

ê-ošihâkaniwit môso-wayân

- 1 môso-wayân ..., ášay? môso-wayân, ê-ošihakiht nîštam ohci misiwê nipaškotawêšwânân. misiwê n'tôtinênân opîwaya. êko k'-iškwa-kîšihakiht anima, nikapastawêhwânân tapihk, pêyako-tipiskâw m'pakitinânân kici-akohcihk nipihk. hêko¹ mistik nâcipahtwâniwan nôhcimihk ohci; êko m'pakitinânân anta wakic mistikohk. êk' ôskan n'tâpacihtânân, môs'-oskan. ê-paškawahokiht ana môswa, môso-wayân ê-ošihakiht, êko k'-iškwa-ânima-tôtawakiht,² mîna n'kapastawêhwânân, nipihk ê-kîšihakiht, misiwê omihkow kici-wikatêpalilik, êkâ wâci mân'šiš kit'-ihtakwahk.³ mâškôc nisto-kîšikâw n'takohcimânân áskaw, micon' êkâ nôkwahk nipihk pâtimâ mihkow.
- 2 nipîm'pâtâskwahwânân mâka, n'takolânân mistikohk.⁴ êko iškwa anim' ê-tôtawakiht, êko, môswa wil'tihp⁵ n'tâpacihtânân, ostikwânihk ohci môswa. n'itêhênân⁶ anima olâkanihk, pêsin tâpiskôc ê-kicistâpawalonâniwahk. n'itêhênân anima wil'tihp êlikohk; kôn⁷ mâka nipakitinânân ê-pipohk wîla. môla m'pônihânân ê-itêhaw..., ê-itêhamâhk anima, stwâpihk⁸ n'tôkit-astânân.⁹ piliš, piliš ê-'ti-kîšitêk, êkow ê-k'-iškwa-kîšitêk, êko pîm'pâtahok¹⁰ mîn' ana môso-wayân. nâh'c êlik¹¹ m'pîm'pâtahwâw miconi kici-pâhkopalit. êko pêkitinâk, pêkitinâmân anima, tapihk m'pakitinên; n'sîkinên anima wil'tihpâpôw. êko, misiwê nimisitêpitên anima wil'tihp; misiwê n'tâhtêkipitâw. nišašiw'nên misiwê kici-têpipalik anima.
- 3 êko k'-iškwa-ânima-tôtawakiht nisto kîšikâwa nipakitinânân anta kiciy-apit tapihk. êko k'-iškwa-ânima nisto-kîšikâw, ášay n'tôt..., n'tôtinânân 'nta ohci, mistikohk n'takolânân, ê-wâšeyâskotamâhk¹² mistik. êkot' êy-akolakiht anta kici-pâsot, n'tôcicipitânân¹³ ê-'ti-pâsot ana. môla m'pônihânân êy-oci... -ocipitakêt piliš ê-'ti-pâsot. êko kâ-iškwa-pâsoci anima, ê-wiy-osâwâ-pâsokiht wîla, nipasâhtakwâtânân, 'stâhkwanak¹⁴ n'tâpacihânân ê-wî..., 'ci-lôskisit ê..., ê-itêl'htamâhk ana môso-wayân.
- 4 êko k'-iškwa-ânima-tôtawakiht, êko mîna kapastawêhokiht. sôp n'kipiškîšwânân; n'tôswânân ana sôp. êko kêpastawêhokiht anta sôpâpôhk. akohcin mîna; mîna nisto-tipiskâw n'takohcimânân ana môso-wayân. êko n'tôcicipitânân ant' êy-akohcihk sôpâpôhk. môla nipônihânân, mîna mîn' ê'kwân' ê-tôtawakiht nipiy m'pâtinânân.
- êkow êškwa-ânima-tôtawakiht, êko mîna êkolakiht mistikohk, êko sîn'pâtahokiht, mistik n'tâpacihtânân, m'pîm'pâtahwânân nâc êlikohk. êko

Tanning moose-hide

- 1 Moose-hide ..., now? Moose-hide, when we make it from the beginning we cut *all* the hair off. We take off all its whiskers. Then after we have finished doing that, we submerge it in a tub, for one night we put it to steep in water. Then a pole is fetched from the bush; then, we place it on top of the pole. Then we use a bone, a moose bone. We scrape off the upper layer of skin from the moose, as we make the moose-hide; then after we've done that to it, again we submerge it, as we finish it in the water, so that all his blood disappears, and not even a little bit is there. Sometimes we let it soak for perhaps three days, until there is no blood showing in the water at all.
- 2 We wring it by twisting with a stick, and we hang it on a pole. Then after we've done that to it, then, we use the moose's brain, from the moose's head. We stir that in a dish, like a wash basin. We stir that brain vigorously; but we put in snow [instead of water] in the winter. We don't stop stir..., stirring that, but we set it on top of the stove. At long last it begins to cook; now after it's cooked, then I wring that moose-hide again. I wring it as hard as I can so it will go entirely dry. Then I put it, I put that thing, I put it in a tub; I pour that brain-liquid of his into the tub. Then I spread all that entire brain of his all over; I move it all around. I work the whole hide around so that that will be enough.
- 3 Then after we have done that to it, we put it there to sit in the tub for three days. Then after that three-day period we ta... take it from there, we hang it on a pole, whittling the pole clean. Hanging it there to dry, we pull away at it as it begins to dry. We don't stop pulling and pulling away at it until it begins to dry. Then whenever it's finished drying, since we want to smoke it yellow, we use wood chips, we use brushwood since we want ..., so it will be soft with ..., with that idea in mind for that moose hide.
- 4 So after we've done that to it, then we put it back in the water. We cut up soap in small pieces; we boil that soap. Then we put it there in the soap liquid. It soaks again; we soak that moose hide again for three nights. Then we keep stretching it as it floats in the soapy water. We don't stop; doing the same thing to it over and over again, we wring the water out.
- So as we've finished doing that to it, we then hang it on the pole again; then we wring it out, we use a stick; we wring it by twisting it as hard as we

kíšínakiht picélak.¹⁵ píliš, píliš miconi ê-pásot môla m'pónihânân; mistik nêsta n'tápacihtânân n'tótatámahwânân¹⁶ ê-..., ê-..., mistik ê-piskwák antê níkan,¹⁷ ê-miśák. ê'kwân' wêtatámahikákéyáhk an'-'otatámahwákiht kici-lóskisit, ê-péyakohkawakiht¹⁸ wíla.

