

RC156

MASTER MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

BETWEEN

THE ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

Juneau, Alaska

AND

THE U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Anchorage, Alaska

This Master Memorandum of Understanding between the State of Alaska, Department of Fish and Game, hereinafter referred to as the Department, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, hereinafter referred to as the Service, reflects the general policy guidelines within which the two agencies agree to operate.

WHEREAS, the Department, under the Constitution, laws, and regulations of the State of Alaska (Appendix I), is responsible for the management, protection, maintenance, enhancement, rehabilitation, and extension of the fish and wildlife resources of the State on the sustained yield principle, subject to preferences among beneficial uses; and

WHEREAS, the Service, by authority of the Constitution, laws of Congress and regulations of the U.S. Department of Interior (Appendix II) has a mandated management responsibility for certain species or classes of wildlife and is responsible for the management of Service lands in Alaska, and the conservation of fish and wildlife resources on these lands; and

WHEREAS, the Department and the Service share a mutual concern for fish and wildlife resources and their habitats and both are engaged in extensive fish and wildlife conservation, management, and protection programs and desire to develop and maintain a cooperative relationship which will be in the best interests of both parties, the concerned fish and wildlife resources and their habitats, and produce the greatest public benefit; and

WHEREAS, it has been recognized in the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act and subsequent implementing Federal regulations that the resources and uses of Service lands in Alaska are substantially different than those of other states; and

APHA

WHEREAS, the Department and the Service recognize the increasing need to coordinate resource planning and policy development;

NOW, THEREFORE, the parties hereto do hereby agree as follows:

THE DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME AGREES:

1. To recognize the Service as the agency with the responsibility to manage migratory birds, endangered species, and other species mandated by Federal law, and on Service lands in Alaska to conserve fish and wildlife and their habitats and regulate human use.
2. To manage fish and resident wildlife populations in their natural species diversity on Service lands.
3. To consult with the Regional Director in a timely manner and comply with applicable Federal laws and regulations before embarking on enhancement or construction activities on Service lands.

THE FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE AGREES:

1. To recognize the Department as the agency with the primary responsibility to manage fish and resident wildlife within the State of Alaska.
2. To recognize the right of the Department to enter onto Service lands at any time to conduct routine management activities which do not involve construction, disturbance to the land, or alterations of ecosystems.
3. To cooperate with the Department in planning for enhancement or development activities on Service lands which require permits, environmental assessments, compatibility assessments, or similar regulatory documents by responding to the Department in a timely manner with requirements, time tables, and any other necessary input.
4. To manage the fish and wildlife habitat on Service lands so as to insure conservation of fish and wildlife populations and their habitats in their natural diversity.
5. To consider carefully the impact of any proposed treaties or international agreements relating to fish and wildlife resources on the State of Alaska which could diminish the jurisdictional authority of the State and to consult freely with the State when these treaties or agreements have a primary impact on the State.
6. To review present U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service policies and any future proposed changes in those policies in consultation with the Department to determine if modified or special policies are needed for Alaska.

7. To adopt refuge management plans whose provisions--including provision for animal damage control--are in substantial agreement with the Department's fish and wildlife management plans, unless such plans are determined formally to be incompatible with the purposes for which the respective refuges were established.
8. To utilize the State's regulatory process to maximum extent allowed by Federal law in developing new or modifying existing Federal regulations or proposing changes in existing State regulations governing or affecting the taking of fish and wildlife on Service lands in Alaska.

THE DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME AND THE FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE MUTUALLY AGREE:

1. To coordinate planning for management of fish and wildlife resources on Service lands so that conflicts arising from differing legal mandates, objectives, and policies either do not arise or are minimized.
2. To consult with each other when developing policy and legislation which affects the attainment of wildlife resource management goals and objectives of the other agency.
3. To recognize that the taking of fish and wildlife by hunting, trapping, or fishing on Service lands in Alaska is authorized in accordance with applicable State and Federal law unless State regulations are found to be incompatible with documented Refuge goals, objectives, or management plans.
4. To develop such supplemental memoranda of understanding between the Commissioner and the Regional Director as may be required to implement the policies contained herein.
5. That this Master Memorandum of Understanding shall become effective when signed by the Commissioner of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game and the Alaska Regional Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and shall continue in force until terminated by either party by providing notice in writing 120 days in advance of the intended date of termination.
6. That amendments to this Master Memorandum of Understanding may be proposed by either party and shall become effective upon approval by both parties.

STATE OF ALASKA

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Department of Fish and Game

Fish and Wildlife Service

By Ronald O. Skoog

Ronald O. Skoog
Commissioner

~~Keith M. Schreiner~~

Keith M. Schreiner
Regional Director, Alaska

Date 13 MAR 82

Date 3-13-82

MASTER MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
THE ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
Juneau, Alaska
AND
THE U.S. BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Anchorage, Alaska

RC #157

This Master Memorandum of Understanding between the State of Alaska, Department of Fish and Game, hereinafter referred to as the Department, and the U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management, hereinafter referred to as the Bureau, reflects the general policy guidelines within which the two agencies agree to operate.

WHEREAS, the Department, under the Constitution, laws, and regulations of the State of Alaska, is responsible for the management, protection, maintenance, enhancement, rehabilitation, and extension of the fish and wildlife resources of the State on the sustained yield principle, subject to preferences among beneficial uses; and

WHEREAS, the Bureau, by authority of the Constitution, Laws of Congress, executive orders, and regulations of the U.S. Department of Interior has a mandated responsibility for the management of Bureau lands, and the conservation of fish and wildlife resources on these lands; and

WHEREAS, the Department and the Bureau share a mutual concern for fish and wildlife conservation, management, and protection programs and desire to develop and maintain a cooperative relationship which will be in the best interests of both parties, the concerned fish and wildlife resources and their habitats, and produce the greatest public benefit; and

WHEREAS, it has been recognized in the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) and subsequent implementing Federal regulations that the resources and uses of Bureau lands in Alaska are substantially different than those of similar lands in other states; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Congress and the Alaska Legislature have enacted laws to protect and provide the opportunity for continued subsistence use of Alaska's fish and wildlife resources by rural residents; and

WHEREAS, the Department and the Bureau recognize the increasing need to coordinate resource planning, policy development, and program implementation;

APHA

NOW, THEREFORE, the parties hereto do hereby agree as follows:

THE DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME AGREES:

1. To recognize the Bureau as the Federal agency responsible for multiple-use management of Bureau lands including wildlife habitat in accordance with the Federal Land Policy and Management Act, ANILCA, and other applicable law.
2. To regulate and manage use of fish and wildlife populations on Bureau lands in such a way as to maintain or improve the quality of fish and wildlife habitat and its productivity.
3. To consult with the Bureau in a timely manner and comply with applicable Federal laws and regulations before embarking on enhancement or construction activities on or which would affect Bureau lands.
4. To act as the primary agency responsible for management of all uses of fish and wildlife on State and Bureau lands, pursuant to applicable State and Federal laws.
5. To notify the Bureau of any animal damage control activities on Bureau lands; and to obtain Bureau approval for the use of pesticides, herbicides, or other toxic chemical agents in the course of animal damage control.
6. To provide all maintenance on facilities, structures, or other construction owned by the Department on Bureau lands; and to hold the Bureau harmless for liability claims resulting from these constructions, facilities, and/or structures.

THE BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT AGREES:

1. To recognize the Department as the primary agency responsible for management of use and conservation of fish and wildlife resources on Bureau lands.
2. To recognize the right of the Department to enter onto Bureau lands at any time to conduct routine management activities which do not involve construction, disturbance to the land, or alterations of ecosystems.
3. To recognize the Department as the primary agency responsible for policy development and management direction relating to uses of fish and wildlife resources on State and Bureau lands, pursuant to applicable State and Federal laws.
4. To incorporate the Department's fish and wildlife management objectives and guidelines in Bureau land use plans unless such

provisions are not consistent with multiple use management principles established by FLPMA, ANILCA, and applicable Federal law.

5. To adopt the State's regulations to the maximum extent allowed by Federal law when developing new or modifying existing Federal regulations governing or affecting the taking of fish and wildlife on Bureau lands in Alaska.
6. To notify the Department of any portion of the Department's fish and wildlife management objectives, guidelines, or State regulations that the Bureau determines to be incompatible with the purposes for which Bureau lands are managed.
7. To manage Bureau lands so as to conserve and enhance fish and wildlife populations.
8. To inform the Department of proposed development activities on Bureau lands which may affect fish and wildlife resources, subsistence and other uses, and to provide or require appropriate mitigation where feasible.
9. To permit, under appropriate agreement or authorization, the erection and maintenance of facilities or structures needed to further fish and wildlife management activities of the Department on Bureau lands, provided their intended use is not in conflict with Bureau policy and land-use plans.
10. To recognize that the taking of fish and wildlife by hunting, trapping, or fishing on Bureau lands in Alaska is authorized in accordance with applicable State and Federal law unless State regulations are found to be incompatible with Bureau regulations.

THE DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME AND BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT MUTUALLY AGREE:

1. To coordinate planning for management of fish and wildlife resources on Bureau lands and adjacent lands having common fish and wildlife resources so that conflicts arising from differing legal mandates, objectives, and policies either do not arise or are minimized.
2. To cooperate in planning, enhancement, or development activities on Bureau lands which require permits, environmental assessments, compatibility assessments, or similar regulatory documents by responding in a timely manner with requirements, time tables, and any other necessary input.
3. To consult with each other when developing or implementing policy, legislation, and regulations which affect the attainment of wildlife resource management goals and objectives of the other agency.

4. To cooperate in the management of fish and wildlife resources and habitat (including planning, regulation, enforcement, protection, restoration, research, inventories, and habitat enhancement) on Bureau lands and adjacent lands having common fish and wildlife resources consistent with the species and habitat management plans and objectives of both agencies.
5. To develop specific plans for cooperative development and joint management of habitat areas determined to be essential to the continued productivity or existence of fish and wildlife populations.
6. To consult with the Department prior to entering into any cooperative land management agreements which could affect fish and wildlife resources.
7. To cooperate in the development of fire management plans which may include establishment of priorities for the control of wild-fires, or use of prescribed fires.
8. To make facilities, equipment and assistance mutually available on request for use in fish and wildlife work and habitat improvement consistent with Bureau and Department requirements.
9. Neither to make nor sanction any introduction or transplant of any fish or wildlife species on or affecting Bureau lands without first consulting with the other party and complying with applicable Federal and State laws and regulations.
10. To provide to each other upon request fish and wildlife data including subsistence and other uses, information, and recommendations for consideration in the formulation of policies, plans and management programs regarding fish and wildlife resources.
11. To cooperate in the preparation of announcements and publications and the dissemination of fish and wildlife information; any material obtained from cooperative studies may be published or reproduced with credit given to the agencies or organizations responsible for its acquisition or development. Any news release relating specifically to cooperative programs will be made only by mutual consent of the agencies.
12. To cooperate and coordinate in the issuance of permits to persons, industry, or government agencies for activities affecting designated anadromous fish streams on Bureau lands, in accordance with Alaska Statute 16.05.870 and to cooperate in the formulation of comments and recommendations on permits issued by other governmental agencies in accordance with the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, Clean Water Act and other applicable laws.

