

**MINUTES**  
**Alaska Resource Advisory Council Meeting**  
ORCA Lodge, Cordova & Bering Glacier Camp  
August 10 & 12, 2005

**Wednesday, August 10, 2005 (ORCA Lodge)**

**Council members present:**

Tom Crafford, Chair  
Suzanne McCarthy  
Susan Olsen  
June McAtee  
Jim Posey  
Greg Beischer  
Charlie Boddy  
Keith Tryck

**BLM representatives present:**

Henri Bisson, State Director  
Garth Olson, acting manager, Glennallen Field Office  
Gary Reimer, manager, Anchorage Field Office  
Bob Schneider, manager, Fairbanks District Office  
Danielle Allen, RAC coordinator, Alaska State Office  
Wendy Longtin, RAC recorder, Alaska State Office  
Helen Crow, Anchorage Field Office  
Bruce Rogers, Glennallen Field Office  
Marnie Graham, Glennallen Field Office  
Scott Guyer, Bering Glacier facilities manager

**Others present:**

Rachel James, Alaska Coalition  
Bill Lucey, City & Borough of Yakutat/ Yakutat Salmon Board  
Melissa Blair, Alaska Coalition  
Gabriel Scott, Cascadia Wildlands Project  
Clark Pearson, Native Village of Eyak  
Kaila Hawley, Native Village of Eyak  
Bruce Cain, Native Village of Eyak

**Council members absent:** Phil Driver, Sandra Key, David van den Berg, Teresa Imm, Randy Frank, Larry Taylor

**Chair Tom Crafford called the meeting to order at 2:25 p.m.** (Meeting was scheduled to start at 10 a.m., but was delayed due to weather that grounded RAC members' air transportation from Anchorage to Cordova.)

**The council reviewed and accepted the meeting agenda items, with the understanding that because of the delay, the agenda may be adjusted to accommodate speakers' schedules.**

**The council postponed approval of the April 2005 RAC meeting minutes until Friday morning to give council members' more review time.**

**Scott Guyer, BLM natural resource specialist/Bering Glacier camp facilities manager, Bering Glacier Presentation:**

Handouts:

- Camp photo
- Bering Glacier 2005 RAC Meeting and Field Trip booklet

Guyer briefly explained the history of the Bering Glacier camp, which USGS began operating in the early 1990s to support its documentation and studies of the surge (1993-95). In 1993, USGS asked the BLM to become involved with the glacial surge research. The state director tasked a team to evaluate the Bering Glacier as a site for future study. In 1998, USGS relinquished responsibility for the camp area and the BLM picked up the permit from the State of Alaska (the camp is on state land while most research areas are on BLM-managed land).

Scientists from 12 different universities have conducted research in the Bering Glacier ecosystem with support from the BLM camp.

There are two student programs – a university program and an Anchorage school district partnership, where 3-4 paid students shadow scientists and produce a narrative of their experience at the end of the season. Guyer suggested that council members read student Nicole Simpson's narrative in the back of the Bering Glacier booklet.

Guyer is the camp's facilities manager, which is a responsibility shared with BLM intelligence imagery and spatial analyst Chris Noyles. The facilities manager is responsible for camp set-up and take-down including food, equipment, heaters, tents, flight schedules, budget/accounting/finances, etc.

Overall BLM cost to operate the camp (food, lodging, aircraft/boat transportation and fuel) is about \$200,000, with about 70 % of that cost from aviation alone. Food costs are relatively small at \$12/person per day.

Guyer gave the council field trip guidelines and what to expect overnighting at the Bering Glacier camp and emphasized camp safety. The camp's emergency response plan is posted on the chalk board. He also mentioned that one of the high school students interning at the camp recently lost her brother in the Iraq war. There's a memorial at the camp for him. Although she has returned to Anchorage, Guyer said the death has impacted everyone at the camp and asked that visitors be sensitive.

Thursday's schedule includes an afternoon helicopter tour to sites on and near the glacier, boat tour to view harbor seals on icebergs, a glacier history presentation by guest speaker Jay Fleischer of the State University of New York, and fireside chat with scientists at the camp.

