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ALASKA MIGRATORY BIRD CO-MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

SPECIAL REGULATORY MEETING

JUNE 24, 2008

Members Present:

- Ron Clarke, Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Chair
- Herman Squartsoff, Kodiak Area Native Association
- Doug Alcorn, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- Sandy Tahbone, Kawerak, Incorporated
- Mike Pederson, North Slope Borough
- Patty Brown-Schwalenberg, Chugach Regional Resource Commission
- Molly Chythlook, Bristol Bay Native Association
- Peter Devine, Aleutian/Pribilof Islands (Telephonically)
- Fred Armstrong, Executive Director

Recorded and transcribed by:

- Computer Matrix Court Reporters, LLC
- 700 West 2nd Avenue
- Anchorage, AK 99501
- 907-243-0668
- jpk@gci.net sahile@gci.net

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P R O C E E D I N G S

(Anchorage - 6/24/2008)

(On record - 9:06 a.m.)

CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Good morning, everybody. It's six minutes after 9:00 on June 24th and this is a special meeting of the Alaska Migratory Bird Co-management Council. We'll begin as we always do with a brief moment of silence, please.

(Moment of silence)

CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Thank you very much. Welcome. We have one alternate to seat this morning. Mike Pederson will be sitting in for Taqulik Hepa, who has submitted the appropriate letter of designation. Are there any other alternates to be seated.

(No response)

CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Seeing none. Let's start by going around the room and introducing each of us and our affiliations. We have one caller on the line, Peter Devine. For the benefit of everybody on teleconference, whenever you speak during the meeting, if you would start by saying your name it will make it easier for our transcribers. We do have six members here in person in Anchorage and one on the line, so that constitutes a quorum.

Member Chythlook, would you begin the introductions, please. Should we just do a roll call? Member Squartsoff, would you call the roll, please.

MR. SQUARTSOFF: Yes, Mr. Chair. Association of Village Council Presidents.

(No response)

MR. SQUARTSOFF: Bristol Bay Native Association.

MS. CHYTHLOOK: Here.

MR. SQUARTSOFF: Chugach Regional Resource Commission. Patty will be coming in shortly, right?

1 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Yes.
2
3 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Copper River Native
4 Association.
5
6 (No response)
7
8 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Joeneal not here.
9 Kawerak, Inc.
10
11 MS. TAHBONE: Sandra Tahbone here.
12
13 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Southeast Alaska
14 Inter-tribal Fish and Wildlife Commission.
15
16 (No response)
17
18 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Not here.
19 Aleutian/Pribilof Island Association.
20
21 MR. DEVINE: Here.
22
23 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Sun'aq Tribe of
24 Kodiak. Herman Squartsoff here. Maniilaq Association.
25
26 (No response)
27
28 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Hazel is not here.
29 North Slope Borough. Mike.
30
31 MR. PEDERSON: Here.
32
33 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Tanana Chiefs
34 Conference.
35
36 (No response)
37
38 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Mike Smith not here.
39 Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Ron Clarke.
40
41 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Present.
42
43 MR. SQUARTSOFF: U.S. Fish and Wildlife
44 Service, Doug Alcorn.
45
46 MR. ALCORN: Here.
47
48 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Mr. Chair, I believe
49 we have a quorum.
50

1 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Thank you, Member
2 Squartsoff. As we always do at the beginning of each
3 meeting, we'd like to acknowledge the members of the
4 public who are present as well and we have three with
5 us today. If we'd start with Mr. Oats and maybe you
6 could come to the microphone and turn it on for the
7 benefit of our folks on teleconference, state your name
8 and your affiliation, please.

9
10 MR. OATES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
11 My name is Russ Oates. I work with the U.S. Fish and
12 Wildlife Service and the Division of Migratory Bird
13 Management.

14
15 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Thank you.

16
17 MR. OSTRAND: Bill Ostrand with the
18 Fish and Wildlife Service and Staff to the Co-
19 management Council.

20
21 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Thank you, Mr.
22 Ostrand. Jim Fall.

23
24 DR. FALL: Good morning. I'm Jim Fall.
25 I'm with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game,
26 Division of Subsistence.

27
28 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Thank you very much.
29 Is there anyone else online? It didn't sound like
30 anybody has joined. Other than Member Devine, anyone
31 else on teleconference?

32
33 (No response)

34
35 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Hearing none, we'll
36 move on. The Chair would entertain a motion for
37 adoption of the agenda.

38
39 MR. SQUARTSOFF: So moved.

40
41 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Is there a second.

42
43 MS. CHYTHLOOK: Second.

44
45 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Thank you. It's been
46 moved and seconded that we adopt the agenda as
47 presented in your packet. Member Devine, just to make
48 sure, have you received the agenda and the other
49 packets by email?

50

1 MR. DEVINE: Yes, I received it in the
2 mail. I was wondering why -- well, I received it on
3 Friday, but it sounds like everybody got there's. I
4 was wondering if this came out sooner or what.

5
6 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Mr. Armstrong, can
7 you respond to that.

8
9 MR. ARMSTRONG: We tried to send the
10 packets out as soon as we got them together. If you
11 just received them Friday, the mail system might have
12 been a little slower to get out there than usual.

13
14 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Thank you, Mr.
15 Armstrong. Member Devine, did you have any specific
16 questions or concerns about the agenda?

17
18 MR. DEVINE: No.

19
20 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Is there any
21 discussion on adopting the agenda today.

22
23 MS. CHYTHLOOK: Question.

24
25 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Question. All in
26 favor.

27
28 IN UNISON: Aye.

29
30 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Any opposed.

31
32 (No opposing votes)

33
34 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Thank you very much.
35 The agenda has been adopted. At this time, as we
36 always do, we'd like to open the microphone for public
37 comment from anybody in the room that wish to address
38 the Council. I guess I would remind any members of the
39 public that wish to do so that this is a special
40 meeting and we would urge you to confine your comments
41 to the couple of topics that we're going to take up
42 today.

43
44 (No comments)

45
46 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Seeing no interest in
47 the members of the public to present any comments to
48 the Council we'll move on. Under old business, our old
49 friend, the Yellow-Billed Loon proposal is before us
50 again. I believe what we need to do in order to

1 consider this is to take up the motion from our last
2 meeting, which was, I believe, Proposal No. 2. We
3 understand there's been an agreement on new language to
4 make that proposal acceptable to all parties. So what
5 we need to do is take up that motion again and then
6 amend it and then consider it as a full council.
7 Member Alcorn.

8

9 MR. ALCORN: So moved. I think the
10 motion should be to untable the original motion. Is
11 that what we did, Fred?

12

13 MR. ARMSTRONG: No.

14

15 MR. ALCORN: We didn't table it?

16

17 MR. ARMSTRONG: We passed it.

18

19 MR. ALCORN: We passed it? Okay. So
20 you want a new motion worded. I'll move that we adopt
21 the language as is presented in 50 CFR Part 92 is on
22 the upper left-hand portion of the handout and it has
23 one change in it. The word caught is stricken and the
24 word entangled is inserted. So I move that we adopt
25 that language for the recommendation for the 2009
26 season for Yellow-Billed Loons on the North Slope.

27

28 MR. DEVINE: I'll second that motion.

29

30 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Thank you very much.
31 Is there any discussion.

32

33 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Yeah, Mr. Chair.

34

35 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Member Squartsoff.

36

37 MR. SQUARTSOFF: The motion that we had
38 already and it was passed and everything, what do we do
39 with that one? Something else has to be done besides
40 introducing a new one right away, right?

41

42 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Mr. Armstrong.

43

44 MR. ARMSTRONG: Mr. Chair. Doug's
45 motion should have been motion to amend the language.
46 If you want, I can read the language that was adopted
47 at the spring meeting.

48

49 MR. ALCORN: Okay. That's fine. I'll
50 rescind my motion. Was it seconded?

1 MR. ARMSTRONG: It was seconded by
2 Peter.

3
4 MR. ALCORN: Peter seconded. I'll
5 rescind it if Peter will accept.

6
7 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: With acceptance by
8 the second we'll do that. Member Devine, is that
9 acceptable?

10
11 MR. DEVINE: Yes.

12
13 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Mr. Chair. If I
14 recall the way we passed that motion, what was supposed
15 to happen was Taqulik and them were supposed to get
16 together with Staff just to change it and that was
17 supposed to be done. Thank you.

18
19 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Member Pederson, you
20 had a comment.

21
22 MR. PEDERSON: Yeah. Mr. Squartsoff,
23 that was done. We did meet with people from the AMBCC,
24 from Fish and Game and from U.S. Fish and Wildlife
25 Service. We had a teleconference to discuss new
26 language. That was passed at the spring meeting, so we
27 did come up with a new language and, as a result, we
28 are here today.

29
30 MR. SQUARTSOFF: That should have been
31 it. I mean we shouldn't even have to do another
32 motion. This was my understanding, but I could be
33 wrong.

34
35 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: From a parliamentary
36 standpoint, Mr. Armstrong, would you clarify that.

37
38 MR. ARMSTRONG: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
39 Fred Armstrong. The old motion was, I'll read it,
40 annually up to 20 Yellow-Billed Loons may be taken when
41 caught inadvertently in subsistence fishing nets in the
42 North Slope Region where, in the opinion of the
43 fishermen, the Yellow-Billed Loons cannot be safely
44 released alive. The intent of the provision is not to
45 harvest Yellow-Billed Loons, but to allow the use of
46 those Yellow-Billed Loons inadvertently caught during
47 normal subsistence fishing activities. And then
48 individuals must report. All that would remain the
49 same. So basically what we're going to do is amend
50 that language to what was agreed upon.

1 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Member Alcorn.
2
3 MR. ALCORN: Mr. Chair. So, because we
4 have essentially stricken -- when we talked with North
5 Slope Borough, we struck the language that was offered
6 and adopted with conditions last spring. We revised
7 it. We came to agreement on this language and I can
8 read it if you want me to. It's a completely different
9 statement now. So that's why I made the original
10 motion to just go ahead and adopt this one as written.
11 So is it in order then to rescind the original
12 approved.....
13
14 MR. ARMSTRONG: Just amend.
15
16 MR. ALCORN: Okay. So what's in order
17 now is a motion to amend with the language as presented
18 in this handout, is that right?
19
20 MR. ARMSTRONG: Yes. Peter, do you
21 want to second it again?
22
23 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Member Devine, do you
24 want to second that motion?
25
26 MR. DEVINE: Yes, I second that motion.
27
28 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Thank you. So we've
29 got a motion to adopt the language as an amendment that
30 was worked out between North Slope Borough, the
31 Department of Fish and Game and the U.S. Fish and
32 Wildlife Service. Is there any further discussion.
33
34 MS. TAHBONE: So my understanding is
35 the current motion is going to read what we have in
36 front of us, number one, is that correct?
37
38 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Yes. Any questions
39 or further discussion.
40
41 MR. PEDERSON: Under further
42 discussion, Mr. Chair, our staff came up with a couple
43 pictures just to show how we use the Yellow-Billed
44 Loon. With your permission, I'd like to hand these
45 out.
46
47 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Please do. The Chair
48 would note, in an earlier conversation before we
49 convened, Member Pederson mentioned that North Slope
50 Borough representatives would be at the Spokane meeting

1 of the SRC at the Pacific Flyway Council and I think
2 these pictures are going to be a valuable adjunct to
3 your presentation there and I encourage you to share
4 with the folks down there, especially some of these
5 older pictures that show that Yellow-Billed Loons have
6 been in use for a long time.

7

8 I guess as long as I'm at it, I would
9 further like to acknowledge the efforts of the North
10 Slope Borough and the Fish and Wildlife Service at
11 finding mutually acceptable language so we could
12 finally put this one to rest and move ahead. Are there
13 any other questions or comments. Mr. Oates, would you
14 identify yourself for the record, please.

15

16 MR. OATES: Russ Oates, Fish and
17 Wildlife Service. I just had a clarifying question
18 here. So the language that's actually going to appear
19 in the booklet that's distributed is the bolded
20 language and the subsequent text that follows the
21 letter B in this particular handout? Is that ever
22 going to appear anywhere or how is that going to work?
23 Just a clarifying question.

24

25 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Thank you, Mr. Oates.
26 Mr. Armstrong.

27

28 MR. ARMSTRONG: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
29 Fred Armstrong. In the Federal regulations, that
30 language will be inserted in the preliminary section
31 where we explained the changes and why the changes are
32 there. The document you have before you is basically
33 just what would be in the handbook with a little
34 explanation of that. Basically all this language will
35 be clarified in Federal regulations.

36

37 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Thank you, Mr.
38 Armstrong. Any other questions or discussion.

39

40 (No comments)

41

42 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Are we ready for the
43 question. All those in favor.

44

45 IN UNISON: Aye.

46

47 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Any opposed.

48

49 (No opposing votes)

50

1 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: The motion passes
2 unanimously. Always good to have consensus. Thank you
3 very much. It's nice to have that one wrapped up and
4 behind us. Continuing with the old business we've got
5 the Technical Committee recommendations on the 2004 to
6 2006 harvest survey approvals and I would like to call
7 on Mr. Ostrand to introduce this topic and then I
8 believe Member Chythlook has some comments to pass
9 along as well. Member Squartsoff.

10

11 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Mr. Chair. One more
12 thing on this handout 50 C.F.R., why was number 2 put
13 on there, on the sheet? We already did that, right?

14

15 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: That's done. Mr.
16 Armstrong.