13. To resolve, at field office levels, all disagreements pertaining to the cooperative work of the two agencies which arise in the field and to refer all matters of disagreement that cannot be resolved at equivalent field levels to the State Director and to the Commissioner for resolution before either agency expresses its position in public.
14. To meet annually at the Director/Commissioner level and discuss matters relating to the management of fish and wildlife resources and their habitats on, or affected by, respective programs; to provide for other meetings at various administrative levels for discussion of law enforcement, educational programs, cooperative studies, research, fish and wildlife surveys, habitat development, hunting, fishing, trapping seasons, and such other matters as may be relevant to fish and wildlife populations and their habitats.
15. To develop such supplemental memoranda of understanding and cooperative agreements between the Bureau and the Department as may be required to implement the policies contained herein.
16. That this Master Memorandum is subject to the laws of the State of Alaska and the United States. Nothing herein is intended to conflict with current directives, laws or regulations of the signatory agencies. If conflicts arise or can be foreseen, this Memorandum will be amended or a new Memorandum of Understanding will be developed.
17. That this Master Memorandum of Understanding is subject to the availability of appropriated State and Federal funds.
18. That this Master Memorandum of Understanding establishes procedural guidelines by which the parties shall cooperate, but does not create legally enforceable obligations or rights.
19. That this Master Memorandum of Understanding supersedes all previous Master Memoranda of Understanding between the Bureau and Department and all supplements and amendments thereto.
20. That this Master Memorandum of Understanding shall become effective when signed by the Commissioner of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game and the State Director of the Bureau of Land Management and shall continue in force until terminated by either party by providing notice in writing 120 days in advance of the intended date of termination.
21. That amendments to this Master Memorandum of Understanding may be proposed by either party and shall become effective upon approval by both parties.

STATE OF ALASKA
Department of Fish and Game

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Bureau of Land Management

By Don W. Collinsworth

Don W. Collinsworth
Commissioner

By Curtis V. McVee

Curtis V. McVee
Director

Date 6-28-83

Date 8/3/83

Supplement to the
MASTER MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
between
THE ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
AND
THE BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ALASKA

SIKES ACT IMPLEMENTATION

This supplemental memorandum of understanding is pursuant to the Master Memorandum of Understanding between the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Alaska, dated AUG 3 1983 Public Law 93-452, of October 18, 1974, 16 U.S.C. 670a et seq., commonly referred to as the Sikes Act, provides the broad authority to: 1) Plan and carry out fish and wildlife conservation and habitat rehabilitation programs on Bureau lands consistent with overall land use plans; 2) Protect significant habitat for threatened and endangered species; and 3) Enforce regulations to control off road vehicle (ORV) traffic or other public use of lands subject to conservation and rehabilitation programs conducted under the Act.

The Act in no way diminishes the authority of the State of Alaska to manage resident fish and wildlife populations.

It is the purpose and intent of this supplement to provide a working relationship and procedure for implementation of the Sikes Act on Bureau lands in Alaska between ADF&G and BLM.

Terms used in this supplement are defined as follows:

- 1) Conservation and rehabilitation program - Includes programs necessary to protect, conserve, and enhance wildlife resources to the maximum extent practicable on Bureau lands consistent with any overall land-use and management plans for the lands involved.
- 2) Habitat Management Plan (HMP) - BLM's intensive, detailed action plan for wildlife management on a specific geographic area of biological interest on Bureau lands. The HMP is a cooperative plan with the State Wildlife agency and is based on current public input. The HMP shall be the implementing document for the Sikes Act.
- 3) Bureau Lands - These are public lands under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT FOR THE PURPOSE OF IMPLEMENTING P.L. 93-452, ADF&G and BLM mutually agree to the following:

- 1) HMPs will be implemented for areas where land-use plans have been prepared, unless otherwise authorized by the State Director, BLM.
- 2) HMPs will be based on priorities within Alaska, as mutually selected by the Commissioner, ADF&G, and the State Director, BLM. Guidelines for establishing HMP priorities shall be based on the following:
 - a) The basic resource values which may be enhanced and benefits produced by implementation of active management programs and/or regulations.
 - b) The identification, through the BLM or ADF&G planning systems, of areas having a need for intensive wildlife management.
 - c) The potential for wildlife habitat to be altered by land use activities such as energy and industrial development, urban expansion, road construction, and ORV traffic.
 - d) The need to protect important and/or critical fish and wildlife habitat such as salmon spawning areas, moose winter range, or the habitats of endangered or threatened species.
- 3) Protection will be afforded to those fish and wildlife species designated as threatened or endangered by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game or by the Secretary of the Interior pursuant to Section 4 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973.
- 4) HMPs will specify fish and wildlife habitat improvements or modifications needed.
- 5) Rehabilitation of Bureau lands will be undertaken where necessary to support HMP recommendations and consistent with the availability of funds for that purpose.

- 6) Hunting, fishing, and trapping of resident fish and wildlife on HMP areas will be in accordance with applicable laws and regulations of the State of Alaska.
- 7) It is herein recognized that the Secretary of the Interior has the authority to promulgate regulations to control the public use of Bureau lands consistent with the HMP, including, but not limited to ORV use. BLM and ADF&G will coordinate federal land use and state hunting, fishing and trapping regulations during Sikes HMP development.
- 8) Funds authorized and appropriated for HMP implementation on Bureau lands in Alaska shall include, but not be limited to all activities associated with scientific resource management, such as the following: protection, research, census, law enforcement, habitat management, propagation, live trapping, transplanted, and regulated taking. Funds may be allocated for hiring of personnel, contractual services, physical habitat improvement projects, and grants to colleges. It shall be the joint responsibility of the Commissioner, ADF&G, and the State Director, BLM, to define areas and projects for priority funding under the Sikes Act. It shall be the responsibility of the State Director, BLM to secure funding through BLM's program funding procedures. Final disbursement of Sikes Act Funds shall be made through the State Director, BLM, after consultation with the Commissioner, ADF&G.
- 9) Plans and programs initiated on Bureau lands under the Sikes Act in Alaska shall not conflict with comprehensive plans required of the State under any Federal or State Acts.
- 10) BLM and ADF&G will discuss the following Sikes Act items during the course of their annual coordination meeting:
 - a) A progress report on the current status of HMP implementation.
 - b) The review of wildlife values produced under the existing conservation and rehabilitation programs.

- c) The priorities for HMP implementation.
- d) The program and budget recommendations for the upcoming and succeeding fiscal years.

This supplement shall become effective on the date when last signed and shall remain in force until terminated by mutual agreement, by amendment or abolishment of the Act by Congress, or by either party upon thirty days notice in writing to the other party of its intention to terminate upon a date indicated.

STATE OF ALASKA
Department of Fish and Game

By Don W. Collinsworth
Don W. Collinsworth
Commissioner

Date 6-28-83

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Bureau of Land Management

By Curtis V. McVee
Curtis V. McVee
State Director

Date 8/3/83

Proposal 130A

RC158

5 AAC 85.045. Hunting seasons and bag limits for moose. (a) ...

| Units and Bag Limits | Resident Open Season (Subsistence and General Hunts) | Nonresident Open Season |
|----------------------|---|----------------------------|
|----------------------|---|----------------------------|

(18)

Unit 20A, the Ferry Trail Management Area, Wood River Controlled Use Area, and the Yanert Controlled Use Area

RESIDENT HUNTERS:

1 bull with spike-fork antlers or 50-inch antlers or antlers with 4 or more brow tines on one side; or

Sept. 1 – Sept. 25
(General hunt only)

1 antlerless moose by registration permit only; a person may not take a calf or a cow accompanied by a calf; or

Aug. 25 – Feb. 28
(General hunt only)

1 bull by drawing permit only; up to 1000 [500] permits may be issued; or

Sept. 1 – Sept. 25
(General hunt only)

1 bull by drawing permit only; by muzzle-loading firearms only; up to 75 permits may be issued

Nov. 1 – Nov. 30
(General hunt only)

NONRESIDENT HUNTERS:

1 bull with 50-inch antlers or antlers with 4 or more brow tines on one side; or

Sept. 1 – Sept. 25

1 bull with 50-inch antlers or antlers with 4 or more brow tines on one side by drawing permit only; by muzzle-

Nov. 1 – Nov. 30

loading firearms only; up
to 75 permits may be issued

Remainder of Unit 20A

RESIDENT HUNTERS:

1 bull with spike-fork antlers or
50-inch antlers or antlers with
3 or more brow tines on one
side; or

Sept. 1 – Sept. 25
[(GENERAL HUNT ONLY)]

1 antlerless moose by
registration permit only;
**a person may not take a calf
or a cow accompanied
by a calf;** or

Aug. 25 – Feb. 28
[(GENERAL HUNT ONLY)]

1 bull by drawing permit only;
up to **1000** [500] permits may be issued

Sept. 1 – Sept. 25

NONRESIDENT HUNTERS:

1 bull with 50-inch antlers
or antlers with 4 or more
brow tines on one side

Sept. 1 – Sept. 25

Proposal 131A

RC159

Unit 20(B), that portion within Creamer's Refuge

1 bull with spike-fork or greater antlers by bow and arrow only; or

Sept. 1 – Sept. 30
(General hunt only)
Nov. 21 – Nov. 27
(General hunt only)

Sept. 1 – Sept. 30
Nov. 21 – Nov. 27

1 antlerless moose by bow and arrow only, by drawing permit only; up to 150 permits may be issued in the Fairbanks Management Area; **a person may not take a calf or a cow accompanied by a calf;** a recipient of a drawing permit is prohibited from taking an antlered bull moose in the Fairbanks Management Area; or

Sept. 1 – Nov. 27
(General hunt only)

Sept. 1 – Nov. 27

1 antlerless moose by muzzle-loader by drawing permit only; up to 10 permits may be issued; **a person may not take a calf or a cow accompanied by a calf;** a recipient of a drawing permit is prohibited from taking an antlered bull moose in the Fairbanks Management Area

Nov. 21 – Nov. 27
(General hunt only)

Nov. 21 – Nov. 27

Unit 20(B), remainder of the Fairbanks Management Area

1 bull with spike-fork or greater antlers by bow and arrow only; or

Sept. 1 – Sept. 30
(General hunt only)
Nov. 21 – Nov. 27
(General hunt only)

Sept. 1 – Sept. 30
Nov. 21 – Nov. 27

1 antlerless moose by bow and arrow only, by drawing permit only; up to 150

Sept. 1 – Nov. 27
(General hunt only)

Sept. 1 – Nov. 27

permits may be issued;
a person may not take a calf
or a cow accompanied
by a calf; a recipient of
a drawing permit is
prohibited from taking an
antlered bull moose in the
Fairbanks Management Area

Unit 20(B), that portion within
the Minto Flats Management Area

1 moose by registration
permit only; or

Sept. 1 – Sept. 25
(Subsistence hunt
only)
Jan. 10 – Feb. 28
(Subsistence hunt
only)

No open season.

