

1 **TRANSCRIPTION OF AUDIO DISC**

2 Oral History Tapes with Seldovia Village Tribe

3 ED BOONE, JR.

4 12/8/2000

5 Run Time 16:21

6 MP3 Format/19MB

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8

9 INTERVIEWER: Okay, today is December 8th, 2000,
10 and we're here interviewing Ed Boone, Jr., and Ed you could start by
11 describing your household of those who harvested resources with you
12 and those you shared resources with, you know, some of your hunting
13 or your fishing or your gathering, whatever you did, who went with you
14 and—in your family and if they did and you could start from when you
15 were young if you like? And who you shared your hunting and your
16 hunt and your fish with, the resources that hunted with or fish or
17 whatever, so you could go ahead and start from when you were
18 younger, if you like:

19 ED BOONE, JR: Well, okay, I subsistence fished, I
20 personal use fished, with different guys, myself alone and it was mainly
21 for Kings in the Spring and Silvers in the Fall.

22 And then I did used to go duck hunting, goose hunting,
23 moose hunting, with different people.

24 And for berry picking it was me and my wife.

25 You want me to name what kind of berries?

26 INTERVIEWER: If you want to.

27 ED BOONE, JR: Blueberries, salmonberries, mainly.

28 INTERVIEWER: Did you pick any high-bush
29 cranberries?

30 ED BOONE, JR: She got cranberries, but I don't know if
31 they were high or low or what. (Laughing.)

32 INTERVIEWER: I think from this area it's mainly high-
33 bush?

34 ED BOONE, JR: Yeah, okay, but she got some
35 cranberries, not too many, but mainly blueberries and salmonberries.

36 INTERVIEWER: What animals did you—were the most
37 important to your subsistence in the past?

38 ED BOONE, JR: Moose.

39 INTERVIEWER: Okay, did you hunt for porkies and
40 stuff?

41 ED BOONE, JR: No.

42 INTERVIEWER: No, just for moose and---

43 ED BOONE, JR: Goose hunt.

44 INTERVIEWER: Goose hunt, yeah, that's an animal, and
45 what was the—in the fish-wise, what was the most important to you?

46 ED BOONE, JR: What species?

47 INTERVIEWER: Yeah? Any kind, any kind of fish?

48 ED BOONE, JR: Well, King salmon, in the Spring.

49 INTERVIEWER: Yeah, but didn't you use a lot of other
50 stuff, because a lot of it was probably---

51 ED BOONE, JR: Oh, used all species, yeah. But the
52 main thing was King salmon in the Spring, and Silvers in the Fall, but I
53 ate (Humpies) and ducks, whatever I got.

54 INTERVIEWER: Okay, and the plants, you said that you
55 picked berries with your wife?

56 ED BOONE, JR: Uh, huh.

57 INTERVIEWER: Did you use goose tongue and
58 putushkies?

59 ED BOONE, JR: No---

60 INTERVIEWER: No, your grandma didn't---

61 ED BOONE, JR: My grandmother did, but boy that was-

62 --

63 INTERVIEWER: You must've ate it in her cooking?

64 ED BOONE, JR: With my grandma, yeah, in those days,
65 sure, when I was young.

66 INTERVIEWER: Yeah, I mean you can start--you can
67 talk about when you were young too, when you probably went out to
68 go---

69 ED BOONE, JR: Oh, I used to pick goose tongue over
70 by—across from your house, over by the culvert, the airpark, and go
71 down there by your place and get seaweed, and go over and cook it
72 with fish.

73 INTERVIEWER: Uh, huh, see, you could talk about
74 when you first started, when you went hunting and fishing and like you
75 weren't able to--probably able to go on a boat to go like nowadays the
76 guys that are coddling and halibutting, you know, sometimes that's
77 where we get ours from---

78 ED BOONE, JR: Right.

79 INTERVIEWER: ---but you probably went out with
80 certain guys to get your fish and your moose and gather—and when

81 you gathered seaweed and goose tongue and stuff like that when you
82 were younger?

83 ED BOONE, JR: Oh, yeah, right, and clams all my life,
84 butter clams. To this day I go clam digging.

85 INTERVIEWER: And you guys, most of your clam
86 digging was across the bay from Seldovia, right?

87 ED BOONE, JR: Yeah. Years ago, now it's Harley's or
88 Jakolof.

89 INTERVIEWER: Did you guys used to go out there to---

90 ED BOONE, JR: No, no, huh, uh.

91 INTERVIEWER: No, it was all across the bay.

92 ED BOONE, JR: No, it was all across the bay.

93 INTERVIEWER: Which isn't there anymore?

94 ED BOONE, JR: No.

95 INTERVIEWER: Okay, describe your season-round of
96 subsistence activities, where did you go to harvest, where did you go
97 moose hunting?

