just indicated.

17
18 MS. LAING: Should put them on what list?

19
20 MR. SMITH: On our harvest lists.

21
22 MS. LAING: Well, I think the fact that
23 they're listed and rare and in trouble is a good reason --
24 is the reason that it was discussed for not having them on
25 your open list, but it's not illegal under the ESA.

26
27 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Go ahead, Fred.

28
29 MR. ARMSTRONG: Well, just to clarify.
30 They're on the birds open to harvest list. They're just
31 closed to hunting.

32
33 MS. LAING: Okay. Thank you for that
34 clarification.

35
36 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Yeah, Karen, we want
37 to thank you. And I want to go ahead and give you --
38 somebody a thank you for this, because I'd completely
39 forgot all about it. It's been -- I've been waiting for it
40 for so long I guess, it finally appeared. Whoever.....

41
42 MS. LAING: Well, I have a couple.....

43
44 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF:did it, thanks.

45
46 MS. LAING:hundred of them here if
47 someone would like a couple packets, I can hand some out.
48 But otherwise just contact me from the card and I can get
49 you more.

50

1 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: All right. Thank
2 you.
3
4 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Your middle name isn't
5 D by -- start with a D by chance, does it?
6
7 MS. LAING: No.
8
9 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Okay. The next one,
10 next person coming up would be Donna Dewhurst on draft
11 agreement.
12
13 MS. DEWHURST: Okay. I think everybody has
14 the grants. We're just going to go over -- there's some
15 fairly substantial changes in the grants this year, and
16 they're in the bold yellow highlighting as you go through
17 the grants, so we'll go on to what will be about page three
18 where it says what -- under responsibilities of the
19 parties, and this would be the responsibility of the
20 grantees. The main emphasis here is that some of the
21 grantees were not doing regional management body meetings.
22 And so we're emphasizing that there should be a minimum of
23 two regional management body meetings each year.
24
25 And the other big thing is these meetings
26 have to be open to the public, which that's always said
27 that in there, but we haven't emphasized it. So if you
28 hold a teleconference, we're not saying you can't hold a
29 teleconference, but it means you have to still do some sort
30 of an announcement to the public either by a radio PSA or
31 in your local newspaper or something, and then also have a
32 call-in phone number that the public can call in and be
33 part of your teleconference, and listen in and add to it or
34 whatever. So it doesn't mean you can't have
35 teleconferences, but you have to have some means for the
36 public to participate. So that's the scoop there.
37
38 The next thing's basically the same. It
39 just outlines what has to be provided under the grants for
40 the meetings.
41
42 Number 4 is new in that we are requesting
43 that you give the support office, Fred Armstrong's office
44 copies of the announcement of your meeting at least 10 days
45 in advance, so you either fax a copy of it, or e-mail it to
46 us or something, so that we know. The main purpose of that
47 is so we can pass it on to the agencies. As we've talked
48 about today, it's important that the agencies can
49 participate at the regional level, and one of the
50 complaints we've received from the agencies is they don't

1 know when the meetings are. So we'll act as the
2 intermediary for you, but we need to know, we need the
3 announcement so we can pass it on and make sure that the
4 pertinent refuges, national parks, national forests,
5 whoever know about the meetings, and if they want to
6 participate, they can. So we'll take care of that part of
7 it for you, but we need to have the announcements 10
8 working days prior to when you're going to have your
9 meeting. And then that also shows us, if we're getting a
10 copy of whatever your public announcement is, that you did
11 do public announcements.

12

13 Let's see. Number 5 is basically the same.

14

15 If you skip over to (e) under payment
16 provisions, I'm not going to go into detail on this. I
17 think Gary might be touching on it. Are you doing CCR?
18 Yeah. So Gary will go over the CCR in the next
19 presentation. It's a new requirement to register, and it
20 gives the detailed information on how to do that.

21

22 Then probably the last major change, and
23 this one we worked out. We have some flexibility as the
24 managers of the grants as far as what we require for
25 reporting. In the past we required a mid year report and
26 an end of the year report. And the bottom line was we
27 would get maybe one or two mid year reports, and about half
28 of the end of the year reports. People aren't sending in
29 reports. And we talked about what's the purpose of the mid
30 year, and we really couldn't come up with a really good
31 purpose for it. So we basically got rid of the mid year
32 report. And now what we're saying though is after you have
33 your regional management body meeting, we would like a
34 summary of that meeting within two months after the
35 meeting. So some sort of -- and it doesn't have to be long
36 and detailed, just you had it on this date, these are the
37 People that participated, these are the things that were
38 discussed. You know, it can be short and sweet, but we
39 just need some sort of after -- within 60 days after the
40 meeting, some sort of a summary of the meeting.

41

42 And then at the end of the year we still do
43 need an end of the year report, and that should actually be
44 pretty easy. If you've turned in the meeting summaries,
45 you could throw those together with a little bit more, and
46 that's your end of the year report. So it could be
47 duplicative a little bit, and no big deal.

48

49 But that's the difference. We took -- got
50 rid of the requirement for a mid year report, but we did

1 add that we wanted some sort of meeting summaries within
2 two months after the meetings.

3
4 So that's the main thing. The main
5 emphasis is that the meetings have to be public, you have
6 to do some sort of public announcements. It can be flyers,
7 radio PSAs, local newspapers, whatever is the best way to
8 get the word out to your folks. Send a copy of whatever
9 you're doing to us so we know 10 days in advance and can
10 get the word out that the meeting's going to happen. And
11 then two months -- sometime within two months after the
12 meeting's over, we need some sort of a brief summary of the
13 meeting. So that's the new requirements.

14
15 And a lot of these have always been here,
16 but we haven't enforced them. End of the year reports were
17 due in August 31st, and I think we still only have about
18 half of them. So we can be really hard nosed about this,
19 but we haven't been in the past. And the problem we ran
20 into is people were asking us for the information, and it's
21 not in the files. So we were getting kind of dinged on it,
22 because we couldn't -- we weren't enforcing it. So we will
23 be looking at this a little more and trying to coerce
24 people to turn in the reports.

25
26 That's it for me.

27
28 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: All right. Thank
29 you, Donna. Anybody have any questions for her. Myron.

30
31 MR. NANENG: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It's
32 not necessarily a question for Donna, but I think it's a
33 question for the State. If at some point that you're
34 required to collect license fees for, and it's imposed upon
35 us, is there a possibility of the State making some of that
36 money available to us that we can be able to work with it
37 at the regional levels as part of the co-management
38 function. I'm just raising that question, because of the
39 reasons stated, the three things that Doug stated, you
40 know, this is what the license does. It gathers
41 information of who the hunters are, it provides for
42 conservation funding, but, you know, if they don't
43 participate in some way with the conservation issues, I
44 don't think that would be in any way supporting the
45 conservation efforts that we're having as a co-management
46 body.

47
48 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Yeah, Matt, the
49 reason Mike's -- or Myron's asking this is he's going to
50 have to leave here shortly, so thank you.

1 MR. ROBUS: Mr. Chairman, Myron, I'd say it
2 might not be simple, but it's definitely a possibility. I
3 frankly hadn't thought to ask that question of my
4 administrative people, but that seems to be -- well, the
5 way the license money is handled, it has to go into a main
6 fund, and it's not -- you can't dedicate money that we take
7 in to a particular activity, but we certainly could try to
8 find a similar amount of money in our budget and dedicate
9 it to that type of purpose. Or allocate it to that type of
10 purpose, so, yeah, it's a possibility, but I'd have to look
11 into the details of how it would be done.

12
13 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Thank Matt. Is there
14 any other questions for Donna. Yes. Joe.

15
16 MR. HICKS: Mr. Chairman, Donna, real quick
17 here. Donna, just real quickly here, going through all
18 this here, I see that it's pretty much the same as it has
19 been in the past. CRNA is the actual representative.

20
21 MS. DEWHURST: Yeah.

22
23 MR. HICKS: The grantee, administrator of
24 the grant, and essentially they are the ones whose job or
25 responsibility it is to do all the paperwork, to do
26 whatever it is that's necessary to get the meeting up and
27 running the way it's supposed to, am I correct?

28
29 MS. DEWHURST: Uh-huh. (Affirmative)

30
31 MR. HICKS: Okay. Again I would ask the
32 question that I asked earlier, is that how can the Fish and
33 Wildlife Service assess me in getting or making sure that
34 it is done? Because at this particular point I can't even
35 get a budget from them, which you will be able to assess me
36 in that regards.

37
38 MS. DEWHURST: There are -- we do have some
39 enforcement prerogatives in that if things aren't getting
40 done, like public announcements aren't getting out, or
41 people's travel is not getting paid to go to the meetings,
42 or anything along that line, you need to let us know, and
43 grounds -- we have to, of course, give any grantee some
44 fair chance, some fair opportunity to correct their ways,
45 but if ways aren't corrected, we do have some legal
46 ramifications that we can either -- we have a lot of
47 options I guess. We can suspend the grant, we can --
48 there's a lot of things we can do, but usually we like to
49 give the grantee a chance or more than one chance to amend
50 their ways before we go that far.

1 MR. HICKS: Okay. Well, I do hear you that
2 my -- you know, I do encourage you to please help me out
3 here.
4
5 And on another matter under, what is it,
6 page -- there's no page on it, but anyway it says where
7 CRNA will coordinate with the following villages.
8
9 MS. DEWHURST: Uh-huh.
10
11 MR. HICKS: I see you have here Glennallen.
12
13 MS. DEWHURST: That was a request from CRNA
14 to add that to their grant.
15
16 MR. HICKS: And what happened to the Native
17 Village of Kluti Kaah.
18
19 MS. DEWHURST: The Native.....
20
21 MR. HICKS: Because Glennallen is not an
22 eligible community.
23
24 MS. DEWHURST: I know. That was -- they
25 requested that to be part of their grant. And we had a
26 letter from them, from Tony Lee, requesting that. I think
27 that was who it was from. We had a letter, because I did
28 that based on a letter. There was a letter that was
29 requesting that.
30
31 MR. HICKS: That is incorrect.
32
33 MS. DEWHURST: I could show you the letter.
34
35 MR. HICKS: It needs to be fixed. It needs
36 to fixed.
37
38 MS. DEWHURST: Yeah, I can show you the
39 letter. It's based on a request.
40
41 MR. HICKS: Can you get me a copy of that?
42
43 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Yeah, Joe, yeah, I
44 don't mean to cut in, but maybe you could discuss this with
45 Donna.....
46
47 MS. DEWHURST: Yeah, we can deal with it.
48
49 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF:at a separate.
50 It's not the time to do it now.

