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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

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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)

