

**Southern Norton Sound Agenda Advisory Committee Meeting**  
**Unit 22A**  
**BOG Items and Fisheries Updates**  
**Joint Board Meeting Proposals**  
**Unalakleet, AK**  
**DRAFT Minutes April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2013**  
**Time 1:00 PM**

- I. Call to Order, *Chairman Art Ivanoff*
  - A. Roll Call / Establish Quorum
    - Art Ivanoff
    - Milton Cheemuk
    - Merlin Henry
    - Michael Sookiayak
    - Peter Martin Sr.
    - Wade Ryan
    - Henry Oyoumick

Not Present: Allen Atchak  
Kristin Mashiana

- II. Introductions
  - Milton Cheemuk
  - Merlin Henry
  - Peter Martin
  - Wade Ryan
  - Letty Hughes-ADF&G
  - Scott Kent-ADF&G
  - Carmen Daggett-ADF&G
  - Melvin Brown
  - Paul Ivanoff-NSEDC
  - Chester Mullett-Manager for Unalakleet
  - Art Ivanoff
  - Michael Sookiayak

- III. Approval of Agenda

**Motion to approve the agenda**

Scott Kent: wanted to add updates from the AYK meeting and changes that affect Southern Norton Sound

Art Ivanoff: wanted to discuss the emergency order

Would like to add a prayer

Henry Oyoumick-motion to loosen Robert's Rules of Order

Discussion: About making changes open

Add number 4 for public comment

Other add public comment

Art Ivanoff: Would like to add the Magnuson Stevens Act

Henry Oyoumick: Move to adopt the agenda, but keep it open and fluid.

**Motion on the floor to approve the agenda**

**Second**

**All support the agenda**

**Motion passes**

Prayer- Henry Oyoumick

IV. Public Comment

Paul Ivanoff: Representing himself. We have been in a king salmon crisis for upwards of 10 years now. There have been several things I have notice in the last ten years. We used to have a really viable king salmon fishery. In the Southern Norton Sound area: Koyuk, Shaktoolik and even in Elim. The thing that concerns me is the adjustment of escapement numbers since the 80's, 90's and 2000 and we used to have really high number escapement and now we are just at 1000. We are concerned about the lower numbers of escapement in the Southern Norton Sound. I think the escapement is too low. We are in crisis mode right now and things need to be done by the community and by the state, every commercial, sport and subsistence need to take action to get the king salmon back to an acceptable level. I am an avid sport fisherman and an avid subsistence fisherman. I fished in the 90's with my father and that included king salmon. I am in favor of restricting sport fish and restricting subsistence fishing in the river where kings mill about for up to a week. I counted upwards of 30 nets up from the mouth of the river. It doesn't give any possibility of any kings escaping during that time frame. I am in favor of restricting netting kings. I am very happy that ADF&G suspended the test net fishery for king salmon. I am glad they are using other methods to assess the strength of the king salmon fishery. The sport fish catch and release numbers, which is alarming; we don't have an idea of what the mortality rate of caught and released fish. Fish are not for playing with. With all due respect for the sport fishery, we need to reduce the amounts of fish that are caught and released. I am alarmed an ad on Craig's List for people from Anchorage were looking for investors to put a sport fishing lodge on the Unalakleet River. Our sport fishing are two and three the registered guides in Unalakleet are rarely every touched by enforcement. The Unalakleet River sees very little law enforcement. There are several things that really concerned me with the sport fishing guide. Last year during silver season, I said it looks like he had a good day fishing, and he said he had limited out twice that day. We need to have tighter enforcement. We could require fishing guides on boats to have the same limits as guides on the lodges so that the guides understand that you cannot limit out twice in one day.

Art Ivanoff: Do we have an idea of the number of nets on the Unalakleet River throughout the last five years?

Scott Kent: It has fluctuated a lot, the highest amount of nets I have seen on the River was 18. That is too many. The delayed recession of shore fast ice, has really delayed the runs and when they are going to be in river. I adjust that time based on data.

-I would say a dozen is average for the in river fishing.

Milton Cheemuk: What is the count for the subsistence users versus sport fish?

Scott Kent: Let me get that for you and I'll get back to you on that.

Henry Oyoumick: Inquires about Chester with king salmon

Chester Mullet: Just boating in the spring time, I have seen a lot of fish with hooks still attached to them from the lodges. They are losing the hooks still attached to the fish. It probably increases mortality. The lodges bring in their own guides. There is no oversight and they keep the numbers to themselves. There is no one monitoring.

We see too much fish boxes going out loaded during king season. The king salmon are being targeted. The IRA counsel is tries to keep track of what is getting shipped out of here. You know that they are taking more than their quota. We need to keep track of the number of fish that are coming out of here. We will be like Nome we won't have any fish if we don't do something about this. We are going to lose those fish. When people say they need 50 kings to make through the winter. I accidently caught one king last year and sure it tasted good, but the Yukon and Kuskokwim are targeting different fish such as silvers. We need to have strict regulations on king salmon. The sport fish should be restricted. We need to keep the fish for future generations.

Art Ivanoff: We need to think outside of the box to get the fish back on track because the tools that we are using are not working and we need change them.

Wade Ryan: We talked about shutting down sport and subsistence fish till we get escapement goals met.

Henry Oyoumick: What are your thoughts on enhancement? NSEDC is thinking about doing an enhancement program.