1 MR. HICKS: Okay.
2
3 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Thank you.
4
5 MR. HICKS: Thanks.
6
7 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: I have Patty and then
8 Ralph, and then Taqulik.
9
10 MS. BROWN-SCHWALENBERG: I just had a quick
11 question for you, Donna, under the responsibilities of the
12 parties. Earlier when we went over the budget, there --
13 additional funding was provided to the Migratory Bird
14 Office for travel to the regional management body meetings,
15 but I don't see that listed as a responsibility of the
16 Service. Is that considered a Service responsibility, or
17 is that something else out off Fred's shop?
18
19 MS. DEWHURST: Well, if we travel, we pay
20 for it ourselves. It doesn't come out of your money.
21
22 MS. BROWN-SCHWALENBERG: I know, but the
23 way I.....
24
25 MS. DEWHURST: And there is going to be
26 more of an effort.....
27
28 MS. BROWN-SCHWALENBERG: There isn't
29 anything requiring you to do that if it's not in the grant
30 agreement. That's what I'm saying.
31
32 MS. DEWHURST: That's a good point. that's
33 a good -- It could be added in.
34
35 MS. BROWN-SCHWALENBERG: I would recommend
36 that.
37
38 MS. DEWHURST: Okay. It's a valid point.
39
40 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Thank you, Patty.
41 Ralph and then Taqulik.
42
43 MR. ANDERSEN: Mr. Chairman, just in the
44 interest of time, I think that review -- if we're going to
45 be reviewing our individual cooperative agreements, I think
46 this would be an inappropriate time to do that, especially
47 during a public session. I believe that these types of
48 meetings should have been held individually with us, where
49 reviewing our individual cooperative agreements could have
50 been done more on a one-on-one and in a more private type

1 of session. That I think -- you know, I'm uncomfortable
2 with talking about any of the components of my coop -- of
3 the cooperative agreement with me. There are some others
4 that have raised questions regarding their individual
5 cooperative agreements, and I think it's just inappropriate
6 for us to be considering these things, especially in a
7 public session. I think it might be more appropriate for
8 us to schedule a time where we review each of our -- after
9 we've had a chance to review the cooperative agreements, if
10 we have any questions or suggestions that we be given time
11 to raise those issues.

12
13 I also thing that, you know, while it's
14 useful information, that you know, since I'm not involved,
15 you know, in the bean counting part, or the accounting part
16 of my cooperative agreement, while I do know we have a DUNS
17 number, for example, I mean, the train that's coming up
18 next, I think it should be handled in more of a workshop
19 setting involving those that are more involved in the
20 adminis -- you know, in the accounting function or the
21 finance function of our organizations, that this
22 information while I say it's useful to us, that I think
23 it's -- you know, I think it's really not an appropriate
24 time now for us to review our cooperative agreements and
25 then go to a training session. While I appreciate Mr.
26 Goldberg coming out to do that for us, I think it would be
27 more appropriate to reschedule it in more of a workshop
28 setting.

29
30 Thank you.

31
32 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Yeah, thank you.
33 Right. That's why I kind of cut Joe off a while ago, so --
34 Taqulik, did you have a question for Donna?

35
36 MS. HEPA: No, I have to agree with Ralph,
37 that his comments that he.....

38
39 MR. ANDERSEN: Your mic.

40
41 MS. HEPA: Thank you. I agree with Ralph's
42 comments I think.

43
44 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: All right. Thank
45 you. Any other further questions for Donna.

46
47 (No comments)

48
49 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: If not, thank you
50 very much, Donna, and you're all doing a good job. I don't

1 envy any of your Staff's jobs.

2

3

Thank you.

4

5

CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: The next one will be grant compliance with Gary Goldberg. Please step forward.

6

7

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MR. SMITH: Mr. Chairman, I'd like to welcome Mr. Goldberg. I have talked to him for years on the phone. I've never met him in person. So, welcome.

MR. GOLDBERG: Thank you. Thank you, Mike. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Members of the council. My name is Gary Goldberg. I'm your grants officer within the Division of Contracting and General Services for the Fish and Wildlife Service.

And, Ralph, I do understand the point you made, and as such, I will not cover these four pages point-by-point. But I just want to paint the larger picture of what's going on for you here. Okay.

Public Law 106107 is the Federal Financial Assistance Management Improvement Act. That was passed in 1997. From my perspective, it went basically nowhere until 2003, and that's when it started pressing in on Alaska and all the grants and cooperative agreements we administer. It's really kicked into high gear for 2004. The things that I'm going to talk about today were not generated by the Fish and Wildlife Service, were not generated by the DOI. These were all initiated by the Office of Management and Budget when they issued finally policy directives, sometimes taking the lead from the largest grant-making agencies. They have bearing across all Federal agencies.

You'll notice I'll be talking a lot about standardizing grants, programs and so forth between the different Federal agencies. That has an affect of simplifying some grant programs, but raising the complexity of other grant programs, because some programs weren't up to the minimum Federal standard as far as fiscal accountability and programmatic accountability goes.

So out of this first paragraph, the overall goal was to develop procedures which cut across agencies and reduce the differences between the programs of similar purposes. There's a move to the electronic commerce. Within the Fish and Wildlife Service initially our grants were supposed to be going on to the Federal

1 Business Management System in March of 2005. That's been
2 pushed back now to October 2006, because they realize we've
3 got a long way to go within the Service, let alone other
4 Federal agencies to standardize the grants, the reporting,
5 things along these lines.

6
7 Eventually, probably within three or four
8 years, we'll be doing business electronically with you.
9 The grants will be electronic. Your money requests will be
10 electronic. That's the reason we're having people enroll
11 their DUNS number in these data bases. The finance system
12 is going to become a common finance system. We'll probably
13 be moving over to a system that Health and Human Services
14 uses that many of your grants people are familiar with. So
15 standardization really becomes important as well as
16 registering in all of the required data bases.

17
18 In the grants that I sent out to your
19 administrators this year, I did include instructions for
20 all the registry, now to obtain the free numbers, how to
21 register and what we need. So they're already trained up
22 and they're more than welcome to call me if they do have
23 questions on that.

24
25 Okay. We've probably covered the first
26 page right here. Let's flip over to the second page. I
27 want to touch on this.

28
29 Another effect of Public Law 106107 is a
30 mandatory announcement of all grant and cooperative
31 agreement opportunities. I should say all domestic grant
32 and cooperative agreement opportunities on grants.gov. In
33 the past Federal agencies always had to complete -- compete
34 contracts and purchase orders. We have the ability to
35 unilaterally direct Federal assistance without any public
36 announcements and without competition. That's no longer
37 the case now, except if it's a Congressional appropriation
38 earmarked for a specific group, or as we did for the 2005
39 AMBCC grants, we're awarding them non-competitively to you
40 based on one of four allowable exceptions on the grants.gov
41 regulation, because of an earlier publication in the
42 Federal Register identifying you as our regional partner
43 organizations. So that's how we got around any kind of
44 opening up for competition.

45
46 Midway on the second page we do have a
47 catalog of Federal and domestic assistance number now,
48 15.643. This is a formally recognized grant program now
49 that has its mark now on the public record. It's no longer
50 using pseudo codes or internal codes. This is now in the

1 CFDA catalog as a recognized grant program for the U.S.
2 Fish and Wildlife Service.

3
4 You can read the part about the application
5 for Federal assistance on your own time, but the important
6 things are when you shift funding around between
7 categories, the two big no-no's are anything that will
8 result in the need for additional Federal funding or
9 anything that will modify the purpose or the objectives of
10 the awards. Those are the things that can't be impacted
11 when you shift dollar amounts between direct cost line
12 items.

13
14 MR. SMITH: Would that also apply to the
15 percentage requirement?

16
17 MR. GOLDBERG: I'm pointing out in
18 here.....

19
20 MR. SMITH: Because in the past wasn't it
21 we were allowed to shift 10 percent or something?

22
23 MR. GOLDBERG: Right. And we've got right
24 now is for grant programs under \$100,000, this is a change
25 where we removed a burden from you, the 10 percent rule no
26 longer applies. You can shift money between direct cost
27 categories. Not between direct and indirect, but between
28 direct cost categories if the grant program itself is under
29 \$100,000.

30
31 MR. SMITH: And would that require \$100,000
32 a year? Or, for example, if you have a three-year grant?
33 What I'm thinking about is the Partners Program.

34
35 MR. GOLDBERG: Okay. We can talk about
36 that separately, but for this case the program would be
37 your 12-month AMBCC grant, all of which are under \$100,000,
38 so you've got the latitude now because of the reduced
39 restrictions in the CFR so that you don't have to come to
40 us even when you've shifted more than 10 percent of the
41 total grant amount between -- and I'd be glad to get with
42 you off line about the other thing.

43
44 Moving over to number 3 now, please keep us
45 appraised of, and I'm in the middle of page three now, any
46 changes to the scope or objectives within an award, whether
47 or not there are associated budget changes. Like someone
48 came to us last year to ask about teleconferences, and that
49 was a valid thing to approach us on, because I hadn't ever
50 had someone come to me with that, so that was good. If

1 there's a change in a key person, we need to modify the
2 grant also. The grants are valid legal documents, and we
3 need to keep them up to date to reflect the reality of the
4 situation of when you're accomplishing the objectives and
5 when we're administering it.

6
7 Okay. Let's move over to page four, and
8 we'll knock out two birds with one stone here. At the top
9 you'll see financial reporting. The financial status
10 report is a real key thing. Fish and Wildlife Service has
11 been undergoing an audit for the past two years. In my 16
12 years of Federal service, I have never received this much
13 scrutiny of my programs as far as compliance to Federal
14 regulations. So I'm not inventing this stuff. I need your
15 help so I can keep the money coming to you, because the
16 auditors are constantly sampling all of my grant files.
17 They want to see a financial status report for the year.
18 They want to see the final reports, the annual reports for
19 these grants. Random sampling. And when I can't provide
20 that, that goes back to Washington, D.C. and it does not
21 reflect well on the program. And it's not just this
22 program. It's a lot of programs. So I just really would
23 seek your report in that area.

24
25 DOI takes this very seriously. They've
26 issued a policy now documenting the steps, basically
27 directing the steps that grants officers have to take when
28 the financial status report doesn't come in. And
29 ultimately what it leads to, if those don't come in is
30 nonrenewal of the grant until all the reporting
31 requirements under the old grant are satisfied. That's the
32 last step. That's the most severe thing. But DOI has seen
33 from the audits in each of the regions at Fish and Wildlife
34 that we haven't been complying real well in that arena.

35
36 There's a draft policy out now from the
37 Department of Interior that pus the same level of
38 stringency on the annual or final program reporting. That
39 has not been published yet. If you'd like, you can look on
40 the web site for the financial report, and you can see how
41 strict the policy is. The program reporting will be the
42 same way once DOI publishes it. I reviewed the draft about
43 a month ago, so again I seek your support so that I can
44 give the auditors what they need.

45
46 And the last important thing to remember is
47 these records are required to be retained for three years
48 after the close-out, and the required -- all the costs to
49 be backed up by original source documentation.

50

1 And that's this four-page packet in a
2 nutshell. I'd be glad to speak with your administrative or
3 finance officers at any time, or you personally if you'd
4 like to call me up or meet with me, and at this time I was
5 wondering if there are any questions.

6
7 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: All right. Thank
8 you, Gary. Yes, Austin.

9
10 MR. AHMASUK: Thank you, Mr. Goldberg, Mr.
11 Chairman. Later on this Council will be considering a
12 resolution to ensure that the harvest survey dollars get to
13 the regions and the pertinent other partners by January
14 2005. And I just wanted to ask you, Mr. Goldberg, I guess
15 is that likely, and are there specific things that we need
16 to keep in mind, or specific things this Council might need
17 to say in order to help with that direction, getting those
18 funds out earlier? In 2004 those harvest survey funds
19 hadn't got to their regions until June and impacted the
20 delivery of the program, survey program. So in that light,
21 what specific things can be done to meet that January
22 deadline for '05.