17

18 MR. ARMSTRONG: If I may, Mr. Chairman.
19 This document we normally put together every year that
20 is part of the package that goes to the flyway and the
21 SRC. We just inserted that since it was all we put
22 together.

23

24 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Thank you, Member
25 Squartsoff. Just for the record, just to be clear, the
26 language there on Aleutian Tern and Arctic Tern egg
27 collection in the Icy Bay area is a carry-over from a
28 previous meeting and we need to take no action on that
29 today. Thank you for that clarification,
30 Member Squartsoff. Mr. Ostrand.

31

32 MR. OSTRAND: Bill Ostrand, Fish and
33 Wildlife Service. At the last meeting of the Harvest
34 Survey Committee, the committee adopted a
35 recommendation to the Council on policy by consensus
36 and the policy recommendation is on how to deal with
37 concerns brought up by regions and council members
38 about the harvest survey data, for instance the data
39 we're going to look at today that was tabulated by Fish
40 and Game.

41

42 The recommendation on how to deal with
43 concerns brought up by council members is this: if
44 there is a concern ADF&G will look at the data entry,
45 the data analysis and the processing of the data to
46 determine if any errors were made. If, in the end, it
47 was determined that the reason for the disparity is
48 because of an entry by a household, a member who
49 participated in the survey, then ADF&G will not change
50 that original entry and that original entry will stand

1 and it will remain in the data table and the objection
2 of the region will be acknowledged through a footnote.
3 So every effort will be made to find an error, but if
4 the error comes down to an entry by a participant, that
5 entry will stand.

6 So that's the recommendation for a
7 policy. I thought it was necessary to bring that up
8 before we discuss the data tables.

9

10 (Ms. Brown-Schwalenberg present)

11

12 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Thank you, Mr.
13 Ostrand. Are there any questions. Member Alcorn.

14

15 MR. ALCORN: A question just for
16 procedure. Is that policy decision a recommendation
17 that should be adopted by this Council? It's not part
18 of the nine points in the report that we're going to be
19 considering. Does it need special action?

20

21 MR. OSTRAND: Yes, it does need special
22 action, but it is a recommendation for the Co-
23 management Council to act upon.

24

25 MR. ALCORN: Mr. Chair.

26

27 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Member Alcorn.

28

29 MR. ALCORN: So then I presume a motion
30 is in order to have a discussion. So I would move that
31 the Council adopt the recommendation to footnote
32 special concerns that are expressed by regional
33 representatives to the annual harvest survey data.

34

35 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Second.

36

37 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: It's been moved and
38 seconded to adopt that recommendation. Are there any
39 questions, discussion.

40

41 MR. DEVINE: Mr. Chair.

42

43 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Member Devine.

44

45 MR. DEVINE: Are we on old business (b)
46 or are we on new business (a)?

47

48 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: We are on old
49 business (b).

50

1 MR. DEVINE: Okay. I think the motion
2 was to accept the recommendation that's coming under
3 new business.

4
5 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: No, I believe that's
6 a separate set of recommendations. The recommended
7 changes to the design of the survey, you should have
8 received that in the mail. It's a two-page stapled
9 piece with nine separate categories of recommended
10 changes and that's what we'll be taking up under new
11 business. Member Alcorn, you had a comment.

12
13 MR. ALCORN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
14 Peter, that was why I asked the question, does this
15 need special action. It's under item (b) for action.
16 There's no action item identified there, but the action
17 would be to adopt the recommendation or to reject it or
18 take some action either to amend it or somehow. So my
19 motion is to adopt the recommendation as the committee
20 has recommended.

21
22 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Any questions or
23 comments. Member Chythlook.

24
25 MS. CHYTHLOOK: This is Molly. I guess
26 with this section here my question would be -- I guess
27 I need an explanation from Doug's motion. I thought we
28 were maybe going to make a recommendation for the
29 survey director's position or is this separate from
30 what we're dealing with now?

31
32 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: That's separate.

33
34 MS. CHYTHLOOK: Oh, sorry.

35
36 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: No problem. Member
37 Tahbone.

38
39 MS. TAHBONE: So my understanding is
40 what we're considering right now is to approve the
41 2004-2006 harvest surveys with the recommendation to
42 footnote the concerns that were expressed at the spring
43 meeting.

44
45 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Thank you. I believe
46 that's the intent. Yes, Member Alcorn.

47
48 MR. ALCORN: Yes, Sandy, that was one
49 potential place where people could express concerns,
50 but recall the way that we've done this in the past is

1 that the draft survey data was sent out to each of the
2 regional representatives for a time to review it and
3 then to at some point offer concerns that they might
4 have or corrections, for whatever reasons, for
5 discussion sake. The way I understand the
6 recommendation now, the data is not to be changed, but
7 if concerns are raised, those concerns would then be
8 footnoted. The reason that the data are not to be
9 changed is that it undermines the credibility of the
10 entire statistical basis for the survey itself. The
11 numbers are generated with statistical models based on
12 samples. If we begin to fiddle around with the final
13 numbers, then it undermines the whole model. So when
14 anomalies are highlighted by folks from the regions or
15 concerns are expressed, those things are footnoted so
16 that the reader of the final data can see where the
17 concerns are raised, what the footnotes are, but that
18 the numbers the model generates are still in the table.
19 That's the way I understand it.

20

21 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Mr. Ostrand.

22

23 MR. OSTRAND: If I might. It's
24 probably my interpretation that I just gave. If you'd
25 allow me to explain the policy again. That's not
26 exactly it. We're acknowledging that there could be
27 errors made in the data entry and the data analysis
28 process at some point between when the forms are picked
29 up and when the data are issued. We're acknowledging
30 there could be errors there. We're offering that we
31 would look for those errors, that Fish and Game would
32 go through the process to see if there was an error.
33 But if it comes down to an entry made by a household
34 that participated in the survey, we will not change
35 that entry. It could be changed earlier in the
36 process, but at this point, when you have data tables
37 assembled, Fish and Game wouldn't even be able to
38 determine what household submitted that data form
39 because there's no way to track it at this point.

40

41 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Thank you, Mr.

42 Ostrand. Member Squartsoff.

43

44 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Mr. Chair. To me, it
45 doesn't make a whole lot of sense because if something
46 is not corrected, a bill that should have been caught
47 earlier maybe, that was, I think, really the intent of
48 doing this. If us back at the region felt that the
49 numbers were not correct -- they're still not going to
50 be correct. I mean you're entering data that is not

1 correct. I mean even if it's footnoted down there,
2 you're still going to have these same numbers. These
3 numbers should be changed somewhere down the line
4 before it comes to this point. To me, it doesn't
5 really make any sense submitting something that's not
6 right.

7
8 MR. OSTRAND: Herman, you're right.
9 This is a case where the error probably entered the
10 system and wasn't caught until the very end. What the
11 committee is saying is it's not appropriate or ethical
12 for us to be changing forms that were entered by
13 households. If a household filled out a form and
14 checked off a bird that doesn't occur in that area or
15 that isn't traditionally taken in that area by mistake,
16 at this point when the data are assembled in a form, we
17 don't have a way to track that back and go back to that
18 household and say did you really mean this, especially
19 two years later. So what we're suggesting is that we
20 note that in a footnote.

21
22 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Mr. Chair. I
23 understand that part, Bill, but I'm saying some of us
24 in our last meeting noticed that in our areas the
25 survey numbers were not right on what we knew, the
26 stuff that was gathered and everything. That's the
27 concern I have, not if they made a mistake. That's
28 different.

29
30 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Mr. Oates, you have
31 some light to shed on this matter?

32
33 MR. OATES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
34 Russ Oates. I'm not sure I'm going to shed any light
35 here. There's questions here that -- you know, how do
36 you make a judgment that something is correct or not
37 correct. I mean you've got a sampling procedure,
38 you've got a survey that you do and you generate
39 certain numbers and the only way you can ensure it's
40 correct is by following the procedure very carefully,
41 ensuring that your surveyors work closely with the
42 hunters to get the best take on species identification
43 and the best recollection of the numbers. But then a
44 survey cannot have any scientific credibility if then
45 there's a separate review done whereby some group goes
46 in and says this can't be right because the number
47 doesn't look right or the species composition doesn't
48 look right. That undermines the entire survey and you
49 can't do that and have a valid survey that has any
50 credibility.

1 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Member Squartsoff.

2

3 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Mr. Chair. Yeah,
4 Russ, the way it's designed too, when I was doing the
5 survey, it does not really pertain to where you can
6 just get to the hunter alone either. You only get a
7 few hunters out of it or the gatherers. So, you know,
8 we know in that sense it's not really being done right
9 or the amounts are correct. There's a lot more being
10 gathered and everything than the way that thing is
11 designed.

12

13 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Mr. Oates.

14

15 MR. OATES: But the sampling design is
16 such that you should know overall how many hunters
17 there are and you're sampling a known proportion of
18 those hunters. If you don't know what proportion of
19 those hunters you're sampling within your region, you
20 can't generate a regional estimate. That's part of the
21 design, is you have to know what proportion of the
22 hunters. We understand that you're not sampling all of
23 them, but whatever sample you take must be considered
24 representative of the hunting efforts of the region and
25 you must know the proportion, otherwise there's no
26 basis for developing a regional estimate.

27

28 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Member Tahbone.

29

30 MS. TAHBONE: I haven't seen any type
31 of report addressing these surveys. I know that they
32 were reviewing, but do we have that report available?

33

34 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: There are several
35 documents floating about.

36

37 MS. TAHBONE: I know there's this one,
38 but I mean in particular to the material we were sent
39 out that our regional councils were asked to review and
40 adopt. Like with the Bering Straits, is there
41 information regarding if our surveys are credible?

42

43 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Mr. Ostrand.

44

45 MR. OSTRAND: In your case, I thought
46 Austin did his -- he conducted the survey and he
47 submitted the data, but I know in some years he did his
48 own reporting and his own expansion of the data. For
49 your region, you should have that.

50

1 MS. TAHBONE: I know that, but what I'm
2 asking for is like in reading the report and what
3 you're saying right now is what we're being asked is to
4 approve the 2004-2006, but what I want to know is I'd
5 like to look at specifics as far as work that they did
6 in the review. Is there some parts we can adopt and
7 some parts we can't?

8

9 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Mr. Armstrong.

10

11 MR. ARMSTRONG: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
12 Fred Armstrong. Sandy, in the packet that Cynthia sent
13 out in 2006, that was the beginning when we wanted the
14 regional partners to review their data and to come
15 back. If there were any specific concerns, they were
16 supposed to be noted then. We're still trying to get
17 the council to sign off on the data so Fish and Game
18 can go ahead and notate the concerns that are raised.
19 As a result of that, they will then produce a report
20 based on the data that they've been provided. We're
21 still not there yet.

22

23 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Mr. Ostrand.

24

25 MR. OSTRAND: Mr. Chair. Part of the
26 reason for asking for adoption of this policy is so we
27 will have a guide to develop a report so that we can
28 address the concerns brought up by the regions. As I
29 said, when the region brings up the concern, Fish and
30 Game will look into the data to look for errors in
31 entry and analysis of the data. That may be where the
32 errors lie, but the policy we're recommending is that
33 if it comes down to an entry by a household that we do
34 not change that entry.

35

36 As far as the report, this is kind of
37 the chicken and the egg thing because the reason we
38 want you to adopt this policy and adopt the data is so
39 that we can put together our final report until the
40 data is accepted by the Co-management Council, it's not
41 to be distributed generally, so we want to get to that
42 point and we want it to be in the form of a report that
43 contains also the footnotes that describe the concerns
44 and the objections of the regions.

45

46 MS. TAHBONE: Mr. Chairman. Can you
47 clarify the motion we're considering again. I'm
48 getting confused.

49

50 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Member Alcorn.

1 MR. ALCORN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
2 The motion was to adopt the recommendation from the
3 Harvest Survey Committee. The recommendation was that
4 when the Council's staff sends out preliminary data
5 tables that are a depiction of the reported and
6 calculated harvests in past years, in this case 2004,
7 2005 and 2006, but the motion applies to all future
8 years as well, but when those data tables go out, if
9 there are concerns raised by regional representatives,
10 for example Herman cited maybe that species is not
11 known to occur there or not targeted for harvest, but
12 the tables have those numbers reported, that rather
13 than those data being changed that they're simply
14 highlighted in footnotes in the tables. Then, when
15 they're published, the reader and the interpreter of
16 that data can see how the model and the reported
17 harvest showed in the table, but the region highlighted
18 whatever comment they felt was necessary for that
19 particular column or that piece of data. That can also
20 be read and interpreted by the reader or the
21 interpreter.

22
23 So the motion is to include those
24 footnotes in anything we publish as a Council, so my
25 motion was to adopt that recommendation.

26
27 MR. OSTRAND: Again, if I might add, an
28 additional part of that policy would be that we would
29 investigate those comments to see if they were the
30 result of a processing error.

31
32 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Member Chythlook.

