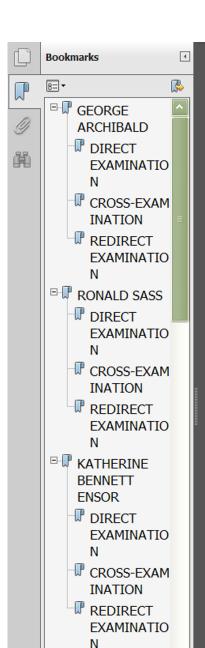
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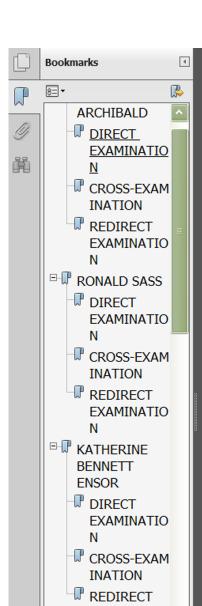
until later in the winter, and it seems to be tender, and these whooping cranes have to catch these blue crabs. And if they catch a large one, they have to smash it. And they grab it and they smash it with their beak into several parts, and the chick is standing there waiting to be fed.

And the chicks have a call, called a food begging call, or a weeping call, and it sounds like this, "whoop, whoop," and you can hear it for quite a distance. And this is telling the parent whooping cranes, "I'm hungry, I need food, please get a blue crab for me," or a whatever.

And this family remains intact through the winter, and the parents are lavishing care on their chick, if conditions are normal. And in the spring, they even migrate back together, together, but the chick, of course, leaves its parents as they begin the new breeding cycle.

But the strange thing that happened in, not only in the year of 2008-2009, during that drought, many whooping crane juveniles were observed without their parents, wandering around the National Aransas Refuge. And as Dr. Chavez will report in his testimony, if there's a food scarcity, the number one concern of the crane pair is to survive themselves. That's number one. Number two, if there's enough food, the chick can survive.

And it appears from the evidence that, actually Dr. Chavez has observed this happening, that the parents, if



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76 Archibald - Direct there's a food scarcity, will hoard the food for themselves, 2 and the chick leaves the parents searching for food elsewhere. So the family situation is broken up during that type of 3 stress. 4 BY MR. BLACKBURN: 5 6 Q. Now, before I get any further in your testimony, I want to ask you about your experience with a bird named Tex, and kind 7 8 of your role in the, I guess the development of breeding, I 9 guess captive breeding programs. Could you explain that? Well, a grave concern of ours is the genetics of the 10 whooping cranes. Because they were reduced to just 15 birds, 12 and DNA evidence suggests that they were reduced to actually only three reproductively active females. 13 Q. And that's back --14 15 A. Back in 1940s. And so geneticists predicted that this population can never survive, because of inbreeding. And it 16 17 appears that this population must have been very genetically

healthy during, when it was reduced to such few birds, because the population has been fairly robust. But back in the 1960s, they were, before they started collecting eggs, there were only two birds in captivity. They were both wounded in the wild and taken to the San Antonio Zoo. And they only produced a single offspring, after producing many, many eggs and many failures. And the zoo director wanted to make sure that that offspring survived, so he raised it in his home. And it became