Chester Mullet: One of the things I see because I have a cabin, in the last five to eight years and I have seen less kings in their breeding areas. Those numbers have radically declined. Together this committee can help sway Fish and Game to get our declining stocks back where they should be.

Paul Ivanoff: NSEDC is my employer, having said that I do that the method that they are doing for enhancement is mist incubation. Maybe Scott Kent could expand on that. I think we should think about fishery enhancement. I may work and if it doesn't work are we jeopardizing escapement with the pairs that they would take out for enhancement. That is my biggest concern.

Art Ivanoff: It is good to err on the side of caution. I like the idea of incubation to increase the size of more fish getting up the river.

Melvin: I was fishing for information from areas off of the map. I heard once on the radio, it was the 73% pieces intercept Western Alaskan Fish on Alaska Nightly News. I couldn't get any more information from the state or legislature was going to do anything about pursuing the interception of the king salmon. The kings are caught at the depth of the same as the trawls at the selected depth to avoid the intercept of the kings. I was wondering if any people were thinking about putting cameras on their nets and avoiding certain depths for putting the nets in. I had heard there was a company out of the goodness of their own heart put cameras on their nets. I know one company by their own I was wondering if anyone has heard any more about that.

Michael Sookiayak: Some of the comments and concerns about the number of nets that are being used up the Shaktoolik we are interested in looking for other ways enhance the Chinook salmon in the \_Tagoomenik\_\_\_\_ River &Shatoolik River. It is something that will be worthwhile looking at.

Scott Kent: Fisherman are encouraged to stay out of areas that are historically known as high king salmon areas. Explains measures trawl restrictions and salmon excluder. John Gruber gave a presentation about how salmon can get out of the net. The performance standard needs to be met if it is not met in the past three years. If they are not they need to go back to the drawing board. What causes changes in performance standard? The by catch has been reduced to 17,000 and the last year by catch has been reduced to 9,000. The guys in the industry are convinced it is due to the changes in measures.

Art Ivanoff: The trawling industry is divided into an A and B season either or . The high seas intercept is unknown.

Scott Kent: The B season is where they catch Chinook.

General question: What is the observer coverage.

Scott Kent: There is 100% coverage of observers in the Bering Sea.

Art Ivanoff: The recommendation from Don Young was that the observer program needs to go away. That is not good for the MSA (Magneson-Stevens Act).

Scott Kent: They did have cameras to check the effectiveness of nets. It is not a regulation to have the cameras. It is an incentive, it gives the fisherman a chance to move out of the king areas if they are fishing on it. There are %100 observers on Bering Sea and Aleutian Island. It is not a regulation to have cameras. It gives the vessel operator an opportunity to move out of Chinook. The program is incentivized program.

V. Chester Mullet: We notice our dwindling stock of Salmon we want to discuss Prayer

VI. Elections/Endorsement review of new AC members

Kris Maschiana-resigned via letter

Moved to Nominate Nikki Bruckner

Nikki Bruckner temporarily appointed to the Unalakleet AC member seat.

Art Ivanoff: I like the idea of the city holding the elections.

Milton Cheemuk: Could we nominate people for the seat?

Carmen Daggett: You can nominate people from the villages.

Henry Oyoumick: The IRA is going to be having their annual meeting soon.

I think Milton is suggesting.

Art Ivanoff: Maybe we can temporary fill the seat

Carmen Daggett: Inquires about wanting someone at this meeting.

Scott Kent: Inquires about if Nikki is ok because she is my seasonal employee.

Art Ivanoff: We never really had elections before because of funding.

Carmen Daggett: Inquires about location and levels of where they want elections to take place.

Henry Oyoumick: Do we have documentation that says that Nikki is interested?

Carmen Daggett: Yes we have a letter.

Carmen Daggett: you have one designated seat open right now for Shatoolik.

Henry Oyoumick: I think we should elect her, based on the letter of intent.

Art Ivanoff: Inquires about logistics of elections.

Carmen Daggett: Explains elections advertising. I am little bit concerned with her working for Fish and Game.

Art Ivanoff: I would like to just make a decision and then go from there?

Henry Oyoumick: Motions to nominate Nikki Bruckner

Wade Ryan: Seconded

All in favor Nikki Bruckner

Art Ivanoff: There needs to be a review of processes in elections. This has been problematic for some time.

Carmen Daggett: I think if you wanted to establish by laws and protocols if you want as long as they don't step outside the normal uniform rules of operation.

VII. Approval of past Meeting Minutes

Carmen Daggett: All AC members had these mailed to them a couple of weeks ago.

Carmen Daggett: Explains excerpts are submitted to each board to reduce the amount of paperwork.

Motion to accept: Michael Sookiayak

Seconded: Peter Martin

Question: All Support

Art Ivanoff: it is quite impressive amount of detail and thought, put into these minutes. Thank you.

VIII. Reports

A. Letty Hughes

i. the moose extension proposal for Stebbins/St. Michael area

The BOG is January 2014. That means that it is open for call for proposals. Any AC can put in the proposal. There was a request from the Stebbins and St. Michael people. The current season is Jan 1<sup>st</sup>-31<sup>st</sup> for one antlered bull. The deadline is May 1<sup>st</sup> at 5 pm.