### **Questions/Discussion:**

Council member Greg Beischer asked if BLM recouped some of the costs of operating the camp from the users (researchers and students). Currently, BLM does not charge per diem for those staying at the camp. When researchers ask to come out to camp, they must secure funding for their work. Guyer talked briefly about BLM's funding for camp operation and maintenance using

Challenge Cost Share (CCS) dollars. As budgets tighten, competition for CCS funding is expected to increase and non-traditional programs such as the Bering Glacier may need to look elsewhere for funding. Universities and other agencies have secured more than \$7 million for scientific work since 2001. BLM State Director Henri Bisson noted that the council and camp staff will continue this discussion on Friday morning at the camp.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD, 3-4 P.M.**

##### **Rachel James, Alaska Coalition:**

James thanked the RAC for taking interest in some of the finest public lands in the state. Her main objective in talking to the RAC was to express concern regarding the BLM's d-1 withdrawal report to Congress (See the following website for more information: [http://www.blm.gov/nhp/spotlight/state\\_info/highlights/ak/207report/index.html](http://www.blm.gov/nhp/spotlight/state_info/highlights/ak/207report/index.html))

She received the BLM's information packet and maps. As a member of the public, James is concerned that stakeholders won't have enough time to decipher maps and give feedback regarding d-1 withdrawals in the given deadline. She said the information is a challenge to understand and BLM should consider using the Resource Management Plan (RMP) process to evaluate withdrawals. A good example was the evaluation of the pipeline/utility corridor PLO 5150 (Public Land Order) in the East Alaska RMP.

##### **Questions/Discussion:**

Bisson noted that the tight turnaround on the report is a requirement of Congress. Regarding East Alaska RMP, Bisson said that some content from the report may be used in the RMP.

James was pleased with the Research Natural Area recommendation for the Bering Glacier in the draft East Alaska RMP.

Council member Charlie Boddy thanked James for getting information to the Ring of Fire workgroup and he wants to meet with James and the other Ring of Fire workgroup members (Sandra Key, Jim Posey).

Council member Susan Olsen said the decision where withdrawals are lifted requires the RMP process.

Bisson said that nothing is final when the report goes back to Congress (June 2006). The report is a first step.

##### **Bill Lucey, City and Borough of Yakutat/Yakutat Salmon Board:**

As a member of the Yakutat community and a representative for commercial fishermen, Lucey expressed his concerns that BLM actions affect his community and its livelihood. He wants the BLM to keep the community informed. The area already has many activities including commercial fishing, timber and cruise ship industries. Lucey doesn't want oil and gas activity if

some withdrawals are lifted because of possible negative impacts on commercial fishing. Lucey inquired about the report and planning process. Lucey said that the community didn't find out about the East Alaska RMP until the spring and they felt left out.

**Questions/Discussion:**

Bisson suggested that Lucey review the East Alaska RMP and provide comments. Some East Alaska RMP information will be included in the d-1 withdrawal report to Congress. He also noted that much of the Bering Glacier area, which Lucey is concerned about, is proposed to be a Research Natural Area. Withdrawals could be lifted, but there may not be oil and gas interest there.

Lucey asked that the BLM keep the community of Yakutat informed.

**Gabriel Scott, Cascadia Wildlands Project, Cordova:**

Scott welcomed the RAC to Cordova and expressed his interest in preserving the Bering Glacier area. He urged the council to look at the areas where withdrawals are proposed to be lifted and asked that the council support designating the area as wilderness.

Scott also emphasized the importance of the Copper River watershed, partially managed by BLM, and it deserves a lot more respect than it has received in the East Alaska RMP. He said salmon is the most important thing to Cordova. The entire town agrees on that. Scott said that his organization's comments in support of proposals for Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) on BLM lands on the Copper River were ignored. He said he attended four East Alaska RMP scoping meetings and the public agreed that the watershed is vital and should be protected. Scott said that sometime in April, he found out that the ACEC proposals were removed from the plan without explanation. He was surprised that there wasn't even a mention of the ACECs or spawning grounds in the draft. Scott urged the RAC to keep in mind that the Copper River watershed is important.

Scott commented on the public involvement process. He said that when a public meeting is called, a sincere public process needs to be priority and that the public process is not happening to the degree it needs to be. Scott said that the East Alaska RMP public process started out really well, with two meetings in every town. But at some point, he said, things fell apart. He wants to know why and emphasized that the BLM needs to be reminded of the importance of the public process.

**Melissa Blair, Alaska Coalition, wildlands policy analyst:**

Prior to joining the Alaska Coalition, Blair worked for the BLM Anchorage Field Office on the Bay and Ring of Fire plans identifying special values in rivers and their suitability for special designations.

