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ALASKA MIGRATORY BIRD CO-MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

SPRING MEETING - ZOOM

VOLUME II

April 8, 2022

Members Present:

- Ryan Scott, Alaska Department of Fish and Game
- Eric Taylor, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- Gloria Stickwan, Ahtna Intertribal Resource Commission
- Priscilla Evans, Chugach Regional Resources Commission
- Taqulik Hepa, North Slope Region, Barrow
- Coral Chernoff, Sun'aq Tribe of Kodiak
- Gayla Hoseth, Bristol Bay Native Association
- Peter Devine, Aleutian/Pribilof Island Association
- Randy Mayo, Tanana Chiefs

Executive Director, Patty Schwalenberg

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P R O C E E D I N G S

(ZOOM - 4/8/2021)

(On record)

MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Well, there's six of us Native Caucus and then Eric and Ryan so we do have a quorum. So we'll go ahead and resume back to our meeting. Good morning Lili, glad you could join us today we missed you yesterday. I think -- were we going to start off with Jim's presentation first and then Lili's, I kind of got some messages yesterday that Jim would go first and then Lili, or are we going -- backing up to going to Lili this morning.

MR. JOHNSON: Madame Chair, I think the idea was for me to start and I'm ready to do so when you are.

MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Okay, good morning Jim. So Jim's going to go over conservation status of bartailed godwits, so go ahead, Jim.

Thank you. Did you have a PowerPoint?

MR. JOHNSON: Yes, I'm just trying to share my screen.

MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Oh, okay, I just was hoping that it's enabled because I think that Patty was the host.

MR. JOHNSON: I think I can do this.

MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Okay.

MR. TAYLOR: I can see it Jim.

MR. JOHNSON: Okay, great, thank you. Thank you, Madame Chair, and Council members. Good morning everyone. Jim Johnson, and I'm a migratory bird biologist with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Migratory Bird Program, and it's a pleasure to join you from my home in Anchorage.

In this presentation I'll describe one of the most extraordinary migratory birds that I've encountered during my career, the Alaska bartail godwit. In particular, I'll describe a few of the

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1 specie's life history characteristics, the importance
2 of the Yukon Kuskokwim Delta for bartailed godwits.
3 I'll also talk about how the bartail godwit is one of
4 the most important subsistence shorebird species on the
5 southern YKDelta. I'll bring to your attention some of
6 the known and suspected factors responsible for this
7 species apparent steep decline, which could have
8 impacts on subsistence harvest. And finally for the
9 Council's consideration I'll suggest actions which will
10 advance management and conservation decisions.

11

12 The Alaska bartail godwit is a large
13 shorebird that only breeds in Alaska. The yellow areas
14 on the map display the species breeding range which
15 extends from the Arctic Coastal Plain south to the
16 Yukon Kuskokwim Delta. And nests are shallow bowls in
17 the tundra where males and females incubate their four
18 modeled eggs -- pardon me for one second -- and adults
19 care for their chicks until they can fly and evade
20 predators.

21

22 Following the nesting season all of
23 Alaska's adult and juvenile bartail godwits move from
24 inland tundra habitats to intertidal areas of the
25 YKDelta. An aerial survey of the region completed in
26 2019 by USGS and Fish and Wildlife Service counted
27 100,000 adult and juvenile godwits. 93 percent of
28 these birds occurred in the southern portion of the
29 Delta, and more than 80 percent of the birds counted
30 during the survey occurred on Kwigluk Island and three
31 adjacent sandy shoals at the mouth of the Kuskokwim
32 River. Godwits rely on the YKDelta because of its
33 super abundance of food. In fact, it's one of, if not
34 the most productive intertidal shorebird habitats in
35 the world. Birds spend up to two months gorging on
36 small clams called myocomma* and other marine
37 invertebrates and in doing so accumulate enough fat to
38 double -- to more than double their body weight. Birds
39 become so fat that their bodies transform to the shape
40 of footballs. Birds also undergo a transformation that
41 is not visible. Their digestive organs shrink and
42 their heart and flight muscles increase in size. Their
43 blood thickens to enable more absorption of oxygen.
44 All in preparation for an incredible act of endurance.

45

46 During September, coinciding with
47 favorable wind conditions flocks of adult godwits lift
48 off of the Delta's mudflats and begin flying south
49 across the vast Pacific Ocean and flocks of juveniles
50

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1 follow a week or two later. Birds fly without stopping
2 for 8,000 miles over the course of eight days until
3 they make landfall in New Zealand. They fly day and
4 night, not eating, drinking or sleeping. And this is
5 the longest known non-stop migration of any animal and
6 it redefined what was thought to be physically
7 possible.

8
9 The orange line shows the general
10 migratory route of the bartail godwit across the
11 Pacific layered over a wind map for mid-September, a
12 period of time when most godwits migrate. And you can
13 see the Aleutian low right in the path of migrating
14 godwits.

15
16 You may wonder how godwits navigate
17 across the expansive ocean, featureless ocean for days
18 without a chart or a GPS and the most likely answer is
19 that they sense the Earth's geomagnetic fields, but
20 they're also likely following other cues such as the
21 position of the sun and stars, as well as prevailing
22 wind patterns. The godwits uncanny ability to
23 accurately navigate to New Zealand may have been used
24 as a navigational aide for ancient sea fares when land
25 was not in sight. Ancient Polynesians were aware of
26 the seasonal passage of shorebirds like the bartail
27 godwit over the Pacific Ocean and incorporated these
28 observations into their navigational toolkit as they
29 explored and colonized the vast Pacific Basin.

30
31 Following several months resting,
32 molting and refueling at nonbreeding areas, godwits
33 once again embark on another epic migration, this time
34 northward. The first leg of their migration is a
35 nearly 7,000 mile nonstop to the Yellow Sea in East-
36 Asia where birds remain for more than a month resting
37 and refueling in preparation for a final 4,000 mile
38 nonstop flight to Alaska. And, again, this migratory
39 patterns are generalized and superimposed over a wind
40 map for early April, another time when birds are
41 migrating north.

42
43 And with the godwits arrival back to
44 Alaska their annual cycle is completed.

45
46 Birds fly an average of nearly 20,000
47 miles during their annual migration and over the course
48 of a 20 year old bird's life this is equivalent to
49 flying 400,000 miles, which is nearly the distance from
50

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1 the Earth to the Moon and back.

2

3

4 Unfortunately, and not surprisingly,
5 the bartail godwit like many other shorebird species is
6 in trouble. It's population which is currently
7 estimated at 125,000 individuals is declining by two to
8 five percent per year, and at that rate the godwit's
9 population will be reduced by 20 to 40 percent in as
10 few as 10 years. And as a result of this decline,
11 Alaska bartail godwit's have been designated a species
12 of high conservation concern by several agencies and
13 organizations.

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The primary factor causing the decline of bartail godwits is believed to be habitat loss in East-Asia's Yellow Sea, which is a vital staging area for bartail godwit and so many other shorebird species. Over 60 percent of intertidal areas in the Yellow Sea have been lost to development during the past five decades. This is truly an environmental disaster.

Another concern is illegal harvest of shorebirds, is illegal, including bartail godwits in the Yellow Sea and there's also evidence that many shorebirds become entangled in fishing nets left on the mudflats.

Factors in Alaska, however, may also be contributing to the decline of bartail godwits such as low reproductive rates as a result of climate change and particular reductions in the availability of insects for godwit chicks when they need them the most. And also Alaska subsistence harvest data suggests that the bartail godwit is an important subsistence resource. An estimated 1,100 birds are harvested each year on the South Coast of the Yukon Kuskokwim Delta. And this total approaches the sustainable annual mortality limit for this imperiled declining species. There are several things that we can do in Alaska to help conserve bartail godwits such as conduct studies during the nesting period to estimate nests and fledgling success and this is best done on the YKDelta because of higher nest densities and easier accessibility compared to other breeding locations like the Arctic Coastal Plain. And together with biologists in New Zealand and China we can individually mark and resight birds in Alaska to better determine when mortalities are occurring. And this is best done at sites in Kuskokwim Bay where a majority of the world's

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1 godwits occur in the fall. We can also attempt to
2 refine estimates of subsistence harvest. Is the
3 current annual harvest estimate of 1,100 birds
4 accurate. All combined this information will enable
5 more accurate insights into demographic processes that
6 will advance management and conservation decisions.

7

8 In closing, the bartail godwits
9 expansive range spans hemispheres and multiple
10 cultures. I've listed here a few examples of the
11 species common names, including in Yup'ik used
12 throughout the species range, which highlights that
13 successful conservation and management relies on in
14 engaging in diverse conversations and collaborations.
15 And if you take a close look at this photo of a bartail
16 godwit carving at the Miranda Shorebird Center in New
17 Zealand, which is another important site for bartail
18 godwit you'll see Old Chevak written on a wing, and I
19 think this exemplifies the strong cultural links
20 created by migratory birds like bartail godwit.

21

22 And with that I welcome your input,
23 your participation and your questions.

24

25 Thank you.

26

27 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Thank you, Jim.
28 That was interesting. I learned a lot. That's a lot
29 of traveling that that bird does. Does anybody have
30 any questions for Jim.

31

32 (No comments)

33

34 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: I guess I have a
35 question, you said that taking action at this meeting,
36 what was the -- you mentioned that earlier, was there a
37 certain action that you want -- were proposing that the
38 AMBCC take?

39

40 MR. JOHNSON: No, I didn't mean to
41 imply any particular actions would be taken, just I was
42 hoping perhaps we could consider some of these ideas
43 for research and perhaps talk amongst ourselves maybe
44 at another time about how to implement some of them.
45 I'm really looking for opportunities to work with folks
46 on the Yukon Delta.

47

48 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Yeah, I think
49 that would be something that would be really a good
50

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1 project. Interesting. We learn something new every
2 day. Thank you for that really good presentation. It
3 looks like Rob has a question. Go ahead Rob.

4

5 MR. CALOR: I'm working -- can you hear
6 me?

7

8 MR. JOHNSON: I can hear you.

9

10 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Yeah, I can, I
11 was going to ask if I needed to.....

12

13 MR. CALOR: Can you see me?

14

15 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Yeah, we can see
16 you.

17

18 MR. CALOR: Okay. I am part of the
19 East-Asian Australasian Flyway Partnership and I think
20 this is just a wonderful interesting species. Thank
21 you, Jim. I would like to say that the Chinese
22 government has made great strides for the Yellow Sea.
23 There was a lot of reclamation going on and that really
24 has been cold or stopped. But anyways, thanks, Jim, I
25 think this is a really important species and as you
26 pointed out, units the flyway, the East-Asian
27 Australasian Flyway with Alaska. So thanks very much.

28

29 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Thank you, Rob.

30

31 MR. JOHNSON: Thank you.

32

33 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Chris.

34

35 CHRIS: Thank you, Madame Chair. Jim,
36 that picture of godwits tangled on the net, where was
37 that picture taken? And is that.....

38

39 MR. JOHNSON: That was taken somewhere
40 in the Yellow Sea Chris in China.

41

42 CHRIS: In China. And is that their
43 traditional way of harvesting these shorebirds?

44

45 MR. JOHNSON: I think it's one of the
46 -- one of the many ways that people in that region have
47 harvested shorebirds over a very long period of time.
48 And I just wanted to make it clear that the Chinese
49 government has made harvest of shorebirds like that

50

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1 illegal but yet it still happens. It's obviously very
2 difficult to enforce some of the regulations and
3 policies so broadly across a large region.

4

5 CHRIS: Thank you.

6

7 MR. JOHNSON: Thank you.

8

9 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Thank you, Chris
10 and Jim. Ryan.

11

12 MR. SCOTT: Thank you, Jim, that was
13 great. And I kind of -- my question really was about
14 the Chinese side and the Yellow Sea, if any kind of
15 restoration work had been done and Rob mentioned that
16 it was being worked on but I just wanted to clarify,
17 that's over now, I mean, they've quit doing that or are
18 they still working on that aspect?

19

20 MR. JOHNSON: I'm not super familiar
21 with the actual on the ground efforts to do any
22 restoration. I think that the amount of reclamation of
23 basically building enormous sea walls and pumping sea
24 water out to dry the land so that it's available to
25 build high rises and industrial centers, that has
26 slowed down. I don't think it's completely stopped but
27 it's definitely slowed in comparison to the pace that
28 it was happening just a few decade ago.

29

30 MR. SCOTT: Okay, great, thank you.
31 And just one real quick followup. I mean obviously
32 their migration is an amazing story, do you know how
33 high they fly?

34

35 MR. JOHNSON: I don't. But I think
36 that they're not flying at very high altitudes, they're
37 probably fairly close to the surface of the ocean, you
38 know, within a few hundred meters is my best guess.
39 You know there is technology now, you know, some
40 tracking devices have barometric gauges in them so that
41 we could probably better estimate actual altitude at
42 which these birds are flying but I don't have an
43 accurate estimate at this point.

44

45 MR. SCOTT: Great, thank you.

46

47 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Thank you, Ryan.
48 Eric.

49

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1 MR. TAYLOR: Thank you, Madame Chair.
2 This is a question for Rob as Rob as the Chair of the
3 East-Asian Australasian Flyway Partnership. Rob, you
4 mentioned restoration of the Yellow Sea but I'm also
5 wondering has the Flyway* Partnership engaged with
6 China to make any progress relative to the illegal
7 harvest of shorebirds in that area?

8
9 MR. CALOR: Yeah, thank you, through
10 the Chair. I was -- so as Eric pointed out, I'm
11 currently serving as Chair of the East-Asian
12 Australasian Flyway Partnership. Rick Langto, who is
13 with Migratory Bird, he serves as the shorebird working
14 group chair and then I'm also the seabird working group
15 chair for the Flyway Partnership. I have been recently
16 tasked with nominating somebody from the Flyway
17 Partnership to the Conservation of Migratory Species,
18 CMS, in particular, to address issues about illegal
19 harvest of birds. And the Flyway itself has largely
20 focused on water birds, so shorebirds and then we're a
21 little bit off shore when we're talking about sea
22 birds. But one of the most pressing things and, in
23 particular, the Yellow Sea in China, which is also
24 shared with the Korean -- the Republic of Korea and the
25 Peoples Republic of Korea, so North Korea and South
26 Korea as well, in terms of controlling the reclamation,
27 the changing of the land essentially, and when we say
28 reclaim, it's dredging of those lands and altering them
29 forever. So that being said, yes, there is an active
30 effort through the United Nations as well as through
31 the Flyway to inform, you know, the illegal take of
32 migratory birds.

33
34 MR. TAYLOR: Thanks, Rob.

35
36 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Okay, thank you
37 everyone and thank you Jim for that really great
38 presentation. And maybe there might be an opportunity
39 where it could be a good project.

40
41 Thank you.

42
43 Any other questions.

44
45 MR. CALOR: I guess I have one more
46 followup, Madame Chair, if I may.

47
48 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Go ahead, Rob.

49
50

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1 MR. CALOR: One of the East-Asian
2 Australasian Flyway Partnership initiatives is flyway
3 sites and so nominating this site in Yukon Delta and
4 then finding that sister site, so where birds are
5 breeding in the Northern Hemisphere and then wintering
6 in the Southern Hemisphere is one of our initiatives
7 for the Flyway. And again connects the Flyway, as Jim
8 had pointed out, you know, from New Zealand all the way
9 to Alaska. So we are -- we'd look for the support of
10 the AMBCC for that nomination process as well.

11

12 So thank you very much.

13

14 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Thank you for
15 bringing that to our attention. Would you be able to
16 bring that to our fall meeting possibly, or what would
17 be the process for that, or work with Patty, if that's
18 the process that we need to do?

19

20 MR. CALOR: Yeah, absolutely thank you
21 for asking. So Jim and one of the folks that he
22 supervises, Zach Polon, he is working with our USGS
23 partner, Dan Routhrof on identifying the site here in
24 Alaska and then working on a sister site in New
25 Zealand, so yes we can do that, that would be great.

26

27 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Yeah, I think
28 that would be good. So work with Patty and we could
29 see you guys both next fall.

30

31 Okay, thank you everybody and thank you
32 Jim.

33

34 We're going to go back on our agenda
35 and under old business we have Subsistence Harvest
36 Assessment Program with Lili and Laura. Good morning
37 Lili and Laura, I'll turn it over to you.

38

39 MS. NAVES: Hi, good morning everyone.
40 I'm happy to be here with you today. I'm seeing the
41 order of the topics of the agenda and maybe I think
42 dovetailing on Jim's presentation I would like first to
43 give an update on the Shorebird Outreach Program, 8A(6)
44 in the agenda, start with that and then we can go over
45 other topics after if that works for everyone.

46

47 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Yeah, that will
48 work Liliana and we do have an open agenda for this
49 meeting so that will be fine. Thank you.

50

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1 MS. NAVES: Okay, thank you. So I
2 provided some materials related to the shorebird
3 outreach work for the meeting package and the PDF that
4 Patty sent, that starts on Page 17 of the PDF. That
5 doesn't mean that that's the number for the page on the
6 bottom but when you look at the PDF it's Page 17, and I
7 can also share my screen here so we can follow this
8 together.

9
10 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: That would be
11 helpful, thank you.

12
13 MS. NAVES: I think with multiple
14 screens there a little bit, let me see if I can put my
15 curser in the right screen. I hope this will do it.
16 Hold on just a sec, I'm sorry for this.

17
18 (Pause)

19
20 MS. NAVES: Just one more time, I think
21 I have to move this to the front of my screen here.

22
23 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: We are seeing my
24 screen.

25
26 MS. NAVES: Yeah, but that's the wrong
27 one, I think.

28
29 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Oh.

30
31 (Pause)

32
33 MS. NAVES: Okay. Are you seeing a
34 picture of shorebirds or seeing text?

35
36 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: It looks like
37 it's a page, Tamaranac, I can't pronounce it.

38
39 MS. NAVES: Okay, that's good. So the
40 conversation about shorebirds is going on since awhile.
41 In the context of the East Asia-Australasian Flyway and
42 the concerns about harvest along the whole flyway. I
43 have been contacted by organizations such as Bird Life
44 International and since 2011 or so asking me about
45 harvest data in Alaska and I first started looking at
46 the harvest data in Alaska in 2012. But it was only in
47 2017 that I gathered the resources, this means I got
48 the grant to work on this in a more focused way and so
49 that was project about the shorebird harvest and the
50

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1 indigenous knowledge in Alaska that we have seen
2 presentations at the AMBCC multiple times. So look at
3 the harvest of shorebirds across the whole Alaska, not
4 only godwits but other kinds of shorebirds. Also we
5 did interviews, traditional knowledge interviews in the
6 YKDelta to learn better about the shorebird names
7 because at that point we did not have a common
8 vocabulary when we were talking about shorebirds. They
9 are small birds, the species look alike quite a bit.
10 It's even challenging for birders because it can be
11 difficult to tell the different species apart. So you
12 work on ethnotaxonomy*, this means how local people
13 name and put animals in categories, how they lump and
14 split into categories. And what people were seeing
15 about shorebirds in the YKDelta and what -- how
16 shorebirds feature in Yup'ik culture.