23
24 MR. GOLDBERG: Sure. And I think our
25 Migratory Bird Section has spoken with my boss actually,
26 who's the division chief, because although I'm kind of the
27 point man for these grant programs, some of the other
28 funding instruments are handled through several other
29 contracting officers in my office. Actually over whom I
30 don't have direct supervisory control, but we have looked
31 into that situation. And I think we've got a firm
32 commitment within our office. You know, we do move the
33 paperwork out as quickly as possible. There are a lot of
34 legal steps and advertisement requirements and things along
35 those line that we go through. Unfortunately, the amount
36 of regulations is -- that we have to follow on the
37 contracting side is not getting reduced to any -- and it
38 all translates into time. But they have addressed that to
39 my supervisor already.

40
41 MR. AHMASUK: Thank you.

42
43 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Thank you, Austin.
44 We have Fred, one more here I think.

45
46 MR. ARMSTRONG: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
47 Yeah, we did inquire about that exact thing, and I believe
48 that the time frame that we need to have things submitted
49 was by November 15. We worked back from the award date two
50 weeks for publication in the Biz (ph) Daily, and then from

1 there the in-house processing. So November 15 would be the
2 target date.

3

4 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: All right. Yes,
5 Mike.

6

7 MR. SMITH: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Gary,
8 I appreciate that. That helps a lot. But I was curious.
9 How are --I assume funds that are received by -- under
10 treaty line items such as Marine Mammal Commission, those
11 place -- and those type of line, do not fall -- generally
12 fall under these type of requirements? And the reason I'm
13 asking that though is because, you know, we've had -- often
14 had discussions here about moving our funding, you know.
15 We -- and, you know, it's just not fair to the Department
16 to supplement what we consider to be a treaty process that
17 should be in a treaty line item budget somewhere, for a
18 certain amount of money, you know, and I was just curious
19 as to -- I don't know. Maybe if you could just comment on
20 that.

21

22 MR. GOLDBERG: I think there's two parts
23 that I want to address. One would be any allocation or
24 determination of amounts and so forth, and that occurs at a
25 much higher level than where I am, and I have no input or
26 involvement in that process.

27

28 The issue regarding the Federal stings, 43
29 CFR 12, and all of the financial reporting requirements,
30 and the -- in the event you were authorized ever to buy
31 supplies or property or things like that, those strings
32 that come on, actually get put onto whatever money I put
33 out in the region through a grant or a cooperative
34 agreement. Those strings don't necessarily follow on a
35 contract. The contract is a different set of Federal
36 regulations, but when the requirement comes to me to put a
37 cooperative agreement or a grant into place for someone,
38 these strings and this laundry list of four pages actually
39 go on everything that I put out the door.

40

41 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Thank you. If that's
42 it for Gary, we appreciate it, Gary. Thank you. And as
43 being your Chair to here, still hanging out a little bit,
44 it sounds like what Gary's saying, it's very important that
45 we get these reports in from our regions. So when you go
46 back home, please try to encourage them to get them in.

47

48 Thank you.

49

50 MR. GOLDBERG: Thank you.

1 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Next on our agenda is
2 Mr. Trost.
3
4 MR. ARMSTRONG: Mr. Chair.
5
6 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Yes.
7
8 MR. ARMSTRONG: At the last minute, Mr.
9 Trost indicated to us that because of a prior commitment he
10 had to back out and ask Russ Oates if he could give the
11 presentation on his behalf.
12
13 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: All right, thank you.
14
15 MR. OATES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If
16 this presentation goes well -- I'm Russ Oates with
17 Migratory Bird Management, if it doesn't go well, I'm Dr.
18 Bob Trost from Portland, Oregon.
19
20 (Laughter)
21
22 MR. OATES: But, yeah, Bob asked me last
23 week to stand in for him. He sends his regrets that he
24 couldn't be here. But I think his intent was to try to
25 provide some explanation for why we band ducks and geese
26 and more particularly why it's important to report bands
27 when you take a bird that has a band on it. And so he
28 asked me to -- I didn't do anything else with this canned
29 program that he sent me to emphasize please, please, report
30 bird bands and there's a 1-800 number that can be dialed
31 now.
32
33 So I spent a couple days among other things
34 looking through this presentation and I felt a lot of it
35 wasn't particularly relevant to Alaska so this morning I
36 totally stripped the thing apart and rebuilt it and I
37 haven't given this, yet, even in practice, so good luck.
38
39 (Laughter)
40
41 MR. OATES: I hope it's understandable to
42 you. And I apologize for my back being to you folks but if
43 I'm going to talk into the mike I guess I better do it like
44 this.
45
46 So in Alaska we banned a fair number of
47 ducks and geese and I wanted to give you just a quick
48 overview of the primary methods that we use in our
49 operational banding programs.
50

1 This is typical duck banding operation. We
2 use swim in traps, we're primarily targeting mallards and
3 pintails and this is in large part to support the adaptive
4 harvest management program that requires many, many
5 thousands of mallards and pintails to be banded
6 continentally every year right before the beginning of the
7 hunting season. And we use these swim in traps baited with
8 grain and you can see the bander here has a little cage
9 there and that cage is used to transfer the birds from
10 those traps to dry terrestrial areas while they're waiting
11 to be banded so that they don't thrash around in the water
12 and totally soak their plumage. But then the birds are,
13 their age is determined, sex is determined and the leg
14 bands are applied and the information such as species, sex
15 and age is recorded and then the birds are released.

16
17 Most of the birds that we catch at this
18 time of the year are flighted birds, they're not molting
19 birds. A fairly simple process, this particular banding
20 camp is in the Susitna Flats right across here from
21 Anchorage.

22
23 Most of the goose banding is done a little
24 bit differently. We tend to band these birds and geese in
25 July and we use -- when the birds are flightless during the
26 molting stage and we typically, although, in some instances
27 we band young birds of the year and family groups, we don't
28 usually do that with this method, this is for the non -- or
29 post-breeding or no-breeding molters or fail breeding or
30 non-breeding molters that occur. This particular situation
31 involves the mid-continent white-fronted geese in Interior
32 Alaska, I believe this is at Innoko Refuge, one of the
33 large molting lakes. And unfortunately you can't see very
34 well the details of this slide but if you'll notice on the
35 left side the person there with the white bag is standing
36 next to a low fence that is several hundred feet long and
37 it's running up the shore and there's a similar fence that,
38 if you look very closely in the water you can see the posts
39 up there that comes virtually perpendicular to the shore,
40 out into the lake and they come together in sort of a
41 funnel and at the apex of that funnel is what's called a
42 pot or a pound and there's a narrow little throat there
43 leading into that and then there's a big soft mesh net that
44 is about a 30 foot in diameter circle. This is an airborne
45 operation, several aircraft, and we fly into a lake, set up
46 this pound and the wings on the net there and then -- oh,
47 the airplane's off the -- let's see, in the lower right-
48 hand corner you can see a float plane and it is idling
49 along the water and the big grey blob in the middle is a
50 group of flightless white-fronted geese, and I've been on

1 many of these operations and basically we -- when we're on
2 the water like that we sort of just nudge the birds along
3 without getting them too excited, they're not thrashing
4 around and breaking off and flying at -- or flapping away
5 at high rate of speed, they're just nervous enough that
6 we're able to use the aircraft to idle and point them in a
7 direction we want them to go and we gradually nudge them
8 along the water until we get to the shoreline and we push
9 them into the wings of that big long neck that stick out
10 there, it acts like a funnel and then we push them up into
11 the pound and close the pound. And our pilots are really
12 highly skilled at this and we don't like to catch more than
13 a couple hundred birds at once otherwise they'll pile up in
14 the pound and they can injure themselves. We've started
15 out with flocks of as many as a thousand birds at a time
16 and we can -- pilots have developed their skills that they
17 can actually nudge the flocks and cause large numbers of
18 the birds to go outside and not get caught so we can get
19 the number down to a number that we feel is safe to handle.
20

21 So then we just take these birds and have
22 crew take them out, one or two at a time and give them to
23 the banders who apply the leg bands and collect the same
24 data that we would do off the other species and immediately
25 release the birds back into the lake. We try to put them
26 in the water so they'll actually go back out into the
27 center of the lake and not disperse into the grasses and
28 sedges and that way they retain the safety of their flocks,
29 their molting flocks.
30

31 So I've given you an idea of some of the
32 methods on how we do the banding operations here in Alaska,
33 and I'll talk to you a little bit about why -- what we do
34 with some of the data that we collect.
35

36 The first bit of information since the
37 breeding populations are sort of the management units, we
38 tend to band known breeding populations so we can gain
39 information when the bands are returned through hunters or
40 other means about the distribution of the harvest. And as
41 you can see the arrows between the blue box and the reddish
42 and yellowish blocks, the arrows vary in size and that's
43 because the harvest is often not distributed among the
44 wintering areas evenly or the harvest areas, it's not
45 always just the wintering areas.
46

47 And to give you sort of an Alaska example,
48 I will go back to our friends, the mid-continent white-
49 fronted geese, the black area at the top, of course, is the
50 breeding area from Interior, Northwest, North Slope Alaska

1 all the way over to Hudson Bay, and they travel up and down
2 the Central and Mississippi Flyways and winter Louisiana,
3 Texas, Mexico coast and Mexico highlands. And just to --
4 the circles at the top, there's the one red circle that
5 represents Interior Alaska banded birds but birds have also
6 been banded on the North Slope, Anderson River Delta, and
7 the northwest corner of the Northwest Territories, an area
8 called Copper Mine, Kent Peninsula Victoria Island, Queen
9 Maude Gulf in the Inglas River gradually moving to the east
10 in the breeding range. So if we're looking at harvest
11 distribution, you can look at the two main areas that are
12 highlighted, well, three actually the Saskatchewan Alberta
13 area and you can look and see how, in this particular
14 instance, this data set compares the percent harvested in
15 Alberta versus Saskatchewan and then you can go further
16 south into the Texas, Louisiana area and you can see the
17 percent of Alaska birds, North Slope birds -- excuse me,
18 Interior birds, North Slope birds, Anderson River birds
19 harvested in Texas versus Louisiana. So we can understand
20 where our birds, the birds that breed in Alaska are being
21 harvested.

22
23 We know where they're being harvested.
24 What percentage of them are harvested in Mexico, what
25 percentage in Texas, et cetera.

26
27 This is very helpful to us if we have a
28 population problem and we need to address it by adjusting
29 harvest or if we want to liberalize harvest on a particular
30 component of the population, we can adjust harvest in the
31 various areas if we know where they're being harvested.

32
33 We don't have a whole lot of information at
34 this point in time from birds harvested in Alaska and so
35 one of the reasons we're giving this presentation is so you
36 can see why we need better information.

37
38 I will say this, though, this year in my
39 office, we get the reports of bands being turned in and I
40 want to congratulate the subsistence hunters because we
41 have begun getting bands on white-fronted geese banded in
42 Alaska being harvested in Alaska. So I want to take this
43 moment here to thank you for beginning to report these
44 bands. This is really good news.

45
46 Another example of harvest distribution is
47 the cackling Canada geese band recoveries, bands that were
48 put on on the Yukon Kuskokwim Delta and we have been
49 getting some band returns from Alaska there. But if you
50 look at the Lower 48 harvest you will see during the period

1 of 1970 to 1990, that included the period in which the late
2 '80s in which the geese are beginning to shift their
3 distribution to the north, the wintering distribution, but
4 most of this harvest occurred before that shift occurred,
5 so there's a heavy concentration of band returns coming
6 from the central valley, California, where most of these
7 birds used to spend the winter.