Blair briefed the council on identifying outstanding or remarkable values of rivers during resource management planning. Basically, rivers are evaluated for scenic, recreational,

archeological, etc. values and ranked on a scale of 1-5 (common-exemplary). She emphasized that land managers have an opportunity to preserve these values and make some designations to protect them. She is concerned with the way the evaluation was presented in the East Alaska RMP. The BLM had identified 25 rivers as having outstanding or remarkable values, but the way it is presented in the draft East Alaska RMP, an extension of the Gulkana River is the only consideration (and that's if the land management is retained by the federal government). Blair is concerned that the other 24 rivers were dropped from the plan. She said cumulative impacts weren't even considered if designation was pursued or not. Blair asked what BLM would do if any Native corporations of the state were to relinquish these rivers. There needed to be some sort of consideration for management alternatives, either Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC), special values, wild and scenic. As the East Alaska RMP is going to set precedent, Blair asked if there was any way to reevaluate the suitability factor in the land management plans.

### **Questions/Discussion:**

Bisson confirmed with Blair that the Alaska Coalition submitted those concerns during the public comment period and assured her that the BLM will address those comments.

Olsen said her understanding is that more than 1 million acres (BLM unencumbered lands, state and Native selected lands) could end up in BLM hands because of overselection. Olsen reiterated James' point that BLM needs to be forward-thinking and evaluate what rivers are suitable for special designation, such as wild and scenic.

Bisson said BLM's dilemma is that until final land conveyance, nobody knows which acres are going to be managed by BLM and the agency can't commit to acreage numbers at this point. He added that the BLM should know more about the state's priorities in a month or so.

Blair said that from her review of the East Alaska plan, it appears that river suitability on the 24 rivers that were dropped was a closed matter. She urged the council to support the BLM in taking a consistent approach to river management for the recreation and enjoyment of all.

Boddy asked Blair how to rate a river's suitability. Blair said that the river is researched and rated on the 1-5 scale to determine eligibility, and then if a river is eligible it can lead to special designation. Blair added that the suitability analysis takes into account cost-effectiveness, support and other factors to make a final decision in the Record of Decision (ROD). Bisson added that you also have to consider if the BLM manages or will manage enough of the river to go forward with designation.

Boddy inquired about the Colville River and possible special designations. Bisson said that the BLM will consider the entire Colville River and make a call in the National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska South plan.

Posey asked about the status of the Unalakleet River (which the RAC visited in 2004). Blair said that 81 miles of the Unalakleet are designated Wild and Scenic.

Bisson said that if the council is interested in more discussion of river suitability we could get staff to attend a future meeting. Bisson added that the BLM's job is going to be a lot easier when the conveyance process is finished. Until then, the BLM is really working with "what if?" situations.

## **STATE DIRECTOR'S UPDATE:**

Handout:

- Major Issues paper, August 2005

### Washington Staff Tours

This summer Bisson hosted a number of Alaska tours to BLM-managed lands for BLM Washington Office staff, including BLM Director Kathleen Clarke. He added that a major archaeological find from National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska will be profiled in Nature magazine in the fall (likely November).

### Energy Bill

The energy bill signed earlier this week contains provisions important to the BLM, especially BLM Alaska:

- flexibility in National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska leasing
- creation of NSSI oversight and science advisory panel (authorizes funding, not appropriations yet)
- remedial action on abandoned mines

### Alaska Natural Gas Pipeline

The Federal Energy Regulatory Committee is the lead agency for the Alaska natural gas pipeline project. The BLM is a cooperating agency. Bisson said he wants BLM perceived as part of the solution in getting the project going and an interagency MOU is close to being signed.

### Northeast National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska

Washington Office senior staff are reviewing the ROD for the Northeast National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska plan. Bisson is unsure when it will be signed.

### d-1 Withdrawals/Section 207 Report to Congress

Maps and information packages were mailed out to stakeholders and are available to the public. Comment period ends Sept. 15. Bisson added that the BLM is willing to sit down with anyone to explain and clarify the process. Because the BLM is under a tight deadline to finish the report, the public comment period will not be extended.

### Legacy Wells

J.W. Dalton work is finished. The BLM is evaluating other legacy wells threatened by erosion on the coast and the eastern part of Teshekpuk Lake.