98 ED BOONE, JR: Oh, okay, Sheep River, at the head of
99 Kachemak Bay. Bradley River, those two rivers mainly, and then later
100 on, McCune Flats, that's right across from---

101 INTERVIEWER: McCune—I can't see how you spell it,
102 "McCune."

103 ED BOONE, JR: I don't either.

104 Well, if you've got it on tape, they can go that way too.

105 INTERVIEWER: It's M-c-C-u-n-e? Sounds right.

106 ED BOONE, JR: And Red Mountains.

107 INTERVIEWER: And who went with you on your
108 hunting trips?

109 ED BOONE, JR: Eugene Cameron, old man Eugene
110 Cameron. Harry Newit. There's so many different ones, I can't
111 remember.

112 Carl Lindstedt, the old man, and Junior. Help pack out
113 their moose, and I'd get my share.

114 INTERVIEWER: And when you guys went backpacking,
115 you went down to Francis E.---

116 ED BOONE, JR: Peter (Elsox), Pete (Elsox), was the
117 owner, would take us hunting, goose hunting, duck hunting. I was up at
118 Bradley River, Sheep River, I can't remember all that went together.

119 INTERVIEWER: A lot of times a lot of you guys would
120 go together and do some hunting---

121 ED BOONE, JR: Yeah.

122 INTERVIEWER: ---did you guys hunt any moose or
123 anything like that when you guys went duck hunting?

124 ED BOONE, JR: Uh, uh.

125 INTERVIEWER: No, it was just mainly duck hunting?

126 ED BOONE, JR: Yeah.

127 INTERVIEWER: Oh, okay---

128 ED BOONE, JR: Mainly goose hunting that's what we
129 were after, but if we catch a ducks---

130 INTERVIEWER: And baby---

131 (Laughter from interviewer and Ed Boone, Jr.)

132 I had to put that in there.

133 Oh, okay, please describe a hunt or fishing trip or berry
134 picking, one of them, hunting, fishing, on one of your trips that, you
135 know—maybe describe one of your earliest hunting, fishing or
136 gathering trips?

137 ED BOONE, JR: My earliest hunting was up at Sheep
138 River, Sheep Crick I guess it's called, that was with Eugene Cameron,
139 David Swanson, Carl Lindstedt, and Carl, Junior.

140 INTERVIEWER: Did you guys go up on a boat?

141 ED BOONE, JR: Yeah, on a boat. Stayed three days, I
142 think it was, two moose were taken.

143 INTERVIEWER: Wow, quite a bit different now, isn't it?

144 ED BOONE, JR: Uh, huh.

145 INTERVIEWER: You'd be lucky if you can get a moose
146 now.

147 And how was your meat processed and preserved?
148 When you guys first got your moose what did you do, what did you do
149 with it?

150 ED BOONE, JR: Oh, brought it to town, hung it for so
151 many days, then cut it up and wrapped it and put it in the freezer. It
152 was dried, froze, whatever, stew meat.

153 INTERVIEWER: Canned?

154 ED BOONE, JR: No, we didn't can it.

155 INTERVIEWER: Did you ever—you ever smoke---

156 ED BOONE, JR: Uh, huh.

157 INTERVIEWER: ---any kind of meat?

158 ED BOONE, JR: Oh, smoke salmon.

159 INTERVIEWER: Oh, well, yeah, no meat though?

160 ED BOONE, JR: No meat.

161 INTERVIEWER: And—what the heck was I going to ask
162 you about—is there a special way you treat meat when you—when
163 you—when you were hunting, when you get something like a moose, is
164 there a certain amount of time you have to, you know, be away from
165 home and get it back into town and into the freezer or to hang it and
166 it's still in good shape?

167 ED BOONE, JR: Oh, yeah, yeah, we hang it where we
168 shoot it, let it hang for so many days, if it rains put a like a tarp around
169 it, over it, and let it smoke ---

170 INTERVIEWER: To keep it from getting wet.

171 ED BOONE, JR: ---let the smoke get to it.

172 INTERVIEWER: Oh, uh, huh, wow—okay---

173 ED BOONE, JR: You know, to keep the dampness out
174 of it, oh, yeah.

175 INTERVIEWER: Oh, okay, that's something new that
176 I've never heard.

177 Okay, how was fish processed and preserved? When
178 you went—after you, you know, when you brought your fish back from
179 your, like your subsistence fishing, how did you process your fish, or
180 preserve it?