8

9 If you look at the period 1995 to 2003,
10 you'll see that comparatively many more of the band returns
11 are coming from western Oregon, southwest Washington area
12 and I'll just flip back and you can see the blob, how the
13 blob moved north as the birds moved north. So this is just
14 another example of things that we can learn, of course, we
15 knew the birds had moved north but it does help us in terms
16 of understanding the proportions of harvest in different
17 areas. And it is good to see us getting information there
18 about Alaska harvested birds as well.

19

20 Now, we talked about harvest distribution.
21 Now, another thing we learn is harvest derivation so we can
22 go to a harvest area and look at the bands and know what
23 breeding populations are being harvested in a given area.
24 So we look at -- go back to our white-front example and
25 these tables in this slide are no longer applicable in
26 terms of the numbers. But we could go to Texas and
27 Louisiana say -- or just say Texas and we could look at the
28 bird bands that are turned in there, the goose bands and
29 the proportions of those bands and know where the birds
30 were banded and know which breeding areas are receiving the
31 most harvest by hunters in that Texas area, so we'll know
32 if, for example, in that circle, that pie chart between
33 Alberta and Saskatchewan up there, you see that it looks
34 like three-quarters of those birds that were harvested were
35 banded in areas other than Interior Alaska, but over a
36 quarter of those birds that were harvested in that area
37 actually were banded in Interior Alaska. So if you look at
38 all the different areas in which birds were banded, it
39 looks like Interior Alaska birds are getting hit pretty
40 hard relative to other breeding areas and Interior Alaska.
41 This is also very helpful to us if we have a management
42 problem in terms of knowing what areas we need to take
43 action.

44

45 So another reason why it's helpful to us to
46 get band return information.

47

48 Now, that's kind of the geographical
49 aspects of the importance of band returns. Just to give
50 you a little bit and I won't go into this too much, but to

1 give you an idea of some of the other information we get
2 from bird banding, some of the more quantitative stuff.

3
4 We calculate what's called a recovery rate,
5 which is a number of recovered bands or bands that are
6 reported versus the number of birds that are banded. And
7 another statistic that we can calculate is the harvest rate
8 which is recovery rate that we just calculated divided by
9 the band reported rate. And that kind of tells us
10 something about what proportion of the birds that are out
11 there are actually being harvested. And another thing that
12 we can calculate, which we'll talk about a little bit more
13 later, survival rate, and that we can -- we have to know
14 what the recovery rate is on multiple year basis and then
15 we look at the number of recoveries and then we can
16 determine how well the birds are actually surviving over
17 years.

18
19 One of the interesting things about adult
20 recovery rates is the higher the recovery rates, that
21 suggests there's more hunting pressure on the birds and we
22 have learned over years and years and years of banding
23 ducks, continentally, that on the far right on your screen
24 that's mallard, and it has a recovery rate from the period
25 1980 to 1989 of about 12 percent. And the next highest is
26 black duck and then go on down the line, ring-neck duck,
27 and then wood duck and then canvas back, gadwall, widgeon,
28 green-winged teal, red head, shoveler, pintail, scop, and
29 then finally blue-winged teal. And this is.....

30
31 (Applause)

32
33 MR. AHMASUK: Sorry, that was impressive.

34
35 MR. OATES: This is an indication, among
36 other things, to some extent to hunting pressure on these
37 different species. So mallard are kind of -- they're the
38 duck that really people like to harvest, most of this, of
39 course, is prairie birds.

40
41 Recovery rates are affected by harvest
42 regulation. During the period 197 -- let's just look at
43 the adult males, during the period of 1979 to '84 was a
44 period of stabilized regulations and they were fairly
45 liberal and there was a relatively high recovery rate,
46 .055, and regulations were restricted somewhat during the
47 '85 to '87 period, the central column there, and recovery
48 rates went down and then in '88 to '90 they were
49 restricted even more and recovery rates went down even
50 more. Well, subsequent to this time, liberalization has

1 occurred for mallards and recovery rates are almost twice
2 what they were shown there during that '88 to '90 period
3 now, so we know that recovery rates can reflect to some
4 extent, hunting pressure, and regulations can affect that.

5
6 One of the other things that we learn from
7 banding is that there's differential vulnerability among,
8 in mallards in this case, among males and females and young
9 and adults. And if we use the adult female as the base of
10 1.0 vulnerability, we found that young females were 1.7
11 times as vulnerable as adult females to being harvested and
12 adult males were 1.5 times as likely as adult females and
13 young males were 2.4 times as likely as adult females being
14 harvested. We believe this is at least in part the sex
15 difference is because people can recognize a male mallard
16 from a female mallard, yes, even the Lower 48 hunters can
17 do that, and they will selectively take the male because
18 the females, there's desire to protect the females.

19
20 But calculating survival, I can't really
21 tell you what the time period is on this but -- I mean what
22 group of years this was based on, but it's also learned
23 that adult males have a 63 percent survival rate and adult
24 females only 56 percent, and the young only 50 percent. We
25 all know that young ducks are dumber and easier to hunt,
26 but it's interesting that the adult females which are less
27 vulnerable to the gun also have a lower survival rate than
28 the adult males, and we believe this is because of the
29 higher mortality rates on females due to the precarious
30 period during nesting.

31
32 Other things that we can look at when we've
33 got survival data, this is Prairie Canada and this is the
34 number of ponds, a lot of the femoral ponds that dry up on
35 the prairies, particularly during drought periods, and the
36 Fish and Wildlife Service routinely flies surveys there
37 every year and they count ducks and they count ponds and
38 this is how you can see periods of drought during the late
39 '70s and the late '80s there and then periods in which
40 there's a lot of water. So we can look at survival rates
41 and compare that for a given year and compare survival
42 rates with the habitat information for that area.

43
44 Another thing is we can look at survival
45 related to harvest. Bottom line is the harvest rate and
46 survival is the Y axis here and up until -- if harvest
47 rates are low survival remains relatively steady, if
48 harvest rates get too high, then survival begins to
49 decline. And this sort of information is used for the
50 adaptive harvest management process and this information

1 all comes from banding.

2

3 And just to look, again, at mallards,
4 changes in survival rates, during a period of fairly
5 liberal harvest, during '79 to '84, look at adult males
6 again, the survival rate is .646 and then as they gradually
7 restricted the harvest during the '85 to '88 period the
8 survival rate went up and this is reflected for all sex and
9 age categories. So this is an effective regulation on
10 survival rate and being able to measure that is a critical
11 benefit, a very important benefit of a banding program.

12

13 Now, just to give you an idea, we don't
14 just grab a bunch of gear and go out and start banding
15 things. To make the statistics worthwhile on this we have
16 to have a representative sample. Ideally you're working
17 with birds that breed in a given area because you're going
18 to try to make assessments of what happened with those
19 birds and survival rates of those birds so you don't
20 necessarily want a bunch of migrants coming in and
21 polluting your sample. You need to insure an accompanying
22 sample of adults when you're banding large numbers of young
23 because you've got to know recovery rates -- we know that
24 recovery rates are different between young and adults
25 because vulnerability rates are different. So if you're
26 going to look at survival you're dependent upon having a
27 good sample of adults banded every year. You use
28 established banding periods because if you band after the
29 hunting season as opposed to before the hunting season
30 you've got a totally biased result and you can't really
31 compare the information. You have to sustain efforts year
32 over year over year in order to make sure that you can
33 compare those recovery rates and determine that survival in
34 the long term. And another general guideline they put in
35 is exceed the goals or banding quotas whenever feasible
36 because these are calculated quotas and they're
37 statistically valid but it's hard to meet those quotas in a
38 lot of areas so if you can exceed it, potentially, you can
39 help your statistics in other areas.

40

41 So I don't know if that made a lot of sense
42 but I hope that it helps you understand why we're asking
43 folks to please, please report bird bands. And if you
44 happen to know -- we've heard stories in this group in the
45 past about coffee cans of leg bands sitting on people's
46 shelves somewhere and if anybody knows of those, if they
47 could get those and send them to us that would be helpful,
48 and, please support us in our efforts to try to help manage
49 these birds so we can offer the maximum opportunity for
50 hunting because that's a good part of our business, is to

1 help you have the opportunity to get out and partake of the
2 resource.

3

4 So anyway, thank you, and if there are any
5 questions -- now, I'll turn around and look at you.

6

7 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Does anybody have any
8 questions for Russ.

9

10 MR. AHMASUK: Is there a dollar prize for
11 reporting?

12

13 MR. OATES: No, I don't think so.

14

15 MR. AHMASUK: Yeah, thanks, Russ, you
16 mentioned mallard and white-front banding programs in
17 Alaska, are there other programs?

18

19 MR. OATES: Yes. We band cackling Canada
20 geese as a part of our population estimations and
21 independent population estimator. This is done, it's
22 what's called a mark/recapture sample, and the birds are
23 resighted or recaptured on the Lower 48 in the wintering
24 grounds and they actually -- there are neck bands involved
25 as well, they're colored neck bands and they know how many
26 were collared or banded and then they look at the ratio
27 when they observe these birds -- in the Lower 48 they look
28 at the ratio of marked, unmarked cacklers and they can
29 calculate an estimate of the total numbers. It's an
30 independent verification of our breeding survey.

31

32 There's also dusky Canada geese are banded
33 for the same purpose. I know Aleutian Canada geese have
34 been banded for that purpose. And right now we're working
35 on a program for tulie, white-fronted geese for that same
36 purpose. There's also special projects in which black
37 scoters have been banded on the Yukon Kuskokwim Delta and
38 in some of the wintering areas as well in British Columbia,
39 other scoters have been banded. The State of Alaska has
40 some banding programs, they've done a fair amount of scoter
41 banding. Some of that was telemetry stuff. If there are
42 any other things that are -- steller eiders have been
43 banded. There's a very large program that's been done over
44 years and some really wonderful information has been
45 obtained about survival and movements of stellers eiders.
46 Sea birds, song birds and shore birds, and Robert also
47 mentioned snow geese. This is a program that the Borough
48 is working with, is it ABR, yeah. So there's actually
49 quite a bit of banding going on. But, yeah, there's a
50 whole realm of banding in the non-game arena that I really

1 haven't talked about very much and frankly I don't know too
2 much about that.

3

4 Any other questions.

5

6 (No comments)

7

8 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Seeing no
9 questions.....

10

11 MR. OATES: Well, thank you, Mr. Chairman.

12

13 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Thank you, Russ, good
14 job. I'm pretty sure Trost would be pretty proud of you
15 there.

16

17 Next item will be Frameworks and Fred's
18 going to touch on that.

19

20 MR. ARMSTRONG: Well, basically I think
21 there was a couple presentations yesterday on a couple
22 birds on the horizon, the cackling Canada geese and the
23 brandt and so just expect agencies to begin working with
24 the affected regions on those issues.

25

26 I don't anticipate -- I don't know, it will
27 be up to the regions to submit proposals, but those are the
28 ones that I just want to remind the Council of that are on
29 the radar screen.

30

31 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Thank you, Fred.
32 Ralph.

33

34 MR. ANDERSEN: Well, I was just going to
35 add that under this agenda item, I think this morning we
36 added black brandt discussion regarding the NPR-A. We have
37 with us in the audience here a member of the North Slope
38 Borough's Fish and Game -- or wildlife management committee
39 or department that should be able to provide us some
40 information on that. I'd like to call on Robert Suydam to
41 give a brief discussion of the black brandt situation at
42 NPR-A, and if he has any recommendations to the Council on
43 what actions we should take.