Peter Martin: We have been asking for extensions for the past five years and we haven't been able to go out because of in climate weather and not enough snow. We haven't been able to hunt and we keep asking for extensions. We would like see getting January to the middle of February a month and a half amount of time for hunting.

Letty Hughes: One of our suggestions is having a new extended seasons from December 1<sup>st</sup> to January 31<sup>st</sup>, a two month season with the same bag limit.

Milton Cheemuk: Depending on the weather we cannot even get across to go and shoot them.

Henry Oyoumick: What is counted and what we are allowed to catch. In Unalakleet we are allowed a certain amount.

Letty Hughes: The central part of 22A is given 22. The harvest ticket is issued because of the low numbers of moose in comparison to the Unalakleet area.

Peter Martin: At the last meeting we talked about an antlerless moose hunt with Mr. Gorn. We would like to have an antlerless moose hunt. That is why I want to figure out when the proposal deadline is. This has come up before the federal advisory council.

Art Ivanoff: I am not sure what you have for federal lands near Stebbins, St. Michael and Stebbins are a lot of state lands. St. Michael needs to draft a proposal and it is something that the AC can support. One of the problems is because of the data because we don't have a moose count for the southern portion of Southern Norton Sound.

Art Ivanoff: We were discussing getting information on maximizing the opportunity. We drafted up a letter and we held back that letter. The letter was going to be sent to Senator Olson regarding for the need for additional resources for surveying. Maybe we can get St. Michael and Stebbins, to put for the proposal and it is something we can support.

Peter Martin (head up moose proposal): My understanding is we need more information to make decisions to allow hunting to take place.

Art Ivanoff: We need to get the legislation to allocate the money.

Michael Sookiayak: Would you consider staggered openings. I.e. on even years open in December and odd years open in January or vice versa

Milton Cheemuk : We cannot predict the weather.

Art Ivanoff: Inquires about the overall harvest numbers for that region.

Letty Hughes: I will get that information for you, I don't have them.

Art Ivanoff: we are looking for enough opportunity for St. Michael to engage.

I did want to talk about the musk ox in our region. For a potential musk ox hunt for the Unalakleet meeting.

Letty Hughes: The population is part of the Seward Peninsula and would have to be addressed through a proposal to the board.

Wade Ryan (Musk ox contact): It would be a Tier II lottery hunt?

Carmen Daggett: I am wondering for who the contacts are for each of these tasks.

Art Ivanoff: St. Michael: Milton Cheemuk and Wade Ryan

Carmen Daggett: Explains submittal processes for the proposals.

Art Ivanoff: Maybe this would be good

Letty Hughes: Please work with us to get historical records and additional information to make a good proposal.

Carmen Daggett: handed out business cards especially to proposal contact AC members.

Break Time Resume: 14:36

Art Ivanoff: There has been an effort to survey moose, but it has not happened yet because of the conditions.

B. Scott Kent

- i. Southern Norton Sound stock assessment changes (i.e., end of test fishery projects) for 2013
  - a. We have suspended the Unalakleet test net fishery since 2007 the utility of the data has declined. More recently with collecting data from the Unalakleet Weir. As I have become the sole manager of the commercial fishery in Norton Sound. I have relied very little on the test net fishery. It is a better use of state funds to use escapement management. As the king runs go away, there will be a few elders that won't benefit from the test nets. Hopefully someone can fill that decline. There will be a few individuals won't be happy about the removal of the net provided for by the test fishery. Hopefully there will people will feed the elders.

Art Ivanoff: It reduces king mortality.

Scott Kent: What are we going to do with the money saved from the test net fishery. In the short term the plan is taking a chief operational role on the North River Tower. There would be a Fish and Game crew leader with NSEDC interns. There have been four employees hired by NSEDC at the tower and the weir. The plan is for everyone to know everyone's job. We would like to take more of an operational role at the tower.

Milton Cheemuk: Inquires about the number of workers at the tower.

Scott Kent: Explains the crew at the tower from NSEDC and those employees have been working at the tower.

Milton Cheemuk: Is the school involved?

Scott Kent: No at NSEDC and Fish and Game and the employees has to be over 18. They have curfew restrictions and have to be supervised actively.

Michael Sookiayak: What is the department's stance on enhancement?

Scott Kent: We have a reinitiated RPT project in Shaktoolik, Unalakleet and White Mountain. The Department stance is we don't get in the way unless there is an attachment to the wild stocks. The enhancement will be driven by the users. We then need to decide the effects on the wild stocks and if they do affect the wild stocks and it won't get permitted. The mist incubation is experimental. The intent of the program is to develop techniques to see if they work and reintroduce fish in areas where they have been extirpated. We have a priority to manage wild stocks. We are not against or in favor but we have to put a priority on wild stocks.

Michael Sookiayak: We don't have many people hunting beaver. Are we allowed to tear down beaver dams?

Letty Hughes: For beavers, one cannot go in and tear down beaver lodges. We can issue nuisance beaver permits we do that for DOT. You have to harvest the beavers in order to destroy the lodge, there is an open season and there is not a bag limit or harvest season on beavers.

Michael Sookiayak: There are some places we used to use are not available anymore because of the amount of beaver dams that are built up the river. It is a concern of how they are affecting the salmon and all of the other species of fish.