181 ED BOONE, JR: Well, we canned fish, we froze fish, we
182 smoked fish.

183 INTERVIEWER: Did you salt any?

184 ED BOONE, JR: No.

185 INTERVIEWER: Oh, okay, how was subsistence fishing
186 worked around commercial harvesting?

187 ED BOONE, JR: No problem, I don't see any problem. I
188 never did see any problem.

189 INTERVIEWER: Yeah, when you went commercial
190 fishing, did you bring some home for your use, or subsistence use?

191 ED BOONE, JR: Oh, yeah, sure.

192 INTERVIEWER: Yeah, I think a lot of guys do.

193 Some guys get creative though, they like to make
194 money off of all their fishing.

195 Okay, have your subsistence activities changed over
196 the years?

197 ED BOONE, JR: Yes, with the laws that are in place
198 now, compared to what they were years ago. It's subsistence now, not
199 personal use, which is a big difference, I think. And the timing of things,
200 I don't think they're right. I really don't.

201 INTERVIEWER: Yeah, I agree with you there.

202 Do you use more or less wild foods than you used to?

203 ED BOONE, JR: Probably less because I don't get the
204 chance to hunt that much anymore, there's no way to go. Outside of
205 fish and clams when I can get them.

206 INTERVIEWER: Yeah, and a lots of times too it's
207 nowadays it seems like clams now you can't go out and dig butter clams
208 like you used to, because of the PSP.

209 ED BOONE, JR: Right.

210 INTERVIEWER: And it seems like it's happening more
211 than when it used to.

212 ED BOONE, JR: Yeah, we never heard of it years ago, I
213 don't ever remember anyone dying around here from clams.

214 INTERVIEWER: What has been—oh—what have been
215 the major factors affecting variation in your subsistence harvests?

216 Number eight.

217 What's been the major factor affecting variation in
218 your subsistence harvests?

219 ED BOONE, JR: I don't like the dates they have set
220 anymore, in the Spring, or in the Fall. I mean I guess that's one reason--

221 -

222 INTERVIEWER: Like for fishing?

223 ED BOONE, JR: For fishing, yeah. I hate that.

224 INTERVIEWER: Yeah, it's hard because---

225 ED BOONE, JR: And then they close down a lot of the
226 area in the Spring for us to fish like they used to, which I'm against, and
227 in the Fall they give us about one week and that's two fishing periods
228 really.

229 INTERVIEWER: Yeah.

230 Okay, how has Seldovia changed in your lifetime?

231 ED BOONE, JR: From very good to very bad.

232 (Laughter)

233 INTERVIEWER: That's a good way to put it.

234 ED BOONE, JR: Seldovia is not Seldovia anymore, it's
235 all retirees from someplace else. The majority.

236 INTERVIEWER: Wow!

237 ED BOONE, JR: That's all I'm going to say.

238 INTERVIEWER: Any comments on the youth in the
239 community, are they learning subsistence skills?

240 ED BOONE, JR: Well, some are, I was told some are,
241 but whether they are or not I don't know. I'm sure you know more
242 about that.

243 INTERVIEWER: Kind of.

244 ED BOONE, JR: Well, really, I don't know.

245 It's not like it used to be---

246 INTERVIEWER: No, no.

247 ED BOONE, JR: ---it's completely different.

248 INTERVIEWER: Because there's lots more activities
249 going on, Nintendo, there's a lot of TV, there's a lot of—the kids are in
250 sports---

251 ED BOONE, JR: Vehicles. A lot of vehicles here.

252 INTERVIEWER: A lot of homework.

253 ED BOONE, JR: (Laughing) That wouldn't have
254 mattered to me. I wouldn't have done it anyhow.

255 INTERVIEWER: Well, anyway—and the purpose of this
256 question, you know, from this is for educational purposes, it's
257 something like, you know, your children's children want to see, hey, I

258 wonder what grandpa said in his interview, it's something that, you
259 know, that they'd be interested in, even your kids.

260 ED BOONE, JR: Well, my kids know what I did---

261 INTERVIEWER: Yeah, yeah, but---

262 ED BOONE, JR: ---because I was doing it when they
263 were little.

264 INTERVIEWER: Yeah, but then they'd hear your voice
265 and—and that's always good to hear, because I hear my dad's voice on
266 a tape and it's good to hear.

267 ED BOONE, JR: Yeah.

268 INTERVIEWER: Okay, thank you, Eddie, that concludes
269 our interview, so if you have more maybe we can catch you again some
270 other time.

271 ED BOONE, JR: That's all I have.

272 INTERVIEWER: Okay.

273 (End of disc.)

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