17
18 So the hardest part to look at Alaska
19 as a whole but we can only do so much and for the
20 traditional knowledge part you have a tool, the flock
21 goes somewhere and you focus on the YKDelta because
22 Alaska is a hot spot for shorebirds, worldwide. But
23 YKDelta, within Alaska is a super hot spot for
24 shorebirds because it has lots of the habitats and the
25 kinds of foods that shorebirds need to raise their
26 chicks and bring up the new generation. So the YKDelta
27 is a super hot spot for shorebirds.

28
29 During that project, we interviewed
30 about 80 people in five communities across the YKDelta
31 and we learned some things about shorebird names. We
32 didn't learn anything [sic], you only learn some
33 things, we cannot go over everything. So -- but one of
34 the things we also heard from people in the YKDelta is
35 that they're seeing fewer birds and they would like to
36 know more about these birds because as they go to so
37 many places across the world during their migrations,
38 people on the YKDelta know that they are there for only
39 a relatively small part of the year. And also there
40 was a concern with the loss of vocabulary and the loss
41 of the Native languages that the younger generations
42 are not learning the names for those birds and that
43 there is a change on the transmission of knowledge.

44
45 So as a followup for that project, we
46 developed shorebird outreach project that's place basis
47 and the cultural basis specifically for the YKDelta.
48 So we started working on this project in 2019 and the
49 idea is that we'll have different kinds of activities
50

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1 in the communities, we have movie night with the movie
2 festival where we show documentary movies about
3 shorebirds, we plan on bringing elders to the schools
4 to talk with the youth about shorebirds and the
5 community and the school visits by staff of the
6 project, and also to have an educators component that
7 we're making this material available for local
8 educators to use with the students. But then we had
9 the Covid and in the last two years we're not able to
10 do visits to communities and working with the schools
11 have been difficult too because the schools have had
12 their own challenges. But starting in October last
13 year we felt that we could not keep postponing this
14 project for much longer, the grant you had for this
15 project could not be extended any longer so we decided
16 to further develop the educator's component and tried
17 to work much closer with the school districts, with the
18 schools and with educators so the local schools and
19 educators can use this program and adapt the program to
20 best needs -- best meet the local needs for their
21 students and fitting this content into their regular
22 curriculum.

23

24 So we have partnered with Wildlife
25 educators at the -- wildlife education program of Fish
26 and Game, Brenda Bowers and Heather Jamison, they have
27 been working with the schools, educators and
28 communities on the wildlife education for probably
29 decades and they have been a great help networking with
30 the school districts and further developing this
31 educator's program.

32

33 So what you are seeing there on the
34 screen it's a pamphlet that was developed in both
35 English and Yup'ik. The pamphlet has six pages so I
36 will slowly roll down through the -- this is the first
37 page of the Yup'ik version, there is the English.

38

39 We feature four different shorebirds
40 there on the second page and showing their migrations,
41 different migration patterns of different shorebirds.
42 So Jim talked about the bartail godwit but shorebirds,
43 as a group, are doing poorly in general. So cover
44 other different kinds of shorebirds too. This is the
45 English version of that page.

46

47 So these are excerpts from the
48 interviews, the local and traditional knowledge
49 interviews that we wanted to put there, giving out kind
50

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1 of first -- in the voice of local people firsthand,
2 what they are seeing and thinking about shorebirds.
3 This is the English part.

4
5 And there is -- we talk a little bit
6 more about the conservation -- the conversation
7 concerns and the -- on the top part of this page there,
8 there are six pictures. So the two pictures on the
9 left side show a flock of shorebirds. So since the
10 '70s we lost about 3 billion birds in North America.
11 Some groups got hit harder than others. Shorebirds are
12 doing particularly poorly compared to other groups of
13 birds. Since the '70s shorebird numbers that bred in
14 North America reduced by 37 percent. So those pictures
15 on the top there and the flock on the top and on the
16 bottom shows how a 37 percent reduction in numbers
17 looks like -- how this looks like -- oops, sorry, hold
18 on -- when you are looking in the field, how this
19 changes in number looks like. This is what this image
20 is trying to capture. And this happened during our
21 lifetime so since the '70s, this has been happening
22 relatively quickly.

23
24 And there are the names of shorebirds
25 in Yup'ik and also we developed a (indiscernible) key
26 to help youth identify some species of shorebirds that
27 occur in the YK Delta and the dichotomies keys is based
28 on what we learned from the ethnotaxonomy, how the
29 local people name and the group of shorebirds in the
30 Yup'ik culture.

31
32 So the name of this bird, the
33 shorebirds for today and tomorrow, and the -- we have
34 been working with the school districts and trying to
35 get the schools engaged and using in these materials.
36 So that six page pamphlet it summarizes some key
37 elements and information of the program, but the
38 program has a series of other materials and activities
39 such as coloring page, audio clips of the voices of
40 shorebirds, also audio clips of the Yup'ik
41 pronunciation of shorebird names, excerpts of the elder
42 recordings from the interviews where you have Native
43 people speaking firsthand on their knowledge and the
44 understanding of shorebirds. There is, for instance, a
45 writing activity, that is what in the culture area is
46 called the empathy essay (ph) that's kind of let's get
47 ourselves on shorebird shoes, or let's wear shorebirds
48 wings and write how would we experience these changes
49 that shorebirds happen along -- experience along their
50

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1 migrations. For instance, what if you traveled
2 thousands of miles to arrive to important migration
3 places, just to arrive there and find that that place
4 is there no more so how would it feel like that. So
5 this is an empathy essay, that's one activity of this
6 program. So together with this empathy essay as part
7 of for the preparing of this activity also there are
8 materials that are available for the educators and the
9 students including a video documentary produced by the
10 Cornell Lab of Ornithology* that shows what's going on
11 in Asia with the loss of habitat and such.

12

13 So this just kind of gives example of
14 materials and activities that go with this program.

15

16 So currently the school in Hooper Bay
17 is using the program and we have a teacher there that's
18 doing an amazing job, he's really kind of taking some
19 of those things apart and breaking them down in even
20 smaller units that I think is going to be helpful for
21 his students. And he reached out to the shorebird --
22 Miranda Shorebird Center in New Zealand and he
23 spearheaded this Zoom gathering to bring together youth
24 at the school in Hooper Bay with a researcher, an
25 environmental educator and Mauria* cultural
26 (indiscernible), so Mauria is the Native people in New
27 Zealand and the godwit has a very special place in
28 Mauria, traditional culture so in Mauria, their name
29 for the godwit is the (In Native) as in the YKDelta is
30 the (In Native) or the (In Native) in Chup'ik, in
31 Mauria is the (In Native). So we had Preva at the
32 gathering, she's a Mauria cultural bearer and they told
33 very wonderful stories, first hand what was going on in
34 New Zealand now as the birds were preparing to migrate
35 to the Yellow Sea and how the godwits are important in
36 Mauria culture. So that was a very nice exchange.

37

38 And as we work with the other schools,
39 this interaction with the people there at the Miranda
40 Shorebird Center* is something that's available.

41

42 So this is where you are now.

43

44 We have been offering workshops to
45 other schools in other communities and we hope that in
46 fall we will be able to travel to some communities and
47 make presentations at schools and some of those
48 activities and provide the workshop for educators there
49 at the communities and hopefully we can get other
50

0147

1 schools to work with this program.

2

3 So this is what I have about the update
4 for the Shorebird Program, are there questions or
5 comments.

6

7 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Does anybody have
8 any questions or comments for Lili?

9

10 Eric, go ahead.

11

12 MR. TAYLOR: Thank you, Lili. Great
13 presentation. I'm curious, could you kind of describe,
14 you know, how this information's being received?
15 You've got everything from audio clips to coloring
16 books to really neat exercises that certainly appeal to
17 me, how's it being received on the Yukon Kuskokwim
18 Delta, and do you have any ideas of what things really
19 work and perhaps what things you wouldn't repeat in
20 terms of outreach?

21

22 MS. NAVES: The Program, different
23 levels, the school district, principals, site
24 administrators, educators, it's very positive. There
25 are challenges, though, because the schools are now
26 trying to transition back out of the Covid era and they
27 have their own challenges too in getting the kids back
28 to the room and catch up on content and such. Also the
29 schools already have a busy schedule with the stuff
30 that they have to do with the material that is linked
31 to their scoring and things like that. So the schools
32 already have lots to manage. And although we have seen
33 lots of positive feedback and we have done lots of
34 legwork with workshops and trying to get people
35 involved and be present to help as much as possible and
36 make this as easy to use as possible, we have only one
37 school that we know that are using the program. It's
38 possible that there are other schools there using the
39 program because together with this program we have an
40 educator's package that we put -- lots of this is
41 available online as Google Classroom and such but we
42 also provide hardcopies and everything that the
43 teachers may need. We have a package that we can send
44 in the mail and we have distributed these packages to a
45 number of educators that show interest in the program.
46 There is an online pre- and post-assessment that we ask
47 students and educators to fill out so that we have a
48 little feeling -- or we have a measure of how the
49 program's been used, how many people are using the
50

0148

1 program. But so far we only have, that we know, is
2 only the Hooper Bay school that's using the program.
3 So I think that there is this challenge with the
4 commitments that the schools already have.

5
6 The material of the program is fully
7 aligned with the current curriculum standards but I
8 think that we really keep working on kind of how to
9 make this as easy as possible for teachers. And part
10 of the online survey is for teachers give feedback on
11 how things work or not. But if you can't get people
12 filling out or talking with us, we cannot get that kind
13 of information. So I'm hoping that -- I think it was
14 great progress to launch this program now, this
15 semester and I think it really sets a very solid base
16 moving forward and the hope is to get more to a normal
17 life after Covid and we can get more schools using the
18 program. And also, hopefully, in fall, we can do
19 community in school visits and make it easier. Because
20 when we delivered ourself some of this material, maybe
21 the pictures we will feel there is a lesson in their
22 hand or they can get a better flavor for it and they
23 get motivated. So I think that moving forward it will
24 be important to have both components, the school visits
25 by Staff and keep working with the educators program.

26
27 MR. TAYLOR: Thank you.

28
29 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Go ahead, Rob.

30
31 MR. CALOR: I want to make sure -- I'm
32 trying to share my camera. Thank you, Lili, that was
33 really cool. East Asia-Australasian Flyway Partnership
34 and other options, like the Seabird Working Group, the
35 Pacific Seabird group, there's some really cool things.
36 And then Casey Burns, he's BLM, but he is part of the
37 East Asia-Australasian, the CEPA, and CEPA stands for
38 -- and I'm looking it up right now because it just
39 doesn't flow right into my brain but, Communication,
40 Education, Participation and Awareness, so you're doing
41 a wonderful job and let me know where I can help
42 connect you to these other East Asia-Australasian
43 Flyway partnership efforts.

44
45 Thanks.

46
47 MS. NAVES: Thank you.

48
49 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Thank you, Rob.

50

0149

1 Does anybody else have any questions on the shorebird
2 presentation.

3

4

(No comments)

5

6

7 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: I did have a
8 comment, Lili, and I guess Lili, Rob and Jim, you know,
9 there's going to be a lot of funding opportunities with
10 the Infrastructure Bill and climate change impacts and
11 looking through some of the science that Lili was
12 showing and how these climate change impacts, there
13 might be a project idea for partnering with some of the
14 tribes along the YKDelta if you guys are wanting to do
15 a study or a project. I know there's some Tribal
16 Climate Resiliency grant opportunities that are out
17 there so just to let you guys -- I'm sure you guys are
18 aware of it but it's always -- we're always looking for
19 funding opportunities to do really good projects
20 together, information of how we're all being impacted.

20

21

So I just wanted to bring that up.

22

23

Any other questions.

24

25

(No comments)

26

27

28

MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Okay. Where did
you want to hop to next Lili?

29

30

31

MS. NAVES: Let me go back to the
agenda here. I have a little bit of mismatch of
screens here.

32

33

34

MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Regular five
regions harvest survey.

35

36

37

38

MS. NAVES: Yes, I'm trying to go back
to the agenda here to see how to follow on that. So I
think the agenda is on the same.....

39

40

41

MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: I think it was
right before all your presentations that you just had.

42

43

44

MS. NAVES: Okay. So we started with
the five regions harvest season -- okay. So now I
would like to go over some of the business related to
the Harvest Assessment Program of the AMBCC.

45

46

47

48

49

I always start with Item I there in the

50

0150

1 agenda, the regular five regions harvest of 2019 to
2 2021. So there is a three year period.

3
4 So in 2020 and 2021 due to Covid health
5 concerns the AMBCC has decided to cancel the regular
6 harvest survey that covers the five regions that are
7 represented in this survey. So we completed the 2019
8 pre-Covid survey, we completed the data review and
9 final report. We sent in the mail hardcopies of that
10 report and follow up with an email with the electronic
11 copy and that is available on the web page of the
12 harvest assessment program that's hosted within the
13 Division of Subsistence of Fish and Game web page. All
14 the publications for the AMBCC harvest assessment
15 program are available on that website.

16
17 We also updated the AMBCC data book,
18 harvest data book covering, it was updated until 2017
19 and we updated it appeared that surveys have been done
20 between 2004 and 2019 so the data book was updated, it
21 was expanded to include the tables for eggs, which were
22 not included before and we also sent hardcopies of that
23 in the mail and distributed electronic copies so that's
24 all the business but that's to say you're all up to
25 date with reporting of previous surveys.

26
27 So about the budget update and the
28 regular five regions survey for 2022. So since July
29 2021 the ADF&G, Division of Wildlife Conservation,
30 discontinued the funding to the Division of Subsistence
31 for work on AMBCC topics. So this happened in July
32 last year. Then since December last year Fish and
33 Wildlife Service has no comparative agreement with the
34 Division of Subsistence for work on AMBCC topics. So
35 at the Division of Subsistence, we -- the whole Staff,
36 we heavily rely on soft funding to cover salary Staff
37 [sic] so the budget situation defines that the Staff of
38 the Division of Subsistence must further focus on
39 projects, tasks that are funded. So for instance we
40 had been working on the shorebird outreach project and
41 other things like that. So this is the current budget
42 situation.

43
44 Planning for a harvest survey in 2022
45 will involve addressing budget aspects. And the work
46 to conduct the surveys starts in August, September so
47 for a survey to happen in 2022 the decisions need to be
48 in place by August, September at the latest because it
49 takes time to prepare to conduct the survey. Lots of
50

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1 people to coordinate and different partners and such.

2

3 Moving down -- are there any questions
4 or comments there before I move to other item -- the
5 other item.

6

7 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Go ahead, Jim.

8

9 MR. SIMON: Yeah, thank you, Lili. The
10 -- so does this mean that the chances are unlikely that
11 there will be a 2022 survey effort?

12

13 MS. NAVES: I don't know. I think
14 things can happen between now and then, right now I
15 don't know.

16

17 MR. TAYLOR: Jim, good question. Gayla
18 and Ryan and I are going to sit down to discuss the
19 budget of the AMBCC here in the next couple weeks and
20 part of that discussion is the harvest survey and our
21 efforts toward that and funding of that. So we
22 probably will have some recommendations for the entire
23 Council to consider here in the next few weeks.

24

25 MR. SIMON: Yeah, thank you, Eric. If
26 I may, through the Chair. I just was curious as to
27 what Ryan's thoughts were. I know at the last Board of
28 Game meeting the Director of Wildlife Conservation, you
29 know, reported to the public about how flush in funding
30 the Division of Wildlife Conservation is because of the
31 various efforts to generate revenue in wildlife
32 conservation and the increase in Federal match dollars
33 that the Department is receiving. And so I'm just
34 curious as to why the Division of Wildlife Conservation
35 has cut that funding to the Subsistence Division?

36

37 Thank you.

38

39 MR. SCOTT: So, Jim, we haven't cut all
40 the funding to the Division of Subsistence, that's
41 inaccurate. This particular aspect of it, yeah, it's
42 -- this is one project of several. Now, it is true
43 that we will be very -- we're about to get a
44 significant amount of Federal funding. The CIP Bill
45 was introduced to the Legislature, I believe last
46 Thursday, and it is currently working through and there
47 are subsistence dollars -- or there are -- subsistence
48 is part of that. Where, you know, I forget the amount
49 -- I mean the total amount is going to be about \$24

50

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1 million and we marked subsistence down to receive part
2 of that. How that money gets used by the Division of
3 Subsistence is, you know, -- and I talked to Lili and
4 Lisa Olson about this the other day, that's largely --
5 I mean it has to meet some criteria but largely it'll
6 be up to them how to utilize that funding.

7

8 So that's where that is.

9

10 We don't anticipate any problems with
11 that CIP getting through. The timing, as Lili just,
12 you know, explained with this, it's going to be a
13 little tight but I imagine -- we anticipate getting
14 that funding without any issues.

15

16 MR. SIMON: Through the Chair. Thank
17 you so much, Ryan, for those clarifications.

18

19 MR. SCOTT: Yeah.

20

21 MR. SIMON: Appreciate it.

22

23 MR. SCOTT: Yeah.

24

25 MS. NAVES: So I'd like to compliment
26 the information that Ryan provided. So the money that
27 -- or the funding that we have been receiving for
28 wildlife -- for birds work is from the -- through the
29 PR program, and that involves that 25 percent match so
30 that match has to come from the Division of Subsistence
31 and our ability to come with this match is limited. We
32 are the smallest division within the Department and our
33 matching ability is limited. And also this kind of
34 funding for grants, they're for specific projects that
35 have a defined research question, this kind of funding
36 usually don't work well for regular management
37 functions. So the funding that you have been getting
38 are for specific projects.

39

40 So for instance right now I'm working
41 on the harvest estimates for waterfowl statewide and
42 the ptarmigan and grouse based on available data but
43 the kind of work that I can work on on these grants is
44 specific to what is defined on those grants. So for
45 instance for attending meetings, for serving at
46 committees, for the regular harvest survey, those
47 things have not been covered.

48

49 So should I move down the agenda items

50

0153

1 there?

2

3

4 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Yeah, I guess it
5 would be interesting for our subsistence users, or, you
6 know, the people that are in subsistence to kind of
7 know what you're talking about, what that CIP Bill and
8 what is going to be funded with Subsistence. I know
9 that Subsistence has been -- it's no longer a division
10 and it's a branch within ADF&G, which I don't know why
11 it's now a branch and not a division, subsistence is
12 really important to the state of Alaska and having
13 subsistence priorities. So is there -- could you share
14 information with us Ryan about that Bill or what's
15 happening within Fish and Game with subsistence?