Scott Kent: That has been a very interesting question, has the hydrology has changed so much because of a decline in upwelling and the chum hasn't been there. I have wondered if that is what happened in the Golovin River in the fish river that was the primary input of the Nome chum salmon. That river carries the chum salmon stocks and they declined in the mid-90s and it may be due to habitat destruction.

Henry Oyoumick: Inquires about possible effects of Beaver dams on the salmon.

Scott Kent: Chinook and Coho can jump the beaver dams. There is so much habitat for coho because of the dams. That maybe what is going on. Chums cannot jump the dams. We have seen coho take over whole sections of streams. The Chinook salmon may be an indirect affect.

Art Ivanoff: There a lot of variables that should be taken

Wade Ryan: Explains that there is a small ox bow lake and there is a small population of sockeye salmon because the beavers have damned the river up.

Karen Nanouk: Subsistence, some of it is being misled or seen as serious as it should be. For the commercial fishing and sports fishing we should not be allowed to do that. The people do the subsistence should have priority and they feed their families and their communities.

Scott Kent: We have been interested in a joint project based on what do people want? We have know since the 1980s is when they showed up in this area as it gets warmer and wetter.

Art Ivanoff: That was the last time frame we could get

Scott Kent: The long term goal is to have NSEDC, NVU, and ADF&G run the tower. This will require buy in from the community. We would plan have presence five days a week access at the field office.



Art Ivanoff: We care about Shaktoolik and Unalakleet River systems. We have been pushing the senator to allocate more funding for these processes.

Michael Sookiayak: It is important to have the village representative take part in the data sharing. We would like to see more on the sonar data.

Scott Kent: Explains the logistics and the project report process and we have not received the report from NSEDC to review. We do put the apportioned counts on the radio. We have had staff make visits to the sonar sites. We have not seen the first quick annual report. It takes a long time for sonar to determine if it is reliable data.

Michael Sookiayak: Explains that he understands the new procedures.

Scott Kent: Explains logistics of upstream and downstream movement of fish and how it is calculated on the sonar site. It has next season benefits. The species apportionment is an issue and effects of water quality having on detection. The sonar does not give an in season utility of the fish, it may give you a report card type of response. If you get good sonification of the channel, the species apportionment is the tricky part and how they are affected by high and low water.

Michael Sookiayak: Inquires about having sonar counting sites on the Shaktoolik River. The site brought up is the North Bank area. That might be a good site to set up a sonar project.

Scott Kent: you are going to lose some timeliness of when you are getting the information.

Michael Sookiayak: Explains we have to start somewhere

Scott Kent: The department and NSEDC want to hand it over. We are all about local hire, if this works it could work both ways for you. You have to be careful of what you are wishing for because of what you find.

Michael Sookiayak: It is important to take care of the population as a whole.

Scott Kent: if you want to talk about coho and chum and management of each of the stocks in the Unalakleet and Shaktoolik.

Merlin Henry: We have seven rivers, the Koyuk River is the last place they spawn about 100 miles up. A few years ago maybe three years ago why were the humpies and salmon dying in one of the rivers. Fresh fish flowing down the river, you could cut them up and dry them. Cannot get up the river, when you touch the river it is warm and shallow. There are lot of places up the Koyuk River there is a mining camp King Wood Creek. There are six rivers that salmon and coho go up to spawn. One miner blocked up the river and what happened it closed everything, no salmon go up that river. Now there is nothing but beaver dams going up that creek. There are three big lakes where the salmon spawn. I walked up there in the 1960s and it was nice and clean where the salmon spawn. There has been about 20 years there have been. There are too many subsistence fisherman closing off the Ingallik River. Not much king salmon going through

because of subsistence. They didn't watch what they are doing. They are blocking the river and it is not good because they are putting their nets all the way across the river. I was told by old timers not to set the net all of the way across the river. The young people just do what they want to do.

Art Ivanoff: With the CDQ that is a good opportunities to discuss those sorts of concerns.

ii. Southern Norton Sound salmon outlooks and anticipated commercial harvest ranges for 2013

Scott Kent: Escapement goals have never been lower for Chinook in the North River. The upper bound for the North River goal was increased in 2004. We don't know what the historical harvest rates were. We don't have good historical harvest rates were. The years 1984-1997 the average escapement was %58 since the late nineties they have averaged 25-35% . The average subsistence harvest In 2007-2011 1675 chinook down about 1400 from historical 3000 from the Unalakleet subdistrict . The sport total harvest averaged 315 in 2005-2009 both together total harvest that is down from the historical average of 320. Both subsistence and sport tapered off after 2009. 2011 subsistence harvest was 607 Sport fish harvest in 2010 was 61.

The age composition in 2011-2012 chinook salmon in the Unalakleet River weir and the marine test creek fishery. This provides a very similar comparison between the different mesh sizes The mesh size panels ranged from 6-8 inches in 2012 and the run was dominated by age five Chinook. In 2007 we saw a really high proportion of year 4 salmon. We did not see a good production from the overall brood year. We should have a run dominated by female 6 year old Chinook. Those two years has a similarly poor runs in comparison to this year. We are going to have a run dominated by 6 year old female Chinook.

I am hearing from the AC and the general members of the public, we need to take some severe action now and put some fish in the bank. I think this year the run is going to be bad. The Department is of the same mind frame, this is a season by season. If you look at the North River in 2008 we lost of some of the fish because of the installation problems and also high water so those numbers are not accurate. The aerial survey was done and it was a bad survey too but there was really high recovery numbers, 75%, in comparison to the tower numbers.