### Other

- number of Recordable Disclaimers of Interest (RDI) applications were signed
- the Northern Field Office has reorganized to become the Fairbanks **District** Office with three field offices – Arctic Field Office, Central Yukon Field Office and the Eastern Interior Field Office, which will remain stationed in the FDO building.
- Council member Susan Olsen asked about regulation changes regarding Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). Bisson said that there's a new departmental handbook, but the regulations are no different than what the bureau already does. In general, local governments or tribes can request cooperating agency status. Those arrangements will result in specific MOUs on how each entity will behave, which reinforces the BLM and DOI commitment to include parties that affected by its management decisions. The North Slope Borough is close to becoming a cooperating agency for the National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska. It gives them an opportunity to help shape the plan.
- 2.2 million acres have burned in Alaska so far this season

### **INTRODUCTION OF EAST ALASKA RMP RESOLUTIONS (SUSAN OLSEN):**

#### Handouts:

- Resolution One: Utility Corridor/Subsistence Use
- Resolution Two: Additional Closure

#### **Resolution Two: Additional Closure:**

Olsen explained that the “additional closure” resolution regarding the East Alaska RMP is support for non-motorized recreation opportunities to be included in BLM planning. The first part of the resolution urges the BLM to close off additional acreage to ensure opportunities for nonmotorized winter recreation. The second part of the resolution addresses the possible utility corridor transfer to the State of Alaska and how that would impact nonmotorized recreation opportunities. If the corridor is transferred, three of the four proposed Special Recreation Management Areas (SRMAs – Delta River, Delta Range and Tiekel) would be eliminated. If that happens, the resolution recommends that the BLM initiate a new RMP to ensure that the final plan contains suitable winter and summer recreational opportunities for nonmotorized users.

#### **Questions/Discussion:**

Bruce Rogers, BLM lead planner for the East Alaska RMP, noted that the travel management portion of the plan describes implementation levels (step-down plans). In three of the SRMAs, the BLM's intent is to manage specific trails for nonmotorized use. Alternatives C and D of the East Alaska RMP have proposed a Special Recreation Management Area (SRMA) for the unencumbered BLM lands straddling the Richardson Highway through the Delta Range. Part of the SRMA would include a glaciated area that is popular with backcountry skiers and mountaineers. This area is proposed as non-motorized and includes portions of the Canwell, Fels,

and Augustana glaciers. The BLM received 15-20 comments on the Draft RMP that supported adding the McCallum Creek drainage to this non-motorized area. Rogers noted that many skilled snowmachiners frequent the McCallum Creek drainage area because of its challenging terrain.

Olsen added that it's also a place where skiers feel displaced by the snowmachiners.

Bisson asked if the drainage was also in the corridor and Rogers confirmed that it was.

Council member Suzanne McCarthy asked if the nonmotorized designation would be enforceable in that area considering the popularity of Arctic Man. Bisson responded that the Arctic Man offers the BLM an educational opportunity. Rogers said that the boundaries in the draft preferred alternative are based on existing use patterns and level of ability to enforce.

Council member Keith Tryck asked about implications for the corridor. Bisson said that the BLM is certainly going to try and find a balance and is awaiting the State's priorities. Tryck said that there's talk about principles and he wonders why the BLM couldn't just go a little farther up the road to find an area to close. He also asked if the BLM knew of snowmachiners' position on this area.

Rogers said the Alaska Outdoor Council supports no action (alternative A), which can be interpreted that they don't support any closures.

McCarthy said that if the corridor is transferred everything changes. The purpose of this resolution, Olsen said, is that the council should go on record as advising that if the corridor is transferred to the State, the BLM should go back and identify other provisions for nonmotorized recreation.

The council lacks a quorum today, but Crafford suggested Olsen make arrangements with RAC coordinator Danielle Allen to set up a conference call for the council to discuss later this month.

### **Resolution One: Utility Corridor/Subsistence Use:**

Olsen explained that "utility corridor/subsistence use" resolution expresses the RACs disapproval of the possible utility corridor transfer to the State and the negative impacts the transfer would have to area federal subsistence users.

### **Questions/Discussion:**

Bisson said that the preferred alternative for the East Alaska RMP does not propose the transfer. However, the BLM will entertain offers from the State to adjust selections that will provide equal or greater federal subsistence opportunities. Bisson said it's crucial that the BLM explore options before making decisions.