44

45 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Thank you, Ralph.
46 Robert.

47

48 MR. SUYDAM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
49 Council members. My name is Robert Suydam and I am with
50 the North Slope Borough. I'm sorry that Myron's not here

1 so I guess maybe it's suitable that I'm sitting in his
2 place with his name tag in front of me but he's the one who
3 brought the concern up this morning. So I'll give you just
4 a real brief kind of synopsis of what the situation is.

5
6 Up on the North Slope in the National
7 Petroleum Reserve, the Bureau of Land Management has
8 offered several lease sales for oil companies to come in
9 and explore for oil and then with the possibility of
10 developing oil -- you know, having oil developments up
11 there. So there's been lots of concern about the area
12 around Teshekpuk Lake because it's very important for black
13 brandt molting as well as other geese as well as caribou
14 and other wildlife.

15
16 Initially the Bureau of Land Management
17 looked at this area in the late 1980s -- 1990s, sorry, and
18 decided that the area around Teshekpuk shouldn't be leased
19 because it was too important for brandt, too important for
20 caribou and other wildlife. So just recently they've
21 decided to revisit that issue and are in the process of
22 making a decision about whether they should open up that
23 area that was previously closed and allow for oil
24 exploration and potentially development. So Myron is
25 particularly concerned because the black brandt that nest
26 down on the Yukon Kuskokwim Delta, the ones that fail early
27 on in the season or the ones that don't breed end up going
28 up to the North Slope to the area around Teshekpuk and they
29 molt there and spend the summer there and then return back
30 down to Izembek Lagoon and Mexico or California or Oregon
31 or Washington to spend the winter. So if there's
32 development there around Teshekpuk there could be a great
33 disturbance to black brandt, reduction in survival perhaps,
34 you know, and we heard earlier -- or yesterday, I guess,
35 during the workshop about the potential population decline
36 in black brandt so oil development around Teshekpuk could
37 cause that to become even worse.

38
39 Unfortunately the environmental impact
40 statement has closed for comments so unfortunately any kind
41 of comments from this Council couldn't be incorporated into
42 the EIS statement, however, it might be worthwhile for this
43 Council to go on record, if it's your wish, to say that
44 this area is incredibly important for brandt and other
45 waterfowl, other migratory birds and oil and gas
46 development and exploration could be detrimental to those
47 birds given what we know at this point.

48
49 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
50

1 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Thank you, Robert.
2 Seeing no questions -- does anybody have any questions for
3 Robert.
4
5 (No comments)
6
7 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Thank you. We'll go
8 ahead and move on to.....
9
10 MR. ANDERSEN: Mr. Chairman.
11
12 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Sorry, Ralph.
13
14 MR. ANDERSEN: I didn't have a question for
15 Robert but I have a suggestion or.....
16
17 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: For the Council?
18
19 MR. ANDERSEN: A recommendation for the
20 Council that we take his advice, especially concerning
21 regard to the conservation issue of black brandts, that we
22 go on record supporting the North Slope Borough's comments
23 and recommendations on this, especially, you know,
24 considering our previous discussion yesterday regarding the
25 black brandt issue.
26
27 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Thank you, Ralph.
28 It's so noted here, I think, by Fred. Okay, we'll go on to
29 the harvest survey update, and I think we're just going to
30 touch base on a resolution from Austin.
31
32 Thank you.
33
34 MR. AHMASUK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The
35 Harvest Survey Committee is comprised of seven members, I
36 believe, it's under Tab 10 of your packet. And the
37 committee is made up of myself as the Chair, Mr. Rick
38 Langto, Fish and Wildlife Service; Mr. Tom Rothe, Fish and
39 Game; Mr. Robert Suydam, North Slope Borough; Mr. Russ
40 Oates, Fish and Wildlife Service; Mr. Ron Stanek, Fish and
41 Game; actually there's a misname there, Gloria Stickwan is
42 not on the committee, Hans Nicholson, formally the BBNA
43 representative is still on the committee.
44
45 The committee met on October 12th during
46 the morning hours and discussed three issues. The 2004
47 harvest survey, how that went and how participation
48 occurred. A kind of a change -- the second item the
49 committee discussed was a need to address some relationship
50 issues that need to be ironed out between agencies. As

1 well as number 3, a need to have additional meetings to
2 address some of the fiscal and technical issues that arose
3 in the 2004 survey.
4

5 I had passed out earlier today a copy of a
6 resolution that we'd like to have the Council consider.
7 There are several copies of this resolution floating
8 around, several members have -- I'm not sure who, may have
9 several copies of this resolution, it might be worthwhile
10 to actually read the resolution into the record, if that's
11 necessary, unless it's.....
12

13 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: I guess if you want,
14 but maybe we could take a short break and look at it here
15 real quick. Do you guys want to do that or do you want him
16 to read it.
17

18 MR. AHMASUK: Okay, Mr. Chairman, I'll read
19 the resolution into the record.
20

21 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Okay.
22

23 MR. AHMASUK: It's Alaska Migratory Co-
24 Management Council Resolution 2004-1 pertaining to
25 improvement of the statewide migratory bird subsistence
26 harvest survey.
27

28 Whereas, amendments to the Migratory Bird
29 Treaties with Canada and Mexico allow legal
30 spring and summer subsistence hunting of
31 migratory birds in Alaska and emphasizes
32 that traditional levels of harvest should
33 not increase, and;
34

35 Whereas, the Council recognizes the
36 importance of reliable and quantitative
37 information on the subsistence harvest of
38 migratory birds in Alaska as a tool to
39 monitor/manage bird populations, and;
40

41 Whereas, harvest survey data provide a
42 basis for managing harvest in Alaska and
43 other parts of North America and managing
44 sustainable bird populations for all their
45 public values, and;
46

47 Whereas, the Council has established a
48 harvest survey committee to develop
49 statewide harvest survey goals and
50 objectives, annually review and recommend a

1 technical design and budget for this survey
2 and to address implementation problems as
3 they arise, and;
4

5 Whereas, the successful design and
6 implementation of the harvest survey relies
7 on effective and ongoing cooperation,
8 collaboration and communication among
9 Federal, State and regional organizations,
10 and;
11

12 Whereas, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
13 annually provides available funding to
14 manage the survey program in the field work
15 through partnerships and summarize results,
16 and;
17

18 Whereas, significant difficulties and
19 impediments occurred in implementation of
20 the 2004 statewide harvest survey;
21

22 Now therefore be it resolved, that the
23 Council strongly recommends the following
24 areas of improvement for the statewide
25 survey for 2005.
26

- 27 1. Explore ways to increase available
28 funds. The AMBCC partners should
29 pursue funds or leveraging to
30 adequately conduct the statewide
31 survey. The expected status quo of
32 \$300,000 in 2005 is inadequate to
33 fund a full performance design
34 recommended by the harvest survey
35 committee and endorsed by the
36 Council which could require at
37 least \$700,000.
38
- 39 2. The harvest survey committee should
40 evaluate implementation and funding
41 of the 2004 survey. The committee
42 should treat performance of the
43 2004 survey and identify specific
44 problems, analyze the effects of
45 various design modifications on the
46 reliability of results. Identify
47 adequacy of funding and
48 unanticipated costs. And
49 development design alternatives
50 that can be applied with the likely

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level of available funding for 2005.

3. The harvest survey committee should establish a project schedule and milestones. The harvest survey committee should develop an annual timeline for the entire harvest survey project based on anticipated service budget allocations, necessary benchmarks for draft contracts with cooperators, internal Fish and Wildlife Service agreements with Refuges and fund transfers, and adequate time for survey training and preparation for field operations. Implementation agreements and training programs must be in place by January of each year. Survey materials need to be distributed during February and March and the survey should start in April when most spring hunting season is open.
4. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service should use expedited cooperative funding agreements. The Service should establish and use the most expeditious means to provide information, funds to ADF&G for managerial, technical and field functions to support the harvest survey project each year and to promptly provide implementation funds to all contracting cooperators.
5. Establish a harvest survey oversight executive committee. The Council supports the establishment of an oversight committee, including the existing AMBCC executive committee plus the Chair of the Harvest Survey Committee to address significant funding and implementation problems and to ensure effective coordination and cooperation among the parties to accomplish survey goals.

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6. Ensure ongoing and effective communication. Implement more frequent communication between Federal and State agency program managers, regional representatives, and other survey cooperators to identify problems and concerns to ensure early problem resolution.
 7. Improve coordination and collaboration with regional organizations. The Harvest Survey Committee should communicate more effectively with regional organizations and to better understand local constraints and conflicts concerning migratory bird harvest surveys and to coordinate outreach efforts to achieve mutually beneficial surveys.
 8. Ensure that the Harvest Survey Committee and Council are aware of demands for special harvest survey efforts. The Council and committee need to be informed as soon as possible, requests for special harvest survey efforts, such as eider harvest surveys for endangered species recovery programs. To promote discussion of the need for special harvest information, cost, and effort required for additional work. Impacts on the basic statewide survey design and the extent to which special surveys can be accommodated.

40 That's the resolution, Mr. Chairman.

41
42 One thing to keep in mind with the adoption
43 of this resolution, it would speak to some of the concerns
44 that the committee met over the morning, a couple days ago.
45 Additionally it asks and establishes a separate committee
46 made up of the executive committee plus the Harvest Survey
47 Committee Chair to look into the funding issues that we
48 have been talking about.

49
50 The Harvest Survey Committee hasn't

1 ratified its last two meeting minutes, and I apologize for
2 not having those written materials available, something
3 that Member Naneng had suggested that we do for all these
4 updates, and so in the future I expect -- as I have usually
5 done, except for this meeting, provided meeting minutes,
6 copies. So with that, Mr. Chairman, that's the Harvest
7 Survey Committee report. And I'll be happy to answer any
8 questions.

9
10 Thank you.

11
12 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Thank you, Austin.
13 Ralph.

14
15 MR. ANDERSEN: Mr. Chairman, I move that we
16 adopt Resolution 2004-1.

17
18 MR. HICKS: I'll second it.

19
20 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: It's been moved and
21 seconded. Any discussion on it.

22
23 MR. ANDERSEN: Mr. Chairman.

24
25 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Ralph.

26
27 MR. ANDERSEN: I have a couple questions,
28 Austin. You know, maybe these are terms that I don't
29 understand, you know, and then because of that I have these
30 questions. First, you know, I appreciate the resolution,
31 it's really well written and it's really very well thought
32 out.

33
34 One of the questions that I have, Austin,
35 is whether included in the resolution, either by this
36 language that I don't understand like, design
37 modifications, that kind of thing, I mean are you talking
38 about design of the form, are you talking design of the
39 plan, and that sort of thing, because what I'm concerned
40 about is that we know there's a shortfall of money and what
41 I'd like to address is the fact that there are areas in our
42 state and even areas within regions in the state that
43 really don't have much baseline information and there are
44 other areas of the state where -- I mean for example, the
45 AVCP region, 16 years of information has been gathered. In
46 the language that you use here, are those -- you know, is
47 collecting or conducting harvest surveys in those areas, is
48 that what you mean by design modification, so that areas
49 that are identified in need of survey information, in need
50 of establishing baseline information, that surveys can be

1 conducted there, full surveys, you know, without -- you
2 know, full surveys that aren't really quick and dirty?