15

16

17

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MR. SCOTT: Yes, certainly. I can -- I
guess I can talk a little bit about all of that.

You know the money is based on -- it's
all going to be PR dollars, so that's the excised tax
from, you know, sporting goods, equipment and things
like that. We, too, will have some challenges matching
it, I mean it's a lot of money. So coming up with the
State match we're going to have to be fairly surgical
about that. And part of it will actually be available
to partner groups which we've done quite a bit of in
the last couple years across the state. Organizations
like DNR, we can't use Federal dollars to match Federal
dollars but we've also worked with some private
organizations so those opportunities will be there.

We're looking at largely -- it's in the
Infrastructure Bill, it's part of it, and so we're
actually looking at some pretty significant
infrastructure projects. One of the things that we're
finding is we can't keep people out in rural areas,
people have -- they're having difficulties finding
housing and we're going to try to work with other
divisions within the Department to see if we can help
with that, with bunkhouses or, you know, something like
that. We also have some fairly extensive aircraft
needs, maintenance needs. We use airplanes extensively
on the west -- in the west and northwest of Alaska and
so a chunk of that is going to go to that kind of
stuff. Then there's a section called research and
management and I don't have the dollar amounts right in
front of me, I don't remember how it was all broken
down but it's substantial. And that's where the
subsistence money will come from, from that pot of

0154

1 money.

2

3 Shoot, I apologize, I wish I had it
4 right in front of me.

5

6 We have not assigned -- as you might
7 imagine there are numerous interests and topics in that
8 block so I don't -- we haven't assigned the amount of
9 money that would go to subsistence, but that's where
10 it's going to come from and, you know, that was the
11 intent.

12

13 As far as the inner-workings of the
14 Department and the Division of Subsistence, you know,
15 that's -- I don't know what is going on there. I'm not
16 privy to those discussions and I do know that I work
17 really closely with Lili, Lisa and Caroline and
18 everybody else and it's a great working relationship.
19 So we are -- I am actively making sure that some of
20 this money will flow to subsistence.

21

22 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Okay, thank you
23 for the information.

24

25 MR. SCOTT: Yeah.

26

27 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Does anybody have
28 any questions or further discussion on this?

29

30 (No comments)

31

32 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Thank you, Lili.
33 Are we on Cordova and Kodiak Island roaded area permit
34 reporting adoption of 2021 harvest estimates?

35

36 MS. NAVES: Yes. Okay, let me go to --
37 this is in the meeting package so here is the Cordova
38 summary.

39

40 So in 2020 and 2021 the permit
41 reporting for the Cordova harvest happened normally by
42 mail as it had happened in previous years. We work
43 with the local partners, the Eyak Tribe, Forest Service
44 and the tribal councils at Tatitlek and Chenega to
45 provide materials for them to issue the permits. They
46 issue the permits locally, and then we work later to
47 send the permit reporting materials in the mail so
48 that's answered by email. And the 2020 results -- up
49 to 2020 the results for the Cordova permit reporting
50

0155

1 were included with the completed harvest reports of the
2 AMBCC. All that's up to date. There's no action
3 needed there.

4
5 The 2021 data is the summary that you
6 are seeing on the screen. This data, within the
7 original bird council meetings to review and discuss
8 the data so Laura obtained it -- the CERC meeting on
9 31st August for review of the 2021 permit results and
10 they passed a motion to adopt the 2020 results for the
11 Cordova permit and usually we have a motion at the
12 AMBCC level to finalize the options of these results.
13 So I think that as I understand we would entertain a
14 motion at the meeting today for that, too; is that
15 correct.

16
17 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Yeah, that would
18 be fine. Do you want to do them separately or together
19 with Cordova and Kodiak?

20
21 MS. NAVES: Kodiak, I can give a little
22 bit more detail later on but there was no soon
23 hereafter this but there was no quorum for them to
24 vote on adoption and so I think that we are in a
25 position to adopt the Cordova one today but we have to
26 postpone the Kodiak one I think until the fall meeting.

27
28 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Okay. So do we
29 have a motion to approve the Cordova bird and egg
30 subsistence harvest estimates for April/May 2014 to
31 21.

32
33 MR. TAYLOR: Madame Chair, this is Eric
34 Taylor. I move that we adopt the reported Cordova bird
35 and egg harvest estimates for that time period, 2014 to
36 2021.

37
38 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Okay. Do we have
39 a second.

40
41 MR. SCOTT: Second.

42
43 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Thank you, Ryan.
44 It s been moved and seconded. Any further discussion
45 on that.

46
47 MS. NAVES: Does Pricella or Patty have
48 any comments or questions about that since this is
49 their region.

50

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1 PRICELLA: No, I don't have any
2 questions, thank you.

3
4 MS. SCHWALLENBERG: No, that s fine.

5
6 PRICELLA: I'll call the question.

7
8 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Okay, question has
9 been called but Eric had his hand up so I will see if
10 he had something to add to that.

11
12 MR. TAYLOR: Thank you, Madame Chair.
13 Lili, I m just curious, I m looking at the registered
14 households for 2020 and 2021 so the number in the first
15 five or so years is probably around 30 and now it s
16 almost doubled. Any idea for the increased interest in
17 subsistence during the latter years?

18
19 MS. NAVES: Well, the last two years
20 were different for many years. So as the local offices
21 were closed in the last two years, 2020 and 2021, the
22 Division of Subsistence mailed permits to everyone that
23 had got a permit in 2019 in advance so in 2021 and
24 then other people that had not got the permit that way,
25 they re able to request a permit and then in 2021 we
26 did the same thing again, we mailed the permit to
27 everyone that had got a permit in 2020 so that may have
28 something to do with the higher numbers there.

29
30 Starting in 2022 went back to the
31 regular system where the permits are issued at the
32 local offices by the partners only so let s see what
33 happens, this may be another Covid factor there.

34
35 MR. TAYLOR: All right, thank you.

36
37 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Thank you. Laura.

38
39 LAURA: Yeah, sorry, I just wanted to
40 jump in and also address Eric s question. I was at the
41 CERC meeting as Lili said and that question came up
42 during the meeting as well and I remember hearing from
43 Raven Cunningham who works at CERC and lives in the
44 area and she mentioned that she also thought the
45 numbers were going up because outreach had been done
46 better and more people were hearing about the permit
47 and being interested in it and signing up and getting
48 one so I think that s also a reason, is that, more
49 people are hearing about it.

50

0157

1 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Okay, good
2 discussion and clarifications. Is there any other
3 discussions on this.

4
5 (No comments)

6
7 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Hearing none, all
8 those in favor of adopting and approving the report
9 signify by saying aye.

10
11 IN UNISON: Aye.

12
13 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Those opposed,
14 same sign. Motion carries. Thank you Lili.

15
16 MS. NAVES: Thank you. The next topic
17 is the Cordova [sic] and the permit reporting this
18 is not going to work as go back so 2021 was the
19 first year of the permit for the Kodiak Island road
20 area. The permits were distributed by the Sunaq Tribe.
21 I d like to thank you very much partners of the Sunaq
22 Tribe, Kelly, Coral, Matt and the other people that
23 helped distributing the survey there even despite
24 closure of local offices. And there was a total of 46
25 permits issued. 42 permits were reported for a
26 response rate of 91 percent, that s pretty good.
27 Reporting was required. It s not voluntary. So people
28 that get a permit as for the Cordova permit too,
29 people need to report their permits. And here are the
30 harvest estimates that came from the permit reporting.
31 The numbers reported are in the column to the left side
32 and the change from the reported to the estimated, the
33 expanded, it s very small because 91 percent of people
34 reported their permits.

35
36 So this data is available for review by
37 AMBCC partners since December last year. I received a
38 series of questions and comments from the Sunaq Tribe
39 and Fish and Wildlife Service. I tried to answer or
40 address those comments and questions as well as I
41 could. So I think that was very precipitive review
42 process as far as I have seen for this kind of data in
43 the past. There was good participation in the review.
44 The data was reviewed at the Kodiak Regional AMBCC
45 board meeting earlier in March, now, Laura and I
46 attended that meeting. There was good discussion about
47 the permit and the data. There was no quorum to pass a
48 motion though so I think the next steps here will be
49 that this will be again in the meeting agenda for the
50

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1 fall meeting for both the Kodiak Regional Council and
2 the full AMBCC.

3

4 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Okay. And then
5 Patty, you re able to what we re bringing back for
6 the fall meeting from the discussions?

7

8 MS. SCHWALLENBERG: Yes.

9

10 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Okay, good,
11 thanks. Okay. Is there any questions on the Kodiak
12 report?

13

14 (No comments)

15

16 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Okay, thank you,
17 Lili.

18

19 MS. NAVES: So the 2022 season opened on
20 April 2nd, so it's already open. As usual the Division
21 of Subsistence works with the regional partners for
22 providing materials for issue permits for the Kodiak
23 ahh, sorry, sorry, for the Cordova harvest so we re
24 already working with Milo at the Forest Service and
25 John Whissel with the Eyak Tribe and the tribal
26 councils at Chenega and Tatitlek and they are issuing
27 the permits for the Cordova harvest at their offices.

28

29 For the Kodiak area, also the Sunaq
30 Tribe, as last year, is issuing the permits and that s
31 how that's going on. So.

32

33 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Okay. And is your
34 last one the Emperor Goose harvest management project?

35

36 MS. NAVES: Let me see. Yes. The last
37 item there is a brief overview of the Emperor Goose
38 Project back in 2019, I think. The Division of
39 Subsistence submitted a project proposal for PR funding
40 to conduct four different projects to address priority
41 information needs related to Emperor goose. Two of
42 those projects are now largely completed and we are
43 working to complete the two other ones.

44

45 So I would just briefly remind which
46 are those projects and I will show some summary results
47 for the ones that are completed. On page 13 of the PDF
48 for the meeting materials we have 13 and 14. We have
49 the summary results for a study that looked at the

50

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1 fall/winter permit for harvesting Emperor goose and we
2 also sent a survey in the mail to everyone that got a
3 permit in the two years of the permit 2017-2018.

4

5 So we are looking to characterize the
6 participation in the permit program. Also to compare
7 data from the permit reporting with other data
8 available, namely the fall/winter data that comes from
9 the AMBCC survey where there is an overlap in coverage
10 after those two different lines of information and also
11 to document hunters perspectives about harvest
12 management.

13

14 So one of the main results that came
15 from this study it's there in this Table 1 off the
16 summary. We compared numbers of Emperor goose reported
17 in fall/winter by rural hunters in those three regions
18 of Alaska; Bering Strait, Y-K Delta and Bristol Bay.
19 Those are the three regions that that is available. We
20 don't have data for the other regions. And you compare
21 the permit reporting with the harvest reported in the
22 surveys.

23

24 So the permits are intended to document
25 the whole harvest. If people intend or think that they
26 may harvest an Emperor goose, they need to get a permit
27 and they need to report their permit. The harvest
28 survey is more of a kind of a shotgun approach, a
29 spread. The sampling effort is spread thinly across
30 regions in the state. So we don't expect to have a
31 full coverage as people reporting harvest in the AMBCC
32 survey. So we also get the report of harvest and
33 expand that to account for the people that didn't --
34 were not covered in the survey.

35

36 The main point being is that the
37 numbers that we expect from the harvest survey, the
38 reported numbers, we expect those numbers to be lower
39 than the numbers reported in the permit. What we saw
40 for some regions and specifically for the Bering Strait
41 and the Y-K Delta is that the numbers reported in the
42 AMBCC survey were consistently higher than the numbers
43 reported in the permit.

44

45 As I understand this data, this is a
46 clear indication that some people are not getting the
47 permit. So when you look at the permit reporting and
48 you see those numbers, that may give an impression that
49 the resource is underutilized, but the permit data is
50

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1 not providing a full picture of the harvest. So this
2 was the main result when it came to looking at the
3 permit.

4
5 Are there questions or comments there
6 before I move ahead?

7
8 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Jim.

9
10 MR. SIMON: Thank you. Through the
11 Chair. Liliana, I'm curious as to whether or not you
12 might have available an example of the confidence
13 interval for like going from a reported harvest in 2018
14 of 42 and then an estimated harvest of 1,903. Do you
15 happen to know what that confidence interval was?

16
17 MS. NAVES: That is available. That's
18 part of the data that's published. It's not presented
19 here now. It's certainly wide because when you are
20 looking at the species that are harvested in relatively
21 low numbers, the confidence intervals are wide. Beyond
22 that confidence intervals for harvest estimates for
23 birds they tend to be wide no matter what. Just
24 because of the nature of the data. We have a few
25 households that do lots of the harvest.

26
27 So because the harvest is naturally
28 concentrated on that part of the population the
29 confidence intervals are wide no matter what. You can
30 have a really high participation rate. As we saw for
31 the Kodiak 91 percent and the confidence intervals are
32 still wide. The confidence interval there is not put
33 in question. The precision of the harvest estimate
34 it's telling about natural variation in the data.

35
36 So going back to this table here. The
37 confidence intervals for these estimates they're going
38 to be wide. They are available in other document not
39 available here. But here what we're comparing is
40 reported harvest. The raw numbers from the harvest
41 survey with a reported numbers in the permit. So it's
42 just raw numbers. There is no expansion in this
43 comparison.

44
45 See, for instance, there for Bering
46 Strait in 2018, no birds are reported at all as harvest
47 in the permit and 42 were reported in the harvest
48 survey. So when expand that, you get almost 2,000
49 birds. For the Y-K Delta too we had 00 and one bird
50

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1 reported in '17, '18 and '19. No expanded. Just raw
2 numbers in the harvest survey.

3

4

5 For the Bristol Bay it's a little bit
6 more as you would expect, you see. The birds reported
7 in the permits, 18, 11 and 19, are higher than the
8 numbers reported by the survey, 6, 8 and 9. So for the
9 Bristol Bay it's in line what we would expect for
10 comparing a permit with mandatory reporting and a
11 survey with simple random sampling. So for Bristol Bay
12 this is what we would expect to see.

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I think that when it comes the other way around that the numbers reported in the survey are higher than the permit that it suggested that some people are not getting the permit.

MR. SIMON: Thank you. Through the Chair. Yeah, I think that makes a lot of sense, you know, that we've seen in other resources like in areas where a new permit is required for caribou hunting, for example. It takes a long time for those permits to get -- sort of to be recognized and available in many of the communities.

I guess my concern is that, you know, having the point estimate of the estimated harvest from the harvest survey -- and I'm not a data analyst expert like you are, Lilliana, but it seems that you expect this harvest relationship between hunter and harvester to be normally distributed, which is used to then expand and yet we know that there's specialized hunters who are doing that.

So I think that some of this could be over-estimating what the actual harvest is from my point of view. I just think it's important that the bird biologists on this call don't start panicking because I think there's some real squishy aspects to harvest survey estimates in my opinion.

Thank you.

MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Thank you for your questions and comments, Jim. Tamara.

MS. ZELLER: Thank you, Madame Chair. Hey, Lili, I was curious -- and I ask this question before you may be getting into this. I apologize if

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1 I'm jumping ahead. Did you guys identify any of the
2 barriers that were getting people from getting a
3 permit? And what type of outreach did you do or did
4 the State do before the permit was part of the
5 protocol?

6
7 Thanks.

8
9 MS. NAVES: We had -- asked to help me
10 refresh my mind or I don't know if this is possible to
11 quickly look back at the full report there. We had
12 specific questions if people had comments about the
13 process to obtain the permit and to report the permit
14 we didn't have much comments or complaints or anything
15 about that there.

16
17 We didn't specifically ask about the --
18 exactly barriers about obtaining the survey. Also one
19 thing is that our survey only covered the people that
20 got the permit. So we don't know the people that
21 didn't get a permit because those are the addresses of
22 people that you have to send the survey. We send the
23 survey to previous permit holders. So we did not
24 contact people that did not get a permit.

25
26 MS. ZELLER: Okay, thanks.

27
28 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Julian.

29
30 MR. FISCHER: Thank you, Madame Chair.
31 Hi, Lili. Thank you for this. We've seen this table
32 before and thanks for bringing it up again. It's
33 really interesting. My question on it today is did you
34 get an indication that permittees were harvesting
35 multiple birds? I think you might have just answered
36 my question because you stated that you were only
37 surveying individuals who got a permit.

38
39 So I'm looking at Bering Strait in
40 2018. It looks like five permits were issued but 43
41 birds were reported to be harvested. Should I assume
42 that that means that there were multiple birds per
43 harvester?

44
45 MS. NAVES: I don't know. One
46 difference between the permit and the survey is that
47 the permit is individual and the household -- the
48 survey covers households. So there may be more than
49 one hunter per household. With the AMBCC survey we
50

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1 don't get number of birds per hunter. We got per
2 household. So we were just looking at the numbers. We
3 don't know beyond that how many people were involved in
4 harvesting those birds.

5
6 MR. FISCHER: Okay. Just to follow up.
7 I think I heard you state that your harvest survey only
8 contacted individuals that got a permit. Do you have
9 any indication from the study non-participation in the
10 permit program? I think in the past I kind of
11 interpreted these data as non-participation in the
12 permit program, but these clearly individuals who
13 participated in the permit program maybe just didn't
14 report all harvest. So I'm trying to interpret this
15 the best I can.

16
17 MS. NAVES: So there's two sides of the
18 table. The AMBCC harvest survey and the permit are
19 coming from very distinct lines of information. So the
20 permit provides information on people that obtain a
21 permit. The survey provides information on those
22 households covered by the survey. So I don't know. I
23 don't think that we can make any cross inference.

24
25 MR. FISCHER: Okay. Thanks, Lili.

26
27 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Good questions.
28 Anybody else have any questions for Lili?

29
30 MS. CHERNOFF: Yeah, this is Coral.

31
32 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Hi, Coral. Go
33 ahead.

34
35 MS. CHERNOFF: Hi. So I had a few
36 questions. Just in looking at the results I guess what
37 kind of jumps out at me is at the end of the results it
38 talks about -- let's see. Let me find it. Oh, I guess
39 it's right at the end. So it says these data indicated
40 that harvests by rural hunters were underestimated in
41 the permit program. So I don't have it in front of me
42 now, but I noticed that at the end of another report
43 and I think there was an Emperor Goose Survey that also
44 sort of had a summery.

45
46 I feel like all three of the summaries
47 there's usually only one point to it and that point is
48 that I feel like sort of makes a subsistence hunter or
49 a Native hunter -- kind of puts them in a negative
50

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1 light. And I also feel like -- so as I look at this
2 data, I have my own summaries and people have their own
3 summaries and I'm wondering if these summaries are
4 necessary on here if you're not going to maybe make all
5 the guesses about the data or if you're not going to
6 let all the people make their guesses about the data,
7 what that point is.