Olsen said she'd like the RAC to weigh in as opposed to the transfer. Beischer recognizes that the BLM is in a tough position assessing lands it may not manage after conveyance. He said the

council needs to be patient and see how things develop. Tryck suggested the council wait before advancing this resolution.

Bisson suggested that instead of a resolution against the land transfer, a resolution stating the RAC's subsistence concerns would be appropriate.

As a state employee, Crafford recused himself from the discussion and voting on this resolution.

Due to time constraints, Crafford suggested tabling further discussion until Friday.

**Bruce Cain, executive director, Native Village of Eyak (NVE):**

Handouts:

- Comprehensive Community Development Plan (2004)
- Memorandum of Understanding between BLM (Glennallen Field Office) and Native Village of Eyak (2005)
- Five-Year Plan Report (2002)

Cain explained that the Native Village of Eyak is a federally recognized tribe and has 525 members.

A recent government-to-government meeting with the BLM regarding d-1 withdrawals went very well. Cain commented that it's time for land selections to be conveyed so everyone can move to the next phase in the state's growth. NVE is primarily concerned with subsistence and economic development and wants to ensure outstanding claims are addressed. Cain also said that NVE has a strong need for access to natural resources. Members are paying about \$1,000/month for fuel oil, elders are living in unheated homes because they can't afford fuel, and Cain asks why they can't access the natural resources right under their feet.

Bisson asked Cain if he was familiar with the BLM/State of Alaska/USGS program that helps rural communities locate alternative resources. Bisson asked Cain to contact him and he would have senior technical specialist Bob Fisk make arrangements.

**Friday, August 12, 2005 (Bering Glacier Camp)**

**Chair Tom Crafford called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m.**

The council approved the minutes from the April meeting in Glennallen. They will be posted to [http://www.blm.gov/rac/ak/ak\\_index.htm](http://www.blm.gov/rac/ak/ak_index.htm)

**MANAGER UPDATES**

**Bob Schneider, Fairbanks District Office (formerly known as Northern Field Office):**

Handouts:

- CD of Kobuk-Seward Peninsula Planning Area Draft RMP/EIS accompanied by letter from Shelly Jacobson, acting manager for the BLM Central Yukon Field Office in Fairbanks
- Fairbanks District Office briefing sheet
- Fairbanks District Office boundary map
- Fairbanks District Office and Alaska Fire Service telephone directory
- “Fire along the Dalton Highway” brochure

Bisson covered most of the material in the FDO briefing sheet during Wednesday’s meeting (refer to pg. 6). Schneider gave updates on the Kobuk-Seward Peninsula, White Mountains and South National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska plans. Discussion about outfitting and game guides in South NPR-A and the impact to subsistence in South NPR-A followed. Bisson commented that the BLM has developed good relationships and had good discussions regarding subsistence with the North Slope Science Initiative leaders and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

Olsen suggested that the RAC get a briefing about federal subsistence, that include the possible conflicts such as hunting and guiding, at a future meeting. Bisson said that BLM subsistence coordinator Taylor Brelsford could give an overview.

Schneider confirmed that the Tok field office is closing (last day Aug. 15). Bisson added that the BLM has no land base around Tok and that the agency can manage the Fortymile area out of Fairbanks. The BLM also has field stations in Chicken and Eagle. The closure will save the BLM about \$200,000 a year. Of the three Tok employees, two transferred to FDO and one transferred to Anchorage Field Office.

**Gary Reimer, Anchorage Field Office:**

Handout:

- Anchorage Field Office briefing sheet

Reimer said staff has worked hard to get the Ring of Fire plan back on schedule and anticipates a draft EIS by Sept. 30.

Reimer applauded the RAC for getting involved with the Bay plan. He added that 90 percent of the people who live in or adjacent to the Bay planning area are Native and subsistence is a huge issue.

Reimer recognized the innovation of BLM conveyance employees stationed in Bethel and Toksook Bay on Nelson Island. Mary Kenick and James Sipary are using Yupik, rather than English, while working on Native allotment applications and making preparations before survey. He also extended kudos to BLMers Robin Rodriguez and Jerry Nordmann for their work in the area.

**Garth Olson, acting, Glennallen Field Office:**

Handout:

- Glennallen Field Office briefing sheet

On Wednesday, lead planner Bruce Rogers talked about the OHV issues for the East Alaska RMP. Olson added that the Slana area and 17b easements are also concerns and that GFO staff would meet with the State Director next week to strategize.