In 2011 weir count was higher. This year it is going to be bad this year to make sure that the North River goal is year. We will achieve the escapement goal with whatever we have to do. The Department has proposed some ideas for ideas for dealing with these problems.

Lists possible ideas and what the sport fish must do based on the management plan.

We have a series of options to reduce harvest rates. (listed in the handouts)

1) Restrict subsistence fishing in the ocean to set gillnets with 6 in or less and freshwater to 4.5 inches.

2) Everytime I reduce time in the ocean I need to go to catch and release for sport fishing.

Explains the management plan.

The sport fishing and subsistence fishing need to work together. The sport harvest.

Art Ivanoff: Explains the mortality rates and you don't play with your food. -the tools in the tool box have been ineffective. I don't understand why there is not an option for closing down subsistence and take away sport fishing. I think we need to reexamine the tools in the tool box, as they have been.

Scott Kent: The fear with sport fishing is that once it is gone it is gone. There is no shortage of fish in Nome, but we are in a strict salmon management regime because of the Pilgrim River reds.

Henry Oyoumick: Inquires about the number of fathoms can do in the ocean for subsistence users..

Scott Kent: 50 fathoms is allowed

Henry Oyoumick: The people who really need the fish they cannot get out on the ocean, the ones that need it the most are the most affected. The ones that need it the most cannot get the gas and the boat and motor. Explains the fisherman go out and catch the small fry. They are wondering what kind of fry the commercial fisherman catching. There is an educational part if you are going to have a commercial fishery for dolly varden. All they are getting little ones. The people should be education or reassess the commercial harvest of dolly varden. They are trying to make a living. I am trying to say the commercial fisherman go out for the dolly's they are catching a lot of smolts as bycatch. A lot of their intent is to let them go, but they are barely making it. The fish are barely living on the top of the water. The salmon is not going to make it. If you look at the type of salmon are stuck in the river. If I saw a picture of the species and we need to look at all aspects that affect the return of the species. We are hoping for a higher return and we are also wondering if there is an intercept of the movement of the salmon. We need to look at every little detail of movement. I am trying to emphasize a point, we are looking a species that is endangered, we need to look at every aspect of the survival. The six inch net size. The migration route of the salmon that go North there is no limitation to the movement of fish. We need to look at the whole picture.

Scott Kent: I get your point to look at higher factors of mortality. I need some photographs, we need to identify the catch the number of fish and species of the fish. I would like to work with you if you think if it is a pervasive persistent problem. If there are coho you might want to catch more. The Chinook mortality rate with fish caught catch and release fishery was 8-10% with bait and lure caught fish.

Art Ivanoff: We need to have a research project looking at the mortality rates. There are some measures that we could take to get larger kings to the spawning grounds.

Scott Kent: I am trying to point you in the direction of efforts that are going to bear the most fruit. The metrics for chum incidental catch is .32%, the chum

fishery is procured in July. Throw ideas around about research project potential. We need to throw in some ideas about using the weir.

Wade Ryan: Everyone is afraid is going to lose the kings.

Scott Kent: If that is what you want to do. We are going to see everything shut down. We are almost to that point, until we get a good brood year.

Scott Kent: There were around 5-18 nets river. Bebeck said he saw 30 nets in the river last year. We have tried to curtail the in river subsistence river fishery which is 20-25% of the subsistence fishery. That is only from the test next down. We have tried curtailing the in river set net fishery. The last bit is out there do we put the fish in the bank and go commercial chum fishery.

Art Ivanoff: Inquires about applying the methods used for the moose moratorium and shutting down the fishery.

Scott Kent: It is better to come from you guys than with me there is more compliance if it comes from you guys. I am looking at the management plan where there is a place for subsistence fishery open and sport fishery closed.

Michael Sookiayak: Maybe we need to do this. We are getting to that point it is getting that serious.

Art Ivanoff: What is the subsistence obligation for the state.

Scott Kent: Sport fish you are limited by take.

Scott Kent: Suggests there are no times when we have a sport fishery closed and the subsistence fishing is open.

Art Ivanoff: Before we allow sports fishing we should have x number of fish up the river, applying escapement goals to the sport fishing. We would like to close down the river at the mouth and shut down sports fishing to meet our conservation concerns. If we are going to allow sports fishing we should make our escapement goals.

Scott Kent: I understand that it is very popular idea for shutting down the sport fishery, but it is not going to be approved by the board because it would go against the regulation.

Scott Kent: Explains emergency closures and how the process works.

Scott Kent: Wants public input

Scott Kent: what do you think is the best venue for looking at salmon management plans.

Wade Ryan: Explains what the public wants, which people want to make sure there are enough fish up river.

Art Ivanoff: I think we should go with the emergency order. I think we need to make sacrifices. I think there is a need for additional measures, such as these.

Scott Kent: I need to do something in the ocean than I have done in past years. I think we need to encourage the use of different species. I think subsistence is going to be effected, I don't like it.

Wade Ryan: I think the subsistence users would understand.

Scott Kent: I want to see what the least evils are.

Henry Oyoumick: I like number 3 option in the packet.

Art Ivanoff: I like three as well as long as you strike out the one Chinook. The burden has been placed on our fisherman. We hit when it comes to conservation. Others that don't live here should have to pay the price for conservation.