1 bull with spike-fork antlers
or 50-inch antlers or antlers
with 4 or more brow tines on
one side

Sept. 11 – Sept. 25

No open season.

Unit 20(B), the drainage of the
Middle Fork of the Chena
River and that portion of
the Salcha River drainage up-
stream from and including
Goose Creek

1 bull; or

Sept. 1 – Sept. 20

Sept. 1 – Sept. 20

1 bull, by bow and arrow only

Sept. 21 – Sept. 30

Sept. 21 – Sept. 30

Remainder of Unit 20(B)

1 bull; or

Sept. 1 – Sept. 15

Sept. 5 – Sept. 15

1 antlerless moose by drawing
permit only; up to 300 permits
may be issued; **a person**
may not take a calf
or a cow accompanied
by a calf;

Sept. 1 – Sept. 30
(General hunt only)

No open season.

Noatak/Kivalina and Northern Seward Peninsula Advisory Committees,
Joint Teleconference meeting
Wednesday, January 16, 2008, 2:00 p.m.

Draft minutes, 2 pp.

Quorums were established for each committee:

Noatak/Kivalina: Enoch Mitchell, Melford Booth, Janet Mills, Eli Mitchell of Noatak and Janet Mitchell of Kivalina. Absent were Joe Swan, Sr., Raymond Hawley, Virgil Adams and Thurston Booth.

Northern Seward Peninsula: Ron Moto, Percy Ballot, Delbert Thomas, Clyde Ramoth and Marvin Ramoth. Absent were Marlene Karl, George Sheldon.

Also present at the Kotzebue Fish and Game office: Susan Bucknell, Boards Support, and Hazel Apok, Natural Resources Coordinator for Maniilaq Association.

By 2:30 we established quorums and Ron Moto called the meeting to order.

Susan Bucknell explained that Jim Dau and Jim Magdanz were not available, but she'd gone over the proposals with them, and she would answer questions as best she could.

Statement of Proposals

Proposal 10 Failed

Clyde mentioned Selawik was against a similar proposal in the regional cycle. Percy and Janet agreed.

Proposal 13 No action

Proposal 26 Failed

Proposal 27 No Action

Proposal 28 Passed

People discussed whether to vote on something the board can't do. People said it would be a way to address the crowding on the Noatak.

Proposal 33 No action

People wished for more information. They didn't know how this would affect them.

Proposal 39 Failed

Ron said he doesn't think we have a lot of established trails up here.

Hazel said that Delta Junction area has a lot of scarring, and they want to stop it. She said she has seen berry pickers use a 4-wheeler to get caribou around here, and she doesn't oppose that. Clyde said he echoed that.

Ron asked if people problems with trails by their villages. Percy said Buckland has only one small trail.

Proposal 47 Failed

Proposal 47 failed with little discussion.

Proposal 53 Failed

Proposal 55 and 57 Failed

Eli said he does run a trapline every year. If he runs into an animal killed by other animals, it makes sense to be able to set a trap near by.

Proposal 56 and 58 Failed

Percy spoke against putting more stuff on traps. Eli said it would be one more thing to deodorize. Eli said there are just a couple trappers, with the same line every year, other trappers know who's traps are where.

Regarding three-day checking, Eli said it depends on how far you set your traps. With a 150-mile loop, and the price of gas, and the weather, checking every three days is not practical. Also going over an animals territory too often is problematic.

71 and 75

People talked about sharing meat, and all the things there are for hunters to take care of besides transfer forms.

Proposal 77 Failed

Proposal 4 Passed

Percy said he supports not putting any extra paperwork in the way of taking children hunting.

~~XXXX~~ Reauthorize antlerless moose Passed
Buckland deferred to Noatak. Noatak approved.

Reauthorize brown bear tag fee exemption - Passed

Percy said Buckland has lots of bears.

People said in the future they would like more information on some of the proposals, and that face-to-face meetings are better.

Concluded about 3:50

Upper Kobuk and Lower Kobuk Advisory Committees
Teleconference meeting, 2:00 p.m.
Thursday, January 17, 2008
Draft minutes, one page.

RC16/

Upper Kobuk: Ambler had Chair Louie Commack, Frank Downey and Joe Cleveland at the IRA.
Kobuk had Elmer Ward and alternate Alex Wood. Shungnak members are excused for the search.

Lower Kobuk had Verne Cleveland, Bobby Wells, and Bill Zibell. We thought we had an alternate sitting in Kiana, but that didn't happen, so Lower Kobuk didn't have a quorum. Raymond Stoney and Lee Ballot were in Anchorage, Ben Sampson at clinic.

Also present at the Kotzebue Fish and Game office: Susan Bucknell, Boards Support, and Hazel Apok, Natural Resources Coordinator for Maniilaq Association.

Susan Bucknell explained that Jim Dau was not available, but had reviewed the proposals with her, and she would answer questions as best she could.

Statewide Proposals:

Proposal 10 **Failed**

Proposal 13 **No action**

Proposal 26 **Failed**

Proposal 27 **No Action**

Proposal 28 **Upper Kobuk Passed**
Lower Kobuk No action

Proposal 39 **Failed**

Proposal 47 **Failed**

Proposal 53 **Failed**

People said they do use boats and snowmachines and 4-wheelers to hunt the same day.

Proposal 55 and 57 **Upper Kobuk "Ignore"**
Lower kobuk Fail

Proposal 56 and 58 **Failed**

There was talk about the price of gas in villages; \$40 for five gallons, plus \$8 for a quart of oil. Almost \$400 for a drum of stove oil - \$450 for stove oil in Noatak.

71 and 75 **No action**

People said the forms are good for guides, if they offer meat to villages. People wanted to know how far this extends, how and when this applies. Good for guides, but not for village people when they hunt, because people tend to share.

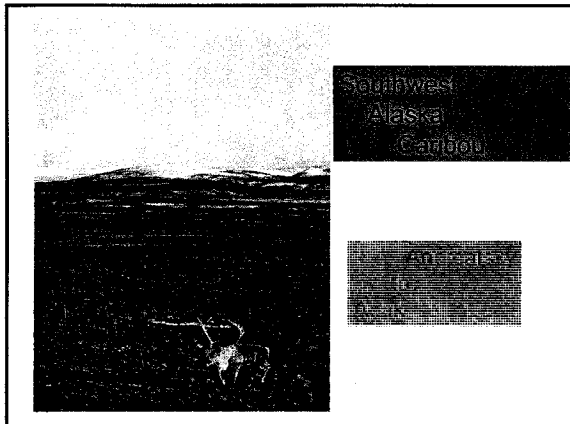

* *

Reauthorize antlerless moose **Passed**

Reauthorize brown bear tag fee exemption **Passed**

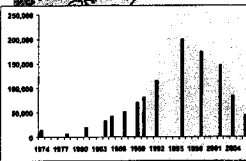
Adjourn about 2:50 p.m.

SW CARIBOU

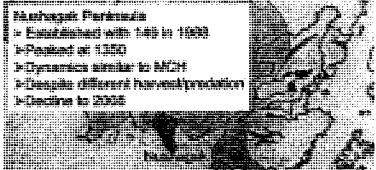
Mulchatna

- > Caribou last abundant in 1850
- > Largely absent or scarce after 1880
- > Modern era began in the 1970s with 14,000
- > By the 1990's > 100,000
- > A premier herd for everybody
- > On the verge of additional decrease in harvest




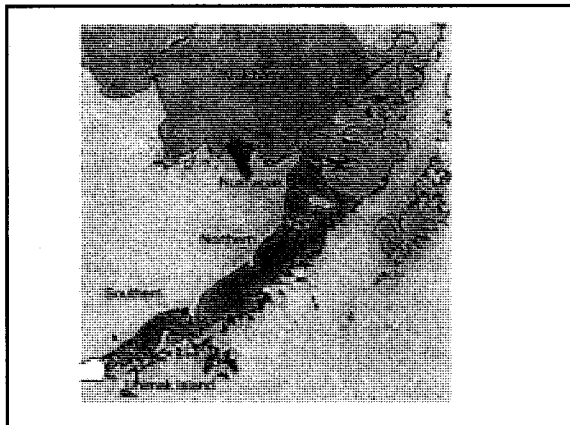
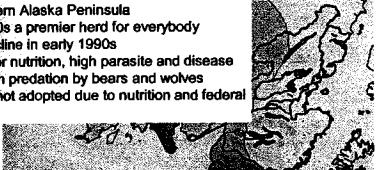
Southwest Caribou Herds

- 5 herds, 700 miles in decline
- Harvest opportunity dramatically reduced
- 3 herds important for high levels of consumptive use below objectives
- IM proposals deferred from the Spring BOG meeting




Pitmegeuk Peninsula

- Established with 140 in 1990
- Peaked at 1550
- Dynamics similar to BACH
- Despite different harvest/management
- Decline to 2000

Northern

- > 1980s a premier herd for everybody
- > Decline in early 1990s
- > Poor nutrition, high parasite and disease
- > High predation by bears and wolves
- > IM not adopted due to nutrition and federal



Southern Alaska Peninsula

- > Important for Consumptive Use
- > Zero recruitment last 2 years
- > Adequate nutritional status/production
- > Very high early calf mortality
- > Bulls: ratio low, age structure precarious
- > Calving on state land
- > Below objectives and imploding

Southern

Southwest Alaska Caribou Herds

| Herd | Size | Status | Harvest | IM |
|-----------|--------|--------|---------|-----|
| Mulchatna | 45,000 | ↓ | Reduced | Yes |
| Nushagak | 550 | ↔↓ | Closed | No |
| Northern | ~2000 | ↓ | Closed | Yes |
| Southern | ~600 | ↓↓ | Closed | Yes |
| Unimak | 800 | ↓ | Low | No |

Unimak Island

- > Within Objectives
- > Very poor recruitment
- > Restrictive Access
- > Not a lot of opportunity

Unimak Island



Mulchatna

Adak

- > Great opportunity
- > A bit out of the way

Southern

600 Miles

Caribou IM Case Histories

| Herd | Recruitment | Population |
|-------------|-------------|------------|
| Delta | ↑ | >4x |
| Finlayson | ↑ | 3x |
| Northern BC | ↑ | 2-5x |
| Aishihik | 3x | 2x |
| 40 Mile | ↑ | >2x |
| Delta | - | - |

Aerial Wolf Reductions

- Population Characteristics:
 - excellent nutritional status
 - excellent calf production
 - chronic low recruitment
- Program characteristics led to NRC recommendations:
 - remove a high proportion of wolves
 - over a large area
 - at least 4 years

Caribou Case Histories

| <u>Herd</u> | <u>Recruitment</u> | <u>Population</u> |
|---------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| • Delta | ↑ | >4x |
| • Finlayson | ↑ | 3x |
| • Northern BC | ↑ | 2-5x |
| • Aishihik | 3x | ? |
| • 40 Mile | ↑ | >2x |
| • Delta | - | - |