## **WORKGROUP REPORTS**

### **South National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska, Susan Olsen:**

Olsen shared notes from workgroup lead David van den Berg:

The workgroup (Phil Driver, Olsen, van den Berg) had a conference call with BLM's Susan Childs and Jim Ducker, co-leads on the South plan. Driver attended the Kivalina public meeting and suggested that when the public notice meetings are announced they should be more specific as to how the public will be affected and include a brief outline of meeting content. Use less bureaucratic language to get people's interest. After touring the area with BLM Assistant Director of Minerals Tom Lonnie this summer, van den Berg is under the impression that Lonnie believes mineral development in the South is not economically feasible in the near term due to logistical challenges. Van den Berg is also concerned about protecting caribou habitat and Colville River values.

Bisson said that the funds used to explore mineral potential are earmarked for that purpose. The BLM is being proactive in identifying potential resources and gathering accurate data. Crafford added that it makes sense that the BLM is doing mineral studies in advance to incorporate the results into the plan.

Olsen wondered why the BLM is doing economic modeling for mineral assessment when the land is withdrawn from mineral development. Bisson said that the agency has a responsibility to let the public know what's in the area. The debate is whether we use this data to make a recommendation to Congress regarding the withdrawal or just include the information in a report and let Congress decide.

The council discussed a field trip next year to South National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska.

### **10:40 a.m. Break**

### **Wildland Fire Resolution draft, Keith Tryck:**

Tryck introduced a wildland fire resolution draft that will be distributed to the council via email next week. He said that the draft focuses on agency communication with communities (including mapping structures, developing contacts, addressing needs and goals).

Crafford added that knowing where miners are in the field is important, too. He said that the state mining section staff uses an application called All Topo (digital format of topographic maps) to map mining activity, which would be good information to make available to the Alaska Fire

Service. Chris Noyles, BLM intelligence imagery & spatial analyst, said that AFS is using TOPO from National Geographic, but said that the nice thing about All Topo is it has a place names database already in the program. RAC coordinator Danielle Allen will arrange for someone at AFS to contact Crafford to discuss.

### **Ring of Fire, Charlie Boddy:**

On Wednesday, Boddy arranged a meeting with the Ring of Fire workgroup (Boddy, Posey, Key) and Rachel James from the Alaska Coalition in early September. Boddy commented that BLM staff has been great at keeping the workgroup informed about this plan.

### **Utility Corridor/Subsistence Resolution, Susan Olsen:**

Following up on discussion from Wednesday, Olsen reworded the last paragraph of this resolution to “the RAC expresses its concern” instead of “the Alaska RAC recommends.” This version, along with the “additional closure” resolution will be discussed during the upcoming teleconference.

### **Bering Glacier funding, Scott Guyer:**

Guyer resumed his discussion from Wednesday regarding Bering Glacier funding (see p. 2-3).

- Last year’s budget was \$205,000 the actual total was \$212,000
- Less helicopter time needed this year
- Aviation costs are 65-70% of total camp costs
- Aviation costs will rise since the camp will have to start paying for availability (Retiring pilot John Tucker of Fishing and Flying didn’t charge for this)
- Funding comes from Challenge Cost Share and the program must show at least a 1:1 match. The camp is showing 7:1 to 11:1 match. None of the CCS funds can be used for labor.
- \$40,000 in BLM salaries to support camp
- \$1.5 million-\$2.6 million overall costs for camp activities

Crafford asked why the camp isn’t in AFO jurisdiction. Bisson answered that the Bering is in the GFO land management area and it is a cooperative effort. Ben Seifert from GFO is training to assume the camp facilities manager position.

Guyer said that the camp is looking at recovering costs by charging per diem and lodging costs.

Olsen said \$200,000 doesn’t strike her as a big sum. Bisson explained that it’s a pretty big sum out of a group of underfunded programs. Bisson said that getting more exposure and more recognition for the work that’s being done will get the Bering more attention.

The council discussed a resolution supporting the BLM’s Bering Glacier field camp. Olsen and Crafford will write a draft and forward it to the council for review.

**Meeting adjourned at 11:48 a.m.**

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CERTIFICATION

This document is a fair and accurate summation of the BLM Alaska Resource Advisory Council meeting of Aug. 10 & 12, 2005.

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Tom Crafford, RAC Chair

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Date