8
9 Like kind of the point -- I guess I'm
10 just saying I'm bothered by that here's the data. It
11 gets to be interpreted. Listening here today everybody
12 -- many people are confused about the numbers and how
13 they come about. I don't think we really get the
14 answers we want from those numbers and then at the end
15 there's an impression recorded from one point of view.

16
17 I guess I don't really have a question,
18 but if anyone wants to respond to that, I would
19 appreciate it.

20
21 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Thank you, Coral,
22 for that. I guess what does that mean then for rural
23 hunters are underestimated in the permit program?

24
25 MS. NAVES: I don't think there is any
26 interest or there is no track record within the work
27 conducted by the Division of Subsistence of a tendency
28 or interest in portraying subsistence users on a
29 negative light. So this is the part of the comment
30 that I think pertains to the work of the Division of
31 Subsistence does, which I cannot let responded.

32
33 Comparing different lines of
34 information happens all the time and is one way of
35 looking at information especially when full information
36 is not available on a single source. So this is done
37 all the time. For instance, I worked on the report in
38 2010 that looked at the permit data in household
39 interview data for salmon harvest in Southeast Alaska.
40 This is part of looking at data. There is nothing
41 different in there. So I think that this is kind of
42 what's going on there. What's the harvest.

43
44 One thing that you are seeing that was
45 a consequence of the permit data is that there was a
46 perception that the fall/winter allocation was
47 underutilized and that we saw at the last Board of Game
48 meeting 80-plus proposals asking to somewhat reallocate
49 or allocate this underutilized part of the harvest when
50

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1 in fact the resource may not be underutilized. So this
2 is the kind of information that I think is valid that
3 comes from this kind of analysis.

4
5 So I think that, yeah, it provides
6 information on kind of what are the uses of the
7 resource, but I don't see anything written in there
8 that puts subsistence users on a negative light. This
9 is not the intent. This is not written in there.

10
11 I think that's the part that I'd like
12 to comment.

13
14 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Okay.

15
16 MS. CHERNOFF: This is Coral.

17
18 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Go ahead, Coral.

19
20 MS. CHERNOFF: Yeah, I guess I just
21 want to read -- so I guess, you know, different people
22 interpret things in different ways and I guess being on
23 the side of a subsistence hunter I probably look at
24 words and reports differently than other people do.
25 And because of my education background in Native
26 culture and all the organizations that were formed to
27 protect rights and to all the fights that we continue
28 to have about how Native peoples are portrayed and
29 treated I do notice those things.

30
31 So when it says here -- let's see.
32 Non-extrapolated (reported numbers) from the AMBCC
33 survey indicated the minimal Emperor goose harvest in
34 rural regions and then it says, but were often higher
35 than harvests reports in the permit program. So
36 reported numbers from the survey were often higher than
37 the harvests reported.

38
39 So what could happen is many things.
40 Things get lost in translation. I guess there's none
41 of that side of it going, oh, well, maybe there was an
42 interpretation between surveys. There's just so many
43 reasons that I guess things could happen.

44
45 In our own -- like in our own, the
46 roaded survey, looking at extrapolating those numbers,
47 so I think we had roughly 37 out of 40 permits or
48 harvest data, harvest tracking reports were returned.
49 But then yet we put them into an estimate and then we
50

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1 get an estimate that's way higher when, in fact, from
2 my point of view three harvesters didn't turn in their
3 reports because they didn't hunt.

4
5 Our side or the other side of it, the
6 hunter side, never gets -- you know, we look at this
7 data where the numbers get higher than the reports, but
8 there's never other data that says maybe those are
9 exactly the numbers.

10
11 I guess that's my opposition to all
12 this. When we see numbers -- even our numbers, the
13 reported number in the Kodiak Roaded System, the
14 reported number is the same as the harvested number yet
15 there's only a 60 percent confidence interval.

16
17 So I guess I don't understand if the
18 data can't really be explained except for, well, we put
19 it into a formula or we could be interviewing high
20 volume hunters and, you know, it extrapolates -- well,
21 it always just makes the numbers higher is what it
22 does.

23
24 I don't understand, I guess, the value
25 of these and I guess, for one, we do have a Harvest
26 Committee and maybe it's -- you know, I'd like to see a
27 meeting and maybe just get some more in-depth
28 explanation. Maybe I'm not understanding what's
29 happening here, but I think also tacking on perceptions
30 or impressions I would like to see that removed from
31 reports for sure.

32
33 I don't have it in front of me, but I
34 will do some research on some other reports that I've
35 seen so that maybe you could -- everybody could start
36 to understand what these statements look like and the
37 kind of perception that I see them giving. I guess
38 that's it.

39
40 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Thank you for
41 voicing that concern, Coral. I think what you said a
42 lot of us -- you know, we do look at words. We do look
43 at how things are written and I guess just for
44 everybody to just be aware of that when we do write and
45 when we do speak. That's important.

46
47 I just asked Patty if she could email
48 us the committee reports at the end of the meeting and
49 I think that would be a good committee to have a
50

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1 meeting is the Harvest Survey Committee and then to go
2 over that. I think the last couple years too with us
3 just being in this space and having meetings that we're
4 not there for, you know, three days in Anchorage and
5 having those conversations on our breaks and during
6 lunch and stuff I think really impacted AMBCC as well
7 as communication and looking forward to meeting in
8 person and holding those committee meetings.

9

10 Dave, did you have something to add?

11

12 MR. SAFINE: Thank you, Madame Chair.

13 Yeah, I just want to make a quick comment here.

14

15 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: You're kind of
16 fading a little bit in your voice.

17

18 MR. SAFINE: I will pause and put my
19 earphones on and let someone else talk. Thank you.

20

21 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Okay. Erik.

22

23 MR. OSNAS: Hi, Madame Chair. I'd just
24 like to make a few points about the survey based on
25 some of the comments I just heard. One is this is a
26 very well designed survey. It uses standard methods of
27 sampling and extrapolation. I've looked at the
28 equations. They're right out of a textbook. In that
29 sense there's nothing squishy or strange about these
30 numbers. In that sense they represent standard, sort
31 of statistical scientific methodology. So I think they
32 should be interpreted as fact.

33

34 Now the language you use around, I'm
35 not going to comment on that, but we should think of
36 these as scientific facts. What's not presented is the
37 uncertainty of the estimates. The survey was not
38 designed to give highly precise estimates at the region
39 or species level. So that's an important thing to keep
40 in mind.

41

42 There are some squishy things related
43 to the survey that have been pointed out for a long
44 time that we should also keep in mind in terms of
45 non-response rate, recall memory bias and other
46 aspects. So these are all issues -- these are the
47 legitimate squishy issues with the survey.

48

49 This report -- these numbers, to me,

50

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1 represent very strong evidence that more Emperor geese
2 are being shot in the fall than are being reported from
3 the permit system. So from that respect I think the
4 recommendations are pretty clear that there is an issue
5 with either increasing participation in the permit
6 system or that there is an issue with compliance with
7 the permit system. I think there's very strong evidence
8 from this survey that that's an issue. So we should
9 think about that.

10

11 Thank you.

12

13 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Dave, did you
14 want to try with your earphones?

15

16 MR. SAFINE: Okay, I'll try again and
17 hopefully you can hear me better this time. Yeah,
18 pretty much I would echo very similar comments to what
19 Erik Osnas just said. First, I just want to thank Lili
20 for providing this information and I'm coming at this
21 from the perspective of what we're doing in the Emperor
22 Goose Management Committee and the revision process.

23

24 I guess I would say, like Erik said,
25 the value of this information is helping us understand
26 how the harvest is allocated between the fall/winter
27 and the spring/summer hunts. So as we think about
28 revising the plan and we think about where our
29 thresholds are, harvest quotas and the different hunts,
30 et cetera, this information is useful because it
31 suggests that the information we have on reported
32 harvest during the fall/winter hunt is likely an
33 underestimate. So we need to have this information.

34

35 So, regardless, without putting blame
36 on anyone, it's just an important piece of information
37 as we think about how we move forward and how the
38 harvest is allocated between spring/summer and
39 fall/winter and likely there's more harvest during the
40 fall/winter that's currently available in our estimates
41 from the permit system. So I think, to me, that's the
42 value of this information.

43

44 Second, I want to echo what Tamara
45 said. That from that, say in the Management Plan
46 revision process, we may want to add some details in
47 the management plan to target some outreach towards
48 increasing participation during the fall/winter hunt in
49 the permit system to people that aren't currently
50

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1 participating. So I think there's value there of
2 laying out some priorities for outreach in the
3 Management Plan.

4
5 Anyway, I appreciate this information,
6 Lili. Anyway, that's all I'm going to say. Thanks.

7
8 MS. NAVES: I would like to ask if
9 someone could please read the recommendation that comes
10 with this data so it's in the record how this has been
11 worded. I think words matter, so I think that every
12 time that I write a report or something like that I
13 carefully think about every single word. So if you
14 have worked with me writing something, you probably
15 understand how painful I can be as an editor. So I'd
16 like to ask someone could read, please, how this
17 recommendation was written so this is in the record.

18
19 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Go ahead, Eric.
20 I just wanted to make sure if we're reading the right
21 spot of reference here.

22
23 MS. NAVES: It's number one there on
24 the screen.

25
26 MR. TAYLOR: Yep. Let's go ahead and
27 read them for the record. These are recommendations.
28 Lili, could you please, for the record, say what report
29 this is that I'm reading the recommendations from.

30
31 MS. NAVES: This is the report from the
32 study on the fall/winter Emperor goose permit.

33
34 MR. TAYLOR: Okay. Number one. Devise
35 approaches to increase participation of rural hunters
36 in the required fall/winter Emperor goose permit and
37 harvest reporting. Conduct outreach and communications
38 about harvest regulations and requirements at specific
39 times and locations to coincide with greater Emperor
40 goose harvest opportunity. Considering that the
41 2017-2019 fall/winter Emperor goose harvest were likely
42 well above the amounts reported via the permit program,
43 it is possible that the fall/winter quota of 500 birds
44 is fully utilized.

45
46 Number two. Consider data in addition
47 to the Emperor goose fall/winter permit harvest
48 reporting such as data from the AMBCC survey to
49 describe the fall/winter take more quickly and across
50

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1 user groups and geographic areas.

2

3 Number three. Conduct complimentary
4 harvest surveys focusing on certain rural regions to
5 fill data gaps in both fall/winter and spring/summer
6 harvest monitoring.

7

8 Number four. Update the boundaries of
9 specific Emperor goose hunt areas so they better match
10 geographic and social, cultural context. A) Separate
11 the Cold Bay and Izembek areas (with a high influx of
12 urban hunters from Bristol Bay region) where permits
13 are primarily issued to rural hunters. B) Combine the
14 Cold Bay and Izembek areas into a single management
15 area.

16

17 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Thank you for
18 reading that, Eric. It triggered some questions for
19 me, but I just wanted to call on Jim Simon.

20

21 MR. SIMON: Thank you, Madame Chair.
22 Yeah, I think that this is really good work that
23 Liliana has done and I agree with what Erik and David
24 have said also. I also agree with the concerns that
25 Coral has expressed.

26

27 The concern in my comments regarding
28 squishy is -- and I recognize that I have not read the
29 detailed report. This is just a two-page summary. But
30 when you have an estimated -- you know, a midpoint
31 estimate from an expansion process with a wide
32 confidence interval and so much uncertainty as Erik
33 pointed out, you know, that's where -- you know, let's
34 just use the 2018 estimated harvest of 1,903 birds.

35

36 If that's a really wide confidence
37 interval, you know, let's just say it could be ranging
38 -- you know, a confidence -- probably a 95 percent
39 confidence interval. Let's just say it's from 500 to
40 3,000 birds. This point estimate of 1,903 is just the
41 middle, right? It could be 500. It could be 3,000.
42 So we need to just take into mind that there's a lot of
43 uncertainty around this estimate.

44

45 The fact that the permits don't capture
46 all of the harvest that shouldn't be a surprise to
47 anyone. I mean even around urban areas with respect to
48 moose management, like in the Fairbanks area, where
49 there's Fish and Game offices, you know, in Delta and
50

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1 in Fairbanks. You know, lots of ability to get permits
2 and to submit those permits, good internet where you
3 can submit that harvest report online. Yet the
4 wildlife managers still utilize a plus or minus 17
5 percent for unreported harvest and wounding loss. So
6 one should always expect that a permit program won't
7 capture all of the harvest.

8

9 So I think when you have these complex
10 areas where you have specialized hunters doing a lot of
11 the harvesting, which means to me anyhow that these
12 data may not be normally distributed, which further
13 complicates the expansion process and those confidence
14 interval ranges.

15

16 It's important to recognize what that
17 range of probability is of what the actual true harvest
18 was. Because just looking at the midpoint estimate of
19 1,903 might present sort of a -- you know, doesn't
20 characterize the uncertainty around that estimate. So
21 people can often put more weight on that midpoint than
22 maybe they should because it could be 500 what the
23 actual harvest was or maybe it was 3,000 or whatever
24 the actual confidence range was.

25

26 But I do think, as a member of the
27 Harvest Survey Committee, I think it is a good topic
28 for us to discuss and to try to bridge some of the --
29 how we communicate about these data between the Alaska
30 Native Caucus Council members and the Technical Staff
31 that support the AMBCC.

32

33 Thanks so much.

34

35 MS. STICKWAN: I have a question,
36 Madame Chair.

37

38 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Is that in follow
39 up to what Jim was saying?

40

41 MS. STICKWAN: It's about the report.

42

43 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Okay. I'll call
44 on you next, Gloria. Ryan has had his hand up and then
45 you'll go right after Ryan.

46

47 MR. SCOTT: I'll be brief. I want to
48 say to Lili I appreciate you bringing this. I think
49 looking at it from a wildlife manager's view I can't
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1 speak too well to all the math that goes into it
2 because Lili and folks like Eric and others that's --
3 I'm glad they're here too.

4

5 Nothing surprises me really here.
6 We've talked about the estimates over the years and the
7 expansion and how to interpret that. We just have to
8 be careful about how we infer it. I don't read
9 anything that really -- and I'm pretty careful about
10 what I write and what I say.

11

12 I just look at -- I look at -- when we
13 talk about reported harvest on the permit side and the
14 survey side, you know, without even looking at the
15 estimated numbers, I think this is something that Dave
16 Safine and Schamber and others as they go through the
17 management plans -- this is hugely important to help us
18 guide what we do next.

19

20 I think the estimates, the expanded
21 estimates have their place. First those discussions,
22 but I think it's just -- I don't have any concerns with
23 what Lili and -- if you note all the different authors
24 of this report, it wasn't just Lili. It was several
25 people. I can't see the citation at the bottom
26 anymore, but there's a lot of people that worked on
27 this and a lot of respected folks who have been around
28 the Division of Subsistence, the AMBCC for a long time.

29

30 Anyway, good job, Lili. You did great.
31 I mean we can always do better with stuff, but I don't
32 have any concerns with what we have here.

33

34 MS. NAVES: One thing that maybe I'd
35 like to clarify is that this discussion is based on the
36 reported numbers only. So all this, the discussion of
37 the numbers doesn't involve the estimates and the
38 confidence interval estimates. So to rank those
39 results and the recommendation I only look at the raw,
40 unexpanded numbers, at the permit and at the harvest
41 survey.

42

43 So uncertainty that may be related to
44 harvest estimates don't play a role here. This is only
45 based on raw numbers. The only math used here is to
46 sum one, two, three, four birds. There is no math at
47 all involved here. There is no statistics. It's just
48 raw numbers.

49

50

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1 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Okay. Gloria.

2

3

4 MS. STICKWAN: I was just wondering
5 about the reporting of the -- you know, when did they
6 report? Is it done within a timeframe where people can
7 remember or is it done like a year later? You know,
8 because I know like for sport fisheries they wait for a
9 year and then they report their harvests to Fish and
10 Game. To me I really wonder if they remember what they
11 caught because, you know, do they actually write down
12 what they get every day? You know, it's just a
13 question. It's hard to remember is what I'm trying to
14 say.

15 The other thing is about these reports.
16 Maybe we should have a committee looking at these
17 reports before they're submitted and make their own
18 notations on the report based upon what the region says
19 about these reports. You know, have a discussion with
20 their region and go over these reports with them and
21 look at these numbers.

22

23 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Okay. I see
24 Taqulik. Was that your hand?

25

26 MS. HEPA: I've been contemplating, but
27 I'll give my two cents here just in regards to the
28 harvest surveys in general. We all know that the North
29 Slope -- our original management body has reluctantly
30 approved based on the large confidence levels and we
31 sent in the appendix of the report letters or
32 statements from our committee expressing that. It's
33 getting harder and harder for them to accept them.

34

35 So I do agree with Jim that I think
36 it's time for us to have a Harvest Survey Committee to
37 talk about these things or to talk about it sooner than
38 later. I know that Eric mentioned that they're going
39 to make a decision here in the next couple weeks if
40 they're going to do a survey. These things should be
41 ironed out with the harvest surveys in general.

42

43 Thank you.

44

45 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: You know what
46 might be good is that we have a Harvest Survey
47 Committee before going into that meeting. I think that
48 would be really good discussion to get feedback. I'll
49 make a note of that.

50

0174

1 With the recommendations from this
2 report, those are recommendations, so will that then go
3 to the Emperor goose committee with these
4 recommendations to add into the plans that are being
5 revised right now?

6
7 Dave.

8
9 MR. SAFINE: I'm sorry, Gayla. Could
10 you repeat that question one more time.

11
12 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: With the
13 recommendations from this report, you know, based on
14 this report with the recommendations there, is that
15 something that we can bring to our Emperor Goose
16 Committee for the recommendations out of this report to
17 incorporate into the plan?

18
19 MR. SAFINE: Yeah, we can certainly --
20 if we want to on Monday, we can certainly discuss this
21 further if you'd like to do that.

22
23 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Yeah, I think
24 that that would be good. I guess is that why Bristol
25 Bay's numbers are so high is because we're in the Cold
26 Bay and Izembek areas included in our harvest numbers,
27 Lili?

28
29 MS. NAVES: In this study we were able
30 to look at hunters in rural areas and non-rural areas
31 based on the zip code of the issued permit. So, for
32 instance, for the Bristol Bay, this table only refers
33 -- for the AMBCC data, only refers to rural hunters
34 because non-rural hunters don't participate, are not
35 included in the AMBCC harvest survey. So this data
36 there is for rural hunters only.