Henry Oyoumick: I am going to take back my opinion on number 3. There should be six inch next in the river. There are some people who are going to be highly restricted. I think 6" mesh should be allowed in the river.

Scott Kent: I like that, I can work with that.

Henry Oyoumick: Sport Fish could catch one based on if the escapement goal is met.

Michael Sookiayak: This will affect future generations getting fish. We have to get numbers. If it means a self-imposed moratorium, it might need to be assessed.

Milton Cheemuk: it is going to affect everyone, but something down the line might sprout. We don't know.

Scott Kent: We don't have the numbers.

Henry Oyoumick: What is the Northern Norton Sound opinion? They need to buy into this.

Scott Kent: The Northern Norton Sound deferred to you because they are not targeting kings. The Chinook reports are really low. We have not restricted Golovin and Elim.

Henry Oyoumick: They are getting kings up there. They said on facebook they got 100 kings in one night.

Henry Oyoumick: Questions about disease in the fish we are still seeing some lesions.

Scott Kent: I'll have get that information to you. We were looking for the presence of ictophomous.

Henry Oyoumick: The fisherman on the point are still getting fish with lesions.

Scott Kent: We want to get samples of fish if they have lesions or look sick. Don't freeze them and send them to me freight collect.

Art Ivanoff: This a good dialogue, and this is important to analyze the tools in the tool box.

Henry Oyoumick: If you give the fisherman money they will send you the fish otherwise they are not going to do it.

Scott Kent: We are looking for samples of the fish.

Scott Kent: Asks Michael Sookiayak, inquires about in river fishing in Shaktoolik.

Michael Sookiayak: Most of the people that I have talked with are pretty receptive towards conservation concerns for future generations. They would be receptive to that. I think if they realize it will allow for future generations to have or use the same resources as we currently have they will eventually follow what is purposed by the ADF&G.

Scott Kent: Inquires about putting Shaktoolik on the freshwater schedule.

Scott Kent: Inquires about nets in the river if they shut the ocean down.

Michael Sookiayak: There might be a few, but not many.

Scott Kent: I like the idea of having a 6" mesh, to allow some set net opportunity to allow elders with small boats. I will take that under serious advisement.

Henry Oyoumick: The public has a lot more concern about renewable resources. A lot better than the government does with budgets.

Scott Kent: There is a silver lining is there may be some benefit to the commercial fisherman, put some kings in the bank and more aggressively fish towards chum earlier. There is a trade off, we have never done this before. We are not fishing all the time and waiting for the last pulse of fish. That is all I have for Chinook management.

Scott Kent: Chum salmon sub districts 5&6 are lumped, I am forecasting a harvest range of 40,000—60,000 with Unalakleet and Shaktoolik together. The early July strategy is to have index openings with windows of 24-36 hours unless the goal is projected to be met then we will go with a more aggressive schedule of 2-48s with an extended periods possible and we will make that final schedule decision by mid-July as our cutoff date. I am thinking 20,000 Shaktoolik with 30,000-40,000 in Unalakleet. I think if we could put the fish in the bank early we can open earlier. Subdistricts 5 & 6 commercial 20,000-30,000 is going to be an average run, I would just bank on having crappy weather. We will use coho catch and decrease we will go with 48 hour openers salmon with a more aggressive schedule if we get to escapement at the North River we will commit to

the schedule of 2-48s a week and we are at the peak of the run. That is what I am have been doing. I would say status quo on coho. If you have good weather people go fishing and take advantage of you opportunities. I think Norton Bay is going to be ground zero. I think that this year is going to be a good year in Koyuk. I think record chums take are going to be 15,000-20000 and tenders are going to get there early. Can start as soon as June 24<sup>th</sup>. Last year we set a record and we are going to do it again this year. The chum run looks as good as it was last year.

Art Ivanoff: we were really engaging to get more local fisherman to have more time to harvest, the other question with the commercial fishery of harvest 20,000-30000. Inquires about sport fish in comparison to commercial fishing. Inquires about escapement goals and release

Scott Kent: Averaged 4800 chum salmon take between residents and non-residents.

Art Ivanoff: Inquires about having sport fisherman start at a later date.

- iii. Unalakleet River weir update  
2013 Staffing and operations. There are going to be one NVU technicians, NSEDC technician and the crew leader. BLM is really hurting on the funds because of the sequester. The 2011 draft report has been submitted to OSM. The OSM investigation plan and funding request to continue funding for the weir \$450,000 over four years.

Henry Oyoumick: Inquires the hours that the surveys take place.

Scott Kent: We count 24 hours a day we go out for 20 minutes count and then go back into the cabin. We have been getting a few complaints about the weir. Larry built a whole new boat gate for the weir. We will drop the boat gate down a bit. The plan is to get rid of the tow rope entirely. We are going to put lights around the boat gate to provide assistance and better signs. We can move the boat gate. The plan is to try the gate mechanism out and think about operating during the moose season. If we don't keep the gate open we might have a ew local residents will lose employment opportunities. We have a really good couple of employees they are fantastic. The weir in 2011 we had two days that we were knocked over whereas the tower was knocked out several days. The weir provides very accurate counts and it doesn't go down for long.