Caribou Case Histories

| <u>Herd</u> | <u>Recruitment</u> | <u>Population</u> |
|---------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| • Delta | ↑ | >4x |
| • Finlayson | ↑ | 3x |
| • Northern BC | ↑ | 2-5x |
| • Aishihik | 3x | ? |
| • 40 Mile | ↑ | >2x |
| • Delta | - | - |

Delta

- Ground Based
- Objectives to stop a decline that included high adult mortality
- Terminated in second year

40 Mile

- High production, excellent condition, chronic low recruitment
- Sterilization and removal
- Targeted calving grounds/summer range

Wolf Management for Caribou

- Pretty good success under certain conditions
- Does not mean increased harvests for extended periods following control
- Suggests harvest during increasing phase
- Important to have clear benchmarks for progress, success, and program termination

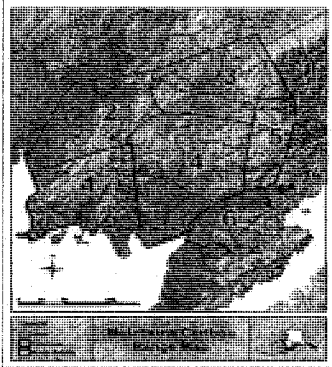
Mulchatna Caribou Herd

in southwestern Alaska

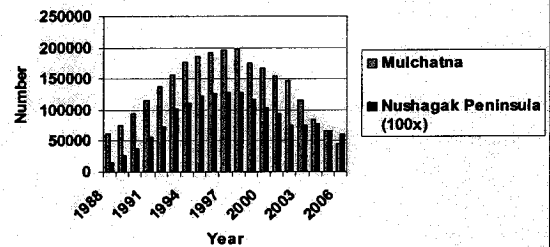
Causes For Decline

- Disease (foot rot, pneumonia, parasites)
- Predation
- Density dependent food limitation
- Harvest
- Climate/ weather events

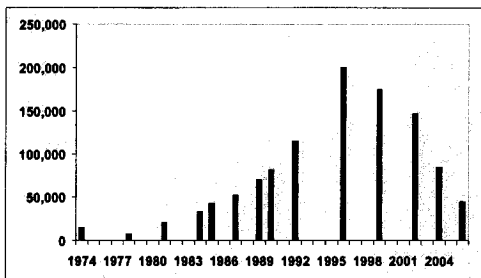
- Age structure effects



Population trends of MCH and NPCH Caribou
1988-2006



Mulchatna Caribou Population
Estimates 1974 - 2006



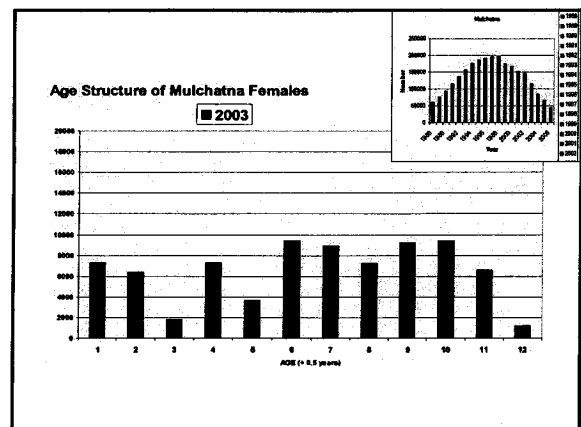
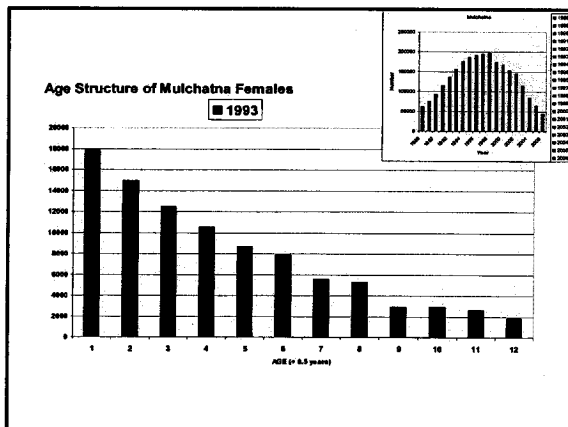
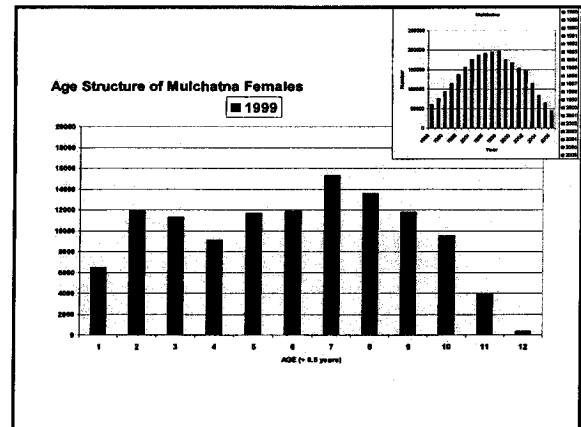
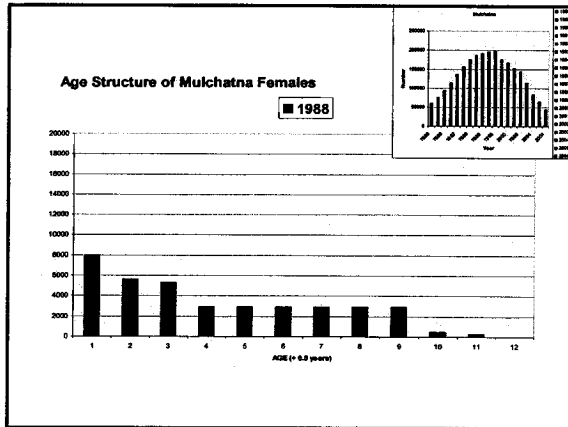
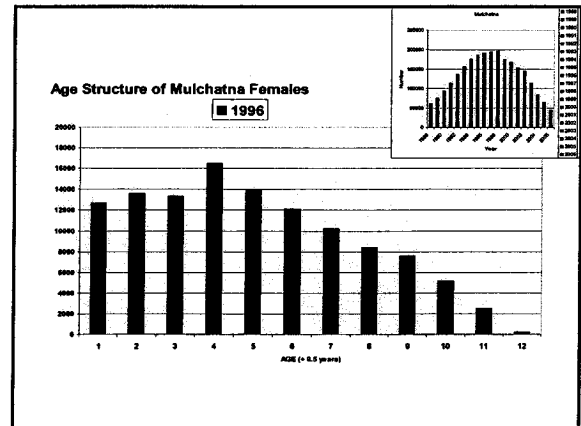
Causes For Decline

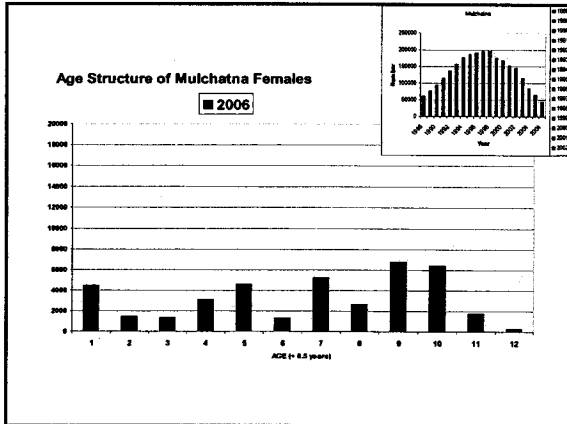
- Disease (foot rot, pneumonia, parasites)
- Predation
- Density dependent food limitation
- Harvest
- Climate/ weather events

- Age structure effects

Summary

- Complex regional cause of decline
- Food and Weather probably ultimate causes
- Disease and Parasites probably involved but not persisting
- Predation increasingly important



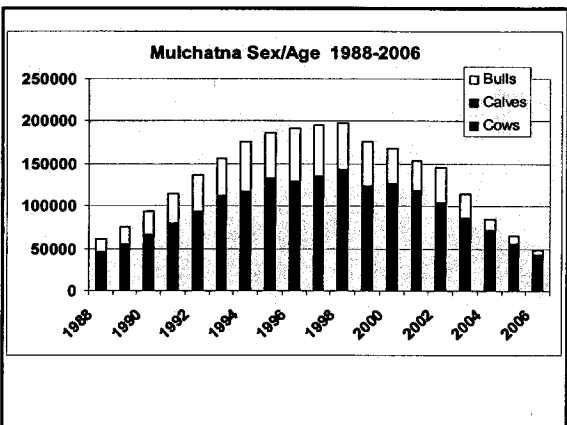
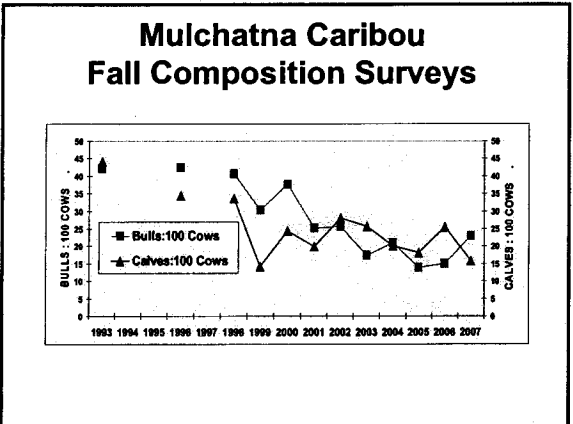


Summary

- Complex regional cause of decline
- Age structure exacerbates current decline
- **Bull cow ratio low but may quickly improve**

Summary

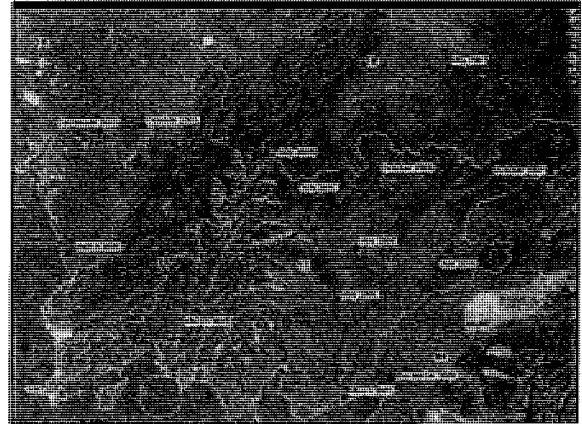
- Complex regional cause of decline
- **Age structure exacerbates current decline**
- Bull cow ratio low but may quickly improve



What can we do?

What can we do?

- MCH- initially a very small herd
- Rapidly grew to large herd, with great increases in distribution and human use
- Large herd for relatively short time: what is a reasonable objective?
- Rapid decrease in herd size...but still widespread distribution

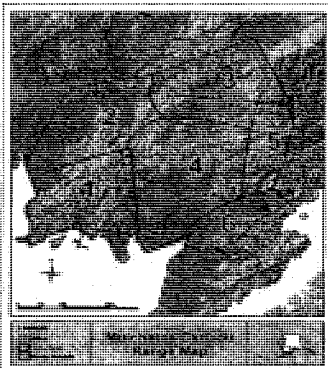


What can we do?