3
4 The other question that I have is whether
5 or not alternative methods of collecting survey information
6 have been considered. We heard Mr. Jackson here discuss or
7 mention that there's a form and a green card for
8 subsistence halibut where we're all familiar with ADF&G,
9 the Division of Subsistence registration and harvest
10 reporting form that they use, and I'm wondering if the
11 committee considered alternative ways of collecting that
12 information.

13
14 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Go ahead and respond,
15 Austin, then Doug.

16
17 MR. AHMASUK: Yeah, thank you, Mr.
18 Chairman. On question number 1, that concept that you're
19 talking about, Member Andersen is captured in therefore be
20 it resolved, number 2, design modifications.

21
22 In terms of how this survey went, there was
23 some necessary design modifications that had to occur, they
24 simply just could not be avoided. The delaying of
25 contracts meant that the design now had to switch from an
26 in-season survey, which would give you numbers concurrently
27 with the seasons to a total recall survey in many portions
28 of this survey, the subsistence areas.

29
30 Additionally, that concept also captures
31 the idea that perhaps the design of the survey into what
32 percentages of hunters that we actually speak to isn't
33 always the design participation level. Because of the
34 voluntary nature of asking survey questions, we're not
35 necessarily going to get the participation that we design,
36 and so we have to look into how these factors influence our
37 analysis.

38
39 So those are the kind of design things that
40 that idea captures, not necessarily the form. How the form
41 looks, we found was a fairly difficult thing to have
42 approved. When the Federal government sends out money to
43 ask questions of people they have specific office
44 management budget regulations that they have to follow that
45 it cannot avoid. And so those are design issues that we --
46 that that resolution, that number 2 doesn't incorporate,
47 because those are kind of set in stone we think.

48
49 Okay, on question number 2, alternative
50 methods to collect information. We know that there are

1 certain areas of the state where this program hasn't been
2 implemented, where there are previously existing programs
3 that gather harvest data and actually we're very interested
4 in how that information looks, such as information on the
5 North Slope, other areas of Alaska where there are previous
6 surveys. In terms of how the Fish and Wildlife Service
7 Subsistence Program might alternately collect that
8 information, we haven't talked about. Although, that
9 doesn't mean that we wouldn't include information that has
10 been collected previously.

11

I hope that answers your questions.

12

13

14

15

CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Yes, Ralph, do you
want to respond real quick.

16

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CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Austin.

MR. AHMASUK: We should recommend -- these
recommendations should be addressed to the State of Alaska,
the Federal government, as well as regional partners in

1 design of -- in these things that need to be fixed. These
2 are things that need to be fixed.

3

4 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Thank you. Doug.

5

6 MR. ALCORN: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I see
7 the resolution giving a charge to the Council members, the
8 Harvest Survey Committee giving itself its own charge, a
9 charge to the Fish and Wildlife Service and then to
10 establishing and charging a committee.

11

12 But I would like to offer two friendly
13 modifications, one is sort of a technical word change on
14 Item 4 on the back page where it says the U.S. Fish and
15 Wildlife should use expedited cooperative funding
16 agreement. I don't think Gary Goldberg is here any longer
17 but the use of the phrase cooperative funding agreement.
18 Cooperative agreement has a technical usage in Federal
19 contracting. And I would offer that we use the phrase, the
20 U.S. Fish and Wildlife should use, and then strike what's
21 there and say the most expeditious funding instrument.
22 That's just a technical fix but that gets us away from
23 prescribing a cooperative agreement which has a specific
24 utility in the contracting.

25

26 And then the other fix is what I would view
27 as a constructive word change. In Item 5, the charge given
28 to the Harvest Survey Oversight Committee, it reads the
29 Council supports the establishment of an oversight
30 committee including the existing AMBCC executive committee
31 plus the Chair of the Harvest Survey Committee to address,
32 and then it says what our role is. I would offer that we
33 reword this and say, to address, strike significant funding
34 and implementation problems and insert to address
35 significant harvest survey issues and recommend actions to
36 AMBCC Staff, comma, and then continue the sentence as
37 worded, and to ensure and so on and so forth.

38

39 That broadens the charge so that we can
40 communicate with Fred and his Staff to take action.

41

42 MR. AHMASUK: Could you say that again?

43

44 MR. ALCORN: Sure I'll repeat it. Strike
45 significant funding and implementation problems and insert
46 significant harvest survey issues and recommend actions to
47 AMBCC Staff, comma, and then finish the sentence.

48

49 MR. AHMASUK: Mr. Chairman.

50

1 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Yes, Austin.
2
3 MR. AHMASUK: Okay, maybe Mr. Chairman, I
4 would just ask for a unanimous consent on that so we could
5 move that modification forward, if that's fine, because
6 there's still one question that Ralph still has on the
7 table.
8
9 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Okay. Yeah, if
10 that's fine with everybody. I thought maybe it could go in
11 when we vote for it, along with the amendment on this now.
12
13 MR. AHMASUK: That's just unanimous consent
14 for the modification.
15
16 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: All right.
17
18 MR. AHMASUK: Okay. I see no problem in
19 directing the committee to seek alternative methods to
20 capture harvest information. And would ask for unanimous
21 consent to include that as No. 9, direct the committee to
22 seek alternative methods to gather harvest information.
23
24 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: All right, do we have
25 consent from everybody.
26
27 (Council nods affirmatively)
28
29 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Okay, Austin.
30
31 MR. AHMASUK: Okay, thank you.
32
33 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Is there any further
34 discussion.
35
36 (No comments)
37
38 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: If none, can we have
39 a question.
40
41 MR. AHMASUK: Question.
42
43 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Question's been
44 called for. Is there any objection to the adoption of this
45 resolution.
46
47 (No comments)
48
49 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Seeing none, so
50 moved. Thank you.

1 Can we take a real short, brief, five
2 minute break, and I mean like no longer than five minutes
3 -- thank you.

4
5 (Off record)

6
7 (On record)

8
9 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: If everybody could be
10 seated, please -- thank you.

11
12 Cynthia wanted to be -- she wants to do a
13 handout on this harvest survey update so if she could come
14 forward and do that real quick, she needs to get going.

15
16 Thank you.

17
18 MS. WENTWORTH: Well, I'll go get my
19 daughter and bring her back. I printed out my powerpoint
20 presentation so I could just pass it out to everyone.

21
22 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Okay, go ahead,
23 Cynthia.

24
25 MS. WENTWORTH: Yes, this is Cynthia
26 Wentworth, Migratory Bird Harvest Survey Coordinator.

27
28 Since there's not time to do my powerpoint
29 presentation I can just give it out as a handout. And I
30 should also say that there's information on the table over
31 there about harvest in Canada, I was going to do a
32 presentation on that. And just briefly, the reason that I
33 am looking into that has to do with the letter of submittal
34 to the Migratory Bird Treaty Amendment which says that the
35 continental harvest is not supposed to increase as a
36 percentage of the continental population sizes, and we
37 don't have any harvest survey data from the Yukon
38 Territory, except the very northern part, which is part of
39 the settlement agreement and that data is over there on
40 that table. But most of the Yukon Territory we don't have
41 any harvest data at all because harvest surveys haven't
42 been done and I know that's a concern of Mike Spindler and
43 other people, you know, because Central white-fronts go
44 through there and other species go through there. So
45 that's something I'm going to keep working on with people
46 in Canada.

47
48 They first contacted me and asked me to
49 help them back in 1999 and they contacted me again at the
50 Bird Conference this spring. So that's the short

1 presentation on that.

2

3 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Thank you, Cynthia.

4 No questions.

5

6 (No comments)

7

8 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Thank you. And there
9 is a lot of information back there on that table for a lot
10 of surveys, so thanks.

11

12 Next item on the agenda, Outreach
13 Committee, Donna. And we did go over this, too, yesterday
14 in the workshop so I believe she was going to be kind of
15 brief and I think most of the public was here.

16

17 Thank you.

18

19 MS. DEWHURST: Exactly. So the mission
20 for, I guess, actually the next item would be for when you
21 do the committee assignments to have assignments for an
22 outreach committee, which is, I think, will be following
23 me.

24

25 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Right. Right, go
26 ahead and do that now.

27

28 MS. DEWHURST: And the handout, basically,
29 outlines what will happen after that, which gives us a
30 window for the next six months to three years. It's the
31 one that was in your notebook.

32

33 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Where is it at?

34

35 MS. DEWHURST: Tab 9.

36

37 The first page was just this summary of
38 what's been done, the second page is what I'm talking
39 about, where we give the schedule on the plan on how we're
40 going to try to work a consolidated outreach effort between
41 us, the endangered species folks and the rest of the
42 Migratory Bird Management Division, which handles the fall
43 sport hunt. So we'll be trying to combine efforts and get
44 a consolidated outreach effort.

45

46 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: I think if I'm
47 following, on the committee assignments, maybe we could do
48 that when we do all the other committee things.

49

50 MS. DEWHURST: Right. Right.

1 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: You bet.

2
3 MS. DEWHURST: The only thing would be once
4 we get those assigned, since it sounds like we aren't going
5 to be here tomorrow morning, for me to find out if the
6 outreach committee wants to meet tomorrow morning or if we
7 want to set another date. So that will be the only thing
8 once we find out who's on it. I might have to try to pull
9 those folks aside to find that out.

10
11 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Sure, that'd be
12 great. Especially saying pulling them aside, so that
13 sounds good.

14
15 Thank you.

16
17 Next item on the agenda will be, I believe,
18 the invitation for public comments. It says 4:00 o'clock,
19 I don't know who's been messing with us changing the clock
20 up there but we're pretty much on schedule so if we have
21 anybody from the public out there for any more comments.

22
23 (No comments)

24
25 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: All right, not seeing
26 any, thank you all for participating and commenting this
27 morning.

28
29 The next item on the agenda is the Council
30 reports and concerns. Fred, the Council reports.

31
32 MR. ARMSTRONG: That's for Council reports.

33
34 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Anybody have
35 anything. Yes, Taquilik.

36
37 MS. HEPA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just
38 had a question about the agreements. Is there a deadline,
39 Fred, when we need to have -- like I want to make some
40 changes to the contract agreement that we have, is there a
41 deadline or a timeline when we need to have those
42 recommended changes by. I asked Donna earlier, but I think
43 some other folks, too, wanted some clarification.

44
45 Thank you.

46
47 MS. DEWHURST: Really not because there's a
48 provision that you can charge any expenses up to 90 days
49 before the agreement's actually signed. So probably the
50 only thing would be, you know, this meeting is probably

1 going to be your first expenditure for this year so
2 basically have 90 days from this meeting or when you
3 started traveling to when you probably need to worry about
4 making sure your agreement's in place so you can pay for
5 the travel. You know, that's kind of your -- probably your
6 deadline would be 90 days from when you started travel.

7

8 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Yes, Joeneal.

9

10 MR. HICKS: I just wanted to relay, it's
11 not a concern or an issue but maybe more information
12 because I know that we've been hassling a lot about the
13 lack of funding and stuff like that to do our harvest
14 survey, et cetera, and maybe Fred might be able to answer
15 it, or maybe even you, Doug, but what is the status of
16 these tribal wildlife grants, can they be used towards
17 that?

18

19 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Yes, Doug.