33
34 MS. CHYTHLOOK: And we can expand that
35 to maybe encourage -- like, for instance, for me, I'm
36 going to look at that footnote and I guess let our
37 surveyor take note of that if the note is for Bristol
38 Bay. I think once we -- for Bristol Bay and I know the
39 different regions have different ways of doing their
40 surveys, but what has been good for us is to have the
41 surveys accomplished in each community, the surveys
42 come to our office, the coordinator and I go through
43 the surveys and once we go through the surveys and make
44 sure that possibly all the forms are filled in
45 correctly, then we call in the local ADF&G subsistence
46 person in Dillingham and we go through the surveys
47 again with him so that once he gets the data it won't
48 come back to us. He'll establish and he'll do the data
49 and then send them to the data management. Then once
50 the numbers land here, the information lands here, then

1 I know the information from Bristol Bay is pretty well
2 established and good. I know that each region has a
3 different way of doing surveys and I think we need to
4 establish one that we can live with so that we
5 hopefully wouldn't question our data once it lands
6 here. Thank you.

7

8 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Member Squartsoff.

9

10 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Mr. Chair. Herman.
11 I've got one more thing. The survey form itself I'm
12 not worried about. The survey form is fine. It's the
13 method of it being done, the household stuff, the none,
14 low and high. I'm squabbling about people being
15 missed. Some people in the communities are just
16 gatherers that gather a lot of eggs, get a lot of ducks
17 for the community, for the elders. If they get missed,
18 that's where the big issue is where you're going to be
19 way off. I kind of recommend that we take a look at
20 that side of it on how the households are -- you know,
21 the ones that are going to be surveyed or not. I think
22 we need to look at that again. We tried to do it a
23 while back with Fish and Game. We did a lot of
24 recommending to change these things, but it never did
25 happen. They stuck with the way they wanted it, I mean
26 the way it was, and that was it. So we could look into
27 that again.

28

29 On the household side of it, to make
30 sure that the gatherers, the main people that go out
31 and do these don't get missed, then I think you'd be a
32 little more accurate in some areas. Thank you.

33

34 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Member Alcorn.

35

36 MR. ALCORN: Herman's intuition and
37 recommendation is right on and that's what we're going
38 to be covering when we get to item 8 because the report
39 from the Fish and Game analysis is recommending ways to
40 address that particular issue.

41

42 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Thank you for
43 clarifying that. Mr. Ostrand.

44

45 MR. OSTRAND: Yes, Mr. Chair. I wanted
46 to address my comment to Molly's comment and how she
47 does things in her region and that's really addressing
48 it at the regional level where you can go back to the
49 household, is the way you can avoid these kind of
50 errors that filter on through the system and end up on

1 the final data table. In future years I'm sure we'll
2 get better at this and we'll have fewer of those and
3 more of those data entry errors at the household level
4 that will be caught and addressed in the field.

5
6 MR. PEDERSON: Mr. Chair. In our
7 region we had a misidentification of species. When we
8 reviewed our surveys, we found some people had noted
9 that they had caught Common Loons where Common Loons
10 don't occur upon the North Slope. So what we did was
11 we took those surveys back to the household, described
12 the characteristics of Common Loons and Pacific Loons
13 and the surveyor then told us to go ahead and change
14 their survey, so that's how we did it recently in our
15 region.

16
17 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: This is Ron Clarke.
18 I think there's enough flexibility and enough feedback
19 loops built into this policy that the process will just
20 get better and better as years go by, as problems are
21 identified, as shortcomings are countered. The process
22 will just get better and better and I think it's useful
23 to have those feedback loops built into it, which, as I
24 understand it, would be one of the results of adopting
25 this policy. Member Devine, go ahead.

26
27 MR. DEVINE: Peter Devine here. I'd
28 like to make comment on the survey also.

29
30 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Please do.

31
32 MR. DEVINE: I'd like to do away with
33 the overlay and just go with -- I mean the village
34 council knows who its hunters are. We just had the
35 surveyor from (indiscernible) come in and do the
36 survey, but as far as involvement, I could have told
37 her who every hunter is in the village, but it's just
38 taking a few names, hunters, non-hunters and drawing it
39 on overlay. Well, when it's 30, 40 people in a
40 village, you know, and many of them are over 60, you
41 know, there's not too many hunters. But when you have
42 a village like Sand Point, you know, if you only sample
43 20 households or 40 households, then you slap in that
44 800 number, that throws everything way out of whack.

45
46 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Member Devine, I
47 think those concerns will probably be addressed in the
48 item under new business when we take up the Department
49 of Fish and Game's analysis of the survey techniques
50 and their recommendations. In my review of their

1 report, they do address that and I think you'll find
2 that discussion interesting. Your point is well taken
3 and I think we're going to get there in a little bit.

4

5 Member Tahbone and then Mr. Oates.

6

7 MS. TAHBONE: So, my understanding is
8 the motion that we're considering right now is to do
9 two things, is to footnote the concerns and to
10 investigate those concerns. So forthcoming will be a
11 report with that information for us to consider
12 adopting, the 2004-2006 data?

13

14 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Mr. Ostrand.

15

16 MR. OSTRAND: Well, we're hoping that
17 we can adopt the data at this time and go forward with
18 the report. We're hoping we can get the report
19 assembled. Russ and Tom have agreed to assemble the
20 report if we get approved data and hopefully have it.
21 Is this news to you, Russ?

22

23 MR. ARMSTRONG: No, it's the State.

24

25 MR. OSTRAND: It's the State. To put
26 together the data for a report for the upcoming Pacific
27 Flyway Council meeting.

28

29 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Correct me if I'm
30 wrong, but part of the motion is to accept the data
31 with the qualifications and concerns noted, but the
32 data need to be adopted in order for the report to go
33 ahead, is that right?

34

35 MR. OSTRAND: Yes, we need the data to
36 be approved before we can go ahead and put together a
37 report. That's the process adopted by the Co-
38 management Council.

39

40 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Member Tahbone then
41 Member Squartsoff.

42

43 MS. TAHBONE: The concerns that I
44 raised at our spring meeting regarding adopting the
45 data was we were going to wait for the review of ADF&G
46 and based on their report my question is the
47 credibility of that data. The footnotes that are going
48 to go to -- I mean for us to approve it as it was
49 presented, I have some real concerns about that based
50 on the report that ADF&G has provided us on the

1 procedures and our whole process that we've utilized to
2 gather the data. So how are we going to address that
3 issue?

4

5 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Member Alcorn.

6

7 MR. ALCORN: I think that's a pretty
8 important point that Sandy is raising. I would be
9 willing to postpone action on this particular motion
10 until we've discussed under new business the State
11 report. I'm not sure that we'll ever resolve the
12 concern about the three years of data we're considering
13 now because it is what it is and those footnotes that
14 we're talking about, the way I understand those
15 footnotes -- or the body of the report we'll discuss,
16 the methodologies that were used for those three years
17 and the newer methodologies that are being recommended
18 under new business and the report from Fish and Game
19 are hopefully going to address those issues. So I
20 don't know that we'll ever be able to go back and
21 recalculate or resample from those three prior years.
22 They are what they are. What we're working with right
23 now is whether or not we adopt those for what they are,
24 fully recognizing the sideboards that are placed around
25 them are fairly broad because of the sampling
26 methodologies and then just moving on. The point being
27 that hopefully the new methodologies will make things
28 better. That's kind of where I'm at right now.

29

30 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Member Tahbone.

31

32 MS. TAHBONE: Could we at least -- if
33 it's certain regions or certain years or through their
34 analysis, like some regions that the data is good.
35 When you read this report and the concerns that have
36 been raised, is it all the data that we have questions
37 about or is there certain years or certain regions that
38 we can -- that our confidence is -- is there any way we
39 can find out that information from their analysis?

40

41 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Member Alcorn.

42

43 MR. ALCORN: I'll defer to Bill, but
44 the way I understand it is the methodology was
45 essentially the same in all the regions and that the
46 concerns are that there might have been errors in the
47 reporting part of it and by the time they are displayed
48 in the final tables, that's when those concerns were
49 raised. What I'm hearing from the committee is to
50 correct them now, would be to go back and sort of

1 monkey around with the analysis, which would jeopardize
2 the whole foundation of the report. So, hence, the
3 reason for the footnotes. So I'm not sure that there
4 are some regions that have better data than other
5 regions. I think the methodologies were consistent.
6 It's just what they generated based on the raw data
7 that was fed into them.

8

9 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: This is Ron Clarke.
10 This whole situation started before my appearance on
11 this Council and I'll plead ignorance on some of that,
12 but I think my comment earlier was that recognizing the
13 shortcomings of the data or the problems in collection
14 or anything that causes anybody concern as to the
15 accuracy of what's being collected, we're working
16 toward building some feedback loops into the system,
17 we're identifying those problem areas and developing
18 mechanisms to deal with them. But to go back and
19 change any of the '04, '05, '06 data would not be the
20 way to address it now but to move forward with improved
21 techniques.

22

23 Member Squartsoff and then Member
24 Schwalenberg and Member Chythlook.

25

26 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Mr. Chair. Herman.
27 It sounds like we should have brought up the State of
28 Alaska surveys assessment recommendation before because
29 it would have explained a lot more of what we're
30 dealing with right now. You know, how things could be
31 changed and it would have been easier for us to make
32 our decision. Then the motion read to adopt the
33 recommendation of the survey committee is what we're
34 trying to do, Harvest Survey Committee, if I understand
35 it right.

36

37 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Mr. Armstrong.

38

39 MR. ARMSTRONG: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
40 Fred Armstrong. You're putting like the chicken before
41 the egg type of thing. Basically when the Council
42 directed the State of Alaska to do this harvest survey
43 assessment, it was at that time that the Council
44 realized we have problems with our survey and the
45 survey methodology and the data that's been presented.
46 Knowing that, the State went and did the assessment and
47 they produced a report. So basically we can't go back
48 and redo history. The data is what it is. It's going
49 to stay that way. We acknowledge there's been some
50 mistakes made in the past, but what we're trying to do

1 from this day on is to correct those mistakes and move
2 forward, not redo the past. We're trying to start with
3 a new slate and implement recommendations if they're
4 adopted and move forward.

5

6 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Member Squartsoff.

7

8 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Mr. Chair. Yeah,
9 Fred, I understand that. What I'm saying is this
10 should have been -- the things explained how we could
11 make changes if that's what they're going to be doing
12 and the next one, if they know there's ways changes can
13 be made. I'm not saying we need to do that now before
14 we adopt this. I'm just saying if that was explained,
15 us knowing that we could probably correct it down the
16 line, it would be easier to adopt the thing. We could
17 understand it a little better, knowing changes are
18 coming is what I'm saying. Thank you.

19

20 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: The Chair should note
21 for the record Member Schwalenberg joined us about 35
22 minutes ago and we welcome her.

23

24 MS. BROWN-SCHWALENBERG: Thank you, Mr.
25 Chairman. I want to make a comment about surveys in
26 general, maybe request that Dr. Fall jump in. We did a
27 number of subsistence harvest surveys in the Chugach
28 region and we face the very same problem of the surveys
29 coming back and looking at the raw data and the
30 villages didn't feel like it was right or accurate.
31 The surveys, like everyone has been saying, they are
32 what they are. The data is what it is. So what we
33 ended up having to do was go back and try to figure out
34 why do people answer questions the way they do. Was it
35 the households we chose. Like Herman said, were some
36 of the hunters not fully understanding why we were
37 doing the survey. There's a number of questions why the
38 numbers turn up the way they do and to try to go back
39 and redo basically the surveys is counterproductive.

40

41 I think there's lessons learned, as the
42 recommendations are going to show, if we can add
43 footnotes to those surveys by identifying some of the
44 problems or why things are the way they were. You
45 know, for example, some of the levels of harvest from
46 the oil spill were the same from a couple of years five
47 years apart and we couldn't figure out why. We ended
48 up finding out after talking to the hunters that they
49 had to go farther and hunt longer to get the same
50 number of animals. So maybe there's something like

1 that that's going on and if we can add that as a
2 footnote, that would help give those surveys more
3 credibility. Jim, do you have anything to add to that?

4
5 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Mr. Ostrand and Mr.
6 Oates, you had something to offer.

7
8 MR. OATES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I
9 had a comment that was relevant way back when Mr.
10 Pederson was making his comments. I appreciate what he
11 described as a method to try to get clarification of
12 species identification. I think one of the things we
13 need to keep in mind is that we have to make sure,
14 given that the survey form itself has at most two
15 pictures of each species and oftentimes they're not all
16 that big and sometimes one is in front of the other
17 one, we just have to make sure that the surveyors have
18 access to some really good identification materials so
19 that if there are questions like this and they need to
20 go back and revisit it, at that time the person
21 conducting the survey can show the individual hunter
22 that had the questionable observation some really good
23 pictures that might provide them with a more positive
24 and clear identification.

25
26 I also want to comment briefly on what
27 Member Schwalenberg said. I think she's absolutely
28 right. If we come up with results that raise
29 questions, we can't just go back and change them.
30 Where we have to make the corrections is next time on
31 the front end and trying to find where we had a problem
32 and what caused the problem and we need to work toward
33 ensuring that we get the best input from the hunters at
34 the time of the survey. We might have to occasionally
35 go back as Mr. Pederson did and get clarification with
36 better materials, but the fact is our efforts need to
37 be on the front end to get the identification and the
38 numbers and the sampling approaches correct up front
39 because you can't go back and patch it up very well
40 with a very few exceptions.

41
42 Just one other point. We're kind of
43 dealing with two different things here. One is setting
44 a policy for the future as Mr. Armstrong was alluding
45 to. I think it's very important that we get that in
46 place. The other aspect of it is getting the old data
47 released so it can be taken to the flyway and I just
48 want to emphasize that down in the flyway where we're
49 headed here to work on this and other regulations
50 process, the fall regulations process as well, I assure

1 you that the representatives of all the states are
2 eagerly awaiting this information. I think it's
3 critically important that this Council take affirmative
4 action on getting this data rolled into the process.
5 Patty Schwalenberg has been in these meetings and she
6 knows the credibility of this co-management system in
7 Alaska in part hinges on our continuing to produce
8 products.