- Predator management range-wide

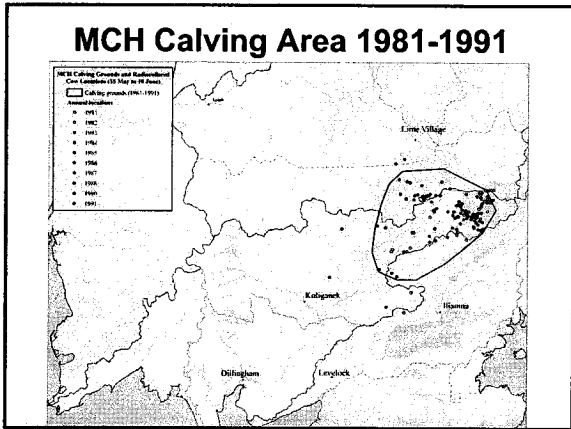
What can we do?

- Predator management range-wide
- Too large an area
- Movements and distribution too variable
- Vital rates not optimum
- Population still likely to decline due to age structure
- Cannot recommend because success not likely at this time

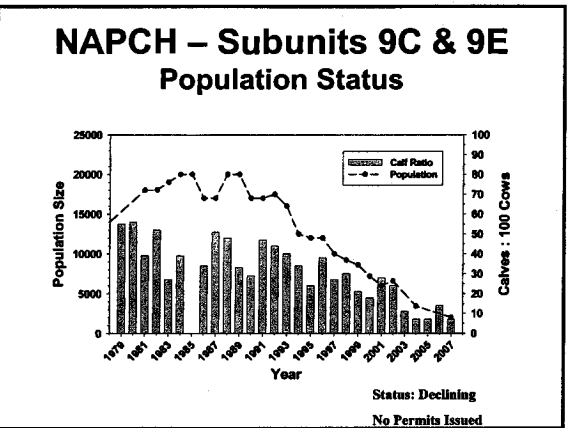
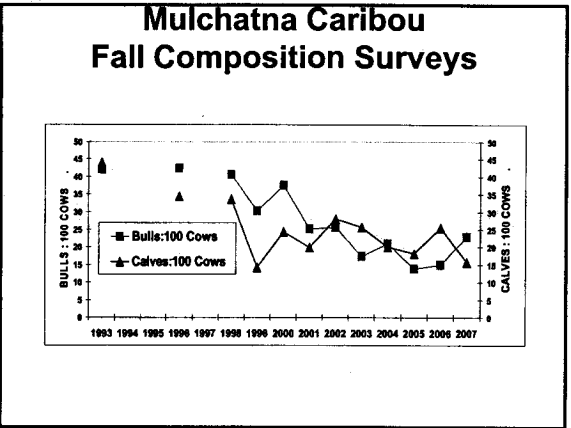
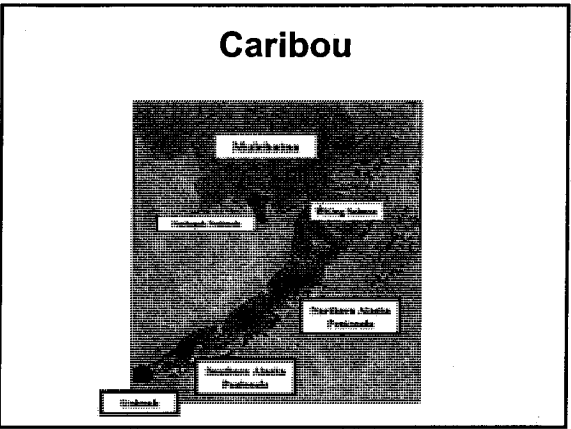
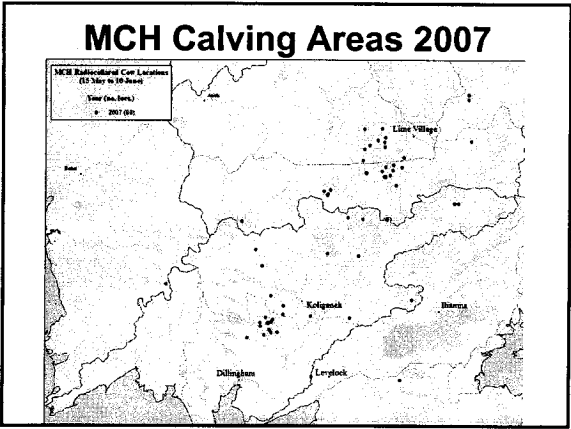


What can we do?

- Predator management on calving areas



- ### Current Projects
- Bull recruitment and development study
 - Evaluation of calf survival in GMU 19 predator management area
 - Population estimate planned for summer 2008



NAPCH – Subunits 9C & 9E Research Projects

- Health Assessment (2005 - 2006)
- Calf Mortality Study (2005 - 2007)
- Parasite Study (2005 - 2007)

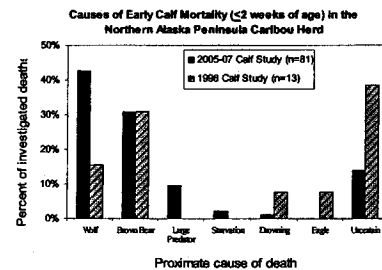
NAPCH – Subunits 9C & 9E Factors Influencing Recruitment

- Poor Body Condition
- Low Pregnancy (Survey of Cows ≥ 2 years of age)
- Calf Mortality (2005 - 2007)
 - Calf Survival
 - 40% ≤ 2 weeks of age
 - 34% > 2 weeks of age

NAPCH – Subunits 9C & 9E Factors Influencing Recruitment

- Poor Adult Body Condition
 - Poor fat reserves
 - Prominent Skeletal Structures

NAPCH – Subunits 9C & 9E Early Calf Mortality

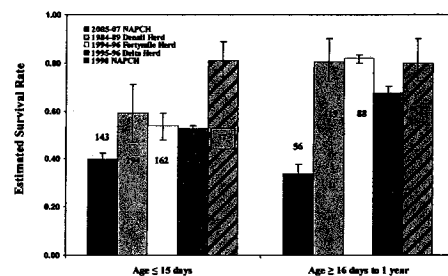


NAPCH – Subunits 9C & 9E Factors Influencing Recruitment

- Poor Body Condition
- Low Pregnancy (Survey of Cows ≥ 2 years of age)

| | |
|------|-----|
| 2005 | 57% |
| 2006 | 63% |
| 2007 | 74% |

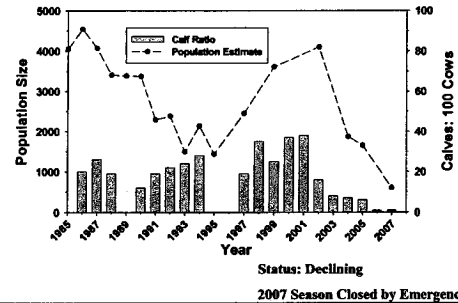
NAPCH – Subunits 9C & 9E Comparison of Calf Mortality



NAPCH – Subunits 9C & 9E Factors Influencing Recruitment

- Poor Body Condition
- Low Pregnancy (Survey of Cows \geq 2 years of age)
- Calf Mortality (2005 - 2007)
- Higher prevalence of parasites and disease

SAPCH – Subunit 9D Population History



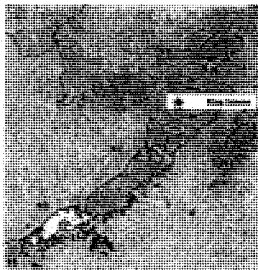
NAPCH – Subunit 9C & 9E Conclusions

- Several factors reduce chances of success from predator management
- Cannot recommend at this time

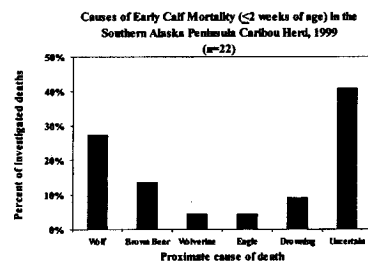
Recent Events

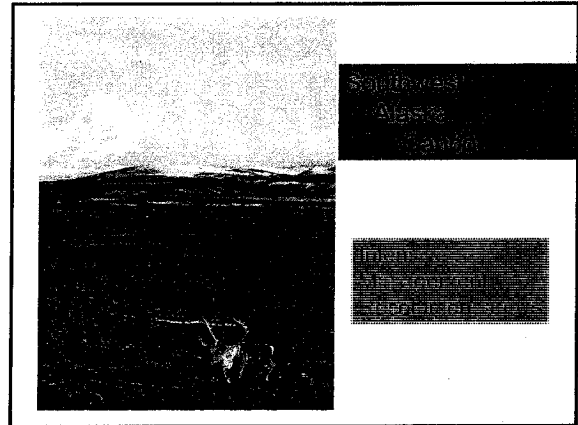
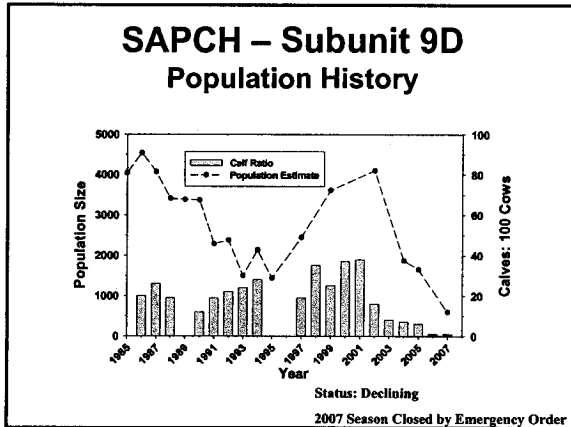
- 1999: Calf Mortality Study
- 2002-2005: Declining Recruitment
- 2004-2005: Verified Population Decline
- 2006: Failed Recruitment; bull ratio drops
- 2007: Verified failure not an isolated event
 - Documented adequate calf production
 - Documented calf mortality as “early”
 - Documented adequate adult survival
 - Secured funding for calf mortality study

Southern Alaska Peninsula Caribou Herd (SAPCH) Range



SAPCH – Subunit 9D Early Calf Mortality





- ### SAPCH Decline
- **Very steep decline**
 - Probably lost many of post 03 recruits
 - Old cows
 - Bulls
 - **May still have poor late & winter calf survival**
 - Although production and adult survival OK
 - Need some early calf survival to tell
 - Waiting will prolong recovery

- ### IM recommendations
- Mulchatna – No
 - Northern Alaska Peninsula - No
 - Southern Alaska Peninsula- Yes

- ### SAPCH IM Recommendation
- Approve IM plan to improve to early survival
 - Hopefully will lead to increased recruitment
 - If early survival increases but recruitment does not increase: terminate program