#### BOF Changes Affecting Norton Sound

Scott Kent: Open seine 4.5 inches and less in subdistricts 5&6. The new regulation requires all king salmon are to be released immediately or by E.O. The board wants to save as many Chinook as possible.

Wade Ryan: inquires if we are stuck to July 1<sup>st</sup>.

Scott Kent: Or by E.O. , I think this season is going to be open earlier than in the last two years makes a little more orderly subsistence fishery.

- Commercial fishing of pink salmon gear were liberalized to 200 fathoms in Norton Sound. It is up to 200 fathoms open. It depends on the king salmon.
- Sub districts 5&6 King Salmon management plan there is a marine mesh size trigger that reduces the sport fish and annual possession to one and reduces time and mesh. We have language defining triggers for commercial pink and chum salmon seasons that open before July 1<sup>st</sup>. It is based off of what the king salmon escapement is going to be. We have some flexibility for E.O. open.
- Customary Trade: They increased the amount of customary trade from \$200 annually to \$500.

## IX. Proposals

### **Joint Board Proposals**

#### A. Advisory Committee Rules of Operation

9-18

Art Ivanoff: There is a real need for some of the ACs to come in front of the joint board with recommendations to make it really work for villages.

Discussion regarding the prioritization of discussion of the different proposals.

Michael Sookiayak: Inquires about having an additional representative from Shaktoolik.

Art Ivanoff: Explained he has talked with Monica Wellard there is a real need for some of the ACs to get together the day before the Joint Board meeting to come up with some recommendations to make improvements in the AC processes. It is appropriate to fine tune this process to fine tune it for rural Alaska.

Carmen Daggett: Reads proposals for discussion.

Proposal 9: Movement of election times from January to July.

Discussion: Wade Ryan: There needs to be uniform methodology for elections when putting all of this together.

Don't want to discuss

Proposal 10: no comment

Proposal 11: no comment

Proposal 12:

Wade Ryan: Does this just concern the Anchorage AC.

Art Ivanoff: Look at the person who wrote the proposal Alaska Wildlife Alliance

I think proposal 12 is an interesting proposal who is a subsistence user, we don't have sport hunters or sport fishers, it says the Anchorage AC. Not pertinent at all.

Abstain



Proposal 13: Abstain

Proposal 14: Inquires about having IRA being the established election of AC members.

Michael Sookiayak: Inquires about a standard operating procedures for elections in towns for ACs in the past.

Peter Martin: says that elections should go through IRA and the city doesn't have anything to do with that.

Art Ivanoff: Explains the segregations of communities between City and IRA that would allow elections to represent the people as a whole not just a segment of the population.

Michael Sookiayak: Explains that there are a lot of people that are involved in both the city and the tribe.

Art Ivanoff: I am just thinking about a fair election process to include the whole of the people.

Wade Ryan: didn't you say before that the city is the only one to certify elections.

Carmen Daggett: I have never seen anything for certifying the elections for the ACs.

Scott Kent: Explains that having the city bring in different logistics.

Carmen Daggett: I think that the ideal situation for having elections for the AC seats that include both the city and IRA.

Carmen Daggett: Said look at the number at the people at the AC meeting today. And the

Wade Ryan: City for municipal

Michael Sookiayak: I think it should be left up to the cities.

Milton Cheemuk: Leave it for each village to decide how they want to do the elections.

#### **Motion to abstain**

Proposal 15: Motion to support proposal 15

Seconded:

Discussion:

Art Ivanoff: This makes this more complicated and more technical.

Michael Sookiayak: I don't know if we should really disregard this. I think we should take it into consideration. Now we have the chance this may come back to haunt us. We don't want to have decisions and processes going through the Joint Board.

Michael Sookiayak: I think this will come up again.

Art Ivanoff: If the community is comfortable with a person for a seat why would we need to go to the board and it just adds another layer of complexity.

-Henry Oyoumick: no

Karen Nanuok: opposing this will save you red tape later.

-Wade Ryan no

Michael Sookiayak- abstain

Merlin Henry-no

Art Ivanoff-no

Milton Cheemuk-no

**Motion fails 0-5**

Proposal 16 abstain

Proposal 17: Henry Oyoumick: no need for action

Art Ivanoff: I would like to vote in favor of this proposal, I like the idea of having some things layed out of what we can and cannot do.

Proposal 18: Abstain.

Wade Ryan: we have a good committee, that this is not a problem.

B. Advisory Committee Membership Qualification  
19-21

Proposal 19: Motion to support the proposal

Motion fail, one support

Henry Oyoumick: no

Peter Martin: no

Merlin Henry: no

Art Ivanoff: no

Wade Ryan: no

Michael Sookiayak: no

Motion fails.

Proposal 20:

Milton Cheemuk: Motion to not support

Discussion: Inquires about who Heuer is?

Henry Oyoumick: Explains new members should demonstrate knowledge of all Alaska  
Consistution

Seconded: Henry Oyoumick

Question: unanimous consent

Proposal 21: Motion to not support

Seconded: Michael Sookiayak

It is really hard to get AC members to participate and if we further restrict ourselves we may be  
further restricting.

Henry Oyoumick: I like the idea for not supporting.

Question:

Unanimous consent

Motion carries to not support

C. Advisory Committee Active status, function & Staff Assistance  
22-24

Abstained from voting

D. Adoption of Fish and Game Regulations  
25-27

Abstained from voting

E. Advisory Committee Participation at Board Meetings  
28-29

**Proposal 28:** Carmen Daggett: Reads proposal to AC.

Carmen Daggett: Explains the current procedures of giving public comments at the BOF and  
BOG meetings.