20

21 MR. ALCORN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes,
22 the Tribal Wildlife Grant Program was established a couple
23 of years ago by Congress and it's administered by the
24 Division of Federal Aid and it's a \$5 million program, it's
25 nationwide and it's competitive and it's only one year
26 funding. So each -- and the contracting entities are
27 tribes, Federally recognized tribes, so the Council would
28 not qualify to receive any money, but individual
29 organizations, if they have Federal tribal standing they
30 could qualify and compete for the funds. But it's only \$5
31 million nationwide.

32

33 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Mike.

34

35 MR. SMITH: Yeah, also, you know, those
36 funds are originally what they called parafunds, I forget,
37 is that what they used to call those, is parafunds, and
38 during negotiations of this process it was anticipated that
39 some of those parafunds would be used to fund this process.
40 That changed when they changed those funds to the Tribal
41 Wildlife Grants.

42

43 And, Doug, I think you're correct, in that,
44 those are applicable to tribes, but I also think though
45 that other agencies and bodies can request those funds on
46 behalf of tribes if they got resolutions and stuff from
47 those tribes to act on their behalf.

48

49 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Thank you, Mike.

50 Fred.

1 MR. ARMSTRONG: I think the way it works is
2 a tribe can sponsor, as long as a tribe is sponsoring a
3 grant proposal then they could partner with other entities
4 such as AMBCC to submit a proposal.

5
6 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Attamuk.
7

8 ATTAMUK: Okay, for your information. For
9 this one here through the Kotzebue IRA, I get a funding for
10 seal projects through -- with the help from Kotzebue IRA,
11 with Willie and Ross, we put together. Also I get one for
12 the caribou with the help from Noatak. In other words all
13 they did was in-house me. We put the grant together and in
14 the end all they did was just sign it and they just in-
15 house me. And it's a yearly basis up to 250,000. You
16 could do it for a lot of different reasons, but the tribe
17 have to apply for this, not like Manilaaq, not like Copper
18 River Native, they can't do it, it's got to go through a
19 tribe and it's up to 250,000 for one year, it's a lot of
20 money.

21
22 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: All right, thank you.
23 I have one here myself, it's not a report, not a concern,
24 but I sure appreciate all of you here on the Council
25 helping me on this little helm I had here on the last
26 couple of meetings of chairing it. It's been quite the
27 experience, kicking back into it again, you know, and I
28 haven't chaired a meeting in many a years, so these last
29 two have been very interesting and very good and
30 educational for us so I want to thank you all very much for
31 that help and commend you all for doing a good job.

32
33 Thank you.
34

35 If we don't have anything else, we'll go on
36 to Staff reports -- okay, it was pretty much done
37 yesterday, okay. Date and place of next meeting. Anybody
38 have a calendar on that, or do we got one?

39
40 MR. ARMSTRONG: It's the next tab.
41

42 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: The next tab. And
43 we're looking this spring, right?

44
45 MR. ARMSTRONG: April.
46

47 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: April.
48

49 MR. ANDERSEN: Mr. Chairman.
50

1 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Ralph.
2
3 MR. ANDERSEN: Mr. Chairman, I suggest that
4 the date and time that we set, that we can identify a month
5 that I'd say in May at the call of the Chair, the date, you
6 know, to be determined after consulting all of us as we get
7 closer to that time. Because I mean it's too far for us to
8 look ahead, I mean here it is October and we're already
9 looking past winter and into the spring and that's just too
10 far ahead to try to identify a specific date.
11
12 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: That sounds good,
13 Ralph. Everybody else, if we could go early May or
14 something and then work it out from there and then have the
15 Chair call.....
16
17 MR. ANDERSEN: I just say in the month of
18 May at the call of the Chair, you know, pending -- yeah, I
19 guess it would be pending consulting us as we get closer to
20 the date -- I mean closer to that month.
21
22 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Does that sound good
23 to everybody.
24
25 (No comments)
26
27 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: All right, cool. Go
28 ahead, Doug.
29
30 MR. ALCORN: Yeah, I don't want to belabor
31 it but my calendar fills up in six months in advance, I'm
32 sure Matt's does and a lot of yours too, so earlier is
33 better if you can call a date Herman.
34
35 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Right. I think I'm
36 going to end up leaving that up to Matt here, to pass it on
37 to him when his turn comes. Taqulik.
38
39 MS. HEPA: Yeah, May is our busy time. If
40 anything I would go for early April. But I just wanted to
41 put that in. It's whaling time on the North Slope.
42
43 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Right. You know it's
44 kind of a busy time for me too but it sounds like it's a
45 real heavy time in the Legislature in April, I guess, is
46 why we're looking at May, around May 10th. Taqulik's
47 saying, that's fine, we could probably try and work around
48 it or something here and try to figure it out.
49
50 MR. ARMSTRONG: May 10th is a Tuesday.

1 MS. HEPA: Can we go to Barrow.
2
3 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Taqulik's suggesting
4 we go to Barrow and I'm all for it, what about the rest of
5 your guys, can we afford it?
6
7 MS. HEPA: Sounds good.
8
9 MR. ANDERSEN: Why not Barrow.
10
11 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Let's do it.
12
13 MR. SMITH: We would get a really good
14 reception up in Barrow, too, you know.
15
16 MR. ANDERSEN: So I mean have we agreed
17 that the meeting will be held in Barrow?
18
19 MR. ALCORN: Well, the cost of getting
20 Staff there is pretty expensive. I mean we wouldn't be
21 able to have the Staff there that we have here.
22
23 MR. ANDERSEN: Well, then the meeting will
24 get shorter.
25
26 (Laughter)
27
28 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Right. But maybe
29 that's something we can look into and have Fred or somebody
30 look into it here for us. I know just about all the other
31 committee's that we have around here and boards, they kind
32 of do that, have a tendency to go different places, which I
33 think is good, you know, for the people.
34
35 MR. SMITH: I think the concern here is
36 going to be cost and we need to kind of figure out, if we
37 could, from Staff how much that might cost and if we're
38 going to go ahead and do that I'd also request that they
39 figure out how much it would cost to go to Fairbanks as
40 well, I mean kind of as a comparison of the two, and then I
41 don't know how we get back and establish that.
42
43 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Well, let's have Fred
44 or the Staff or somebody look into this and then get back
45 with us and then we can try to set our date and place then,
46 how's that sound, okay? Ralph. Yes, Doug.
47
48 MR. ALCORN: I would suggest that it would
49 be at the call of the executive committee where the
50 location of the meeting would be based on whatever input we

1 get so the Chair is actually the one setting the date but
2 the executive committee would be considering the cost
3 associated with it.

4
5 MR. ANDERSEN: If we put that up to a vote
6 the executive committee, the Native representatives are
7 going to be out voted.

8
9 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: All right, one vote
10 apiece.

11
12 MR. ANDERSEN: So I guess we can plan on
13 not ever meeting in a rural area anyway then.

14
15 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Yes, Fred.

16
17 MR. ARMSTRONG: Well just for comparison,
18 when we brought people, council members here to Anchorage
19 and have a two day meeting it costs in excess of 15,000
20 dollars, just for the group to meet for two days. You
21 know, I just throw that out for consideration.

22
23 Excuse me Mr. Chair. When we bring -- when
24 we've had a couple meetings when we paid for the travel,
25 per diem and lodging for council members and it costs in
26 excess of 15,000 dollars just to put it on.

27
28 MR. SMITH: Am I supposed to be seeking
29 reimbursement for my travel and stuff from you guys then.
30 I thought that came out of our grants.

31
32 MR. ARMSTRONG: No, I'm just explaining to
33 you, if we went to another area the costs would probably be
34 close to double just to put on the meeting.

35
36 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Well that's something
37 we can still look into though. Yeah, Ralph.

38
39 MR. ANDERSEN: I just want to say Mr.
40 Chairman that it seems like we're being discouraged here
41 from meeting in rural Alaska. And we all know that the
42 costs of meeting in -- of anything in rural Alaska is
43 expensive anyway. I think one of our important charges
44 here is that that, you know, one of the important things
45 that we need to do and that we focused on and we heard
46 presentations from about out reach and that kind of thing.
47 One of the things that I think is important for us to keep
48 in mind is that, early on in our discussions of meeting
49 places and locations is that we decided that once we got
50 past the mad rush to do opening -- season openings and

1 closures and that sort of thing that we'd start holding
2 meetings in rural areas. In areas that are represented on
3 the -- as parties to the to the council here. That I think
4 it's important that we live up to that, that while it's
5 convenient to have Staff members and others available you
6 got to remember that we don't have our Staff with us
7 either. We don't have people that we rely on to provide us
8 information every time we leave our areas. That while it's
9 important that the agency folks, you know, have access to
10 the people that you rely on for work, you got to see at the
11 same time we don't have that luxury every time we come here
12 to Anchorage. You know, you've got to see things from our
13 end of the stick here.

14
15 I think that it's important that there be
16 an important outreach effort, it'd be part of an outreach
17 -- you know, it could be seen as part of the outreach
18 program by holding the meeting in Barrow, especially during
19 that time of the year when spring geese hunting will be
20 occurring. There will be spring hunts in May. There are
21 other subsistence activities that will be occurring up
22 there that I think are important for all of us to be
23 exposed to and to see firsthand that while it's easy and,
24 you know, it's easy for us to fly in from Bush areas to
25 come to Anchorage here for meetings, that it's -- you know,
26 it's a lot easier for you guys to just drive down the
27 street and go home. That we're making sacrifices here in
28 order for us to be here at meetings, not only with our
29 families but being away from our families and the
30 inconveniences that go along with being away from home,
31 that, you know, we'd like to see as true partners, you
32 know, if we're going to be partners in this thing that
33 there needs to be some pay back too. That we will be
34 traveling to Barrow, I mean, you know, those of us that
35 will be traveling up there if the meeting is held there,
36 we'll be making the same sacrifices as you.

37
38 Thank you.

39
40 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Thank you, Ralph. I
41 believe it's pretty much a consensus of the Council that we
42 all should try to look into it so maybe we could have the
43 Staff go ahead and look into that. I know the RAC Council
44 travels all over all the time, I don't know if they're
45 getting more money than us or what but it sure wouldn't
46 hurt to see if we can go up there or not and then report
47 back, I guess, to the executive committee to let us know
48 what we can do here on the next time and place of our
49 meeting.

50

1 Thank you.

2

3 Our next item on our agenda is to elect a
4 secretary, we inserted in there, and also to appoint
5 committee members so I suggest we try to do the secretary
6 thing first and then go into the committee ones.

7

8 Yes, Doug.

9

10 MR. ALCORN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In
11 the advent that you turn over the gavel to the incoming
12 Chair, I would nominate you as the outgoing Chair to become
13 the secretary.

14

15 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: I do not accept,
16 thank you. I think maybe somebody else can try and hold
17 the position here. I'm leaving it open. Yeah, maybe we
18 can go into a Native caucus and I think we can figure out
19 that secretary thing and also our committee ones real quick
20 on that.

21

22 So I'd like to call a short Native caucus
23 here, thank you.

24

25 (Off record)

26

27 (On record)

28

29 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: We'll go ahead and
30 call the meeting back to order, please. Thank you.
31 Everybody be seated.

32

33 Okay, we were at electing the secretary and
34 committee members. With our Native caucus we had we opted
35 to elect Austin as our secretary and Native rep, so if
36 that's kind of the way it falls in so we'd like to ask for
37 nominations from the floor.

38

39 MR. ANDERSEN: Mr. Chairman.

40

41 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Ralph.