37
38 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Do we have data
39 for the non-rural hunters? I mean because especially
40 when we -- with the Emperor Goose Management Plans, I
41 mean the Pacific Flyway Council addresses the
42 non-resident hunters and then for us to have data to
43 kind of see what those numbers are I think would be
44 helpful for that committee when we look at that.

45
46 MS. NAVES: So this is a two-page
47 summary of my yearly report. So that report includes a
48 table that has all the numbers broken down by
49 urban/non-urban and non-resident hunters. That was
50

0175

1 part of this study too was to compile that kind of
2 information broken down by rural. Do you want me to
3 dig it out here?

4
5 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: It doesn't need
6 to be right now, I guess. If you could send it to
7 Patty and she could send it out to us and we could look
8 at that. I mean I think that's information that we're
9 interested in as well even though this is a subsistence
10 spring and summer hunt. However, you know, it all
11 comes together as we're kind of in between with the
12 spring and summer and fall and winter hunt. To have
13 the full data of all those are participating I think is
14 good information for us to see.

15
16 It doesn't need to be right now. I
17 just wanted to see what we -- with those
18 recommendations we could bring those to the committee
19 and we could discuss that. Maybe through that
20 committee we could see those numbers. I think that we
21 do have that information, but I just think it's really
22 important, especially with us putting in proposals to
23 the Board of Game process and actually seeing the
24 numbers.

25
26 With this report is there any other
27 questions on this report?

28
29 (No comments)

30
31 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Hearing none.
32 Thank you, Lili, for all the information and all the
33 work that you do. It is appreciated by all of us. Was
34 that the last report that you had for us?

35
36 MS. NAVES: Not really, but you have
37 enough of it, I think.

38
39 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: I was just
40 looking at our agenda to make sure that we had all of
41 our agenda items covered for what you were reporting.

42
43 MS. NAVES: Okay. So there is only one
44 more. So, as I said, there was four projects that we
45 have been working on that addresses specific questions
46 about Emperor goose harvest management. I'll quickly
47 go over two projects that are not finished yet just to
48 give us an update on that.

49
50

0176

1 Another project was a harvest survey in
2 the Aleutian and Kodiak Regions to get the harvest
3 data. Not only Emperor goose harvest data, but the
4 full bird harvest survey. Those regions are not
5 included in the AMBCC regular survey, so we did a
6 survey there covering the 2020 harvest to document bird
7 harvest in those regions. We are at the data analysis,
8 data review stage of that project.

9
10 Another one that's still ongoing is key
11 respondent interviews with subsistence users across the
12 entire Emperor goose distribution range. We
13 interviewed people on the Kodiak Aleutians, Y-K Delta,
14 Bristol Bay. We are in the process of transcribing
15 those interviews and the next step is going to be data
16 analysis.

17
18 The fourth project of this series is
19 largely completed and this is the summary. The other
20 summary that's on your meeting package there. It's
21 expert opinion study on different aspects of what are
22 priorities for information needs and harvest management
23 actions for Emperor goose.

24
25 I'd like to thank you very much
26 everyone within the AMBCC Council, the Regional
27 Councils and other people in the regions that have been
28 responding to surveys, interviews or participating on
29 these projects in one or different manner.

30
31 So for the expert opinion used a
32 process that's called a Delphi Technique. It's
33 iterative rounds of -- we use three rounds of surveys.
34 So there was a survey on the first round and we provide
35 results of that round to the participants and say look
36 at these results. Here are kind of follow-up
37 questions. How would you rank these priorities for
38 research or for management. So this is what we did
39 there and several of you participated in this process.
40 So thank you very much for taking the time for this.

41
42 Those are tables. The second page
43 there are tables. That's kind of how the questions
44 were structured that asked people to rate and rank
45 different items and stuff. So one thing there in the
46 results is that on the terms of the information needs
47 on the first round there was improved harvest
48 assessment. In terms of more coverage and more
49 refining the estimates, appeared as a topic priority as
50

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1 information need.

2

3

4 But as you moved along this process the
5 opinions converged more on that the top priorities were
6 to look at survival for Emperor goose at different
7 times of the year because that will provide a kind of
8 -- may be a more overall understanding of what's going
9 on with the Emperor goose population and when and where
10 to focus attention as moving forward.

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So this is one result that I'd like to highlight from this study. So there are other things highlighted there in the summary and our report is also available and it has been made available in the months past for AMBCC partners to provide input and to review the report as a whole.

I think that was the last topic that I had to go over. So thank you very much for your participation in all those different projects, surveys, interviews and such. I really appreciate it. I cannot do it without your help, your direct participation and helping us to reach to people in your regions. So thank you very much.

MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Thank you, Lili. Any questions for Lili?

MS. CHERNOFF: This is Coral. I don't have a question, but just a comment.

MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Go ahead.

MS. CHERNOFF: Yeah, I just want to say to Lili I appreciate all the work. I respect the work that you do. I just don't want to leave on a note where somebody might not think that I do respect or understand or really appreciate the work.

Part of my comments earlier and just in doing this is sometimes I just feel really gut-punched, so I have to try and understand what that is about. If it's not spoken about, it sits and sits and sits. But then I see other people who just walk away from the system and I don't want people to do that.

So when I bring things up, it is certainly not personal. It's just seeking to understand or explain that this doesn't feel good to me

0178

1 and then I just look forward and hope we can all move
2 forward and resolve things and just make this a better
3 partnership than it was yesterday or last year.

4

5 But I just do want to say I respect
6 everybody's work. I understand you work hard and it's
7 your job, but also to remember it is a partnership and
8 there are other sides. So I'll just leave it at that.

9

10 Thank you.

11

12 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Thank you for
13 saying that, Coral. I think this group has come a long
14 way from the formations and from the beginning days.
15 We hear stories of what it used to be like here at
16 AMBCC and the formation there. We have a lot of
17 history as the true indigenous inhabitants of Alaska as
18 we are as Natives. Paying attention to those words I
19 think is key. I think that the work that we do we
20 really -- that's our jobs that we do as Natives and
21 making sure that things are put in correctly and
22 everybody has. I think that we all work well together.
23 We've come a long way even from when I first started
24 being on here and communicating. I think that things
25 are good and I just wanted to -- you know, some of our
26 feathers get ruffled sometimes, I think. I think we
27 said that before. We all come with our feathers all
28 pretty and then we work on these issues. As long as we
29 continue to work through them and talk about these
30 kinds of things, I think it's really important and it
31 grows everybody together. So thank you for your
32 comments and bringing that out.

33

34 Does anybody else have anything for
35 Lili?

36

37 MR. TAYLOR: Madame Chair. Other than
38 I'm requesting a break if we can take one.

39

40 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: I was planning on
41 it. I was going to hold you -- you always hold us a
42 long time. I was waiting for Lili to be done and then
43 we could take a break. Why don't we come back at
44 11:00. Would that work for everybody?

45

46 MR. DEVINE: Madame Chair.

47

48 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Yes.

49

50

0179

1 MR. DEVINE: This is Peter. Like I
2 said earlier this morning, I need to sign off. Go
3 check in. But I would like to extend my condolences to
4 Crystal Leonetti and her family. I got to know her
5 grandma Daisy quite well when I was up there in
6 Dillingham a couple years ago. I was really
7 appreciative of her welcoming me into her home and let
8 me eat many a fine meal while I was there working on
9 her Uncle Harry's boat. My heart is with you guys
10 today.

11
12 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Okay. Thank you,
13 Peter. I'll make sure to relay that message to Crystal
14 today from everybody here. Thank you. We'll see
15 you.....

16
17 MS. HEPA: Can you let us know.....

18
19 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Go ahead.

20
21 MS. HEPA: I was going to say can you
22 let us know on the agenda where we're going to start
23 after break.

24
25 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Oh, I believe we
26 are on update on current USGS migratory bird research,
27 number 8.

28
29 MS. HEPA: Perfect. Thank you.

30
31 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: We just have a
32 couple -- it looks like we just have a few more agenda
33 items, so we might be able to -- I don't know how long
34 they'll take, but I don't think that we'll be all day
35 today. So we'll see you guys back at 11:00. Thank
36 you.

37
38 MR. DEVINE: I'll probably log back in
39 after I check in, so I'll see you then.

40
41 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Okay. Thanks,
42 Peter. Safe travels home.

43
44 (Off record)

45
46 (On record)

47
48 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Well, if
49 everybody had a good little break we can go on to our
50

0180

1 next agenda item. Update on current USGS migratory
2 bird research. Dr. John Pearce. Hi, John.

3

4 DR. PEARCE: Hi. Thank you, Madame
5 Chair. Thanks everyone so much for the invitation to
6 be here today and share with you just an update on some
7 of our activities. I just want to say I really
8 appreciate this group so much. I try to attend these
9 as often as I can. I often attend the WCC meeting as
10 well and more recently I've been attending the Kodiak
11 regional meeting too.

12

13 As part of my job as the research
14 manager for our ecosystems research group, I also
15 attend co-management council meetings for other species
16 groups like polar bears and walrus and I just very much
17 appreciate the format of co-management councils and
18 groups because of the participation that takes place
19 and the dialog and the ideas and the collaborations.

20

21 So it's just super important to me to
22 listen and to be here and then I share this information
23 with my staff so that we do our research in the most
24 respectful way as possible and to take into
25 consideration the comments that we hear. So, again, I
26 really appreciate the invitation to be here and to
27 listen to all the presentations today.

28

29 I have a pretty short set of kind of
30 diversified updates for you all. I'll share my screen
31 here. I had a hard time getting into the PDF packet,
32 so I just have this on my screen here. Can everyone
33 see that okay?

34

35 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Yes.

36

37 DR. PEARCE: So, first off I want to
38 start at a really high level on something that I've
39 been working on for the last few years. That's the new
40 U.S. Arctic Research Plan and this is more just to make
41 you aware of this effort. You might have heard some
42 presentations on it and I just want to address maybe
43 some common misunderstandings about it and kind of my
44 role in it and some of the things that I'm trying to do
45 with this group and also with some folks that you know
46 in Alaska.

47

48 So every five years the White House
49 Office of OSTP or Office of Science and Technology

50

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1 Policy and this group called IARPC, which stands for
2 the Interagency Arctic Research Policy Committee draft,
3 what's called an Arctic Research Plan. So we just
4 completed that and it was started this January.

5

6 So this goes for five years and it was
7 the result of a lot of public comments, a lot of
8 workshops with members of the public and indigenous
9 communities and scientists and agencies to really sort
10 of come up with a top list of what needs to happen in
11 the arctic. What are the most top priorities that we
12 should focus on as Federal agencies.

13

14 IARPC doesn't control any money, so
15 there's not new money. It's not new research. The
16 role of IARPC is to coordinate the existing activities
17 of Federal agencies so that they are collaborative and
18 not redundant and that they are focused on the top
19 priorities and the needs of people in the arctic.
20 Since Alaska is the reason the U.S. is so involved in
21 the arctic, a lot of these too focus on Alaska.

22

23 So currently the new Arctic Research
24 Plan focuses on these four bullets that are on your
25 screen here. Community resilience and health, arctic
26 systems interactions, sustainable economies and
27 livelihoods and risk management and hazard mitigation.
28 So there are teams of people that are going to be
29 working on these and right now the Federal agencies are
30 drafting sort of how the agencies are going to work on
31 these topics and then there will be involvement by the
32 public and non-government groups in those as well.
33 Then that will go for two years before another
34 implementation plan is written.

35

36 So there will be a lot of opportunities
37 to be involved in these if you're interested and the
38 best way to do that is just to go to the IARPC web page
39 and create a login account and that's a pretty simple
40 process. Then you can join teams and be involved in
41 conversations about these priorities.

42

43 What I really wanted to talk to you
44 today about was my involvement in what's called a
45 foundational activity. These are activities that are
46 going to support these four bullets and there are five
47 of those, but the one I want to talk about today is the
48 one that I'm working on with Crystal Leonetti and Maija
49 Lukin, who is the Alaska Region tribal liaison for the
50

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1 National Park Service here in Alaska.

2

3

4 That's an activity called participatory
5 research and indigenous leadership and research. I'm
6 just a point of contact for this group, so I've been
7 attending a lot of meetings and letting people know
8 about this foundational activity, but it's really
9 Crystal and Maija that are leading the group and
10 drafting sort of what this team is going to do. Some
11 actions and deliverables that they see are really
12 important in terms of what they're calling
13 participatory research and how to foster an increased
14 capacity for indigenous leadership in research.

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So we've come up with kind of a graphic
that describes sort of ways that scientists should
think about participatory research and we've done it on
kind of a spectrum that you can attend meetings and
inform people about what you're doing, but you can also
do a lot more than that. So we're coming up with
different examples for each of these to show scientists
how they can be engaging in more participatory science
with communities and with groups.

We're realizing through hearing
comments from people that all these different
activities can kind of be taking place at the same time
and that there's often examples off this chart, maybe
farther to the right, that are completely indigenous
led. So that's some discussions that Maija and Crystal
will be having with a lot of different people to sort
of move these ideas forward and create resources for
researchers so they understand the importance of these
different activities and just trying to be more
involved in that and also building capacity for
indigenous leadership and research.

So I've been giving this presentation
on a number of different formats and I just wanted to
make you aware of that as well. If you have questions
about this, Crystal and Maija would be the best people
to direct those to, but I'm also happy to route those
communications to them.

So next is -- I just want to let you
know that we've started a public service announcement
about bird bands on public radio and those just started
last week. So you might hear these on the local NPR
stations.

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1 The text of the message is there in the
2 middle of this set of text here and this is kind of
3 part of a multi-pronged approach that we started in
4 2019, I believe, with an ANSEP student from Napaskiak
5 on the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta to just better understand
6 how people perceived bird bands, how they could report
7 bird bands and the kind of information that multiple
8 people can obtain from the bird banding data.

9
10 So this was one idea among many that we
11 are pursuing just to put out more information about
12 what bird bands are and that the USGS manages the
13 nationwide program for bird bands in North America.

14
15 I sent this message to a number of
16 different people for review. So I sent it to Patty and
17 to Fish and wildlife Service, to Yukon Delta Refuge and
18 to Alaska Department of Fish and Game and incorporated
19 those comments into this draft, but I just wanted to
20 let you all know about this.

21
22 If you do have questions or comments
23 about this, please let me know, but this is going to be
24 airing this spring and then again this fall just to
25 educate people more about why we put bands on birds.
26 Then, if people are interested, they can contact us and
27 we can provide more information on that.

28
29 When people do submit band reports,
30 then I -- for the permit that I manage, the bird
31 banding permit that we receive, all that information
32 from people that harvest those birds or see those birds
33 and their bands, then I reply to all those people that
34 are in Alaska with an email and a map of saw the bird
35 and where the bird was banded and just some more
36 information about why we're doing that work and the
37 kind of information that their observations can
38 contribute to. So that's just another step in this
39 sort of process of informing people about bird bands.

40
41 And then related to that -- I'm going
42 to skip to the next page and I'll come back to this
43 other information in a minute. But related to that is
44 that this was also part of a response to a request by
45 the Arctic Goose Joint Venture, which is a consortium
46 of U.S. and Canadian biologists and others, that had
47 asked us to be more coordinated in how we band geese
48 especially in the state and if there could be sort of a
49 group of Alaska partners that are interested in banding
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1 waterfowl and that are banding waterfowl to not only do
2 education and outreach about what we're doing but also
3 to sort of better coordinate the banding activities
4 themselves and to talk about if there's a need from
5 Pacific Flyway Councils or other flyway councils for
6 additional bands, you know, could that group support
7 that, would other funds be needed or other efforts be
8 needed to make those happen.

9

10 So we're starting that process of
11 bringing partners together to talk about this idea and
12 this group and how it would function. I've talked to
13 Patty about the best ways to involve AMBCC in that, so
14 she's interested and thinking about it, so we'll have
15 some more discussions about that at some point. So
16 that's sort of related to the bird banding message and
17 I just wanted to let you all know that to.

18

19 So if you have questions about this
20 idea of a sort of waterfowl banding group, just let me
21 know. I'd be real interested in the involvement of the
22 AMBCC in that.

23

24 So then I just wanted to update you on
25 a number of science products that were released in '21
26 and '22 with the involvement of USGS but certainly many
27 other collaborators, including some folks on this call.
28 So these are just some topic areas of reports that we
29 have released over the last year or two and then some
30 web links that you can click or type in to get to those
31 reports. If you're having trouble getting to any of
32 these reports, just let me know and I'd be happy to
33 send these to you.

34

35 So this kind of covers some of the work
36 that USGS has been involved with over the last two
37 years involving migratory birds. Some of which I think
38 you've heard today such as highly pathogenic avian
39 influenza, updates to our tracking page, so that was
40 something that was shown yesterday I think by Dave
41 Safine, those animations of Emperor geese. We have
42 similar animations for over 20 species of birds on this
43 webpage. The most recent was the Kittlitz's Murrelet,
44 so you can go there and see similar animations for
45 other species.

46

47 Jim Johnson talked about some of the
48 work we've done with him on Bar-tail godwits. There's
49 a similar paper that talks about migration of whimbrels

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1 at that link. And we've also been doing work up on the
2 North Slope in terms of changes in forage plants and
3 populations of geese up on the North Slope. The
4 results from some of that work is that currently
5 there's just a lot of really good foraging conditions
6 for geese up on the North Slope of Alaska.

7
8 And then lastly I just wanted to give
9 you kind of an update on our plans for this year for
10 field work. This first one, the status of Spectacled
11 eiders in the Kashunuk River on the Yukon-Kuskokwim
12 Delta. That had originally been planned I think in
13 2019 or I guess in 2020 and then that was cancelled and
14 then the work in '21 was also cancelled. So we're
15 finally getting to this work to sort of reassess the
16 status of Spectacled eiders on the Kashunuk River.

17
18 That was work that was done by USGS and
19 Fish and Wildlife Service many, many years ago and it's
20 sort of revisiting the nesting population there briefly
21 just to get an update on the numbers of birds nesting
22 and the status of those birds in relation to some sort
23 of forecast that had been done back many years ago to
24 sort of see where we are in terms of the status of
25 those birds now.

26
27 We also have folks working on the
28 status of seabirds in Southcentral Alaska, so just
29 continued monitoring along with partnerships with Fish
30 and Wildlife Service and others for seabird colonies in
31 lower Cook Inlet and Kachemak Bay and also some work in
32 Prince William Sound.

33
34 Some of that is related to exposure of
35 those populations to harmful algal toxins as has been
36 talked about before and the relationship of those
37 toxins to changes in forage fish and potential bird
38 mortalities. So a lot of that research is still
39 ongoing. New reports are in the works so we can keep
40 you all posted on that. Robb Kaler did a great update
41 on that yesterday as well.