Motion to support, ALL SUPPORT, I like this idea.

Art Ivanoff: this is a great proposal.

Scott Kent: Explains the lobbying that goes between the board members and the other  
participants.

Art Ivanoff: I like this idea, how many times have we had a chance to look at the ACC? There is  
a real need for education to occur. There should be some motions and processes. We don't  
always know what some of this stuff means. Without knowing the tools in the tool box we are  
missing out on abilities to represent our communities.

Carmen Daggett: I think you need to make the most of the budget that you do have.

**Proposal 29:**

Henry Oyoumick: Explains comparison to the previous proposal.

Carmen Daggett: Explains that the chairman is specified as the representative. Proposal 28 is more liberal and 29 is less so.

Henry Oyoumick: Motion to abstain from proposal 29.

**Unanmious consent abstain.**

**Motion carries.**

F. Regional Councils

30-32

G. Subsistence Uses & Procedures

33-37

**Proposal 33: Motion to support**

Art Ivanoff: We don't even want to go through the amount necessary for subsistence.

Scott Kent: Explains ANS and the harvestable surplus. I agree with you totally.

Art Ivanoff: I think we are all in line I think we don't like the idea.

**All Opposed**

**Question: Motion fails**

Karen Nanouk: I would like to say that back in my parent days meetings like this meetings would last forever, and you guys are refusing to listen and that is probably why there aren't coming to these meetings. I think everyone should be able give their input.

Art Ivanoff: Thank you Karen

**Proposal 34: Motion to support**

**Motion fails**

Art Ivanoff: I like the idea of local control versus BOF and BOG

Unanimous consent

**Proposal 35: Motion to support**

Art Ivanoff: Comments this is from the Alaska Outdoor Council

Wade Ryan: inquires about what non-subsistence users are

Art Ivanoff: what is defined as an alien

Scott Kent: Do you want some more information about the Alaska Outdoor Council?

Art Ivanoff: They have been unfriendly towards natives

Seconded: Merlin Henry

Scott Kent: Explains if you are an Alaska resident you are considered a subsistence user.

All oppose

Motion fails

**Proposal 36: Motion to support**

Subsistence needs to be revisited. It is based on rural and NOT native.

Scott Kent: domiciled in Alaska means they just live anywhere in Alaska.

Henry Oyoumick: I need to think about this some more. What are the implications before that.

Art Ivanoff: Inquires if we are going to meet before September 25<sup>th</sup>.

Carmen Daggett: We are all here now, and we don't know what funding is going to be like next year. I am not sure if you are going to be able to meet before September 25<sup>th</sup>. I guess my recommendation, is to ask questions and figured out.

Henry Oyoumick: I think the constitution needs to be revisited to emphasize subsistence to benefit rural Alaska.

Scott Kent: Explains subsistence hunts.

Art Ivanoff: Explains that the constitution. The Alaska Outdoor Council wrote this proposal they are not for us. I think that gives us a good indication of if we should vote for this proposal or not.

Scott Kent: Explains people in Anchorage have other places to get food than "subsistence hunt for sockeye"

Seconded:

Question:

Unanimous consent to oppose

Motion Fails

**Proposal 37: Milton Cheemuk: Move to support**

Art Ivanoff: I see the need for barter and trade and I am not sure we want to change it.

Scott Kent: We already have customary trade on the books up to \$500. This would make customary trade illegal. Doing customary trade is to allowed

Henry Oyoumick: Inquires why Milton Cheemuk would want to support this proposal.

Scott Kent: Further explains the proposal.

Milton Cheemuk: I over saw the motion, Disregard my motion.

Scott Kent: There are lots of people who wear many hats in villages, this would exclude a lot of people.

Move to not support: Michael Sookiayak

Seconded:

**Question: with unanimous consent oppose**

**Motion fails to support the proposal**

**Proposal 38: Art Ivanoff: Again look at the author**

**Wade Ryan: I don't like this one.**

**Motion to not support**

**Unanimous decision to not support**

Proposal 39: abstain from voting

Proposal 40: abstain from voting

H. Non Subsistence Areas

38-41

X. Public Comment

XI. Other

A. Magneson-Stevens Act

Art Ivanoff: Had some discussions with Mark Begich. We have asked to be included for the MSA for the tribal representation on the NPMC and other one for funding for tribal consultation. The system is so skewed toward industry that whatever is the interest of the bottom line carries. We are hoping that folks from the AYK have been included for concern. We have been working on Senator Begich for inclusion in those processes. We may have hearing in May or June to include AYK representatives. We have been working with NGOs for example with the oral testimony for the Shamshug Canyons.

Wade Ryan was also invited to participate in meetings internationally about drilling in the Arctic. It is good to see the native community out advocating for conservation.

B. Michael Sookiayak: I like what this AC supports. I was happy for the bottom trawlers not come this far north.

Carmen Daggett: inquires about any additional things I can do to make these meetings better and smoother?

Wade Ryan: You are doing a good job.

Carmen Daggett: Explains sheefish lectures in Kotzebue and also the Inuit Food Security project with ICC Alaska.

XII. Motion to Adjourn 6:00 pm.