RC 163

Proposal 97 Wolf – GMU 9

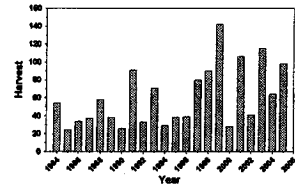
Develop a predator control implementation plan to benefit caribou in GMU 9

Department Recommendation:
Amend to address wolf predation in Subunit 9D and Adopt

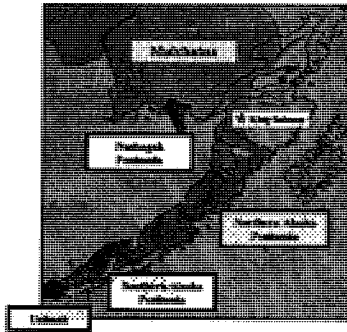
| Advisory Committees | | |
|---------------------|-----------|-----|
| Lower Bristol Bay | Supported | 5-0 |
| Iliamna | Supported | 6-0 |
| Naknek/Kvichak | Supported | 6-0 |

Wolf – GMU 9

- Difficult to monitor
- Moderate densities (5-10 wolves/1000km², Preliminary)
- Status: Increasing (?)
- Harvests variable
 - Winter conditions
 - Public interest



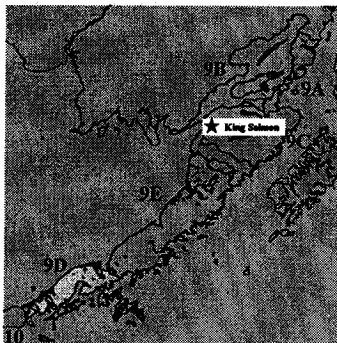
Caribou Herds in SW Alaska



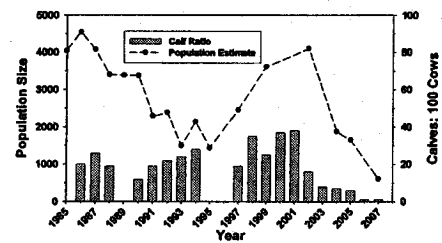
Federal Lands



Southern Alaska Peninsula Caribou Herd SAPCH – Subunit 9D



SAPCH – Subunit 9D Population History



Status: Declining

2007 Season Closed by Emergency Order

Proposal

Intensive Management Steps - SAPCH

Statutory Considerations

- Has the big game populations been identified as important for high levels of human consumptive use (i.e. intensive management)?
 - Yes
- Has the board established population and harvest objectives?
 - Yes
- Have the population and harvest objectives been achieved?
 - No
- Has there been a significant reduction in take?
 - Yes
- Is predation an important cause of the failure to achieve population or harvest objectives?
 - Predation is a Factor
- Can a reduction in predation reasonably be expected to aid the reaching of the objectives?
 - Yes

Proposal

Intensive Management Steps - SAPCH

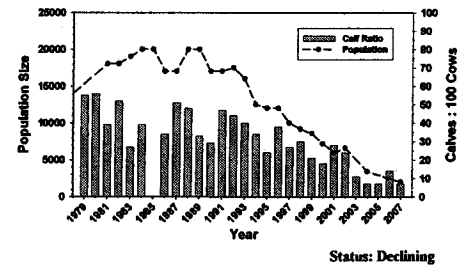
Other Considerations

- Reduced seasons, reduced bag limits, elimination of non-resident hunting, etc.
 - Yes - No Hunting Season
- Feasibility and cost effectiveness (i.e., what are the effects of weather, terrain, land ownership).
 - 50% Federal Lands (SAPCH Range)
 - Weather Conditions
 - Poor Snow Cover
 - High Winds
 - Fuel Costs

Northern Alaska Peninsula Caribou Herd NAPCH - Subunits 9C & 9E



NAPCH - Subunits 9C & 9E Population Status



Intensive Management NAPCH - Subunits 9C & 9E

- Intensive Management Options Evaluated - March 2005
- Board of Game Decision
 - Predator Control was not feasible
 - Extent of Federal lands
 - Nutrition is a key factor in the decline

Intensive Management Steps - NAPCH

Statutory Considerations

- Has the big game populations been identified as important for high levels of human consumptive use (i.e. intensive management)?
 - Yes
- Has the board established population and harvest objectives?
 - Yes
- Have the population and harvest objectives been achieved?
 - No
- Has there been a significant reduction in take?
 - Yes
- Is predation an important cause of the failure to achieve population or harvest objectives?
 - Predation is a Factor
- Can a reduction in predation reasonably be expected to aid the reaching of the objectives?
 - No

Intensive Management Steps - NAPCH

Other Considerations

- Reduced seasons, reduced bag limits, elimination of non-resident hunting, etc.
 - Yes - No Hunting Season
- Feasibility and cost effectiveness (i.e., what are the effects of weather, terrain, land ownership).
 - 70% Federal Lands
 - Weather Conditions
 - Poor Snow Cover
 - High Winds
 - Fuel Costs

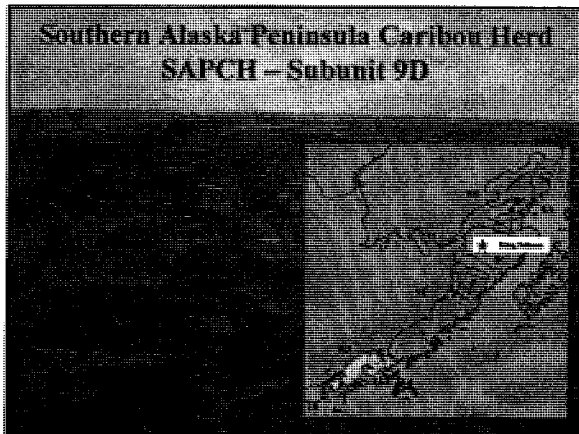
Proposal 97 Wolf - GMU 9

Develop a predator control implementation plan to benefit caribou in GMU 9

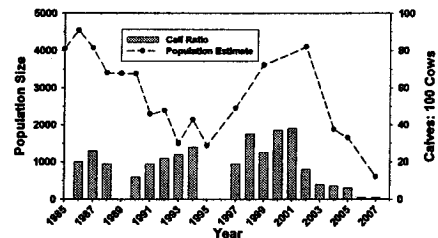
Department Recommendation:
Amend to address wolf predation in Subunit 9D and Adopt

Advisory Committees

| | | |
|-------------------|-----------|-----|
| Lower Bristol Bay | Supported | 5-0 |
| Iliamna | Supported | 6-0 |
| Naknek/Kivichak | Supported | 6-0 |

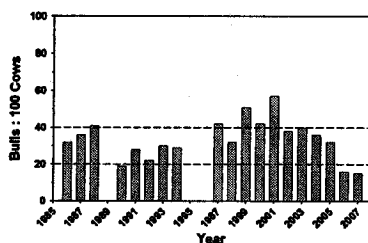


SAPCH - Subunit 9D Population History



Status: Declining
2007 Season Closed by Emergency Order

SAPCH - Subunit 9D Bull Ratio



SAPCH - Subunit 9D Management

- Hunt Closure & Compliance
- Investigate Limiting Factors
- Pursue Any Feasible IM Options

**SAPCH – Subunit 9D
IM Options**

- **Habitat Improvements**

**SAPCH – Subunit 9D
IM Options**

- **Habitat Improvements**
- **Predator Management**

**SAPCH – Subunit 9D
IM Options**

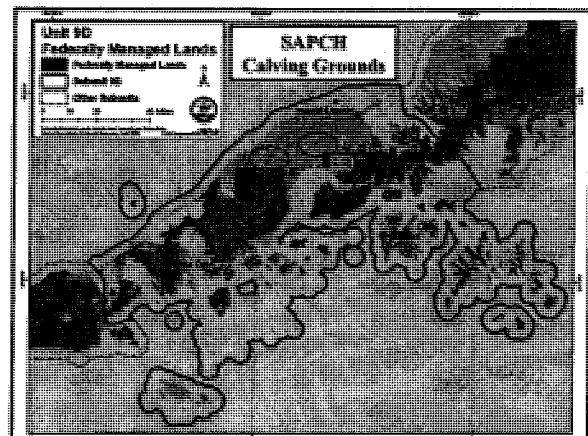
- **Predator Management**
 - Needs to improve calf survival

**SAPCH – Subunit 9D
IM Options**

- **Predator Management**
 - Needs to improve calf survival
 - **Bear reduction**
 - 1999 SAPCH Calf Mortality Study bears were not a significant source of mortality
 - **Conflicting goals if lethal methods are used**
 - **Relocation from calving grounds not feasible**

**SAPCH – Subunit 9D
IM Options**

- **Predator Management**
 - Needs to improve calf survival
 - **Bear**
 - **Wolf reduction**
 - Likely candidate based on NAPCH studies
 - Winter reduction and non-lethal options are not feasible at this time
 - Removal needs to affect calving grounds



SAPCH – Subunit 9D IM Options

- **Predator Management**
 - **Objectives and Benchmarks**
 - Improve calf recruitment
 - Stabilize or increase population
 - **Feasibility**
 - Calving on State lands (50% of SAPCH Range)
 - Combine with calf study to measure success
 - **Probability of Success**
 - Poor if relies on participation by public using standard methods (aerial or land-and-shoot)
 - Good if special allowances are made (use of helicopters)

Recommendation

- **Amend Proposal to develop a predator management plan for only the SAPCH**
- **Adopt a predator management plan that authorizes the reduction of wolves in Subunit 9D**
 - Reduce wolves on state lands (~2-4 packs)
 - During critical periods for calf recruitment
 - Allow use of helicopters
- **Modify 5AAC 92.080 to allow use of helicopters in control areas when stipulated in predator control plans**

BC 164

PROPOSAL 92

SUBJECT: FAIRBANKS GMU: Reinstatement of the Noname Controlled Use Area in Units 200 and 201.

NONAME CONTROLLED USE AREA: PROPOSED AMENDMENT

BACKGROUND: This is an old, familiar issue. The Noname Controlled Use Area existed from 1996 to 2004. It covered northern Unit 200 and northeastern Unit 201, and was about 2-19 mi² in size. It was bounded on the west by the Kantishna River, on the east by the Wood River, and on the south by the Tanana River. After 1998, it did not restrict airboat use on the air channels of Unit 200 rivers. Its main purpose was to reduce conflicts between airboat users and more traditional travel users and to provide a reasonable opportunity for customary and traditional uses. The conflicts under which it was established primarily concerned moose hunting. It remained controversial throughout its existence.

Airboat use began in the Tanana Flats in the early 1960s. Early airboats were heavy and limited to relatively larger and deeper waterways. Use of airboats was not common until the Trans-Alaska Pipeline construction days. Airboat use first became common on military land in the Tanana Flats. In 1991, the 1st Infantry Division requested the Army Cold Regions Research and Engineering Laboratory (CCREL) to conduct an evaluation of the environmental impacts of aircraft use on military lands. The results of that study were published in a final report in January 1993. The investigators were not able to reach firm conclusions on many aspects of the potential environmental effects of airboats. However, people on both sides of the issue frequently cite portions of the report.