42
43 As far as songbirds go, we have a
44 project actively going on in Denali National Park just
45 to understand the general productivity of songbirds
46 across different types of landscape in Denali National
47 Park. And then also looking at the habitat
48 associations of boreal birds, especially those that are
49 in decline, such as yellowlegs and olive-sided
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1 flycatchers throughout parts of Interior Alaska.

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Just trying to understand the habitats that those birds prefer and the distribution of those habitats and sort of maybe some future projections of where those habitats will be to help us understand the potential for additional declines in the future if that's what might be happening.

We're also continuing to do work on the status of Red-throated loons on the North Slope. There was a study done by Fish and Wildlife and USGS a number of years ago that suggested a decline in Red-throated loons on the North Slope. So we've been looking into a number of factors that might be involved in that. Food is one of those, so the study is particularly looking at fish communities that are available to Red-throated loons.

As I mentioned, the forage is really good for geese up on the North Slope currently, so there is an expansion of Snow geese, both in number and distribution, particularly in the Colville River delta on the North Slope. So we continue to monitor those numbers. A number of folks and agencies have been interested in potential habitat impacts by Snow geese and impacts to other species by increasing numbers of Snow geese on the North Slope.

So that's specifically what we're looking at when we're doing that work, is just to try to evaluate if there is habitat damage, the number of Snow geese that are up there, changes in dynamics of that species there and then potential impacts to other species like Pacific Black brant, for example.

Another project continuing this year is looking at potential impacts of helicopter disturbance to Black brant that are molting in the Teshekpuk Lake Special Area. So that is a potential future outcome of additional exploration and development of oil and gas is more helicopter traffic.

A lot of that work was done in the past, but we now have, as you probably are aware, much more fine-tuned radio transmitter devices so we can really understand the fine detailed movements of geese. So we're exploring where we are using transmitters that are temporary on geese, so they fall off after several

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1 weeks. That will give us some really good information
2 on how birds are actually responding to experimental
3 overflights of helicopters. So we'll get started on
4 some of that work again this year.

5
6 Then we completed an analysis of using
7 photo imagery to estimate numbers of Black brant on
8 Izembek in the fall and that was in close collaboration
9 with Fish and Wildlife Service and that report is
10 currently in a journal being peer reviewed and we plan
11 to continue that work with Fish and Wildlife Service
12 this fall and we hope for the next couple years to
13 really evaluate that potential for estimating numbers
14 of Black brant at Izembek every year.

15
16 And then lastly some of the radio
17 transmitters that we'll put out on Black brant up in
18 the north we will also be using that information to
19 understand the migration of Black brant as they move
20 away from Izembek for those that do go south down
21 towards California specifically the altitude of those
22 birds as they migrate along the coast and as they get
23 into the area of California to be able to provide that
24 information to the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management,
25 which is concerned about Black brant and potential
26 impacts of future offshore wind development, which
27 hasn't taken place yet, but just so that they can
28 better site offshore wind development if it happens so
29 that Black brant are not impacted. So that's
30 specifically why we're doing that work.

31
32 Lastly I really welcome ideas on how we
33 can recognize and involve the knowledge of you all as
34 we do our work. So we'd like to hear from you about
35 ideas for collaborations or how USGS can support the
36 work of the Native caucus and the AMBCC. So I'd be
37 happy to take any questions and just again really
38 appreciate the opportunity.

39
40 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Thank you, John.
41 Does anybody have any questions for John?

42
43 (No comments)

44
45 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: I have a
46 question. Oh, Ryan, go ahead. I didn't see your hand.

47
48 MR. SCOTT: No, I think I put it up
49 there just when you were going and I can wait.

50

0188

1 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: No, go ahead.

2

3 MR. SCOTT: Okay. Hey, John, thank you
4 for that. I'm curious. How did the photo survey work
5 out as far as enumerating brant down in Izembek?

6

7 DR. PEARCE: Julian is on. He's
8 actually a co-author on the paper, I believe, but I
9 think it went -- and I wasn't really integrally
10 involved in that, but I think it went really well. So,
11 Julian, do you want to talk about how you thought it
12 went?

13

14 MR. FISCHER: Sure. Thanks for the
15 question, Ryan. Yeah, I think this technique shows a
16 lot of promise. It accomplishes three things. One,
17 increased safety for the air crews that are conducting
18 surveys. Potentially less disturbance on birds from
19 surveying efforts because the aircraft is much higher
20 than it would be for low level surveys. When we're
21 shooting photos, we're above 1,000 feet. Third, we
22 believe it will result in a less biased estimate of the
23 population size.

24

25 Like John mentioned, the report is put
26 together in manuscript form and it's currently in
27 review. We have plans to replicate that survey again
28 this fall. We had some issues with exhaust from the
29 aircraft corrupting some of the photos, so we're
30 working on resolving some of those issues right now.

31

32 The Marine Mammals group and Fish and
33 Wildlife Service and USGS is doing a sea otter survey
34 and we're going to be in collaboration with them.
35 We're going to be in consultation with them about some
36 of the ways they survey.

37

38 Anyway, we look forward to approving
39 this and then possibly adopting it with the Pacific
40 Flyway and AMBCC support as an alternative way to
41 monitor the Pacific brant population.

42

43 MR. SCOTT: Great. Thank you. I
44 believe I asked this before and forgive me, I forget.
45 It's a plane-mounted system, right? Okay. Shooting
46 through the belly or something like that. That's
47 probably where you're getting the exhaust issues.
48 Okay. Thank you.

49

50

0189

1 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Thank you, Ryan.
2 Thanks, John, for that overview of all the projects.
3 Do you guys partner with local tribes or entities on
4 those projects where you guys are doing the work?

5
6 DR. PEARCE: We do. So, for example,
7 our polar bear crew is up on the North Slope currently
8 and they work really closely with North Slope Borough
9 Wildlife Department on those surveys just over the last
10 month. Then there's some other projects where we're
11 working closely with folks.

12
13 I think especially Lili's talked about
14 the work that she's been doing on shorebird indigenous
15 knowledge. So that was in collaboration with folks
16 here and with Lili and her group. But we're always
17 looking for other opportunities to do that, so we'd
18 really appreciate ideas for how best to do that.

19
20 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Okay. Thank you.
21 When you were asking about involvement, I was just
22 curious of what the current involvement was.

23
24 DR. PEARCE: Yeah.

25
26 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Does anybody have
27 any further questions for John?

28
29 (No comments)

30
31 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Thanks, John.

32
33 DR. PEARCE: Thanks so much.

34
35 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: We look forward
36 to having you back again.

37
38 DR. PEARCE: Thank you.

39
40 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Now we are at
41 AMBCC -- oh, wait, Crystal Leonetti was going to do her
42 tribal consultation on Alaska Native Relations Policy.
43 Did we want to touch anything on that, Eric, or we're
44 just.....

45
46 MS. SCHWALENBERG: She did ask me to
47 cover that. Sorry.

48
49 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Oh, okay. Go
50

0190

1 ahead, Patty.

2

3

4 MS. SCHWALENBERG: Hi. Sorry, Eric.
5 Yeah, Crystal asked me if I wouldn't mind covering this
6 since I'm on the team that's reviewing this. In your
7 meeting packets on Tab 16A and B is the draft, the
8 Alaska Native Relations Policy. This is ready for
9 consultation, comments.

10

11 So a team of representatives from
12 Alaska Native organizations, including for profit and
13 nonprofit. ANCSA corporations were involved in the
14 drafting of this plan and it's been several years we've
15 been working on it. So it's finally in a spot where we
16 can get comments from the tribes and others on the
17 policy.

18

19 Crystal sent this out to everyone. I
20 think I sent it to all the Native Caucus as well. You
21 just need to contact Crystal if you are interested in
22 making comments on it.

23

24 Then on Tab 16B is a frequently asked
25 questions section, which you've all seen. So just a
26 point of information for the Council members and guests
27 today.

28

29 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Thank you for
30 covering that. It's been a long process. If anybody
31 has any questions on that, you could email Crystal.

32

33 MS. SCHWALENBERG: Yeah, just
34 correspond with Crystal.

35

36 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Okay. Next we
37 have AMBCC budget and grants management. Will Lacy,
38 Migratory Bird Program. Will, are you on?

39

40 (No comments)

41

42 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: I seen him on
43 earlier.

44

45 MR. TAYLOR: Gayla, I do not see him
46 on. I will send him a text real quick to see if he's
47 able to join us.

48

49 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Okay. Spring
50 gathering update. Patty.

0191

1 MS. SCHWALENBERG: Hi, again. Really
2 quickly. As you all know, we're not having a spring
3 gathering. Mostly because of Covid, but also because I
4 have been out of the office so much, probably almost
5 four months in the last five and a half. So we haven't
6 had much time to plan on that, but I do plan on
7 convening the committee this summer and we are going to
8 shoot for next spring for the gathering for the AMBCC.
9 So I just wanted to share that with the Council
10 members.

11
12 Thank you.

13
14 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: So no fall
15 gathering?

16
17 MS. SCHWALENBERG: Oh, the fall meeting
18 will still happen. If the committee wants to try and
19 shoot for the fall, I feel like there's not enough time
20 to plan for it, but if that's what they want, that's
21 what we'll do. I think, my personal opinion, for the
22 fall meeting I would rather focus on doing a potluck
23 kind of a thing and more of a celebration that we're
24 getting back together and then focus on the spring
25 gathering in the spring.

26
27 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Okay. If you
28 could refresh our memory on the spring gathering. So
29 what is the spring gathering?

30
31 MS. SCHWALENBERG: In 2013 or '14 we
32 had a gathering just to get people back to center.
33 Native Caucus members were unhappy. They didn't feel
34 like the co-management process was working the way they
35 had originally anticipated. There was some general
36 dissatisfaction, so we had the gathering and we just
37 aired -- everyone aired their concerns. We brought in
38 all the partners and we found a way to move forward
39 together and I think that our relationships between the
40 partners was greatly improved as a result of that
41 gathering.

42
43 So it's been quite a few years since we
44 had one. With the changes in the harvest survey
45 program since then, you know, to the five regions and
46 every other year and now we're facing budget crunch, I
47 just think it's time for the partners to come together
48 again and look at these issues as a group and try to
49 move forward in a cooperative way.
50

0192

1 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Okay. Thank you.
2 I think that will be good and that will be for the big
3 spring gathering and then we could have a fall potluck
4 when we meet together this fall. That would be nice.

5
6 MS. SCHWALENBERG: Okay.

7
8 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Eric.

9
10 MR. TAYLOR: Thanks, Gayla. I did get
11 a note from Will. He thought he was going to be on the
12 agenda in the afternoon, so he's actually at a medical
13 appointment right now. So if we go ahead and finish up
14 before noon, I'll just ask Will to follow up with all
15 the regions information on the brants.

16
17 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Okay. With that
18 I think we've covered everything on our agenda. I
19 don't think we missed anything on there. Do we have
20 any invitation for public comments?

21
22 (No comments)

23
24 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Okay. Council
25 and staff comments. Usually this is the place where we
26 kind of do our close out of Council comments of how the
27 meeting went. Any take-aways from the meeting today.

28
29 MS. CHERNOFF: This is Coral.

30
31 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Go ahead, Coral.

32
33 MS. CHERNOFF: Yeah, I want to thank
34 everybody for the meeting, all the presentations. I
35 really look forward to I guess another Native Caucus
36 meeting and a Harvest Survey Committee meeting. Then
37 you guys were talking about a fall meeting and I just
38 wanted to remind that we had possibly talked about
39 going to Juneau in the fall since the flyway was going
40 to be there. So our fall/winter meeting we might want
41 to keep that in mind.

42
43 Then I might want to suggest a spring
44 gathering in Kodiak. We could all come and see, if
45 it's before April 22nd roughly, then we can all see
46 Emperors and where they are and see -- you know, there
47 would be a road system hunt at that time. We just have
48 so many birds here right now and it's so beautiful.
49 I'll like to extend that invitation to think about
50

0193

1 that.

2

3 Thank you, everybody, for all your
4 reports and all your time. Thank you.

5

6 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Thank you, Coral.
7 Ryan.

8

9 MR. SCOTT: Well, I see Will just
10 joined us. Should we take care of that and come back
11 to this part?

12

13 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: We can. Yeah,
14 that would be good. Hi, Will. Sorry if we pulled you
15 out from meeting with us today. Thank you for joining
16 us.

17

18 MR. LACY: Sorry. I thought I would be
19 in the afternoon, so I scheduled something. My
20 briefing won't be long, so I'll go ahead and present
21 that. Just hold one moment while I pull it up. It
22 looks like I made the mistake of putting it on a shared
23 drive, so now I have to connect so I can get to it.

24

25 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Okay. That's
26 fine. While Will is pulling that up, one of the things
27 I did forget on the agenda was that we were going to
28 look at the Committee listings and identify which
29 Committees were going to meet. Patty sent out the
30 email to everybody earlier this morning, so if you guys
31 want to check your email while Will is pulling that up.

32

33 MR. LACY: I'm sorry. Normally it
34 doesn't take this long to reconnect. Let me cancel and
35 start over.

36

37 MS. SCHWALENBERG: Gayla.

38

39 MR. LACY: There we go.

40

41 MS. SCHWALENBERG: Okay. Never mind,
42 I'll wait.

43

44 MR. LACY: No, go ahead. Go ahead.
45 That's just step one of a process.

46

47 MS. SCHWALENBERG: I was just going to
48 say the Committees that I had identified and if there's
49 others, people can put it in the chat, but I thought

50

0194

1 that the ones that we had talked about needing to meet
2 were the Budget Committee, the Invitation Committee and
3 the Harvest Survey Committee.

4
5 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Okay. I was just
6 going to kind of go through the list and see -- you
7 know, kind of just go down and I don't know if there
8 were -- you know, the meetings are -- the Committees
9 are open for people to join in and listen in. I know
10 we did the Committee assignments last time, but if
11 there is any people out there that was wanting to join
12 any Committees or be a part of a Committee, people are
13 welcome to attend.

14
15 MS. SCHWALENBERG: Yeah, the Committees
16 are open to the public basically. If anyone wants to
17 serve on a specific Committee today, just put it in the
18 chat or you can email me after the meeting. Then we'll
19 have this list presented again to the Council in the
20 fall. If there's any new names or whatever, then we'll
21 get approval again.

22
23 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Eric.

24
25 MR. TAYLOR: Thank you, Gayla. Patty,
26 I didn't quite hear all the committees you've
27 suggested, but I did make a request for the Regulations
28 Booklet Committee to meet, but I'm also asking for
29 everyone to look at the Regulations Booklet and
30 particularly your particular region for recommendations
31 on improvement, for clarity or better organization or
32 make it more user friendly.

33
34 I will be calling quite a number of
35 people. Jason, Jim, Gayla, Ryan, Coral and Todd I
36 think were all on the phone today. So just a heads up
37 you'll be getting an email or a text from me or a phone
38 call to have a meeting.

39
40 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Okay. Are you
41 good to go, Will?

42
43 MR. LACY: I am.

44
45 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Okay. We'll come
46 back to our committees. I just wanted to make sure
47 people had that up as the next item. People could pull
48 up the committee listings and I think it would be good
49 for us to kind of just run down them really quick to
50

0195

1 see which ones need to meet.

2

3

4 So what we could do right now is, Will,
5 if you wanted to go ahead and give your presentation in
6 terms of the AMBCC budgets and grants management,
7 please.

8

9 MR. LACY: Please let me know when you
10 see my screen.

11

12

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MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: We see your
screen.

MR. LACY: My name is Will Lacy. I'm
with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. I'd like to
thank you for this opportunity to give your budget
briefing today. I'll go onto the next screen. I only
have two topics to discuss. I'm going to give a status
of funds, that being our FY22 budget and I'm going to
talk about the next five-year grant agreement.

I'm going to go ahead and bring up the
budget. Hopefully you all have this as a handout. I
got it to Patty late, so I apologize if you don't have
it. It would be my fault. Let me zoom out. So
hopefully everybody can see this okay. What I have
onscreen represents the AMBCC budget from the Migratory
Bird perspective. It is only a depiction of the costs
that we have to spend towards the program for FY22.

I have it in three different sections.
We have administrative costs, harvest survey collection
and grants. So let's talk about administrative costs.
There is a cooperative agreement that's pending with
the ADF&G which we haven't finalized yet. Normally
it's about \$100,000, but these were the other costs
that we had. Postage, printing handbooks, court
recorder cost.

As you all are aware, harvest survey
data collection was cancelled for this year, so there
is no cost right there. This section right here,
grants, is what we funded this year towards the grants.
I have two regions that are bolded. These estimates
are pretty firm. I spoke with the regions. However,
they haven't submitted the amendment paperwork. That's
why it's bolded. They have provided me what they will
be requesting for FY22. So, bottom line, our budget
for FY22 was \$258,000. A little over \$258,000. Any

0196

1 questions?

2

3

4

MS. STICKWAN: I have a question. Did you say the two bolded ones were submitted?

5

6

7

8

9

10

MR. LACY: No, they haven't been submitted, Gloria, but I did talk with people from those regions so I know the numbers are good. Hopefully, you know, get some movement on that this week.

11

12

13

14

I said Gloria, but was that Patty or Gloria. I couldn't tell who was speaking.

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: That was Gloria.

23

24

25

26

MR. LACY: Okay. Excellent.

27

28

29

30

31

32

33

MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: I had a question, Will. So the dashes, for the regions that have the dashes, what's the dashes?

34

35

36

37

38

39

40

41

MR. LACY: All right. This is not a reflection of how much money those regions have. It's just that I did not give them any money this year because they had a sufficient amount already.

42

43

44

45

46

47

48

49

50

MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Okay.

MR. LACY: The next slide I will show will depict the current balances on hand as of April 1st.

MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Okay.

MR. LACY: Okay. Next we're going to talk about grant amendments and the balances that are currently on hand in the regions. So you'll notice I have three columns here. This first column talks about the year. That was the year we funded that grant.

So, for example, for Ahtna Intertribal Resources in 2022 I have not -- we haven't awarded them any money yet even though we'll get that paperwork done. Hopefully this week.

For Aleutian Pribilof Islands 2019 we awarded them \$21,000 and that balance is still on hand.

0197

1 I'm going to give a few moments for
2 everybody to look at this. You'll see right here
3 Kawerak has completed their paperwork. It just wasn't
4 done by April -- no, excuse me, not Kawerak but North
5 Slope. They've done their paperwork. It just wasn't
6 completed by April 1st. They should have gotten an
7 email this week and that amendment has been approved.

8
9 So as of April 1st the total amount of
10 unliquidated awarded funds was \$217,674. Any
11 questions? If any region has a question about their
12 balance and they want to call me direct, my contact
13 information will be presented at the end of this
14 presentation. I think most people have my contact
15 information.