9
10 We all understand there's been concerns
11 about the old data sets and we can caveat those data
12 sets and say there are some concerns about this, but
13 the important thing is for us basically as a Council
14 here to stay in the game and keep our part of this
15 whole process rolling into the system that results in
16 the whole regulations process. It's about to play out
17 at the end of July and early August here culminating in
18 Washington, D.C. with the Department of Interior
19 producing the regulations.

20
21 So I just want to emphasize it's
22 critically important that we continue to do our part,
23 that's where we build our credibility in the national
24 regulations process and with our state partners down in
25 the flyway. Thank you for unloading a whole series of
26 things at ones.

27
28 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Thank you, Mr. Oates.
29 Mr. Alcorn.

30
31 MR. ALCORN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
32 I sense from hearing Sandy and Herman speak that it
33 might be beneficial with the concurrence of the second
34 of my original motion to table a decision on that until
35 after we've had a discussion under new business on
36 number 9 so that way we can discuss the new
37 methodologies that are being recommended so that maybe
38 there's a better understanding of sort of where we've
39 been and where we're going and then pull that off of
40 the table at the end of the day before we adjourn for a
41 decision on this particular addendum. I would make
42 that a motion.

43
44 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: With the concurrence
45 of the second, Mr. Devine, is that acceptable?

46
47 MR. DEVINE: Yes.

48
49 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: So it's been moved
50 that we table this item until the end of the meeting.

1 Is there a second on that motion.

2

3 MR. SQUARTSOFF: I'll second it.

4

5 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Thank you. It's been
6 moved and seconded that we table this item until after
7 the discussion under new business.

8

9 MS. TAHBONE: Mr. Chairman. And for us
10 to really keep in mind while we're going through the
11 next item is when we include within adopting the data,
12 within the footnotes, that it's clear regarding our
13 confidence intervals, regarding the species
14 identification. Because it bothers me when I go to
15 meetings and what I get back, whether it's from U.S.
16 Fish and Wildlife Service or ADF&G, this is the best
17 information available, and usually we're not too happy
18 with that because we know we need good data. So as
19 long as we can stand behind the data and if we can back
20 it up with the best footnotes or whatever. So just
21 keep in mind as we go through the process of the next
22 item that we make sure we include all that we can when
23 we do come back to the motion.

24

25 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Thank you. Mr.
26 Armstrong, did you have something to add. No. Member
27 Alcorn.

28

29 MR. ALCORN: I assume we in discussion
30 of that motion that's been made and seconded.

31

32 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Correct.

33

34 MR. ALCORN: So, Sandy, if you're ready
35 to go ahead and make a decision or comfortable with
36 making -- okay, you want the discussion? So you
37 support the tabling of it.

38

39 MS. TAHBONE: Correct.

40

41 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Any other discussion.
42 Member Squartsoff.

43

44 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Yeah, I want more on
45 this motion here too because if there's going to be
46 footnotes, it will be great to say that there was, like
47 everybody is saying, there's concerns that's going to
48 be noted in there, plus that we're looking at changes
49 on doing the survey, so that would be great. Thank
50 you.

1 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Mr. Ostrand.

2

3 MR. OSTRAND: Mr. Chair. If we're
4 going to table the recommendation from the Harvest
5 Survey Committee, I suggest we also postpone the
6 discussion of the old data. The intent here was to get
7 a policy on how to deal with concerns expressed by
8 council members before we got those concerns. So if we
9 discuss the old data now, we won't have in place a
10 mechanism for dealing with those concerns.

11

12 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Thank you, Mr.
13 Ostrand. My own perception was that it was implicit in
14 Mr. Alcorn's motion that that would be the case. Mr.
15 Armstrong.

16

17 MR. ARMSTRONG: I don't think we want
18 to table this to the next meeting and the next meeting
19 after that.

20

21 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: No, no, no.

22

23 MR. ARMSTRONG: I would agree that you
24 guys table it until after we have the discussion, but
25 we still need the Council to adopt a policy of how we
26 deal with the data when it's reviewed by the regions.
27 It's not written in the State's recommendations, so we
28 still need to have that adopted so that a report can be
29 generated, which we need. We don't look very good at
30 the flyway and the SRC when we say we're just starting
31 up. We keep buying time and I think we bought up all
32 the time we have.

33

34 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Thank you, Mr.
35 Armstrong. Just to clarify, I guess my understanding
36 was that the motion was to table this discussion until
37 the next item on the agenda and then take it right up
38 again and deal with it at this meeting. Is that
39 everybody's understanding as well?

40

41 MS. TAHBONE: Question.

42

43 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Ready for the
44 question. All in favor.

45

46 IN UNISON: Aye.

47

48 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Any opposed.

49

50 (No opposing votes)

1 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Seeing none, let's
2 table this until the discussion under new business.
3 It's now 11 minutes after 10:00. Let's take about a
4 five-minute break. Before we do that, we did hear some
5 beeping on the phone. Member Devine, I assume you're
6 still with us. Is there anybody else who has joined us
7 on teleconference that we should identify for the
8 group.

9
10 MR. DEVINE: I believe that was Member
11 Devine.

12
13 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Very good, sir.
14 We're going to take about a five-minute break and we'll
15 be back on the record a little bit after 10:15.

16
17 (Off record)

18
19 (On record)

20
21 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: This is Ron Clark.
22 It's 10:23 and we're back on the record. Member
23 Devine, are you still online?

24
25 MR. DEVINE: Yes.

26
27 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Thank you very much.
28 With that, let's move on to item number 8 under new
29 business, the State of Alaska survey assessment and
30 recommendations. We have a report from Member
31 Chythlook.

32
33 MS. CHYTHLOOK: Good morning. Maybe I
34 could have Jim Fall and Bill Oates sit by so that if
35 there's any questions. We've gotten nine
36 recommendations and you have a copy in your packet.
37 I'll just go down the nine recommendations with the
38 highlights and you can fill in the rest.

39
40 We met June 2 and 3 in this room and at
41 that time, in the very beginning of our meeting, we
42 elected Bill Ostrand as our chair and running between
43 two meetings I missed part of the second day, so that's
44 why I wanted Bill and Jim here.

45
46 Recommendation 1, we could look at
47 that. Reduce the number of household visits per year
48 from four to three, schedule data collection to
49 correspond with the most active harvest periods, retain
50 ability to estimate harvest that occur before and after

1 August 31. I guess that means we our survey packet has
2 forms including the permission slip. So in that case
3 we'll have a permission slip and two prominent seasons
4 is my understanding. Like for instance the spring and
5 the fall season as being prominent for Bristol Bay. I
6 don't know if we've decided to choose the seasons for
7 this. Do you remember, Bill?

8
9 MR. OSTRAND: We would still have a
10 spring harvest form and a summer harvest form, but we
11 also acknowledge that harvest patterns differ
12 throughout the state and we would adopt -- for
13 instance, I think the Aleutians is a good example where
14 birds are harvested in the winter. Another example is
15 the North Slope when they really only have two seasons
16 because of the late spring.

17
18 MS. CHYTHLOOK: Yeah, and then Bristol
19 Bay has two dominant seasons too. For number 2.....

20
21 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Member Chythlook,
22 excuse me. I would encourage folks, with your
23 permission, as we go through each one of these items,
24 if you have comments or questions, take them up right
25 at the time. I think it will ease discussion if we
26 keep comments and questions closely attached to the
27 items as we take them up. Member Alcorn.

28
29 MR. ALCORN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
30 The question I have is regarding the latter part of
31 Item 1 after the semicolon, retain ability to estimate
32 harvest that occur before and after August 31. Bill,
33 you mentioned that the Aleutians are an example of the
34 harvest occurring in the winter months. So our harvest
35 survey and our survey report, is it an annual harvest
36 that it's estimating or the subsistence season, April 2
37 to August 31?

38
39 MR. OSTRAND: This is Bill. The data
40 tables that you have that went out for review report
41 the data cumulatively for the region throughout the
42 whole year and then it also gives the harvest during
43 the subsistence season that the Co-management Council
44 has purview over versus the fall season. So there's
45 one cumulative column and then a couple of other
46 columns. I believe there's three separate columns; one
47 for spring, one for summer and then for the fall season
48 as well.

49
50 It's not proposing to do away with the

1 spring versus summer data collection, but it would be a
2 recall survey in that the data would be collected for
3 the spring and for the summer, but that data would be
4 collected at the end of the summer.

5

6 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Member Squartsoff.

7

8 MR. SQUARTSOFF: That makes sense to me
9 where you would combine spring and summer together and
10 then have your fall.

11

12 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Member Tahbone.

13

14 MS. TAHBONE: The process that the
15 committee used in making these recommendation, so I
16 would assume you guys went through each of the tasks
17 that ADF&G was assigned and adopted a portion or how do
18 you plan on implementing these. Like recommendation 1,
19 is it like there was a number of recommendations that
20 ADF&G made?

21

22 MR. OSTRAND: The way we went through
23 the process -- Liliana, who is not here but who did the
24 bulk of the report, presented her findings and then her
25 recommendations. Just as this Council does, we
26 discussed those and then in each case we adopted these
27 recommendations that are being presented here by
28 consensus.

29

30 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Dr. Fall.

31

32 DR. FALL: Thank you, Mr. Chair. This
33 is Jim Fall with Division of Subsistence, Fish and
34 Game. As a matter for the record for this meeting,
35 maybe we should just back up and note that the Division
36 of Subsistence was asked by the Fish and Wildlife
37 Service to conduct a study that reviewed the methods
38 and results for the harvest survey and the draft report
39 is what structured the committee meeting on the 2nd and
40 3rd of June. As Bill mentioned, Liliana Naves, who is
41 the lead author for the report, she put together a
42 decision matrix basically that the committee used
43 during its two days to March through each
44 recommendation.

45

46 As Sandy pointed out, we had 10 or 11
47 tasks assigned to us in our contract with the Fish and
48 Wildlife Service and the draft report marched through
49 each one of those tasks. Each one addressed a
50 different aspect of the study. Some of them were

1 process oriented, some of them were more statistical or
2 design-oriented. For the most part, but not entirely,
3 the committee did agree with the recommendations that
4 we developed in our report. In a few cases some slight
5 changes were made, but in all cases the recommendations
6 that you're going to hear Molly go through now are
7 fully supported by the analysis that the Department
8 prepared in the report. The report is now complete.
9 It was presented to Mr. Alcorn last week by our
10 director. It's Special Publication No. 2008-05.

11
12 That's some additional background. I
13 just wanted to make that clear for everybody, that we
14 did have a highly structured and very engaging two days
15 of discussions and these recommendations that you're
16 hearing now were debated fully during those two days.

17
18 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Thank you very much
19 for clarifying that. Member Squartsoff.

20
21 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Dr. Fall, maybe if I
22 could recommend that maybe if you guys are going to be
23 doing the surveys, the Department of Fish and Game,
24 that we could recommend to try to get all the harvest
25 surveyors together at one time like we did in the past
26 would be a good thing. Thank you.

27
28 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Member Tahbone.

29
30 MS. TAHBONE: So recommendation number
31 1 just speaks to reducing four to three, so we're still
32 going to do all the seasons or are we looking to reduce
33 it just to the spring and summer?

34
35 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Member Tahbone, my
36 understanding was that it would be adaptable to each
37 specific region. Dr. Fall, would you care to.....

38
39 DR. FALL: Sure, Mr. Chair. Sandy, the
40 committee is recommending that a full annual estimate
41 of migratory bird harvests be developed for the state
42 and for each region. So there would be data collected
43 for post-August 31st harvest. However, what we're
44 recommending is that instead of three rounds of data
45 collection that that be reduced to two and those two
46 rounds of data collection be specific to each region's
47 pattern of harvest. The design would have to consult
48 with each region about when the two most active periods
49 are and we want to follow data collection in them.
50 Almost always we think but not entirely that there

1 would be a collection after spring and then maybe
2 another one in the fall time and another one in the
3 winter time. But in all cases, even if the second
4 collection didn't occur until the winter, we'd still
5 ask people to distinguish between harvest that occurred
6 before August 31st and afterwards to keep the ability
7 to report the information consistent with the treaty
8 and the obligations of this Council. I hope that
9 answered your question.

10

11 MS. TAHBONE: So, for instance, in our
12 region, if our heavy -- of course, spring and fall are
13 both heavy, but the concern that we deal with here is
14 with our spring and summer. So if we chose or our
15 region recommended that we would like to have our
16 survey done during the summer to collect our spring
17 harvest and then we would do a summer/fall, is that
18 correct?

19

20 DR. FALL: That's right. We'd have to
21 consult with you about what would be the two best times
22 to do it, correct.

23

24 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Thank you. Any other
25 questions on item number 1.

26

27 MR. DEVINE: Mr. Chair.

28

29 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Member Devine. Go
30 ahead, please.

31

32 MR. DEVINE: I don't have a copy of
33 these recommendations. Can someone fax it to the
34 tribal office.

35

36 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: I think that's
37 possible. What's the fax number there.

38

39 MR. DEVINE: 383-5814.

40

41 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: We will get right on
42 that to you.