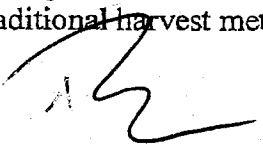
Written Comment for PROPOSAL 92 in SUPPORT AS AMENDED from Fairbanks, AK resident Rory O'Neill on March 3, 2008.

(RAFT HUNTER)

Explanation: Airboats, aka air-powered boats, are simultaneously a water craft and a land craft. There is a *potential harvest advantage* provided to hunters who are wholly-proficient airboat operators. Perhaps less disputed, there is a *potential harvest convenience advantage* provided to hunters who are wholly-proficient airboat operators.

This proposal seeks to preserve unrestricted use by motorized water craft, including high horsepower, high decibel inboard and/or outboard jet-powered craft and prop-driven craft.

Suggested AMENDMENT: Enacting an enforceable decibel restriction on all motorized craft during select moose harvests, such as Sept. 1st-25th, would address one of the two outcomes sought through 2008 proposal number 92. Enacting an enforceable restriction on the degree of departure from the main waterways by motorized craft would address the other outcome being sought through this proposal. Thus jetboats, airboats or other invented amphibian craft would not jeopardize customary and traditional harvest methods for moose in the contested GMUs.

 3/6/08

**Juneau Douglas Fish and Game AC
January 3, 2008**

Kathy Hansen, Frank Fink, Nick Yurko, Robert Cartmill, Scott File, Mark Stopha, Ed Hansen, Mike Peterson, Paula Terrel Joe Emerson, Steve Hallmark, Todd Wicks

Agencies: Kristy Tibbles, Neil Barten, Ryan Scott, Tanya Ewing

Kathy called meeting to order at 6:30 pm and determined that there is a quorum.

Kathy opened the nominations for the open seats which included a trapper/guide, sport/hunt (2 seats), consumptive/non-consumptive, and gillnet seat. Kathy stated that she was notified by Nick Yurko, Chris Conder, Mike Peterson, and Scott File had indicated interest in being nominated. Hearing no other nominations, the nominations were closed and the individual who were running were asked to say a few words about their background and why they would like to be on the Advisory committee.

Nick Yurko: He's running for trapper/guide seat. Been on the committee almost as long as Bob approx. 27 years and said he'd like to continue in the seat.

Scott File, nominated for a sport/hunt seat is a 14 year Juneau resident and lived in Petersburg before that. In the "sport/hunt" seat, but he is a commercial fisherman and southeast seiner. He cares about fish and fishing.

Mike Peterson, sport/hunt seat. 30 years in Alaska, most in Douglas. Sportfish and hunt in the area. Had served on other boards in the past but his job working for UPS for 12 years interfered with serving on committees. Now, has a new job and so can make meetings. All politics are local and care about the future of fish.

Kathy asked if he had commercial or charter fished. He said he sport fishes and has deck-handed for a friend once in awhile, but has never been a charter operator.

Kathy said Chris Condor wanted to run for his seat. He's a charter operator, and served a one year term in the consumptive/non-consumptive seat and would like to continue but was unavailable this evening to be at the meeting.

Written ballots were passed out to all of those in attendance. Mark Stopha and Ed Hansen tallied ballots. File, Peterson, Condor and Yurko all elected to the seats.

Kathy next called for nominations for the officers (Chair, Vice-chair and secretary). Joe Emerson nominated incumbent officers, Frank seconded the motion after Joe checked with all the current officers to see if they were willing to serve in that capacity. Question was called for by unanimous consent. There

was no opposition so Kathy Hansen was elected Chair, Nick Yurko – vice-chair and Mark Stopha – Secretary.

Kathy opened the nominations for the two alternate seats. Ed Hansen was nominated by Joe Emerson, second by Frank. 10 supported and Kathy abstained.

Kathy was not sure if John Etheridge wanted to continue in the Alternate seat. The AC decided not to reelect John, and for next meeting, advertise vacant gillnet seat and alternate.

Statewide Proposals for Game:

Neil Barten and Kim Titus of ADFG

KT: Went over “preference points” draw system. There are several proposals in the book addressing this issue and Dept drew up a proposal for the Board. **Proposals include 14-20 & 27**, Generic Dept/Board proposal is #20 to provide a wide range of options. In a preference point draw system, the more you apply over the years for a hunt, the greater your chance for getting a tag. Nevada, Arizona, etc. are on draw hunt systems with preference points. Dept. is neutral with regard to the allocation aspects of preference points.

With a preference permit system the State would require a customer id number for each person applying for a draw hunt to keep track of points. That would be a year to year and a half to put in place. For example one year they may sign up as J Doe and the next year John Doe, to track this there would need to be some type of customer ID that would be used every year.

No fee structure in place now. Currently, \$5 per application for draw hunts. Some states you pay up front an administration fee and the price of the hunting license and tag, and you get it back if you don't win.

There are advantages for accumulated points systems. They work best where chances are one in a hundred (Berners moose), but not as good as for hunts that are one in a thousand (Delta bison). The systems are poorer for kids because they have a lower chance to get the permit, and older people because they may not get a chance in their lifetime if they start late in life.

Some states only allow application on line to cut costs. Some states have contracted out to private companies to do the drawings, because of costs.

Joe asked that you may have to pay in for many years before you can ever get a permit. The costs might be too high for some. In some states, you have no chance of getting a permit for your first 5 years of application.

Joe asked what happens if you draw – KT – in some states, you're done for life if you're successful. Other states you may have a waiting period before you can draw again.

Bob asked about party hunt systems. KT said Alaska has some of those regulations already in place. KT didn't think the BOG would pass many regulations at the upcoming meeting because it's so complicated.

Mike Peterson said Oregon had a system that only allowed a few points to be gained over time. KT said other states squared your points over time.

Mark Stopha asked about carrying over a hunter that was drawn and the hunt canceled. KT said the Board and Dept. of Game has not wanting to do this because of the problem of tracking people over time for the permit.

Kathy asked if the BOG could pass with the stipulation that legislation would have to also pass to make it work.

KT – if the BOG passed something as a regulation, it wouldn't make it through the dept. of Law necessarily unless the Dept. would do it for free, which is unlikely.

Joe asked Nick what he thought about the system. Nick said he applies in other states. He said he may tie up 1,500 dollars for 6 months applying for out of state permits and gets his money back if he's not drawn. He said for in state permits, he's put in for 30 years for Berners and Delta and not been drawn, but his daughter did and drew her second year. He said he's leaning against a points system based on his other-state hunting. If you miss putting your name in some area one year, you go back to zero on the points list. He likes younger people having a chance and can live with an equal chance random drawin every year in Alaska.

The group discussed as to taking the points proposals individually or as a group, and Paula and Kathy and Joe indicated it better to work on them as a group.

Kim reviewed the current system, which issues about 10,000 permits a year. Each year, the process starts over and is fresh. There's no carryover from the previous years. A person can only apply for 3 permits per species per year. It is relatively uncomplicated. Current system pays for permit hunts, but not Tier II hunts, which no fee can be charged for.

Ed asked if there's any way to make a preferential points system for residents. KT said it already is slanted to residents, because non-residents have to buy an expensive out of state license before they can apply. Some hunts like Tok Sheep have a lot of non-resident applicants, but the Board limits the percentage of permits allowed issue to non-residents.

Mike Peterson said he had drawn a points-based permit in Oregon for elk. He did not draw the first year, but got a point for being out of state and a point for applying, and he did draw the second year. It was a positive experience for him, knowing the more he applied, the better chance he had.

Frank said he didn't like it, if you missed a year than you lost any points accumulated, and Paula and KT commented that this would not necessarily be cast in stone as a rule.

Bob/Frank moved that we adopt proposal #20 with the intent of the board of Game to look into the issue further, is there a way to provide possibilities of an Alaskan advantage.

Joe said that any new system seemed complicated and expensive. People might have to start paying a lot more to enter a drawing hunt.

Paula said she supported looking at it, and concerns like Joe's can't be answered until the unknowns are considered.

Joe said he didn't know if he wanted the Board or ADFG to dedicate a lot of time to this if it wasn't something we were interested in pursuing. He favors the system the way it is.

Bob said he thought it should be considered because he thought that it would probably go that way in the next 10 years.

Scott File said as more people apply, the points systems become less helpful, and he'd like to see it kept simple as it is now.

Neil said he wasn't sure if a yes or no vote was as important as consideration of the complexities of the issues and that a letter discussing the pros and cons so the Board had a better idea of what we were thinking.

It was pointed out that we had spent over an hour discussing the issue.

Bob called for the question. 5 support / 5 opposed and 1 abstain.

Paula suggested that a letter be submitted outlining the discussion of the pros and cons of the group. It was agreed to send a letter.

Kathy polled the group to see who might want to go to Anchorage to represent the AC, and there were no takers at present, and she said she'd see who might want to go as the meeting at the end of the month got closer.

NB: Reauthorization cow moose hunts: Each year, advisory committees vote on cow hunt reauthorizations. There are 2 cow hunts in this area: Berners Bay and Gustavus. ADFG is trying to keep the herd at Berner's Bay at 90 animals post hunt as the area doesn't have a lot of appropriate habitat. Lost many cows last year, and there will not be a cow hunt this fall. So, the vote is just to keep the hunt on the books.

Nick/Mike moved we adopt to re-authorize cow hunts in Berners Bay and Gustavus. Question called and vote passed with unanimous support.

Proposal 53, p. 48. Neil Barten described the proposal, Currently, there is no same day aircraft hunting on the same day except deer. This would extend this to all motorized vehicles.

Todd – this proposal would eliminate 90% of the hunting in our area with same day hunting from a truck or boat.

Nick/Joe made a motion to adopt Proposal 53.

0 approval 10 oppose 1 abstain.

Proposal #67. Neil explained that this proposal clarifies the definition of a brow tine. It would define better what a brow tine is and isn't – the tine needs to be right on the brow part of the antler, and not in-between the brow and the palm. Paula also noted that the proposal book shows that the intended addition actually deletes the language.

Bob/Nick made a motion to adopt proposal #67. Paula made a friendly amendment to the language in brackets to be included in the language of the proposal, not deleted from it.

11 support, 0 oppose. (See minutes where committee reconsiders this proposal)

Proposal #75. This proposal defines when the transfer of possession statement needs to be filled out. Transfer form would have to write up the statement at time of transfer of the game, and not at the time the transferee is contacted by the trooper. After short discussion no one made a motion to adopt this proposal for further discussion and action.

Proposal #76. This proposal adds language to the taking of game in defense of life and property regulation. It would require all claws of a bear, skull of fur / fur bearers, antlers of ungulates, meat of all other game. A person should not benefit in any way from taking an animal in defense of life and property. There was discussion that the proposal did not require the meat of bear to be turned in.

Nick/Frank made a motion to adopt proposal #76.

11 support, 0 oppose.

Proposal #10. This proposal makes available all registration hunts at all offices and on department's website. Currently, some registration permits can only be acquired at local offices. Some hunts require in person acquisition of a permit at a local office 5 days to 2 weeks before a hunt opens. The current regs make local preference de facto. If the proposal passes, it might make some hunts so they can't open them because so many people would apply. Most registration permits allow harvest of any bull, whereas if you show up and don't get the registration permit, you can still shoot a moose but under a restriction like spike/fork/fifty.