42

43 MR. ANDERSEN: I nominate Austin Ahmasuk to
44 be secretary.

45

46 MR. HICKS: I second.

47

48 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: It's been moved and
49 seconded. All those in favor.

50

1 IN UNISON: Aye.
2
3 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: I'm not even asking
4 for the question -- no. I guess we can go into the
5 committee members and the technical committee we have down
6 first, we opted to leave that the way it was with Connie,
7 Robert Leedy, Tom Rothe, Robert Suydam, Russ Oates, Jim
8 Simon, Tim Andrews and Kent Whol (ph), I'll just go Tim,
9 Connie and that's it, I believe is who we decided on in
10 there, and Robert Suydam, sorry, and do we have to have
11 nominations on that too?
12
13 MR. ARMSTRONG: There's no change.
14
15 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Well, that's just a
16 committee, so, yeah, okay. Is everybody in agreement with
17 that on the committee, and Doug or Matt, do you have
18 anybody else you guys were thinking about on replacing or
19 anything that?
20
21 MR. ROBUS: No, Mr. Chairman.
22
23 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: No, okay. All right,
24 so harvest survey committee, Austin and Taqulik on that
25 one. And Doug or Matt, you guys have any changes on that
26 one?
27
28 MR. ROBUS: No, we're fine as is, Mr.
29 Chairman.
30
31 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Okay, thank you. I'm
32 sorry, Austin.
33
34 MR. AHMASUK: Mr. Chairman, the committee
35 should reflect Jacob Isaac also is on the committee.
36
37 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: On the harvest survey
38 committee, okay, Jacob Isaac.
39
40 MR. AHMASUK: Yeah, he's an RIT.
41
42 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: And who else?
43
44 MR. AHMASUK: No one else.
45
46 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Oh, I thought there
47 was another name.
48
49 MR. AHMASUK: You appointed Taqulik.
50

1 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Yes, I mentioned her
2 name, yes. Robert Suydam, sorry, I keep forgetting about
3 Robert, I hope he's not out there. Okay, oh, there he is
4 in the back, sorry Robert.

5
6 The SOP committee is next, myself, Tim
7 Andrews and Mike Smith. Doug or Matt, do you have any
8 changes with Tom being there?

9
10 MR. ROBUS: No, Mr. Chairman.

11
12 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: All right, thank you.
13 Okay, long-term goals and objectives is Ralph Andersen and
14 Gordon Jackson, do you guys have anybody Matt or Doug,
15 changes.

16
17 (No comments)

18
19 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Nope, okay, sounds
20 good. I comment Tom for wanting to be on all these
21 committees.

22
23 (Laughter)

24
25 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Flyway Council rep.

26
27 MR. ALCORN: Who said anything about
28 wanting.

29
30 (Laughter)

31
32 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Flyway Council
33 Service reg committee would be Mike Smith and myself and
34 then Gordon Jackson still as the alternate.

35
36 Okay, Emperor Goose Management Plan
37 committee, we have Ralph Andersen, Peter, Austin on there,
38 Doug or Matt, do you guys have any other changes you might
39 want?

40
41 (Shaking head negatively)

42
43 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Nope.

44
45 MR. ARMSTRONG: Ralph Andersen.

46
47 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Yes, Ralph, and Peter
48 and Austin. Yes, Russ, you want to be on there?

49
50 MR. OSTRAND: I wanted to ask a question.

1 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Go ahead.
2
3 MR. ARMSTRONG: He's already on there.
4
5 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: You're already on
6 there.
7
8 Bill, come up to the microphone please.
9
10 MR. OSTRAND: Just a question, is Tim
11 Andrews still on the Emperor Goose Management Plan
12 committee?
13
14 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Yes, sorry I forgot
15 his name, sorry Tim.
16
17 Okay, we're at I think the exclusion
18 committee, no, we did that one, no we didn't, sorry, we
19 have Peter and Joeneal Hicks and Mike Smith, and Doug or
20 Matt, do you have any changes on that?
21
22 (Shaking head negatively)
23
24 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Nope. Harvest
25 limitations committee is Enoch, Attamuk, myself and
26 Joeneal, and Doug or Matt, do you have any changes on that
27 one.
28
29 MR. ALCORN: Nope.
30
31 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Okay. Invitation
32 committee is Mike Smith, Ralph Andersen and Doug or Matt,
33 any changes?
34
35 MR. ROBUS: No.
36
37 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Nope. Oh, wait,
38 sorry, Doug, Doug might.
39
40 MR. ALCORN: Meg Laws is listed on this
41 sheet and I just wanted to make sure that she is identified
42 and stays on there.
43
44 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Right. Right, she's
45 on this sheet year. I'm just listing the Native that we
46 decided on in our caucus. Yes, Bill.
47
48 MR. OSTRAND: I guess, technically Meg Laws
49 is just the nominee for the invitation committee, it's Mike
50 Rearden because according to the by-laws, you have to

1 either be approved by the Council or by the Chair and that
2 hasn't happened just yet.

3

4 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Thank you, Bill.
5 Yeah, so let's approve her real quick then.

6

7 MR. ANDERSEN: Well, I think if we go
8 through the list I'd like to make a motion to approve the
9 entire slate.

10

11 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Okay. Is there a
12 second to that?

13

14 MR. HICKS: Second.

15

16 MR. ARMSTRONG: Well, we still have.....

17

18 MR. ANDERSEN: No, I didn't make a motion
19 yet.

20

21 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Oh, I thought you
22 said you so moved.

23

24 MR. ANDERSEN: When we're done with them.

25

26 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Oh, after we're done
27 with all of them, okay, we have one more.

28

29 MR. ARMSTRONG: Outreach.

30

31 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: The outreach
32 committee. And we are looking at Taqulik and Patty, and I
33 don't know do we need to get more members on there, Doug
34 and Matt, you have any people that -- Doug.

35

36 MR. ALCORN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm
37 winging this right now but I'm going to nominate Donna
38 Dewhurst and Karen Laing to represent the Fish and Wildlife
39 Service.

40

41 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Okay. Bob.

42

43 MR. ANDREWS: I just got a question about
44 AVCP, it seems to me that we'd be making a mistake if AVCP
45 were not represented.

46

47 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: All right, so maybe
48 Tim.

49

50 MR. ALCORN: Mr. Chairman.

1 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Doug.
2
3 MR. ALCORN: I had a specific request for
4 someone from the Refuge program to participate. If the
5 Council would allow me to nominate three I would also like
6 to add an unnamed Refuge Staff to represent the Fish and
7 Wildlife Service.
8
9 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: I don't see why not.
10
11 MR. ROBUS: And I'd like to have an unnamed
12 Fish and Game person involved but I need to talk to Staff
13 to see who gets blessed with that.
14
15 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Right.
16
17 (Laughter)
18
19 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Gordon.
20
21 MR. JACKSON: Mr. Chairman, I have an
22 unnamed Native in mind I'd like to nominate.
23
24 (Laughter)
25
26 MR. JACKSON: I'll tell you a little bit
27 later.
28
29 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: I think Tim is
30 speaking for Myron, I think maybe we could put Myron on it
31 now.
32
33 MR. ANDREWS: I have an unnamed person, too.
34
35 (Laughter)
36
37 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Okay, so we have
38 three more unnamed that might possibly be on the committee.
39 Yes, Matt.
40
41 MR. ROBUS: Are we done with outreach, Mr.
42 Chairman for the moment.
43
44 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Yes.
45
46 MR. ROBUS: I need to back up.
47
48 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Yes, Fred.
49
50 MR. ARMSTRONG: Tim, could we just identify

1 you tentatively until Myron selects, in case you guys get
2 together?
3
4 MR. ANDREWS: (Nods affirmatively)
5
6 MR. ARMSTRONG: Okay, thanks.
7
8 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Thank you, Tim.
9 Okay, yes, Matt.
10
11 MR. ROBUS: Mr. Chairman, I'd like to back
12 up to harvest limitations. This reminds me that Myron made
13 a point of wanting somebody from AVCP on the harvest
14 limitations committee and, of course, he's gone, so I guess
15 I ask for Tim's advice as well.
16
17 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: All right. That's
18 the one I was trying to figure out earlier which one he
19 wanted to be one.
20
21 MR. ANDREWS: That's fine.
22
23 MR. ANDERSEN: So an unnamed person.
24
25 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Unnamed person on
26 that one, I guess, coming from AVCP on that one. Okay,
27 thank you. And I believe that's it, so, Ralph.
28
29 MR. ANDERSEN: I move Mr. Chairman, that we
30 approve the list of committee members as you've just read.
31
32 MR. HICKS: Second.
33
34 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: It's been moved and
35 seconded. Question.
36
37 MR. AHMASUK: Question.
38
39 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Question's been
40 called for.
41
42 MR. ALCORN: Mr. Chairman.
43
44 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Oh, sorry, Doug.
45
46 MR. ALCORN: I'm sorry to hold us up. Fred
47 pointed out to me that Karen Laing, Service employee is on
48 the outreach team that's already been identified and what
49 we approved for the outreach approach, not necessarily a
50 committee of the Co-Management Council and so I would like

1 to strike her name and in lieu of that just have the
2 unnamed Refuge Staff that I'll identify later.

3
4 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: If that's okay with
5 the Council.

6
7 (Council nods affirmatively)

8
9 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Yes, sounds good.
10 Okay, question's been called for. If there's no objections
11 to these appointed committee people.

12
13 (No comments)

14
15 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: So moved. Thank you
16 all. And I have one more item -- sorry, go ahead, Fred.

17
18 MR. ARMSTRONG: Before we do that I just
19 have one quick, it was brought to my attention at the last
20 Council meeting, on the extension of the 30 day closure,
21 the Council directed AMB Staff to work with all the regions
22 to see, you know, at least to start working with them to
23 begin discussions about expanding the closure period. So
24 just a head's up that this is going to start occurring this
25 year, at least they'll be attending meetings and presenting
26 information.

27
28 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: All right, thank you,
29 Fred. The last thing here, I don't know if I want to do
30 this first, because I was hoping to adjourn that meeting
31 and hit that gavel down one more time, but I guess I'm not
32 going to be able to do it. So the next item we have on is
33 passing of the gavel to the incoming Chairman, which will
34 be the vice-Chair, Matt, with the State, procedure I don't
35 know yet but I'm going to hand it to him anyway.

36
37 (Applause)

38
39 MR. SQUARTSOFF: All right, thank you,
40 Matt.

41
42 CHAIRMAN ROBUS: Thank you, Herman. And as
43 my first act I'd like to thank you for all the work you've
44 put in this last year and getting us through some
45 interesting moments on the air. I think you've worked real
46 hard and done real well and I'd like to just express to the
47 entire Council membership that I realize that it's going to
48 be a somewhat complicated and challenging task but I hope
49 and intend to bring us through this year and getting more
50 accomplished and working together and solving some of the

1 issues that we've solved part way so far, some that we
2 haven't solved yet but we need to and so with that
3 incurring as much favor as early in this process as
4 possible I would entertain a motion to adjourn the meeting.

5

6 MR. SQUARTSOFF: One second Matt. I want
7 to thank you for commending me but I couldn't have done it
8 without you guys, so I thank you there.

9

10 MR. ANDERSEN: So moved.

11

12 MR. HICKS: Second.

13

14 CHAIRMAN ROBUS: Meeting is adjourned.

15

16

(END OF PROCEEDINGS)