43

44 MR. DEVINE: As far as Aleutians, I
45 heard someone mention that we had one season, which is
46 not true. We gather eagle eggs in the spring. The
47 statement about the winter hunts is true.

48

49 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Thank you for that
50 clarification. Mr. Oates is out the door and headed

1 for a fax machine, so keep an eye out for that
2 document. In the meantime, Member Chythlook, please
3 continue.

4

5 MS. CHYTHLOOK: We'll continue with the
6 second recommendation and that is a sample selection.
7 Adopt two level stratification, and remember the
8 harvester/non-harvester form, to replace the three-
9 level stratification. Those of us that have seen the
10 stratification forms, we had the harvester/non-
11 harvester and low. The two adopted ones that we're
12 going to -- either harvester and non-harvester
13 stratification.

14

15 For communities with 300 or more
16 households, the two level stratification of harvesters
17 and other households includes non-harvesters and
18 households of unknown hunting strata. My explanation
19 for this I guess would be, as far as two-level
20 stratification would be, number one, the harvesters and
21 then the other households would be households that -- I
22 guess it would be picked that aren't known harvesters.
23 Then in communities to be sampled using two-level
24 stratification a random sample will be drawn from each
25 stratum. There's going to be some explanations for how
26 to do this later on. Is there any questions?

27

28 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Member Alcorn and
29 then Member Squartsoff.

30

31 MR. ALCORN: I'll defer to Herman
32 first.

33

34 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Mr. Chair. Thank you,
35 Doug. Yeah, on this one here, this is one of my
36 concerns I was talking about a while ago. What it
37 looks like, harvester/non-harvester is close, but the
38 one with harvester and other seem like that would fit
39 the category for all, not just one over 300. I mean I
40 think that would work better for all the surveys, no
41 matter how big the community is or not, because you're
42 going to be able to include the non-hunters and their
43 unknown hunting status. So I think that would work
44 overall category for everything instead of just for 300
45 and more. I would recommend harvesters and other
46 households. Thank you.

47

48 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Dr. Fall.

49

50 DR. FALL: Mr. Chair. I think Herman

1 has got it exactly right. That is essentially how it
2 would work. I think in smaller places we basically
3 believe a few key respondents are going to be able to
4 categorize just about anybody, but in larger places
5 there will be unknowns. So essentially you have the
6 two groups that you're sampling from, harvesters and
7 then other, which is a combination of known non-
8 harvesters plus individuals that nobody really knows
9 anything about.

10

11 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Member Alcorn?

12

13 MR. ALCORN: No.

14

15 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Any questions,
16 comments concerns. If not, Member Chythlook.

17

18 MS. CHYTHLOOK: This is Molly again.
19 I'll continue on down to recommendation 3. These are
20 how the households are going to be based on community
21 size for surveying. The first one, communities with up
22 to 30 households are going to be surveyed 100 percent.
23 It's going to be better for our region because by doing
24 it the other way I think we were hitting and missing
25 households. Then for households 31 to 60, simple
26 random sample at 75 percent of the households. For 61
27 to 100, it will be two-level strata for households.
28 For 101 to 300 households, two-level strata, 80 percent
29 harvesters and 20 percent other households. For 301 to
30 1,000, still another two-level stratification, 80
31 percent harvesters, 20 percent other households. The
32 recommendations for larger households are continued
33 down.

34

35 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Any questions.
36 Member Squartsoff.

37

38 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Molly and Dr. Fall. I
39 would think on the first one, communities up to 30
40 households, if it could be changed to 40 because some
41 smaller villages you could have up to only 32, 35
42 households and I still think that should be 100 percent
43 surveyed and then the one below it go from 41 to 60.
44 That way you're going to catch everybody. Some of the
45 smaller villages you have up to just about 40 only
46 households in the village and having 75 percent of
47 that, you're only missing a few and it wouldn't hurt to
48 catch them. Thank you.

49

50 MS. CHYTHLOOK: So the recommendation

1 is to move 30 to 40 households?

2

3 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Correct. And then the
4 one below it 41 to 60.

5

6 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Mr. Armstrong.

7

8 MR. ARMSTRONG: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
9 Fred Armstrong. We had some discussion about the
10 number of households and I think that was the first
11 recommendation, was to go higher, and then for some
12 reason wanted to have it at 30. I can't remember the
13 explanation.

14

15 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Mr. Ostrand.

16

17 MR. OSTRAND: Mr. Chair. We played
18 with these numbers quite a bit. There's some
19 arbitrary. I think originally the 31 to 60 group was
20 31 to 50 or something like that. So, after much
21 discussion we changed that. There's some statistical
22 theory that supports these breaks, but it's rather
23 flexible and it really isn't a problem accommodating
24 Herman's suggestion. One of the things I've noticed in
25 looking at data when we try to do 100 percent survey of
26 a community, there are some households that either
27 don't agree to participate or they're not available
28 when the surveyor comes by and it works out to like 75
29 percent.

30

31 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Understood. Member
32 Schwalenberg.

33

34 MS. BROWN-SCHWALENBERG: And a lot of
35 this is based on economics, how much money we have to
36 do surveys I would assume and if we did happen to have
37 extra money, then we would be able to survey more than
38 30 or 40. Is this hard and fast? If this is what it
39 says, this is what you do?

40

41 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Dr. Fall.

42

43 DR. FALL: Mr. Chair. I think that the
44 availability of funding is going to have more to do
45 with the number of communities that participate in the
46 project or even the number of regions that occur within
47 a project from year to year. I think that the
48 recommendations we have here for sample size gives you
49 solid estimates. If you interview more households, you
50 don't really gain very much more precision or accuracy,

1 so you're better off if you do have additional funding
2 to do other communities rather than just increase the
3 sample size within a community.

4

5 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Mr. Ostrand and then
6 Mr. Oates.

7

8 MR. OSTRAND: Before this analysis we
9 did an earlier analysis of the existing harvest data.
10 We contracted with a statistician to review our data
11 and to come up with recommendations on sample sizes and
12 what he found out was if you sample at a greater level,
13 your accuracy doesn't really increase. You're really
14 not gaining anything. That's guided these numbers to a
15 good degree. Liliana was aware of that report and she
16 reviewed it and it's built into these recommendations.

17

18 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Mr. Oates.

19

20 MR. OATES: Russ Oates, Fish and
21 Wildlife Service. I don't think it's a huge point, but
22 I just wanted to recognize that we've never been able
23 to afford to do this survey like we really want to.
24 Mr. Squartsoff's suggestion would result in some
25 increment of increasing costs and I don't know if maybe
26 Dr. Fall here had some hip pocket idea of what that
27 small change might make a difference cost-wise.

28

29 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Dr. Fall.

30

31 DR. FALL: Mr. Chair. I really don't,
32 but I do agree with Bill that 30 or 40 is not going to
33 matter that much. The fact of the matter is, if you
34 have 30 or 40 households in a community, there are some
35 that are not going to want to participate. This is a
36 voluntary program and there will be some that are not
37 available, so you're going to hit 30 to 35, 25 to 35
38 probably in most communities anyway. So, if that's the
39 wish of the Council, we could probably design the
40 project around that without substantial cost.

41

42 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Member Chythlook.

43

44 MS. CHYTHLOOK: This is Molly. Even
45 with overlays, we had people refusing or we couldn't
46 contact them, so we had to work extra hard to find
47 those extra people. In this method, we'll be able to
48 cover people than trying to hunt people down.

49

50 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Any other questions

1 or comments on this aspect. Mr. Armstrong.

2

3 MR. ARMSTRONG: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
4 Fred Armstrong. I think we could take Herman's
5 recommendation into consideration and run it by Lilliana
6 and as it changes we'll get back to you.

7

8 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Member Tahbone.

9

10 MS. TAHBONE: Just considering the
11 recommendation with 30 households and the purpose of --
12 you know, we understand we're getting estimates and
13 this is why we're considering these recommendations.
14 I'm just wondering how firm Herman is on raising it to
15 40. Realizing we're going to be getting good
16 information, could we just keep it at the
17 recommendation the committee is suggesting or is he
18 real firm on his raising it to 40?

19

20 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Mr. Chair. Sandy.
21 No, the only reason is because, like I say, some
22 households have -- or some villages, there might be 32,
23 35 and there's only a couple more to add onto it.
24 That's why I recommended to go up to 40, but it doesn't
25 really make a lot of difference, I guess. Thank you.

26

27 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Member Tahbone.

28

29 MS. TAHBONE: So if it doesn't make
30 that much of a difference, we could just consider the
31 committee's recommendation of 30 and 31 to 60?
32 Otherwise they're going to have to go back and check
33 with -- to see if the 40 and 41 to 60 is going to --
34 I'd rather us adopt our recommendations and move
35 forward.

36

37 MR. SQUARTSOFF: That's fine with me.

38

39 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Thank you. Member
40 Devine, you had a question.

41

42 MR. DEVINE: No, just a comment. For
43 my region my concerns were we were getting inflated
44 numbers, so if we go this route, you know, we'll get
45 100 percent in the smaller communities and that should
46 bring our numbers back down.

47

48 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Okay. Thank you.
49 Member Chythlook, please.

50

1 MS. CHYTHLOOK: Okay. We're at
2 recommendation 4. This recommendation is how to
3 establish your household lists. One is by doing plat
4 maps, tribal list city and tribal officials and key
5 respondents. What has worked best for Bristol Bay is
6 to work with the surveyor in the community in the
7 tribal office with the members in there for each
8 community. These are some of the suggestions.

9
10 The second, is the protocol in the
11 survey methods and procedures handbook, which will be
12 -- I don't think this handbook has been written and
13 will be written with the work of a committee that's
14 going to be established for this purpose. Any
15 questions for recommendation number 4.

16
17 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Member Tahbone.

18
19 MS. TAHBONE: I can't remember what
20 task it was, but I know there was recommendations, like
21 a certain number of respondents with size of
22 communities. Like if you were a higher community, you
23 would have seven people. So are we adopting those
24 recommendations then to go through that.....

25
26 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Member Tahbone, as I
27 understand it, I think that's coming next.

28
29 MS. TAHBONE: Oh, okay.

30
31 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Any questions or
32 comments.....

33
34 MS. CHYTHLOOK: Number 4 recommendation
35 on how to establish your household lists. Okay, moving
36 on to recommendation number 5, establish a clear,
37 consistent protocols for assigning households in strata
38 required consultations with additional and
39 knowledgeable key person in community size. Increases
40 include protocols in survey methods and procedures
41 handbook and other training materials. This fifth
42 recommendation kind of follows the 4th recommendation.

43
44 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Any questions,
45 comments. Member Tahbone.

46
47 MS. TAHBONE: So when we say establish
48 clear, are we adopting the recommendations that were
49 made by ADF&G? I mean at some point are we going to --
50 like number 5, are we going to adopt -- I can't

1 remember where -- someone can point it to me.

2

3 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Dr. Fall, I think you
4 can help us out here.

5

6 DR. FALL: Sure. I think Sandy is
7 referring to Table 14 in the final report where we made
8 some recommendations about how many key respondents
9 should be consulted in order to develop the two part
10 stratification design and it is linked to the size of
11 the community. Now whether in the final subcommittee
12 guidelines we actually stick to this or we develop
13 something else, maybe we should be flexible on that,
14 but the point is that this analysis found some
15 inconsistencies with how households were categorized. I
16 think it's general knowledge that as the community gets
17 bigger, it's impossible for one even very knowledgeable
18 person to know about the hunting patterns of everybody.

19

20

21 So the clear recommendations and
22 protocols that we want in the future is to say you do
23 consult with more than one, with three, with seven, and
24 build a consensus and where the consensus is not there,
25 there's also a rule about how you categorize that
26 person. We want rules that are clear and followed
27 consistently.

28

29 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Thank you, Dr. Fall.
30 Member Squartsoff.

31

32 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Mr. Chair. Yeah,
33 number 5 would almost fit in to what I was trying to do
34 with number 3. Thank you.

35

36 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Member Alcorn.

37

38 MR. ALCORN: So the recommendation is
39 to establish the clear and consistent protocol. I
40 understand consistency is an issue and that we need to
41 address consistency. The next step -- assuming that we
42 approve this today, what's the next step in
43 establishing those consistent protocols? I think I
44 heard Sandy kind of getting at that and I'm questioning
45 that, too. What's the next step? How do we do that
46 and what does it entail?

47

48 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Dr. Fall.

49

50 DR. FALL: Mr. Chair. That's addressed

1 on page 2 of the committee report towards the bottom
2 after the nine recommendations. There is a
3 subcommittee that will be developing the specific
4 protocols. I hope for the most part the subcommittee
5 will follow the recommendations that are in our
6 analysis. So unless there's a reason to not follow it,
7 I think the suggestions that are in Table 14 about how
8 many key respondents to consult for a particular
9 community size would be what the subcommittee would
10 develop as the rule.

11

12 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Thank you. Mr.
13 Armstrong.

14

15 MR. ARMSTRONG: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
16 Fred Armstrong. I think it's important to note to the
17 Council that we're not going down to the intricate
18 level of step by step. We want the Council to look at
19 the concept that the State has outlined and if they
20 adopt the concept, the Harvest Survey Committee will
21 begin the important task of putting this survey
22 together. Once that's done, then we cost it out to see
23 to what extent we can implement the methodology that's
24 been revised. A lot of these questions are germane and
25 are going to be addressed. What we're looking at is
26 close to a final product by the fall meeting, the
27 September meeting, where we'll have a good survey
28 package ready for the Council in Dillingham.