16
17 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Any questions for
18 Will.

19
20 (No comments)

21
22 MR. LACY: So one of the things I
23 wanted to bring out is you notice how, for example,
24 Association of Village Council, they were awarded some
25 money in 2019 and 2022. Here we have some 2019 and
26 2021. I don't know who within your organization
27 brought down the money, but if they can draw down the
28 oldest money first, it would be appreciated.

29
30 And then those regions that were
31 awarded money in 2021 I'll be reaching out to you in
32 August just to check your budget and see if you need
33 all the funds that you have. The reason why I'm going
34 to be doing this is if we can de-obligate some of those
35 funds that you know aren't going to be used, that will
36 give us, the Service, a chance to use them.

37
38 Otherwise, if we wait until after 30
39 September and you don't use all of your awarded funds,
40 they're lost. Of course they'll be lost to you because
41 the agreement expired, but they'll be lost to the
42 Service also because we won't be able to use the funds
43 anymore because of the date we awarded it to you. So
44 I'll reach out in August to all those organizations
45 that have 2021 funds.

46
47 Some other notes -- oh, basically I
48 covered all these points. That's the balance of funds.
49 So next I want to talk about the five-year award.
50

0199

1 than. I'm sorry about that. So no later than 15 May,
2 15 June and 30 June. Thank you, Gloria.

3

4 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Anybody have any
5 questions for Will?

6

7 (No comments)

8

9 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Thanks for the
10 overview, Will, and thanks for also letting us know and
11 shooting us emails when we need to get you information.
12 We really appreciate that feedback.

13

14 MR. LACY: You're welcome. It's a
15 pleasure working with you all.

16

17 MS. STICKWAN: I had one more question.
18 You said when the funds are lost. What happens to that
19 money? Where does it go then? Does it go back to
20 the.....

21

22 MR. LACY: To the Treasury. The funds
23 are expired there. We're not able to obligate them.
24 We're not able to use them at all. They'll just revert
25 back to the U.S. Treasury.

26

27 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: I had a question.
28 You know, we've had, of course, money that we weren't
29 able to spend due to not having Regional Council
30 meetings due to Covid and travel restrictions.

31

32 Can we work with you from now until the
33 end of September maybe to modify our work plans or
34 modify our grants instead of sending that money back
35 that we could do outreach. We can maybe do different
36 things with the money. Most of our money is usually
37 tied up in travel and very few for wages. Can we work
38 on those instead of work on -- modifying that to come
39 up with some ideas within our specific regions of how
40 to spend down that money?

41

42 MR. LACY: Yes, Gayla. Thanks for the
43 question. That process is very simple. Very simple.
44 If you have funds, at any point you determine that
45 you're not going to be able to spend those funds
46 according to the budget you submitted, just enter a
47 grant -- all that's required is for a region to enter a
48 grant note asking -- requesting a revision of their
49 budget and then the budget narrative. As simple as
50

0200

1 that. Then we will look at it and review it and then
2 approve it.

3

4

5 To ensure it goes well, contact us
6 first. Contact me about what you want to do. If I
7 need to talk to Eric, I will, but as long as it's
8 furthering your program, the AMBCC goal, it's probably
9 going to be good to go. That was a good question.

10 Please reach out to me sooner than later once you
11 realize, hey, you know, I'm going to have some excess
12 funds and we want to make sure we get it spent. So
13 sooner than later. Real simple process.

13

14

Thank you, Gayla, for that question.

15

16

17 MS. STICKWAN: I have another question.
18 What do you mean by budget narrative and the committee
19 has to work on that? What do they work on?

19

20

21 MR. LACY: Yeah, most of everybody --
22 most everyone is familiar with this because when they
23 apply for a grant, one of the requirements is a budget
24 and a budget narrative. All it is for example is that
25 on your budget you may say -- it's really simple. For
26 a budget I need \$6,000 for travel, \$6,000 for personnel
27 costs.

27

28

29 In a budget narrative it explains it
30 out a little more. I need \$6,000 for travel. Travel
31 will be three trips to three meetings, three personnel
32 and, you know, the costs. Personnel line this up just
33 saying \$6,000 -- in the budget narrative it will say
34 personnel cost, two people, first person \$3,000,
35 benefits -- excuse me, \$2,000 benefits, \$1,000,
36 something like that, and the second person same thing.

36

37

38

39 It just has the detail. That's the
40 budget narrative. All the regions are familiar with
41 this for the simple fact that they've been awarded
42 funds and it's a requirement to get funds.

42

43

44 MS. STICKWAN: Okay. I understand
45 that. I guess I just didn't hear you. I guess I just
46 didn't understand. I thought you said the committee
47 will have to meet to talk about the budget narrative.
48 I thought that's what you said. I didn't hear what you
49 said.

49

50

0201

1 MR. LACY: Okay. Sorry, Gloria. No,
2 it's on an individual by region. Once the region
3 determines what they need, just reach out to us. Did
4 that answer your question, Gloria?

5
6 MS. STICKWAN: Yes. I thought you were
7 talking about a budget committee meeting and I was
8 wondering why do they have a budget committee meeting
9 to talk about narratives. I didn't hear you right. I
10 didn't hear you.

11
12 MR. LACY: I did bring up a budget
13 committee talking about the project narrative or
14 sometimes referred to as scope of work. That's what I
15 was talking about on this slide if it's still up on the
16 screen. Did I stop sharing?

17
18 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Yeah, you did.

19
20 MR. LACY: Okay. Maybe this is what
21 you're talking about, Gloria. I said that the Budget
22 Committee would be talking about the project narrative.
23 That is because, you know, we've gone through Covid and
24 maybe things that want to be discussed is how many
25 meetings are we going to require. Are they going to be
26 virtual. Are they going to be in person.

27
28 We could talk more about maybe the cost
29 that each region is going to -- funds each region are
30 going to be received. I don't know what topics you all
31 want to talk about, but now is a good time to review
32 that statement of work, that project narrative, because
33 we're looking at a new age for lack of a better word.
34 We're in a post-Covid type environment now. Maybe you
35 all want to readdress the scope of work, but that
36 discussion would need to be done before we start
37 applying for the new award.

38
39 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Did that help
40 answer your question, Gloria?

41
42 MS. STICKWAN: Yes. I was wondering
43 what budget narrative was about. He explained it. I
44 guess the committee will meet and talk about it.

45
46 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Eric has his hand
47 up.

48
49 MR. TAYLOR: Yeah, I want to make sure
50

0202

1 everybody -- we're kind of talking about two different
2 things here. What Will is showing here, I just want
3 everyone to know, this is the next five-year award. So
4 this is the next five years starting in budget FY23, so
5 starting next year.

6
7 What Will is saying is that now is the
8 time that we sit down, like Will said, and look at what
9 options of how much funding each region is getting, the
10 requirements associated with that funding, whether it's
11 one meeting a year or two meetings a year or whether
12 it's one virtual and one in-person meeting, whether
13 it's travel costs, whether there are other things you
14 want to consider like bringing an alternate or another
15 person to the statewide meeting, whether even we want
16 to have one statewide meeting a year instead of two,
17 which is currently being done.

18
19 So that's the process that Will has on
20 that slide right there that we will be going through
21 for the next several months. Previous to that Will
22 talked about using the money that you have still in
23 your accounts for this fiscal year so but there are
24 alternatives you want to consider maybe you want to
25 make presentations to schools.

26
27 Maybe you want to develop a flyer.
28 Maybe there's something else that you feel like is
29 important that still meets the spirit of these regional
30 grants. That is what Will is saying work with him in
31 terms of the project narrative so that what you're
32 proposing is known. Hopefully that helps a little bit.

33
34 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Okay. Does
35 anybody else have anymore questions for Will?

36
37 (No comments)

38
39 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Thank you, Will.
40 I look forward to working with you for our next
41 five-year cycle.

42
43 MR. LACY: You're welcome.

44
45 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Okay. Have a
46 good evening or a good day.

47
48 MR. LACY: Okay. Cheers. Bye.

49
50

0203

1 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Bye. So I guess
2 we could go back to our committee listing. If you guys
3 had a copy of that in the email and we could kind of go
4 through them. I think it would be easier instead of us
5 jumping around to see which committees might need to
6 meet.

7
8 We have the Technical Committee. I
9 don't think that we'll need to meet on Technical
10 Committee. Julian is the chair. Do you see us meeting
11 at all?

12
13 MR. FISCHER: No, we would meet when
14 there's a proposal submitted and review that proposal.
15 Gayla, is the question do we need to meet within the
16 next month or is this long term or what exactly is the
17 question about?

18
19 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Well, proposals
20 are due by December 15th?

21
22 MR. FISCHER: Yeah.

23
24 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: So I would hope
25 that we would meet, you know, as a Technical Committee,
26 but we don't have to schedule it at this meeting.
27 Maybe this could be something that we do at each of our
28 meetings is kind of go through the committee listings
29 and see which committees need to meet from now until
30 our next meeting. So with the Technical Committee we
31 would be meeting in the winter so we wouldn't have to
32 set a date at this time.

33
34 MR. FISCHER: That's right.

35
36 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Okay. Then we
37 have our Emperor Goose Management Committee. We have
38 standing committee meetings with those. Starting on
39 Monday is our next meeting. So that's a pretty active
40 committee. With that Emperor Goose Management
41 Committee we have a subcommittee that is working on
42 that as well.

43
44 Invitation Committee. That was one
45 that we wanted to set a date and time. Jim, we show
46 you as the chair on that one.

47
48 MR. SIMON: Thank you, Gayla. I was
49 just trying to see if I have the contact information,
50

0204

1 the email addresses for all the committee members. It
2 appears that I do not have an email for Jim Ashburner
3 or Ken Lord. So maybe Patty can send that to me or if
4 you happen to have those, Gayla.

5
6 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: I don't have
7 those.

8
9 MR. SIMON: We've never had a -- you
10 know, since I've been put on that committee and been
11 chair we have not -- you know, because of Covid we have
12 not met. I'm not quite sure what the process is. I
13 guess I just have to contact everyone and coordinate a
14 date or is that something that Patty helps to
15 coordinate? I'm just not sure about process. Thank
16 you.

17
18 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: You know what I
19 think would be helpful since we haven't met, I think if
20 we have the majority of us here, we have Jason,
21 Taqulik, Peter is gone, myself, Gloria, Randy and Coral
22 with us here if we wanted to look at our schedules and
23 schedule that, I think that would be helpful. From
24 that meeting I think that's going to probably take two
25 or three meetings. Gather the history information and
26 then maybe have information by that fall meeting.

27
28 MR. SIMON: That sounds like a good
29 plan to me, Gayla.

30
31 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Okay. Instead of
32 sending emails. Does that sound good with the
33 committee members if we want to just kind of look at
34 our calendars and set a date for this Invitation
35 Committee meeting?

36
37 MR. MAYO: That works for me.

38
39 MS. STICKWAN: Do that right now?

40
41 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Yeah. Jim, I
42 know your schedule is pretty tight. What would be the
43 best way for us to go about this of scheduling
44 meetings? I mean I have my book in front of me. I
45 don't if everybody else does. I know our schedules
46 fill up pretty fast. Maybe what we could do is after
47 the meeting closes those of us who are going to be on
48 committees that are going to meet we could hold after
49 the meeting and then have time to discuss that off the
50

0205

1 record for dates. Does that sound good?

2

3

Julian, did you have something?

4

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MR. FISCHER: Yeah, when we were looking at that Emperor goose meeting I just have some edits that need to be made to it. proposes that the committee chairs look at the committee membership on there and if they know something has changed, they reach out to Patty and Patty can update this. Would that work?

MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: We updated these at the fall meeting and then pretty much that's our practice. We'll update the list in the fall. In the fall we can make changes throughout, but I don't think that we need to. I know the chair has changed on that.

What do you want to do, Patty, with that?

MS. SCHWALENBERG: Yeah, either way is fine with me. Actually if someone notices a change right away and wants to email me, that works. It actually saves us a little bit of time during the fall meeting. I just heard that Vince Mathews has retired, so we already have some changes on several of the committees. He was a huge asset to our AMBCC, so I'm sorry to hear that he retired, but happy for him.

So, yeah, if anyone wants to email me, that's fine, but I will keep it on the agenda for the fall meeting to get approval on the list.

MR. FISCHER: Okay. Yeah, I noticed Kelly Krueger is on the Technical Committee and I guess I need to know if she is still participating. I know she participates in the Regional AMBCC meetings, but not necessarily in the State. So I just need to know what to do.

MS. SCHWALENBERG: Even though she's working for the State they're allowing her to continue working with the Sun'aq Tribe and their regional management body. So I can reach out to her and see if she's willing to continue serving on the committees that she's on as well.

0206

1 MR. FISCHER: Great. Okay. And then
2 the chair has changed in the Emperor Goose Committee.

3
4 MS. SCHWALENBERG: What has changed?

5
6 MR. FISCHER: Dave Safine is the
7 committee chair for the Emperor Goose Management
8 Committee.

9
10 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Okay. So those
11 of you who are on the Invitation Committee will stay
12 back after the meeting ends and try to figure out a
13 date.

14
15 Kodiak Road Committee. I know Kelly is
16 not here. Coral, do you see a need to have a meeting
17 for the Kodiak Road Committee?

18
19 MS. CHERNOFF: No, I don't see any need
20 for that.

21
22 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Okay. And we
23 identified having a Harvest Survey Committee meeting
24 and it looks like we need to identify a chair for that
25 one. But those of you who are on the Harvest Survey
26 Committee or want to be on the Harvest Survey Committee
27 will stay after when we adjourn the meeting and
28 schedule a date.

29
30 Flyway Council, Service Regulations
31 Committee representatives. We have a rotating primary
32 alternates and then our primary representative there is
33 Jennifer. I don't think that we need to have a meeting
34 on that. Do we, Patty?

35
36 MS. SCHWALENBERG: No.

37
38 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Okay. Law
39 Enforcement. I don't think we need to have a Law
40 Enforcement Committee unless somebody thinks we need
41 to.

42
43 MS. STICKWAN: I can't see it. Okay,
44 now I see it.

45
46 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: It's also in your
47 email too in case you can't see it on the screen.
48 Budget Committee. We identified that we wanted -- are
49 we having a Budget Committee meeting, Eric?

50

0207

1 MR. TAYLOR: Yes, I think there was a
2 request. I can send out an email, Gayla, or we can try
3 to set up a date today. Whatever you'd like.

4
5 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Probably it would
6 be best if we try to set a date today just because
7 everybody's schedules are getting busy for the upcoming
8 season.

9
10 Handicrafts I think that we do not need
11 to have a meeting.

12
13 Outreach and Communications Committee.
14 We don't have a chair. I think that that's been --
15 we've been -- do we need to have an Outreach and
16 Communications Committee meeting?

17
18 (No comments)

19
20 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: No? Emperor
21 Goose Outreach and Education Committee meeting. I
22 think that we've been meeting. Do you see a need for
23 having another meeting?

24
25 MS. CHERNOFF: Yeah, I usually try to
26 hold that in August after the survey for the year is
27 complete just so I know where we're at. So I'll call
28 that or I'll start contacting folks maybe in June or
29 something.

30
31 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Okay.

32
33 MS. CHERNOFF: Thanks.

34
35 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Yeah. Seabird
36 Die-off Committee. Hi, Robb. We can't hear you, but I
37 could try to -- your mic isn't working. You'll be
38 right back or we're good?

39
40 Well, you know, I think that with the
41 Seabird Die-off Committee meeting if -- you know, with
42 the presentations that we had with that avian influenza
43 if you think a committee needs to be called if you
44 wanted to contact -- if we needed to call a meeting,
45 Robb, you could just contact us to set up a meeting.
46 Okay.

47
48 Spring Gathering Planning Committee.
49 It looks like we don't need to meet on that right now,
50

0208

1 Patty, unless you think we need to for planning for
2 next year.

3

4 MS. SCHWALENBERG: No, I'll be calling
5 a meeting probably closer to the fall meeting.

6

7 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Okay. The
8 Regulations Booklet, Eric, you said that we wanted to
9 have a meeting on that?

10

11 MR. TAYLOR: Yes. I think I will send
12 a note out to all the committee members as we look at
13 their schedule. I also send a note out to all the
14 representatives in terms of please looking at their
15 individual region for improvements to the regulation
16 booklet and then we'll hold a meeting.

17

18 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Okay.
19 Government-to-Government Consultation. We're good,
20 Patty?

21

22 MS. SCHWALENBERG: Yeah, for this
23 summer I think, yeah.

24

25 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Okay.
26 Co-management Principles.

27

28 MS. SCHWALENBERG: Same.

29

30 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Okay. Indigenous
31 Inhabitant Definition.

32

33 MS. SCHWALENBERG: I think I'd like to
34 call that meeting towards the fall.

35

36 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Okay. I think
37 that would be a good one to have in the fall, yeah.
38 Fall/Winter Subsistence Harvest Season. I'm the chair
39 of that and I know that we should have a meeting for
40 that to kind of figure out what we're going to do. I
41 wonder if we have a temporary possible solution with
42 the Emperor goose hunt date starting sooner in some of
43 the regions, but maybe that would be a good fall
44 meeting as well on that one.

45

46 And then for P.L.93638
47 Compacting/Contracting, no meeting?

48

49 MS. SCHWALENBERG: No.

50

0209

1 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Okay. All right.
2 Well, we identified the ones that we will have and then
3 we'll try to schedule some of them after the close of
4 this meeting. I think that's good to review that
5 during our meetings and see what we need to work on.

6
7 With that being said we could go back
8 to Council and Staff comments. If there's any Council
9 members that wanted to -- before we get there, Robb,
10 did you have something?

11
12 MR. KALER: Yeah. Can you hear me now?

13
14 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Yeah.

15
16 MR. KALER: I signed in and out. Okay.
17 Yeah, I'll work with Patty for the Seabird Committee
18 and then we'll follow up on that. The list that was
19 included there I think we need more Council members.
20 That would be my only comment.

21
22 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: On the Seabird
23 Committee?

24
25 MR. KALER: Yeah, and I know it was
26 listed as die-offs and again I think it's more concern
27 about population status and trends of seabirds. I mean
28 we are concerned about die-offs.

29
30 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Oh, okay.

31
32 MR. KALER: I think I had already
33 addressed that or mentioned that during Patty's remarks
34 as the Executive Director. Anyway, thank you for that
35 and I'll let you go on.

36
37 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Okay. So we'll
38 go to Council and Staff comments.

39
40 MR. MAYO: Gayla.

41
42 MS. STICKWAN: I have a question,
43 Madame Chair. Are we going to talk about the fall
44 meeting in Juneau?

45
46 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: That's item F for
47 date and place of next meeting.