- 5 ê-niśohkawakiht máka wíla môla n'tawél'htákwan mistik.
'niśohkawákiht wíla-oci...-ocipitákaniwit lóskisiw. píliš píliš ê-'ti-pásot, êko ká-iśkwá-pásoci, êká wíla ... ê-wí-wápihakiht máka wíla, môla n'..., môla n'takwápaswânân. môla píkotóhtak n'tápacihtânân. ê'kwáni pikw ê-'ši-nakatakiht anim' ê-'šinákosit, ê'kwáni máka ê-'ši-maskisinhkákéyáhk. êko máka wíla ê-wí-osáwá-pasokiht, píkotóhtak n'tápacihtânân. máwac ê-píkotóhwak mistik n'nán'tawá'htênân¹⁹ nóhcimihk. áskaw wákinákan'-píkotóhtak máwac milwášin, nêst', ayaháw, minahiko-píkotóhtak áskaw.
êko n'tósáwá-paswânân. êko ká-iśkwá-osáwá-pasokihtci, êkw êkolakiht walawítimih' 'ci-wêwépášit, êká nášic kici-milákosit²⁰ anima éy-osáwá-pasot, êká kici-milákwhak anima píkotóhtak. 'kwân' êh-tótawakiht móso-wayân éy-os'akiht.
- 6 pítoš máka mína tótamwak wíla nápéwak, wíla nápéwak wíla 'ošiháciik móso-wayána, ká-k'-iši-wápahtamân nêtê 'péci-pimátišiyân ê-'wášišiwíyân. pítoš tótamwak nápéwak wíla. ana móso-wayân môla otinamwak opíwaya, êkwân' ê-'ši-akoláciik mistikohk ê-kínikák mistik. 'kwân' ê-'ši-okícišimáciik²¹ ant' akoléwak. êko, mihkikwan išin'kátêw anim' ôskan. êwakwániméliw tápísonamwak ocihciwáhk, otatámahwéwak anihi ... méliw²² ê-manahakik otamaskáliw. môla tápiskóc nílá'n²³ ká-tótamáhk iskwéwak, pí... im..., ay'háw, oskan ká-ápacihtáyáhk. otatámahwéwak píliš ê-kíšiháciik píliš misiwé ê-manahakik anim'²⁴ otamaskay ká-icikátêk.
- 7 êko²⁵ picélak mēniśahkik animéliw 'píwáliw.²⁶ êko picélak wílawáw oskaniliw wétinahkik kwéskitê 'nim'²⁷ ê-manahakik ká-mahkatéwák watôw ká-išinhkácikátêk. nápéwak wíl' ê'kwân' ê-htótahkik.
pápítoš 'sa 'htótamwak misiwé 'wēnihkának ê-ošiháciik nēsta móso-wayána. áskaw nēst' ê-n'tawélimiht náspic kici-wápisit móso-wayân, akolákaniwan mistikohk ê-pipohk walawítimihk. kinwēš, máškóc péyako-písim áskaw akocin antê. miconi máka wápisiw ê-páwanacit.
ê'kwân' éhtóhtáht áskaw móso-wayân éy-ošihíht.

can. Then we finish it just then. Right up until it's entirely dry we don't let up; we use a stick as well, we beat it repeatedly w... w... a stick with a knob on it there at the front end, a big one. That's what we use to hit away with in beating that moose hide to be fluffy soft, when we work it alone.

- 5 When two of us work at it though a stick is not needed. When it's worked at by two people, being pulled this way and that, it is soft. Until, until it begins to dry, then whenever it has finished drying, not that ..., when we want to whiten it in particular, we don't ..., we don't smoke it. We don't use rotten wood. We leave it the way it looks and make moccasins out of it as it is. But then when in fact we want to make it yellow, we use rotten wood. We look for the most rotten wood in the bush. Sometimes juniper rotten wood is the finest, – also er ..., spruce rotten wood sometimes.
Then we smoke it yellow. Then every time after we have smoked it yellow, then we hang it outside to blow in the wind, so it won't have a strong smell, being as it's smoked yellow, so that that rotten wood won't smell. That's what we do to it when we make moose hide.
- 6 But as for the men, they do it differently again when men are making moose hide, which I've seen since I was living away over there as a child. Men for their part do it differently. They do not take the hairs of the moose hide; then they hang it on a stick, a pointed stick. Then laying it on something, they hang it up there. So, that bone is called the shin-bone. They slip that thing on their hand; they beat away at it ... that, removing the bits of meat by hand. Not like what we women do, wr... w... well, uh, who use a bone. They beat it until they finish, until they remove by hand all that meat residue as it's called.
- 7 It's only then that they cut the hair off. It's only then that *they* take the bone, scraping off on the other side that black, clotted blood as they call it. The men do it that way.
All people, frankly, do it in different ways when they make moose hide. Sometimes also when the moose hide is required to be very white, it is hung up on a pole in winter outside. For a long time, sometimes perhaps for a month it hangs there. It gets completely white as it dries with the frost.
That's what is done to it sometimes when moose hide is made.