29

30 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Member Squartsoff.

31

32 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Yeah, Fred, good
33 points there, but, Mr. Chair, I would like to not
34 confuse things more, but if 5 was combined with 3, you
35 could eliminate 5. Just some of the wording out of 5,
36 put it with 3, the recommendation I tried earlier, and
37 then you can eliminate one of them, but I don't want
38 things going any longer, so thank you.

39

40 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Member Tahbone.

41

42 MS. TAHBONE: I think they're very
43 different. Number 3, it tells you how many you're
44 going to be surveying and number 5 is when you're
45 sitting down and you have your list of households and
46 in Nome we would have seven people that would review
47 that with their knowledge. So seven minds are better
48 than one when it comes to a community of that size. So
49 number 5 would establish the protocols that we would
50 use in the stratification process, whether they're non-

1 harvesters or harvesters. So they're real different.

2

3 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Mr. Chair. You don't
4 mind if I respond to that?

5

6 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Member Squartsoff.

7

8 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Yeah, Sandy, if we put
9 something like establish a clear, consistent protocols
10 for assigning households in strata required
11 consultations with additional and knowledgeable key
12 person in community, add that to number 3, because here
13 they're talking also about size increase, and if we did
14 that 30 to 40, the size increase is already there.
15 Then include the protocol. If that was all in one, it
16 would basically cover it instead of worrying about a
17 size increase later.

18

19 MS. TAHBONE: Herman, what they're
20 talking about, if you look at Table 14, page 41, within
21 the -- I've got the draft. I don't have the final.
22 They look at the community size. If it's been 1 and
23 100 households, it doesn't give a number. Between 103
24 and 300 you would have at least three people
25 identifying whether they're harvesters or non-
26 harvesters, so on and so forth. My opinion, like when
27 you're writing your report, when we're presenting the
28 data, we can clearly state this is how we arrived at
29 our sample and so on and so forth. So it's just real
30 clear if all our surveys are being conducted the same
31 way so we can have real clear reporting.

32

33 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Any further comments
34 or questions on number 5. Member Chythlook, please
35 continue.

36

37 MS. CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Recommendation
38 number 6 is going to be a procedure to randomly select
39 households. There's different ways of doing this. I
40 guess you can do it the most comfortable or most
41 recognizable way that you've done it so far, but these
42 are different recommendations here.

43

44 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Mr. Ostrand.

45

46 MR. OSTRAND: Those that have been
47 involved with the survey may remember the overlay sheet
48 that was used. Well, this recommendation doesn't say
49 so, but it's a recommendation to do away with that and
50 use a better method and there are a number of them

1 available.

2

3 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: With that key word
4 simple. We like simple. Member Squartsoff.

5

6 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Mr. Chair. Bill, that
7 sounds good to me because I didn't highly think of that
8 other one very much.

9

10 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Member Tahbone.

11

12 MS. TAHBONE: Could we just say that?

13

14 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Get rid of the
15 overlay?

16

17 MS. TAHBONE: Yeah. I'm just teasing.

18

19 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Member Devine
20 concurs. Any other comments or questions on that.

21

22 (No comments)

23

24 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Member Chythlook,
25 please continue.

26

27 MS. CHYTHLOOK: Recommendation number
28 7. This is to review the rotation schedule of regions
29 and communities to address monitoring priorities while
30 adjusting the survey coverage to the current funding
31 level. This requires a cost analysis.

32

33 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Any questions,
34 comments. Member Alcorn.

35

36 MR. ALCORN: When I was reviewing this
37 part of the meeting, I underlined that statement, this
38 requires a cost analysis. Does that mean that we can't
39 -- I mean the action is to review the rotation
40 schedule. So the second action or the preliminary
41 action is to do the cost analysis. I'm not sure --
42 this is kind of a chicken and the egg question too.
43 I'm not sure of the steps. But the point is we want to
44 do a cost analysis in the review of the rotation
45 schedule and then whatever is the most cost efficient
46 is going to be the methodology. Is that going to be
47 the answer to that?

48

49 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Mr. Armstrong.

50

1 MR. ARMSTRONG: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
2 That's one part of it, but there's going to be other
3 factors that we have to consider, such as other
4 entities that are doing surveys that we can piggyback
5 trying to figure out which is the best and easiest
6 method or contracting with the State the entire package
7 or still use the refuge system. All that will have to
8 come into play at that time.

9
10 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Dr. Fall.

11
12 DR. FALL: Mr. Chair. I would add too
13 that the rotation schedule needs to be informed by data
14 needs. For example, if there are endangered species in
15 a certain area that are really high priority for the
16 Council or for the Fish and Wildlife Service. That
17 would need to be factored in. So it isn't simply a
18 matter of cost. It's other things too.

19
20 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Thank you. Any other
21 questions, comments.

22
23 (No comments)

24
25 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Continue, please.

26
27 MS. CHYTHLOOK: Recommendation number
28 8. Implement three -- what's this?

29
30 DR. FALL: Types of training.

31
32 MS. CHYTHLOOK: Types of training,
33 whatever this word is, with support of audience,
34 specific training materials. One time train the
35 trainer session and then the fisher trained the trainer
36 session and then yearly supervisor training sessions
37 and I think these are going to be important to do the
38 surveys. Right now I think the majority of us have
39 been winging the projects in training our surveyors and
40 training our coordinators and training our village
41 surveyors, so this will make it a little more organized
42 as far as training is concerned.

43
44 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Member Squartsoff.

45
46 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Mr. Chair. This is
47 the thing I mentioned earlier, Jim. I think it will
48 work pretty well. Thank you.

49
50 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Comments, questions.

1 (No comments)

2

3 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Okay, Member
4 Chythlook.

5

6 MS. CHYTHLOOK: Recommendation number
7 9. Adopt quality assurance, quality control procedures
8 such as establish a central harvest survey coordinator
9 position. Define document and implement standard
10 procedures for data collection statewide. Maintain
11 contact information for surveyors at this survey
12 coordination level. Require surveyor and field
13 coordinator periodically progress reports. What's been
14 working for me would be to do a monthly coordination of
15 the field coordinators. Define and implement region
16 specific schedules of activities and deadlines for
17 administrative data collection and data analysis
18 procedures. These are just steps to guide us on how we
19 can do the surveys in an organized manner and make sure
20 we keep our field surveyors contacted or just keep them
21 informed so that they'll be able to proceed with the
22 surveys knowing that the coordinators are watching
23 their progress.

24

25 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Member Alcorn.

26

27 MR. ALCORN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
28 A question for Molly and Bill, the chair of the
29 committee. Recommendation 9.1, establish a central
30 harvest survey coordinator position. Is this in lieu
31 of the position that was occupied by Cynthia Wentworth
32 as our AMBCC staff coordinator or is this in addition
33 to? I'm not quite sure of the mix of duties and the
34 responsibilities that would be shared or isolated to
35 that one position.

36

37 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Mr. Ostrand.

38

39 MR. OSTRAND: It's that position that
40 Cynthia occupied.

41

42 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Dr. Fall.

43

44 DR. FALL: I would just add on that.
45 The reason why this is a recommendation here is that
46 Cynthia and Ron Stanek in our office shared some of
47 these responsibilities in looking back over three years
48 of the project it looked like at times communication
49 could have been better. These guys did great work, we
50 know that, but that lack of centralization, one person

1 making the decisions, things going through them, that's
2 needed for consistency and project improvements, we
3 think, so that's why that's a recommendation.

4

5 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Member Squartsoff.

6

7 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Mr. Chair. Dr. Fall,
8 that would probably fit in where it would be an ADF&G
9 position instead of having something both.

10

11 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Dr. Fall.

12

13 DR. FALL: Mr. Chair. That's a point
14 for discussion between ADF&G and the Fish and Wildlife
15 Service. I think the Harvest Survey Committee did have
16 a recommendation on it however.

17

18 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Any other questions,
19 comments. Mr. Armstrong.

20

21 MR. ARMSTRONG: I'd just add to that.
22 I think once the committee has gone through and
23 developed this survey methodology, the responsibilities
24 of the coordinator position will kind of be highlighted
25 then and we can then determine where this position
26 should be situated.

27

28 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Any other questions,
29 comments on item 9.

30

31 (No comments)

32

33 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Let's continue on
34 with this report and, Member Chythlook, if you could
35 talk a little bit about what's next.

36

37 MS. CHYTHLOOK: Okay. We just finished
38 recommendation number 9. We've got three other topics
39 here. The first one is a committee formed, a
40 subcommittee, and this happened while I was in another
41 meeting. I came back and this was established.

42

43 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Mr. Ostrand.

44

45 MR. OSTRAND: Notice who was made the
46 chair of that committee.

47

48 (Laughter)

49

50 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: The price of leaving

1 the room.

2

3 MS. CHYTHLOOK: The committee formed a
4 subcommittee and this subcommittee is going to be
5 working on like the handbooks and whatever else, the
6 survey handbook, the training materials, composed of
7 Molly Chythlook, BBNA chair; Wenona Brown, U.S. Fish
8 and Wildlife; and then Mike Pederson, North Slope;
9 Louis Andrew, U.S. Fish and Wildlife; and Liliana
10 Naves, ADF&G, to address the following tasks: number
11 one task, complete revision the survey methods and
12 procedures handbook, which will replace the previous
13 survey handbook. Number two, prepare a survey handbook
14 as a summary of instructions pertaining only to
15 surveyor tasks. Number three, prepare materials for
16 training of survey managers and field coordinators and
17 for surveyors. Number four, complete review of survey
18 forms so they are specifically the different sampling
19 methods to be used in communities of different sizes.
20 Number five, define region specific schedules of
21 activities and deadlines for administrative data
22 collection and data analysis procedures. So there's
23 five strategies the subcommittee will be working on.

24

25 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Any question on those
26 five. Member Alcorn.

27

28 MR. ALCORN: Just a comment. That item
29 five that Molly just read I believe is implementing
30 recommendation five up on the top of the page. When I
31 asked the question earlier, establishing those clear
32 and consistent protocols, I believe this is where
33 that's getting done, isn't that right? I guess I'd ask
34 Bill or Dr. Fall.

35

36 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Dr. Fall.

37

38 DR. FALL: Yeah, I think that's right.
39 In addition, we have to establish for the two periods
40 of data collection, when they would occur within each
41 region. So the subcommittee needs to consult with the
42 different organizations to decide when the surveys
43 should be done. There's a whole series of other pieces
44 in between that would need to be scheduled, so I think
45 it's getting at that.

46

47 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Thank you. Any other
48 questions, comments. Member Chythlook.

49

50 MS. CHYTHLOOK: Okay. The Harvest

1 Survey Committee identified the following tasks that
2 should be addressed by the existing AMBCC Outreach
3 Committee. There's an Outreach Committee that the
4 subcommittee is going to be working with. Number one,
5 update bird identification poster. Number two, change
6 the household invitation letter to a flyer. Number
7 three, organize PowerPoint presentation about the
8 survey and migratory birds for talks at school, tribal
9 council. I want to recommend to add regional meetings
10 and other public events because I think this PowerPoint
11 would be very useful in our regional meetings.

12
13 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Any comments,
14 questions, additions. Member Tahbone.

15
16 MS. TAHBONE: Mr. Chair. Regarding
17 number one, I think that's a real important component
18 and it goes back to the data, whether or not
19 misidentified. Our people, we have even a lot of
20 English names for the birds out there. I mean someone
21 can just call it a black beak. So we have never had
22 any outreach or education dollars made available to us.
23 Are we going to have dollars made available to us to
24 try and get the common names that are used within a
25 community, both our Native language and English, our
26 own names we've given birds so we can improve the data
27 collected?

28
29 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Member Alcorn.

30
31 MR. ALCORN: There's sort of a fixed
32 amount of money that we've had for conduct of the
33 survey, including the coordinator position. That
34 amounts to about \$400,000. These recommendations, I
35 think, are in the context of that fixed amount of
36 money. For whatever we do, it carves away from other
37 components. I think we're going to try to accommodate
38 as many of these things as we can and it's going to be
39 in the contract discussion and negotiation part of
40 that. If outreach is adopted by the Council as
41 something that's needed, then we're going to have to
42 try to make provisions for that.

43
44 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Member Tahbone and
45 then Member Squartsoff.

46
47 MS. TAHBONE: I think it's real
48 important because it goes back to the concerns that
49 have been raised regarding the current data that we're
50 considering. If we're going to try to collect accurate

1 data, our surveyors need to be given the material and
2 whatever supporting material we can give them when they
3 are surveying and sitting down, so we can try to get
4 the best accurate data and be able to support it.

5

6 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Member Squartsoff and
7 then Member Chythlook.

8

9 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Mr. Chair. Sandy,
10 that's a very good point and a very good idea. It
11 might probably eliminate that thing they have to redo
12 in Barrow where they weren't understandable of that
13 picture of that one bird. But we have a lot of
14 different names, too. All the communities have
15 different names for their birds and everything and they
16 would be able to identify them a lot easier that way.
17 That's a good point. Thank you.

18

19 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Member Chythlook.

20

21 MS. CHYTHLOOK: Yeah, this is Molly.
22 What we've been doing in Bristol Bay is when we train
23 our field surveyors we make sure they know the Yup'ik
24 words as well as the English words so that when they go
25 into a household that they'll be able to hear the
26 Yup'ik word for the bird and be able to identify which
27 bird the household is talking about. I think this
28 would be one area we could include in the training
29 manual.

