

Minutes 1/25/13 11:35 am

Elections

Bill Zibell Nominated

Wilbur Howarth Nominated

Lonnie Tebbits-Nominated

Lennard Brown-Nominated

Approval of Meeting minutes

Charlotte Westing: Presentation on Moose Reports

-The spring time is more of a hazard

-I think I am seeing about a quarter of what I did this year. I would like to know what it would take to get another spring survey. This last year was really high water and a really hard harsh weather over a period of 45 days right before Christmas to February, the average time was -26 the only colder period was in 1989. I usually see several less moose than I saw this year.

-I was doing some surveys and there was high water, I have hunted this back slew there was only one moose, where I am used to getting them. I only saw two young bulls. Usually you catch a few out here and there. The population has dropped off and the genetic strand is changing they are bigger greater than 50 inches with brow ties. The wolf population is pretty high.

Charlotte Westing: I have heard a lot about wolves.

Raymond: Where is the populated the place for moose?

Charlotte Westing: the densities are higher on the Lower Kobuk. We looked at the Lower Noatak and there weren't as many moose as there usually are. Was there something about this extreme weather that put the moose in different places, because of extreme weather. I am wondering about seeing dead moose, Inquires about the body condition.

Wilbur Howarth: Inquires about bear population. There are lot of bear.

Charlotte Westing: Explains about twins and health of the herd and habitat the twinning rate is really good on the Lower Kobuk. What we did see were both brown bears and black bears pursuing calves. Jim commented on the number of bears on the delta. Inquires about bears to the community.

-There are lot more brown bears and a few more black bears. I went up to Marina Camp and we saw a few brown and black bears.

Charlotte Westing: Explains that the other ACs are saying that there are more brown bears and Jim flies hundreds of hours. There was some research with NPS and the relationship to the Western Arctic Caribou Herd.

Larry Westlake: When we are traveling in early summer we look at the sand bars, it was looking pretty good in the spring until we got to August. I am thinking that moose could sense when the high water was coming. A lot of animals can do that. As soon as the water came you couldn't see any moose along the river. In Kiana they were saying that all of the moose are up on the foothills. Now there is a lack of snow until 10 days ago. They were up there and they can get around pretty easy. The river frozen up really high and there is ice hanging. The moose are avoiding the shoreline. There are no moose along the river in Kiana. I think the moose are holding back along the edge of the slews.

Charlotte Westing: Explains what it takes to do another survey. Explains rotation. We try to survey other places. Especially if people are seeing a lot of dead moose.

-The moose don't like to be near the thin layer of ice they don't like the noise.

-Some of these people have been here a long time. The moose only come in certain places. The high water changed where they were going. When I dropped the young bull, he had this much fat on the line. Weather and populations of certain predators.

Lonnie-in 2011 and 2010 we had a hard time getting caribou and I am wondering if that changed the moose harvest.

Charlotte Westing: The more reliable information comes from the community harvest surveys. I know that there were many more cows taken in 2011 and 2010. People were not getting caribou they ended up taking more cows.

William Zibell: Inquires about the numbers or about wolf populations.

Charlotte Westing: We are working on a plan of how to pay from wolf surveys. A lot of this information comes from sealing furs. It is required and it helps us paint the picture of what has been happening.

William Zibell: Explains the timeliness of getting seals to people. Explains the difficulty of the seals for the furs.

Charlotte Westing: Explains the process for the movement of the seals. We the information we had about 100 wolves come out of this area, a third of them were from one person. There are lot of variables in the sealing and also the harvest of wolves.

William Zibell: Has there been any comparison for the wolves that have been sealed versus the community house hold.

Charlotte Westing: Explains that the comparison of house surveys

William Zibell: The wolves are the highest they have ever been in this region and the snow conditions are bad.

Glenn Miller: Last year there were a lot of wolves too.

William Zibell: I don't know if there is a more efficient killer than a wolf.

-Question about seals and shii fish.

Jim Dau: Explains the migration of seals from Kotzebue to Russia, and to the Bering Sea.

-questions about seals

Glenn Miller: I have done some research on seals we were looking for unhealthy seals. I know that studies have been happening along with Polar Bears in reaction of what happened in Japan. Tech does it because they want to go out and look for seals. There are a lot of seals were the same seals everyday. In the four mile arch I counted 1500 seals, most of Uguruk there were not a lot of spotted seals. They looked like tanks on the horizon. It looked like a healthy population. I am not a scientist. It was a fun study.

Wilbur: The Uguruks have been nice and healthy this year. As long as you go through the ice there were a lot. The skins are nice. When you go out, the ones that are moving from way out on the shifting thick ice. I have to go through the Kobuk ice when it goes out.

-This fall berry picking I ran into two places might have been moose kill. You can recognize the smell. I ran into two indicates where the kills have been. It had to be moose because the caribou weren't here.

### **Proposal 179, 180, 189**

### **Motion to Support the all three proposals 179, 180, 183**

### **Joint Board Proposal**

### **To Move Selawik from the Northern Seward Peninsula AC to the Lower Kobuk AC**

### **Discussion**

**Raymond Stoney:** Inquires about discussion with Selawik to attend the Lower Kobuk AC.

Carmen Daggett: Explains that a teleconference was held and that the participation in the teleconference was Clyde Ramoth and George Sheldon.

We are all in the same boat and Selawik is odd balled with Deering and Buckland.

### **All Supported the proposal**

**Modifying Robert's Rules of Order:**

All Supported the proposal.

Discussion:

Larry Westlake: I don't think we should not be asked about these sorts of issues.

Wilbur Howarth: I think that I know where this proposal is going and I motion to support this proposal.

**Motion to support**

**Next Meeting Date**

**-Meeting 3<sup>rd</sup> week in February**

**-Meeting in Kotzebue**

**-Time**