48
49 MS. STICKWAN: Okay. Sorry.
50

0210

1 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: That's okay. Go
2 ahead, Randy. Did you want to give closing comments?

3
4 MR. MAYO: Yes. I'd like to thank all
5 the Board members and the staff for putting all this
6 time and effort into this important work here. In my
7 regional report I don't think I mentioned that in our
8 region people are -- through awareness more and more
9 people in our region are realizing the importance of
10 the migratory birds and kind of broaden our horizons
11 and paying attention to what's happening or what could
12 be affecting the birds when they leave our area for the
13 winter. I want to make sure that we get healthy
14 numbers coming back to us by participating in this work
15 here.

16
17 So I just want to say thank you to
18 everybody.

19
20 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Thank you, Randy.
21 Any other Council comments.

22
23 MR. SCOTT: I guess I would.....

24
25 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Eric.

26
27 MR. SCOTT: Oh, sorry.

28
29 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: That's okay. He
30 raised his hand right when you were talking.

31
32 MR. SCOTT: Good try, Eric. Yeah,
33 thanks everybody for being here. It's great to see
34 everybody again and to hear your voices. I'm very much
35 looking forward to the fall. It sounds like we're
36 going to get together one way or the other and that
37 will be awesome.

38
39 As always I learned a lot listening to
40 different members and experiences and what's happening
41 on the ground right now and how the winter went. I'm
42 just so appreciative that folks can come together and
43 share that information. So thank you again.

44
45 Finally, I would add my 100 percent
46 support to Coral's idea that we have a spring gathering
47 in Kodiak. I think that would be great. Anyway,
48 thanks everybody.

49
50

0211

1 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Thank you, Ryan.
2 Go ahead, Eric.

3
4 MR. TAYLOR: Thanks. I won't forget
5 that, Ryan. First, thanks for the presenters. This
6 meeting was almost like a mini science symposium. We
7 didn't have regulations or proposals to review and it
8 really gave an opportunity for a lot of science to be
9 delivered. It takes a lot of work obviously to present
10 and put together materials. So thank you to all the
11 presenters today.

12
13 I also want to thank everyone for their
14 concerns or their other recommendations to make this
15 process better. The title of our Council is
16 co-management, which means we all work together. We
17 all have the same goal for sustainable populations of
18 migratory birds. Healthy populations of birds.

19
20 I appreciate everyone's transparency no
21 matter how uncomfortable a comment might be as long as
22 it's presented in a professional and compassionate
23 manner I think it's only going to make the process
24 better. So thank you for that.

25
26 Collaboration is something that John
27 Pearce mentioned. I echo John's point. If there are
28 opportunities for all of you in regions that you have
29 ideas or if you have individuals that would like to
30 work with agencies, whether it's the Department of Fish
31 and Game or the USGS or Fish and Wildlife Service, if
32 you have a potential wildlife biologist out there or
33 someone that just says what the heck does the Fish and
34 Wildlife Service do, please don't hesitate to contact
35 any one of us, whether it's Jason or John or Julian or
36 myself. We will welcome the opportunity.

37
38 I've had some great interactions with a
39 Native Alaskan person from the Fairbanks area on a
40 project that I'm running and it was a great opportunity
41 to work with him for several weeks. I think we both
42 learned a lot.

43
44 There's some major funding
45 opportunities that I want to remind the Council about.
46 Tribal wildlife grants. A multimillion dollar granting
47 process that requires actually tribes or indigenous
48 people to apply for. I cannot apply for them. I can
49 collaborate with the tribe to do so. Those ideas are
50

0212

1 due in June.

2

3

4 Another new opportunity is one coming
5 through our Science Applications Program through the
6 Fish and Wildlife Service on epizootic diseases of
7 which highly pathogenic avian influenza would be
8 relevant and applicable. That grant is about
9 \$9 million and the process is coming up and will be
10 announced in April. In fact, in the next couple days
11 according to the website that I just saw.

11

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Again there's an opportunity there for tribes, councils and other Alaska Native peoples groups to -- and I'm happy to work with all of you or ask someone else to in terms of doing that opportunity.

Anyway, those are some major funding opportunities that I would really encourage all of you to think about. Again, thank you. It was a very productive meeting. I certainly learned a lot. I appreciate everyone's efforts and participation.

And thank you, Gayla, for doing a great job as the Council Chair today.

MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Thank you, Eric. With those grant opportunities that you've identified, that tribal wildlife grant and then the other one that you stated, I didn't get the name of it, that's coming out in April. If you see any areas with the knowledge that you guys have within U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service with us in the different regions, if you see potential partnering opportunities, please reach out to us because I know there's a lot of collaboration that we would like to do and work with some of the agencies on.

MR. TAYLOR: Good point, Gayla. I read all those off. What I will do I'll work with Patty. I'll send an email out with those links. The links, the dates, the applications or ideas. Sometimes it's just an idea. You don't have to do a formal proposal process. You can write a paragraph and say this is what we're thinking about doing. That's sometimes the first step in getting the approval process.

I'll get the links and the dates and the amount of funding and any requirements out to Patty and we'll get those distributed to everyone.

0213

1 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Okay. I have a
2 project ideas folder that I have on hand and when I
3 have an idea and I just put it in there. So I'll look
4 through my idea folder and maybe you guys have project
5 idea mental folders or actual folders that we could
6 pull out and see what we've identified as the need. So
7 thank you.

8
9 Any other Council members that have any
10 closing remarks. Any Staff.

11
12 (No comments)

13
14 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: I'll go ahead and
15 close for comments. I think this was a very good
16 meeting. I too learned a lot. I think this is the
17 first meeting I've chaired virtual for AMBCC, so it's a
18 little bit different platform. The hand raising seems
19 to work out nice to see who's lined up of who to speak
20 next.

21
22 So I'm looking forward to an in-person
23 meeting. I wish you guys all the best with your bird
24 harvesting this spring and hearing the stories that you
25 guys will have to bring to us in the fall time and you
26 guys stay safe in your travels out there with our
27 weather. All the snow and all the water that we're
28 going to have. Just make sure to travel safe.

29
30 That's pretty much all I have for my
31 closing comments. We can go on to date and place of
32 next meeting. If we want to pull out our calendars. I
33 know that the Pacific Flyway Management Council was
34 meeting that week of August 22nd. Is that something
35 that we would want to maybe have our meeting? If we
36 wanted to do that, when would be the cut-off time for
37 room blocks. I don't know if that's a touristy time of
38 year for Juneau or not.

39
40 MR. SCOTT: It is. So what I would
41 suggest is that -- we're still trying to hammer down
42 some of the details for the Flyway Council meeting. So
43 the Technical Committees will start meeting August 22nd
44 and they'll go through the 24th, I guess, maybe the
45 25th. The Council meetings are like half day on the
46 25th and all day on the 26th. So that's Thursday and
47 Friday, I believe. That's the week.

48
49 The hope was we could have an AMBCC
50

0214

1 presentation on the 25th. I don't know how that -- I'm
2 not sure how that works schedule-wise for everybody,
3 but that was the desire. Certainly we could be a
4 little flexible too if we needed to do that on the 26th
5 rather than the 25th. We could carve that out as well.

6
7 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: I think it's a
8 really great opportunity. When was the last time the
9 Pacific Flyway was up in Alaska?

10
11 MR. SCOTT: Eric, you might remember.
12 I know they were in Juneau like in the '90s, I think.
13 Was Todd Sanders still on?

14
15 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: I didn't see him
16 today.

17
18 MR. SCOTT: He was actually up here for
19 the last one.

20
21 MR. TAYLOR: It's been a while, Ryan,
22 for sure. I would say 1990s is probably accurate.

23
24 MR. SCOTT: So if you want me to spend
25 a little bit more time trying to -- I mean we're trying
26 hard to get this hotel to help us out. I can report
27 back to you guys next week, early next week, kind of
28 where we're at, give you a status report or we could
29 just decide to do it.

30
31 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Looking at the
32 date -- like so I would think that we would want to
33 start -- if we did AMBCC -- anybody correct me if I'm
34 wrong. If we did August 23rd through the 25th at that
35 combined meeting with the Pacific Flyway and then have
36 an opportunity for members to attend the 26th of their
37 meeting. I think that that's a great opportunity for
38 us. I know that a lot of us have some money that we
39 need to spend down. That might help with the budgets
40 there for travel costs that we don't want to have to
41 give back, you know, return.

42
43 MR. SCOTT: Yeah, that seems very
44 reasonable. I will just also offer that several people
45 on this call will have committee commitments during
46 that week, so it's going to be tough for them to be in
47 two places at once. I don't think I'll have anything
48 going until whenever, so I would be available for the
49 AMBCC. For instance Jason Schamber and Travis Booms
50

0215

1 will both be wrapped up in Technical Committees through
2 the week. If we needed them, we could just go yank
3 them out.

4
5 MR. SCHAMBER: That would be difficult.
6 This is Jason, Ryan. We're chairing the Study
7 Committee and Non-Game Technical Committee meetings, so
8 we more or less have to be there.

9
10 MR. SCOTT: Right.

11
12 MR. SCHAMBER: And then she said it
13 would be difficult for us to participate in both
14 meetings.

15
16 MR. TAYLOR: I was wondering if you
17 would have any idea of cost on the hotels or other
18 costs. We could probably figure out flight cost. I
19 was wondering if any way we could put together some
20 cost associated if the AMBCC met in Juneau.

21
22 MR. SCOTT: Well, I guess that's what I
23 was thinking too. Jason may recall the price we got at
24 -- Patty asked about it. It's the Baranof Hotel. Is
25 it 149 bucks a night, I think, Jason? Was that it?

26
27 MR. SCHAMBER: It was 199 a night and
28 that's the Federal per diem rate.

29
30 MR. SCOTT: Okay.

31
32 MR. SCHAMBER: As a group rate, yeah.
33 I don't know if there's a minimum block of rooms that
34 you need to reserve or book to achieve that rate, but
35 that's what we were quoted for the Flyway.

36
37 MR. SCOTT: My thought was we could try
38 to just include the AMBCC in that block of rooms
39 already and just get more. At least we'd get a break
40 on it. And then I mean I don't know what's -- 400
41 bucks, 500 bucks round trip from Anchorage, but we're
42 scattered. All of us are scattered across the state,
43 so trying to get here is -- yeah.

44
45 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: I thought it
46 would be a good travel date for us to travel on August
47 22nd, like on that Monday, instead of traveling on a
48 Sunday.

49
50

0216

1 MR. SCOTT: Yeah. Well, then -- yeah,
2 if you don't -- I mean this all sounds great to me and
3 recognizing we'll have some challenges, but we'll
4 overcome them. Our biggest issue right now is actually
5 communicating with the venue and we're trying. I know
6 Jason reached out to them again this morning.

7
8 If I could get an idea, maybe next
9 week, of how many extra rooms we would need and you
10 could just email me directly that would be fine and I'd
11 get a count. Let's say I get those numbers maybe by
12 Wednesday. I can start to look into attaching those to
13 the Flyway Council stuff.

14
15 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Okay. That
16 sounds good. It could also be like a hybrid meeting as
17 well that we would be able to have, you know, this
18 virtual platform I would think for -- I know there's a
19 lot of U.S. Fish and Wildlife staff and ADF&G staff
20 that attend this meeting. So I would think you and
21 Eric would have to think of how many of your staff
22 would be present at this meeting and who would be
23 virtually calling in.

24
25 MR. SCOTT: Yeah, no problem. Right
26 now we do have an offsite location for the Council
27 meetings and that's located in the State Museum.
28 There's a lecture hall here in the State Museum. And
29 then I've also reached out to the Alaska Native
30 Brotherhood Hall. They have a large complex here and
31 I'm waiting on a quote from them. So I'll have a
32 little bit more actual meeting venue information in the
33 very near future as well.

34
35 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Okay. How did
36 dates look? Did we want to cover those dates or just
37 say -- are we all in favor of having it in Juneau
38 around that Pacific Flyway to have that collaboration?
39 I think that's a good idea. I got a thumbs up from
40 Priscilla.

41
42 MR. SCOTT: Bring your raincoats.

43
44 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Better than a
45 shovel.

46
47 MR. SCOTT: Yes, ma'am.

48
49 MR. TAYLOR: Gayla, I might suggest
50

0217

1 that before we make a decision we look at the total
2 cost. I'd like to talk to Ryan a bit. I know Ryan has
3 offered that perhaps there's some funding from the
4 Department of Fish and Game to help offset some of
5 this. I don't want to put him on the spot in terms of a
6 dollar amount, but we need to look at our budget as
7 well. I think the regions need to look at their
8 budgets to make sure they can afford it. I mean we
9 heard a hotel estimate of \$200 a night and three or
10 four nights then you're at \$1,000.

11

12 Anyway, before we say -- put the gavel
13 down and say, hey, we're all going to Juneau, let's
14 take a pause and look at the dollar amount. Does that
15 sound reasonable to you?

16

17 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: That sounds good.
18 Maybe we could say first choice is Juneau, second place
19 is Anchorage for at least the place like we did in the
20 past when we were going to go up to Fairbanks. Did we
21 want to look at the options of the dates then if it's
22 in Anchorage? Are we wanting to meet in August or
23 September? And if it's in Juneau it would be that week
24 of August.

25

26 Because that's what I would propose is
27 if the first place is Juneau the week of August 22nd
28 and we could figure out the dates. Second place would
29 be Anchorage and it wouldn't be at that same dates
30 because if some of the Council members would be going
31 down to Juneau for that meeting it sounds like. I
32 would think Patty would definitely be there and some of
33 our representatives would be at that meeting.

34

35 So how does it look for the second
36 Anchorage date? Do we want to look at the week of
37 September 12th? When did we usually meet in the fall,
38 Patty? Was it more towards the last week of September?

39

40 MS. SCHWALENBERG: No, it was usually
41 like the second week, somewhere around there. Oh, no,
42 no, I take that back. I'm thinking spring. Usually
43 the third or fourth week we meet.

44

45 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Yeah. So if we
46 want to do Anchorage, which one of those for September
47 dates would work? That way we could just kind of have
48 it penciled in for a second.

49

50

0218

1 MS. SCHWALENBERG: The third week.

2

3 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: So the week of
4 the 19th for Anchorage, AMBCC. Second choice. So
5 first choice Juneau, the week of the 22nd. Second
6 choice Anchorage, the week of September 19th.

7

8 MS. CHERNOFF: Gayla, this is Coral. I
9 have a -- our region's subsistence meeting is September
10 20th and 21st.

11

12 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Okay.

13

14 MS. CHERNOFF: So I couldn't make that
15 date.

16

17 MS. SCHWALENBERG: Okay. We won't
18 choose those days then.

19

20 MS. STICKWAN: I have a subsistence
21 meeting the 28th and 29th.

22

23 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: How about the
24 week of the 12th?

25

26 MS. CHERNOFF: That works for me.

27

28 MR. SCOTT: Yeah, me too.

29

30 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Okay. So let's
31 choose the week of September 12th for Anchorage second
32 choice.

33

34 MR. MAYO: Yeah, it can't be very long
35 because it's hunting season.

36

37 MR. TAYLOR: Gayla, the last week in
38 September that doesn't work for folks. So that would
39 be September 26th to the 30th.

40

41 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: It has in the
42 past. I just know, you know, as a director of an
43 organization I think a lot of us want to be here for
44 year-end close-out stuff. Trying to be gone at a
45 year-end is really difficult.

46

47 MS. STICKWAN: I have a question,
48 Madame Chair.

49

50

0219

1 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Go ahead, Gloria.

2

3 MS. STICKWAN: I was wondering if Ryan
4 could look at bed and breakfasts as well if we wanted
5 to bring other people besides the alternate, you know.
6 A block of rooms as well as bed and breakfasts.

7

8 MR. SCOTT: Sure. I don't mind
9 spending a little time looking around and seeing what's
10 available. I'll get working on that pretty quick.

11

12 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Dave.

13

14 MS. STICKWAN: I have another question.

15

16 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Go ahead, Gloria.

17

18 MS. STICKWAN: So you said this is
19 going to be Zoom too, right, if it's held in Juneau.
20 So we could call in as well?

21

22 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Yeah. And I
23 would think, you know, even if we're in Anchorage we
24 would be able to possibly. I'm not sure. That's
25 something we'll have to talk about, but I don't see why
26 we -- if we wanted, that might be a good way to have
27 public participate as well as to tune in to our
28 meetings as well.

29

30 Dave.

31

32 MR. SAFINE: Just a couple quick
33 comments on dates. I think, and I'm not certain of
34 this, that last week in September may be when the SRC
35 meets and I think Ryan is participating, but you may
36 know better than me on that. So that's just a
37 consideration as when the SRC meets.

38

39 Then my other thought was that if the
40 group decided to meet in Juneau, to maximize
41 participation for say people like Jason and myself who
42 do sit in and obviously Jason is chairing the Pacific
43 Flyway, that perhaps it would not be concurrent. It
44 would be either before, a couple days before or a
45 couple days after, something like that to maximize some
46 of the staff participation.

47

48 Anyway, just a quick comment. Thanks.

49

50

0220

1 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Okay. Well,
2 maybe what we can do is if everybody -- we'll do the
3 Doodle poll. Maybe what we can do is see who -- what
4 majority of people are going to be available the week
5 of the 12th and the week of the 19th of September and
6 go from there. There's hunting season and we have some
7 subsistence gatherings. I think we ruled out the last
8 week of September.

9
10 So do we want to do a Doodle poll for
11 the week of the 12th and the 19th? We'll do that.
12 Patty, would you be able to send that out and everybody
13 just please make sure you do your Doodle poll so we can
14 figure out those dates.

15
16 That will be exciting. Hopefully it
17 will work out and we'll all come together and meet
18 Pacific Flyway Council members and explain how Alaska
19 is different and about AMBCC and all of us. So it
20 should be pretty fun.

21
22 Is there anything else that we needed
23 to cover?

24
25 (No comments)

26
27 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: We'll go ahead
28 and adjourn the meeting then at 12:37 p.m. Remember
29 we're staying after for Committee meeting schedules.
30 Thank you, everyone. Good to see you.

31
32 MS. SCHWALENBERG: We need a motion.

33
34 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Do we have a
35 motion to adjourn?

36
37 MR. MAYO: So moved.

38
39 MS. EVANS: Second.

40
41 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Randy moved and
42 Priscilla seconded. All those in favor signify by
43 saying aye.

44
45 IN UNISON: Aye.

46
47 MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Those opposed
48 same sign.

49
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0221

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(No opposing votes)

MADAME CHAIR HOSETH: Okay. We're
adjourned. Thank you, everybody.

MR. SCOTT: Thanks, folks.

MS. SCHWALENBERG: Thank you, everyone.

(Off record)

(END OF PROCEEDINGS)