30

31 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Mr. Armstrong and
32 then Member Squartsoff.

33

34 MR. ARMSTRONG: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
35 When you look at the big picture of the nine
36 recommendations, you're going to note that outreach and
37 training are sticking out as real important elements
38 that we've got to include in this process because in
39 the past we've just focused on we've got a survey to
40 do, let's just go do it, and people never did
41 understand why the three stages were being done, why
42 couldn't they just use one. We've never done any
43 outreach or training -- well, we've done training, but
44 I think we need to get down to a lower level, the
45 village level, and that's what's really needed. So
46 Sandy and Herman's concerns are really an important
47 part of this new process.

48

49 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Member Squartsoff.

50

1 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Yeah, Mr. Chair. Dr.
2 Fall, maybe this could fit in if you do bring all the
3 trainers in at one point in time. Make sure when they
4 go back to their areas to get the names and all that
5 stuff like that of different birds and include that in
6 their surveys. That might work. I don't know.

7
8 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Thank you. Member
9 Tahbone.

10
11 MS. TAHBONE: Yeah, there's several
12 books out there, too, within the protocols of
13 identification when you just drop a form off. But
14 during the training and our community and outreach, if
15 we have that available to us when we do visit our
16 communities, when we speak to our hunters, if we had
17 that ability to be able to have that communication back
18 and forth, and to be able to identify for them this is
19 the English name. Because, you know, if you drop off
20 -- as it stands right now, a lot of times they don't
21 recognize the bird, so it's identified duck. But if we
22 do have the funding available to get out there to the
23 communities and have the communication with the
24 hunters, I think we'd be able to not only speak to the
25 importance of the project but to try to get some of the
26 identification things cleared up.

27
28 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Mr. Ostrand.

29
30 MR. OSTRAND: This is, I think,
31 relevant to what we're talking about here. One of the
32 discussions the committee had was on the survey forms,
33 so one of the suggestions was, and I think there was
34 general agreement on this, is that we change things a
35 bit at the beginning of the season. We drop off
36 instead of a survey form an identification sheet that
37 might look like our survey form and then, at the end of
38 the season, when the data are collected, the data are
39 collected by the surveyor and he has a much simpler
40 form that the information on bird harvest is recorded
41 on. As Russ suggested, the surveyor have more detailed
42 materials on bird identification that could help the
43 household fill out the form. That's a difference
44 process than what we have right now where we at the end
45 of the season go around and fill out the form.

46
47 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Thank you. Any other
48 comments, questions.
49 Member Devine.
50

1 MR. DEVINE: I would be in favor of
2 making a motion that would read State of Alaska and
3 AMBCC Harvest Survey Committee, Assessment and
4 Recommendations. It sounds like the Harvest Survey
5 Committee has been doing a heck of a job. It's one of
6 the committees that's been actively working to try to
7 make things better and it sounds like they touched on
8 all the subjects I had concerns on.

9
10 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Good. I think that's
11 a useful motion. We've got one little section of the
12 report to finish up. Member Devine, if you could hold
13 on for five more points here, Member Chythlook will
14 wrap it up and we'll move on.

15
16 MS. CHYTHLOOK: Okay. This is the last
17 section here. Following approval of these changes by
18 the Council, the next steps include, number one,
19 evaluate the cost of implementing the revised survey
20 methods; number two, based on costs, priorities and
21 available funding, establish revised rotational
22 schedule, regional and communities within regions, for
23 surveys to begin in 2009; number three, the
24 subcommittee on survey handbook and training materials
25 will meet to make approved revisions for handbooks and
26 other training materials; number four, the Harvest
27 Survey Committee will work with Outreach Committee on
28 outreach tasks pertaining to the survey; number five,
29 options for establish a central harvest survey project
30 coordinator position will be explored with ADF&G and
31 the Harvest Survey Committee and U.S. Fish and Wildlife
32 will select a preferred option.

33
34 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Any questions or
35 comments on those next steps. Any further discussion
36 at all.

37
38 (No comments)

39
40 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Member Devine, the
41 Chair would entertain your previous motion at this
42 time.

43
44 MR. DEVINE: Okay. I make a motion to
45 go with the State of Alaska and AMBCC's Harvest Survey
46 Committee's Assessment and Recommendations.

47
48 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Second.

49
50 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: It's been moved and

1 seconded that we adopt these recommendations. Is there
2 any discussion. Member Tahbone.

3

4 MS. TAHBONE: Mr. Chairman. My
5 understanding was this was the recommendations from the
6 Harvest Survey Committee.

7

8 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: True. That's
9 correct. I guess technically it would be the Council.
10 So I guess the.....

11

12 MS. TAHBONE: Committee
13 recommendations.

14

15 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Committee
16 recommendations from the Harvest Survey Committee of
17 the AMBCC. With the concurrence of the maker of the
18 motion and the second, we would make sure that that is
19 reflected accurately in the final transcript. Is that
20 acceptable, Member Devine?

21

22 MR. DEVINE: Yes.

23

24 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Same here.

25

26 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Thank you, Member
27 Squartsoff. There was some talk of additional language
28 here and there, maybe some changes in numbers of
29 households. Are people wanting to make amendment to
30 that motion to take that up or go with the motion as
31 made. Member Alcorn.

32

33 MR. ALCORN: The one discussion that I
34 recall changing the numbers of households surveyed, I
35 think Herman acknowledged that statistically we would
36 achieve the same statistical precision by staying with
37 the recommendations, so I'm not sure that we've
38 advocating that kind of change anymore. I don't have
39 noted that we would suggest any further changes, at
40 least in my notes that I took.

41

42 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: I just wanted for the
43 record to make sure that that was settled. Mr. Oates.

44

45 MR. OATES: Yeah, Russ Oates, Fish and
46 Wildlife Service. Mr. Chairman. I was making a few
47 notes on some of these changes that were in here and I
48 can just list a couple of them if you folks want to
49 entertain those. In addition to the one that Member
50 Squartsoff had on Item 3.1 and 3.2, there was also

1 under Item 7, Dr. Fall recommended that the last
2 sentence in Item 7 that said this requires a cost
3 analysis, I think we should add the phrase and a review
4 of data needs because, as he indicated, things such as
5 threatened species or whatever might drive some of the
6 direction of the rotational schedule as well. Let me
7 just read it, cost analysis and a review of data needs
8 (such as threatened species), something like that.

9
10 The other one was Member Chythlook in
11 the next to the last section of the additional topics
12 after the numbered recommendations, the one identified
13 as the Harvest Survey Committee identified the
14 following tasks, it should be addressed, Member
15 Chythlook, under item three, suggested adding the
16 phrase regional meetings to the list of places where
17 the PowerPoint presentation would be used.

18
19 So those are just some of the notes
20 that I had if that's helpful, Mr. Chair.

21
22 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Thank you, Mr. Oates.
23 Member Squartsoff.

24
25 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Yeah, Mr. Chair. On
26 number one I did note a suggestion for sample selection
27 adopt two-level stratification, just go with harvesters
28 and other household for the whole thing instead of just
29 that part.

30
31 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: In that first line of
32 number two you're saying the parenthetical comment
33 would read harvesters and other households instead of
34 harvesters/non-harvesters.

35
36 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Yes. I think Jim was
37 kind of agreeing with that a while ago. Thank you.

38
39 MS. CHYTHLOOK: Mr. Chair.

40
41 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Member Chythlook.

42
43 MS. CHYTHLOOK: Under number 9.4, maybe
44 right after periodic -- I guess just to define that in
45 parentheses put monthly or however.

46
47 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Under 9.4 change
48 periodic to monthly?

49
50 MS. CHYTHLOOK: Yes.

1 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Mr. Ostrand.
2
3 MR. OSTRAND: I think towards the end
4 of Cynthia's tenure here she was requiring, at least
5 the RIT's that she was working with, to submit a
6 biweekly report.
7
8 MS. CHYTHLOOK: Biweekly?
9
10 MR. OSTRAND: Yes. It was pretty
11 simple.
12
13 MS. CHYTHLOOK: However, this periodic
14 would be identified more precise than periodically
15 because we can go.....
16
17 MS. BROWN-SCHWALENBERG: This is not
18 going to be identified by the quality assurance,
19 quality control procedures and something need to be
20 identified here.
21
22 MS. CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Thanks.
23
24 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Thank you. Member
25 Squartsoff.
26
27 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Mr. Chair. One more
28 on number 8, implement three types to the modality, a
29 little more clear English on that for some of us.
30 Thank you.
31
32 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Member Tahbone.
33
34 MS. TAHBONE: Is there a reason why we
35 don't have a recommendation regarding inseason versus
36 recall?
37
38 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Dr. Fall.
39
40 DR. FALL: Mr. Chair. We did talk at
41 length about this topic during the two days of the
42 Harvest Survey Committee and others can refresh my
43 memory on this. The inseason, which would be very
44 frequent contacts with the households, for one thing is
45 prohibitively expensive. Secondly, I think the
46 committee is concerned about burnout, both by surveyors
47 and by participants. We discussed the possibility of
48 using calendars and other devices for households to
49 record their harvest voluntarily, so when they are
50 interviewed at the end of the period they can use that.

1 I think our general experience, we talked about this a
2 lot, is you hand those out and some people use them,
3 but a lot of people don't. We also talked at length
4 about the quality of the information that is obtained
5 from recall period, such as the end of the spring
6 survey period. I think the consensus of the group is
7 the quality of that information is pretty good. Others
8 can add to that, but we did talk about it and we
9 thought we'd get good information with the design we
10 had here.

11
12 MS. TAHBONE: So my understanding is
13 that we're going to kind of stick to the same format of
14 dropping off, but when we pick it up there will be
15 another form the surveyor will use when they review
16 what they dropped off? I'm hearing that there's going
17 to be something different that we're doing other than
18 just dropping off and picking up.

19
20 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Dr. Fall.

21
22 DR. FALL: I think in the past there
23 was some confusion about whether the form that was
24 dropped off each time was intended as a calendar or as
25 a device for people to fill out as they were
26 harvesting. What we discovered is that almost
27 invariably those forms were filled out when the
28 surveyor came back during that period, that people were
29 not writing them down inseason. That would be the
30 design that we would stick with. That said, if we
31 wanted to have another form that would help people
32 write things down voluntarily, we could entertain that
33 idea. But I think in terms of using recall for a
34 specific period of time to collect the information is
35 what we're recommending and that is consistent with
36 basically how the project worked all along.

37
38 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Mr. Oates.

39
40 MR. OATES: Just a little clarification
41 to Member Tahbone's question. One of the options that
42 was discussed and I thought we were actually leaning
43 that way was basically converting the form to an
44 identification sheet, which was passed out. I think
45 Lillian Naves recommended that when the surveyor then
46 came to visit the hunter, that the surveyor would just
47 have a list of the names without having the whole form
48 there and an additional copy of the identification
49 sheet and then go through the identification sheet and
50 fill out the names and the numbers at that time, so it

1 would kind of eliminate all these large numbers of
2 these forms with all the pictures on them. I think
3 that's kind of the direction that was heading if my
4 recollection serves me.

5
6 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Any other comments,
7 questions, suggestions.

8
9 (No comments)

10
11 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: I would entertain a
12 motion to add the amended language and just to make
13 sure I've got it right, under Item 2, the first line,
14 the parenthetical comment would be harvesters/other
15 households rather than harvesters/non-harvesters.
16 Under Item 7 we would add to the end of the second
17 sentences the words and a review of data needs and then
18 parenthetically such as threatened species. Under Item
19 8 replace the word modalities with the word types. And
20 while it's not actually a formal action item, under the
21 tasks for the Outreach Committee under number 3 add at
22 regional meetings after tribal councils. Does that
23 encompass the changes we made? Member Squartsoff.

24
25 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Mr. Chair. I just
26 recommend that we add as amended to our motion. That
27 should do it, right?

28
29 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Is that acceptable to
30 the group? Member Devine, are you on board with that?

31
32 MR. DEVINE: Yes.

33
34 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Excellent. Any
35 further discussion, commentary, questions.

36
37 (No comments)

38
39 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Are you ready for the
40 question. All those in favor say aye.

41
42 IN UNISON: Aye.

43
44 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Any opposed.

45
46 (No opposing votes)

47
48 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: The motion carries.
49 Thank you very much. Member Squartsoff.

50

1 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Mr. Chair. I'd like
2 to let the Harvest Survey Committee know that I really
3 appreciate the excellent job that they did, especially
4 spending two days on this. That's a lot of time to
5 take off especially in your summer season. So I
6 commend them on a great job that they did. Thank you.
7

8 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Thank you, Member
9 Squartsoff. I think that the Chair and the rest of the
10 Council would echo that. It's a good lot of work that
11 the Committee accomplished here. I would further
12 recommend everybody have a look at the final report.
13 Dr. Fall has a hard copy here and I've emailed an
14 electronic version to Mr. Armstrong, who can distribute
15 to everybody. That's really a remarkable report in a
16 number of ways and I'll make sure to point out to the
17 Pacific Flyway Council at the meeting in Spokane that
18 they're not likely to see a survey of households
19 anywhere else in the country, maybe even in the world,
20 where 80 percent of the people are hunters and 20
21 percent are not. It's an interesting universe to begin
22 with, plus it's a remarkable and thorough piece of work
23 and I think it's going to be very useful. I think it,
24 in the eyes of the Pacific Flyway members, will raise
25 the credibility of this organization quite a lot and
26 I'm very impressed with it. I thank Dr. Fall and in
27 absentia Dr. Naves for their efforts on that.
28

29 Member Tahbone, you had a comment.
30

31 MS. TAHBONE: I just wanted to add that
32 it's real important, because we know funding is always
33 an issue, but that's going to play a key role in the
34 success of our future in its education, outreach,
35 training and sticking with protocols. We need to make
36 sure that we put the -- you know, try to get the money
37 in, whether it's joining with other surveys that are
38 going on out there, but we need to make it work so we
39 get good data.
40

41 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Thank you. Member
42 Alcorn.
43

44 MR. ALCORN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
45 I'd like to recommend that Fred draft a letter for
46 signature of the Chair thanking the Alaska Department
47 of Fish and Game Subsistence Division and each of the
48 members of the Harvest Survey Committee to be sent to
49 those members and the Department of Fish and Game
50 thanking them for their hard work and their diligence

1 and the quality of the report. I think it's important
2 that the organizations that the representatives on this
3 Council represent and the Staff be recognized for that
4 in their organizations. So I would like the letter not
5 to be sent to the members so much as the organization
6 for thanking and appreciating the member's
7 contribution.

8

9 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Thank you, Member
10 Alcorn. The Chair looks forward with enthusiasm to
11 signing and sending that letter. Let's go back up to
12 old business and take up the 2004-2006 harvest survey
13 approvals. Mr. Ostrand.

14

15 MR. OSTRAND: Mr. Chair. The Committee
16 had one more recommendation.

17

18 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: I'm sorry. Go right
19 ahead.

20

21 MR. OSTRAND: This was a recommendation
22 separate from the ADF&G report.

23

24 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Member Chythlook.

25

26 MS. CHYTHLOOK: Sorry. The last
27 recommendation is that the Committee recommended that
28 the vacant harvest survey director position to be
29 filled with ADF&G, Subsistence Division, provided that
30 doing so will not increase costs. And then the
31 discussions between ADF&G and the Service should take
32 place on the possibility and costs.

33

34 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Is that a less formal
35 recommendation than the previous?

36

37 MS. CHYTHLOOK: Uh-huh.

38

39 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: As I understand it,
40 the next step, the Fish and Game Department and the
41 Fish and Wildlife Service will be discussing how to
42 proceed with that position. I don't believe there's
43 any further action that the Council need take other
44 than to note the preference of the Committee and thank
45 you for that. Member Alcorn.

46

47 MR. ALCORN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
48 Fred and I have talked about this, we talked about it
49 yesterday and I've also talked with Russ. It seems to
50 me that probably the appropriate way to go about this,

1 since this is a decision I asked the Council to
2 consider at last fall's meeting when we were in
3 Fairbanks, that when -- Fred mentioned it earlier
4 today, that in the fall meeting we will have sort of a
5 suite or a much more comprehensive strategy on how to
6 approach this whole harvest survey. At that point, I
7 think we will have a better feel for where that
8 position should reside, where the responsibilities, and
9 what the position would entail, where that would lay
10 and the costs associated with that. I think that would
11 be a better -- we would be better equipped to have that
12 discussion and make that decision in the fall meeting
13 when we've thought all that through.

14
15 But for now, in concept, I would concur
16 with that recommendation and that basically gives us
17 liberties to have those discussions and to come back
18 with the recommendation of the Council.

19
20 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Thank you. Member
21 Squartsoff.

22
23 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Yeah, Mr. Chair. We
24 kind of adopted that with the motion anyway, 9.1.

25
26 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Thank you. Thank the
27 Committee for that expression of preference. That will
28 help inform future discussions. Thank you for that.
29 Member Tahbone.

30
31 MS. TAHBONE: Mr. Chair. With number
32 5, is it different than what we discussed and approved
33 regarding like options for establishing a central
34 harvest? Is what you just read different
35 from what we've already -- it's not?

36
37 MS. CHYTHLOOK: No, this just kind of
38 highlighted what we've already discussed.

39
40 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Mr. Armstrong.

41
42 MR. ARMSTRONG: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
43 Fred Armstrong. We already had the discussion similar
44 to what you guys had proposed that once we get through
45 developing the survey methodology and costing it out,
46 we'd have a better idea of what types of
47 responsibilities this position should have and what we
48 can delegate out, what we can keep here at the Service
49 level. So those are going to take place. I'd rather
50 do it more methodically than just to say, okay, the

1 State takes this one, but have a reasoning behind it
2 and think it out versus a separate motion.

3

4 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Mr. Ostrand.

5

6 MR. OSTRAND: I was just going to
7 respond to Sandy's comment that the only difference
8 from this statement and the one that you approved as a
9 part of the whole package is this just states what the
10 Committee's preference is.

11

12 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Any other comments or
13 questions.

14

15 (No comments)

16

17 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Let's go back up the
18 agenda then to old business, Item 7(b), the 2004-2006
19 harvest survey approval. I guess I would entertain a
20 motion to take that item back up.

21

22 MR. SQUARTSOFF: So moved.

23

24 MR. ALCORN: Second.

25

26 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: It's been moved and
27 seconded. Is there further discussion. Hopefully the
28 discussion we just had will help clarify and settle
29 some nagging questions. Any questions, discussion.

30

31 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Yeah, Mr. Chair. The
32 only thing -- all this other stuff clarified my issues.
33 If we just make sure that we're clarifying, we're
34 putting in notes that some of the recommendations from
35 the regional areas that it wasn't quite accurate or
36 whatever, but there is improvements being made now to
37 be a little more accurate in the surveys.

38

39 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Thank you. Member
40 Chythlook.

41

42 MS. CHYTHLOOK: I think when we make
43 those footnotes, we need to be careful so that it won't
44 diminish the report. That's the only suggestion I
45 have. Thanks.

46

47 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Member Alcorn.

48

49 MR. ALCORN: Point of order. I think
50 we need to approve to untable before we have the

1 discussion on that particular motion. Did you call the
2 question?

3

4 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: No.

5

6 MR. ALCORN: You saw no opposition, but
7 just for the record I wanted to show that we did
8 approve the motion to untable and now we have the
9 discussion.

10

11 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Let's do that
12 formally. All in favor of taking the motion off the
13 table, please say aye.

14

15 IN UNISON: Aye.

16

17 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Any opposed.

18

19 (No opposing votes)

20

21 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Thank you, Member
22 Alcorn, for keeping us on the straight and narrow
23 parliamentarily. Any other discussion, comments,
24 questions. Member Tahbone.

25

26 MS. TAHBONE: So do we have some
27 preliminary narrative portion of the report? Is there
28 a draft or when will we be able to see that? I mean
29 we've seen the tables, but we haven't seen the report.

30

31 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Mr. Ostrand.

32

33 MR. OSTRAND: At the Committee meeting,
34 Tom Rothe and -- Russ, can you remind me who else
35 volunteered to work with Tom to develop those text.

36

37 MR. OATES: I can check my notes and
38 see if I've got them, but they're not coming to me
39 right now.

40

41 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Mr. Armstrong.

42

43 MR. ARMSTRONG: At the Survey Committee
44 meeting, the issue of a report was brought up and Russ
45 Oates and Tom Rothe met with Dave Coster to identify
46 what type of report they would need, what species would
47 be involved and generate that report for the flyway
48 use. We've done nothing as far as developing a draft
49 final report simply because we had to get the Council
50 approval to do anything and that's what we've been

1 seeking for the last two years to get that.

2

3 Right now the footnotes will clarify
4 some of the mistakes, not make it any worse. That's
5 the whole intent of the footnotes. If there's anything
6 that looks wrong or misidentification, they will
7 clarify the report. Hopefully we'll have a better
8 report in the future if we follow this process that the
9 Council has adopted.

10

11 MR. ALCORN: Question.

12

13 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: All in favor please
14 say aye.

15

16 IN UNISON: Aye.

17

18 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Any opposed.

19

20 (No opposing votes)

21

22 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: The motion carries.
23 Thank you very much. We're about nine minutes till
24 noon. Let's see if we can whip out the rest of this
25 stuff and wrap it on up. Again, we'd invite any
26 members of the public who are present to make comments
27 to the Council. Seeing none.

28

29 Any member which to present comments at
30 this time. Member Squartsoff.

31

32 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Yeah, Mr. Chair. I
33 appreciate everybody that did show up here to take time
34 out of their busy schedule I know they have. I'm
35 really appreciative. Also Peter hanging in there with
36 us. I don't know how you're going to pay for our
37 lunch, Peter. Are you going to fax us a copy of your
38 check you're going to send up or what? Thank you.

39

40 MR. DEVINE: Yeah, it goes to Japanese
41 Gardens.

42

43 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Yeah, we'll go to
44 Tokyo Garden.

45

46 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Any other comments.
47 On to Staff comments. Mr. Ostrand.

48

49 MR. OSTRAND: Yes. The intent, I
50 thought, of Item 7(b), the approvals of the data, was

1 at this time to collect the comments from the Council
2 members that they would like to be incorporated as
3 footnotes or further review of the data that has been
4 circulated previously.

5
6 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Thank you, Mr.
7 Ostrand. As I understand it, those comments have been
8 offered over the past 18 to 24 months and they're still
9 welcome by all means. This is an iterative process
10 that hopefully will be improved by comments such as
11 those through the life of the process. It will
12 hopefully just get better and better. I think those
13 are always welcome.

14
15 MR. OSTRAND: At the last meeting we
16 asked Council to come back with specific comments that
17 we could incorporate as footnotes. At that time we
18 didn't have the concept of footnotes fully developed,
19 but we wanted their specific concerns. If we're not
20 prepared to give them now, perhaps the Council members
21 could email them to me and then we could incorporate
22 that as soon as possible.

23
24 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Thank you, Mr.
25 Ostrand. In my fairly brief experience with this
26 Council, Council members have never been shy about
27 expressing opinions and sharing comments, so I expect
28 you'll get a few and would, again, encourage all
29 Council members to bring such comments to the fore as
30 quickly as possible. Member Alcorn.

31
32 MR. ALCORN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
33 Just to remind everyone, we have scheduled our fall
34 meeting for the week of Monday, September 22nd through
35 probably Thursday or Friday, depending on the agenda.
36 It's going to be in Dillingham, hosted by Molly and
37 BBNA. She has invited Council members to a potluck on
38 Monday evening, the 22nd. There will be a workshop
39 beginning at 1:00 p.m. Tuesday, then followed by the
40 full Council meeting Wednesday, the 24th. I don't know
41 if the agenda will spill over into the 25th or not.
42 Molly just asked me to remind everybody to write that
43 in their calendars if they have not already.

44
45 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Thank you very much.
46 We look forward to meeting in Dillingham. Member
47 Tahbone.

48
49 MS. TAHBONE: I guess I'm out of hand
50 and should have made a comment.

1 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Go right ahead.
2
3 MS. TAHBONE: We recently had our
4 regional meeting. It was in April and I just wanted to
5 thank Fred for taking the time to come up. We had a
6 very good meeting. Thanks, Fred.
7
8 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Thank you. Member
9 Squartsoff.
10
11 MR. SQUARTSOFF: I forgot to thank the
12 Staff, doing a good job. Bill and them sitting on the
13 committee and Dr. Fall also for the time he spent on
14 this and I'm looking forward to working with them and
15 Mr. Oates. Thank you.
16
17 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Thank you. Anybody
18 else. Two final comments from the Chair. One I should
19 note for the record is that Mike Smith was officially
20 excused for this meeting. He's got some other
21 commitments and he did notify us ahead of time that he
22 was not going to be present today. They have appointed
23 representatives to their subregional council, so
24 they're moving right along. Member Chythlook.
25
26 MS. CHYTHLOOK: Yeah, I just have a
27 question, being on that subcommittee. I need to get a
28 schedule of some sort as to when we need to accomplish
29 -- I guess we don't need to accomplish any of these
30 subcommittee items until after our fall meeting.
31 Thanks.
32
33 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Mr. Armstrong.
34
35 MR. ARMSTRONG: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
36 I think the intent is to have a final document to the
37 Council by this fall's meeting, so there's a lot of
38 work for the Harvest Survey Committee and its
39 subcommittee to do over the summer. As hard as this
40 Committee works, I'm sure they will step up to the
41 task. It's a lot of work. The two-day meeting we had
42 I think was very productive and people came in here and
43 did a lot of good work. I really commend the Committee
44 for doing that. And also to the Council members for
45 taking the time and making the effort to come down
46 here. It's been well worthwhile and I think we've
47 moved the program a lot further in just half a day.
48
49 CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Thank you. Any other
50 comments. I would certainly echo that. You've armed

1 me well to go and fight the fight on the Pacific Flyway
2 Council. I've got a couple new bits of important
3 ammunition here and I think those will serve us well.
4 Anything else for the good of the order today. If not,
5 I'd entertain a motion to adjourn.

6

7

MR. ALCORN: So moved.

8

9

MS. CHYTHLOOK: Second.

10

11

MR. SQUARTSOFF: Are you going to be
12 with us in the fall meeting?

13

14

CHAIRMAN CLARKE: I am. We'll see you
15 in Dillingham. Any objections.

16

17

(No objections)

18

19

CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Thank you, Peter, for
20 hanging in by teleconference. We know how tricky that
21 can be sometimes. At one minute before noon, we stand
22 adjourned.

23

24

Thank you.

25

26

(Off record)

27

28

(END OF PROCEEDINGS)