Paula/Joe made a motion to adopt proposal #10.

0 support, 11 opposed.

Federal Subsistence Proposal Book. Proposal WP08-06. This federal proposal asks for a C&T finding and then the development of hunt regulations. Gustavus resident wants federal determination on customary and traditional use there. Says rural residents dependent on moose. If a customary and traditional finding was found, then the staff analysis of the US Forest Service indicates that the Berners area would be closed to Juneau residents because there's not enough moose there for federally qualified hunters from Haines, Skagway and Gustavus. They propose a drawing hunt for federally qualified residents. Population was introduced in 1958. There is about 7-10 moose a year harvested with the majority of the moose harvested by Juneau residents.

NB thought they could have a draw hunt on the federal land earlier than the regular state hunt, as they do in Yakutat. KT indicated this would be probably unprecedented to have a drawing subsistence hunt.

KT stated it may be tough to get a C & T finding for rural residents, but the state has already lost some of these type cases in the state.

**Bob/Nick made a motion to Federal Proposal WP08-06.
0 support 11 oppose.**

**Paula/Bob made a motion for Kathy to write a letter that it is not justified for a C and T finding with only 7 to 10 animals a year harvested from an introduced population by the comment deadline tomorrow.
11 support, 0 oppose.**

Proposal #67 was revisited. NB said he was wrong and that the proposal should be as written. Ryan, of ADFG, explained that the regulation was to support hunters who take a moose with a goofy tine.

**Mark/Paula made a motion to rescind earlier action on Proposal #67
11 support, 0 oppose.**

**Frank/Paula made a motion to readopt support for Proposal #67.
11 support, 0 oppose.**

Kathy passed out an update from the Limited Entry for Sport Fishing Guide task force. The regulations are modeled after big game guides regulation and advisory board. Limited entry, at this point, is a constitutional problem because the guides are not the actual fishermen, so probably can't be brought into a "limited entry" scheme.

Todd thought that the limited entry program held merit, and that the big game guide model was not the way to go because it was at the expense of current guides in the fishery. He also said that the non-guided guide operators should not be under the same GHF as the guided clients.

He also said the transport license for big game was very difficult to get, and that would be a burden if that was required by charter guides.

Also, she wanted the committee to be aware that Annette Island is asking for extended reserve boundaries from Annette Island. It could affect dive, halibut, black cod, herring, king salmon and coho. She wanted us to be aware of it.

Kathy said that there is a call for Board of Fish proposal out – deadline is April 10th. Kathy asked for consideration of 3 proposals. One for dungeness crab from Wrangell AC. A second for possession limits for sport fish submitted by ATA. The third is a proposal passed in Bristol Bay regarding subsistence fishing by charter guides. She handed out copies of the past two proposals and the regulation from Bristol Bay for the committee to look at. Mark suggested that we also reconsider the proposal regarding the Sept 20 coho troll closure date.

Kathy let the committee members know that the comment period for the Tulsequah Chief Mine was extended to Feb 4th and that there will be a public

meeting in Juneau for January 24th. Paula mentioned that there had been a joint letter sign on regarding the transportation plan for the mine. Kathy agreed to send the letter out by email along with other additional information.

Next Meeting: The date was set for Jan 29, 2008 at 6:30 pm. The committee agreed to look at Board of Fish proposals for submittal, The Tulsequah Chief Mine, Elections for the vacant gillnet seat and for an Alternate.

Meeting adjourned.

5AAC 92.125

(h) **Alaska Peninsula Predation Management Area in Unit 9.** Notwithstanding any other provisions in this title, and based on the following information contained in this section, the commissioner or the commissioner's designee may conduct a wolf population reduction or wolf population regulation on the Alaska Peninsula in Unit 9:

(1) The Southern Alaska Peninsula Wolf Management Area is established to increase the Southern Alaska Peninsula Caribou Herd (SAPCH) on the mainland portion of Unit 9(D) to aid in achieving intensive management objectives; the control area includes all drainages of the Alaska Peninsula west of a line from the southernmost head of Port Moller Bay to the head of American Bay, encompassing approximately 3,819 square miles; this wolf control program does not apply to any federal lands unless approved by federal land management agencies;

(2) the discussion of wildlife populations and human use information is as follows:

(A) SAPCH population and human use information is as follows:

(i) the SAPCH was estimated to contain over 10,000 caribou in 1983; following a population decline to 1,500 caribou in the 90s, the SAPCH increased to 4,200 caribou by 2002; since 2002 the SAPCH population has declined to fewer than 800 caribou; a post-calving count of the SAPCH in 2007 estimated the herd size to include 600 caribou;

(ii) nutritional limitations are not currently implicated as a factor affecting the current status of the SAPCH;

(iii) 79% of cows that were 24 months of age or older exhibited signs of pregnancy in 2007 based on a random sample of adults (n=235); a similar pregnancy rate was observed in caribou marked with radio collars; the small sample size of known-aged cows prevented the calculation of age-specific pregnancy rates;

(iv) calf survival to one month of age was estimated to be less than 1% in 2007 based on 23 radio marked cows that exhibited signs of pregnancy; no calves were observed in the SAPCH during the post-calving count despite repeated efforts to find calves in caribou groups and locating 85% of the estimated total population;

(v) research into calf mortality in the SAPCH conducted in 1999 documented a survival rate during the first two months of life to be 34% in 1999 and survival during the first year of life to be 31%; cause of death during the first two weeks of life was primarily attributed to wolves and brown bears, but sample size was considered inadequate to distinguish importance between these two predators; cause of death after calves reached two weeks of life could not be assessed to do logistic limitations;

(vi) October calf ratios declined annually since 2002, averaging 6.4 calves per 100 cows during the period of 2002 to 2007 (range 0.5 to 16);

calf ratios were 1 calf per 100 cows in 2006 and 0.5 calves per 100 cows in 2007;

(vii) bull ratios declined to 15 bulls per 100 cows by 2007; the bull ratio is expected to continue to decline based on the lack of calf recruitment in 2006 and 2007;

(viii) harvestable surplus is estimated to be 0 caribou in 2007 based on chronic poor calf recruitment and reduced bull ratio;

(ix) intensive management population objective established by the board for the SAPCH is 4,000 - 5,000 caribou; the intensive management harvest objective is 200 - 500 caribou annually;

(x) reported human harvests peaked at 388 caribou annually in 1984; estimates of unreported harvests suggest that harvests may have exceeded 1,000 caribou annually during the same period; human harvest remained low during the brief recovery following an extended period of closures from 1993 to 1998; reported harvests between 1998 and 2007 were not an important factor in the recent decline;

(B) the predator population and human use information is as follows

(i) wolves are a major predator of caribou on the Alaska Peninsula;

(ii) while no current population estimates are available for the wolf population in the Southern Alaska Peninsula Wolf Management Area, anecdotal evidence obtained from pilots and local residents indicates that wolves are abundant and likely increasing;

(iii) in 2008 the wolf population in the Southern Alaska Peninsula Wolf Management Area was thought to include 60 to 80 wolves and composed of 9 to 13 packs based on habitat type and prey base;

(iv) an average of 3 wolves (range of 0 to 6 wolves) have been harvested annually in Unit 9D since 2000;

(v) the boundaries of the Southern Alaska Peninsula Wolf Management Area correspond to the current and historic range of the SAPCH;

(vi) brown bears are considered to be an important predator of caribou on the Alaska Peninsula; while brown bears have been known to kill adult caribou opportunistically, brown bears are regarded as an effective predator of calves during the first 10 days of life;

(xi) brown bears are considered abundant throughout the Alaska Peninsula; spring brown bear density was estimated to include 170 bears per 1000 square kilometers in the Southern Alaska Peninsula Wolf Management Area during in May 2002;

(xii) research into the causes of caribou calf mortality indicate that brown bears are typically responsible for 30% of the calf deaths during the first 2 weeks of a life;

(3) predator and prey population levels and objectives and the basis for those objectives are as follows:

(A) the intensive management population objective established by the board for the SAPCH is 4,000 - 5,000 caribou; the intensive management harvest objective is 200 - 500 caribou annually;

(i) intensive management objectives were established by the board based on historic information regarding population numbers, habitat limitations, human use, and sustainable harvests;

(ii) the estimated SAPCH population in July 2007 was 600 caribou;

(iii) No human harvest was authorized during the 2007 regulatory year;

(B) wolf population objectives for Unit 9 were to maintain a wolf population that can sustain a 3-year-annual harvest of 50 wolves prior to the adoption of this management plan;

(C) brown bear population objectives in Unit 9 are to maintain a high density bear population with a sex and age structure that can sustain a harvest composed of 60% males, with 50 males 8 years of age or older during combined fall and spring seasons;

(4) justification, objectives, and thresholds for the predator management implementation plan are as follows:

(A) justification for the Southern Alaska Peninsula Predator Management Plan is based on the board decision to designate the SAPCH important for providing high levels of human consumptive use; the board established objectives for population size and annual sustained harvest of caribou in Units 9D consistent with multiple use and principles of sound conservation and management of habitat and all wildlife species in the area;

(B) the objective of Southern Alaska Peninsula Predator Management Plan is to halt the population decline of the SAPCH and to achieve a population sex and age structure that will sustain the population without the need for continued predator management. Because 40% of the land area in Unit 9D are federal lands and federal regulation restrict harvest methods, the program will not affect all wolves in Unit 9D. The goal of this program will be to remove all wolves from a control area which will be defined annually by the Department based on the distribution of caribou calving

(C) the commissioner may initiate the reduction of wolf numbers in Predator Management Areas on the Alaska Peninsula when the following thresholds are exceeded:

(i) the caribou population is below intensive management objectives established by the board and harvest objectives are not being met, and

(ii) adult nutrition is not considered the primary factor limiting caribou population growth, and

(iii) calf recruitment is the most important factor limiting population growth and calf survival during the first 4 weeks of life is less than 50%, or

(iv) calf recruitment to autumn is adequate, but calf survival during winter months reduces calf recruitment and a majority of the over-winter mortality can be attributed to predation by wolves.

(D) the commissioner may continue to reduce wolf numbers in Predator Management Areas on the Alaska Peninsula until the following thresholds are met without the benefit of wolf control:

(i) the sex ratio can be sustained within management objective and

(ii) fall calf ratios can be sustained above 30 calves per 100 cows

or

(iii) population can grow at a sustained rate of 5% annually or

(iv) harvest objectives are realized;

(E) the wolf population objective for the Southern Alaska Peninsula Management Area is to remove all wolves from control areas within Unit 9(D); Because wolves will not be removed from all lands within the management area and because logistic limitations prohibit public access to the management area, the majority of wolves in Unit 9(D) will not be affected by these management activities authorized in this plan;

(F) The department will utilize radio-telemetry, wolf surveys, or a combination of those methods to ensure that a viable wolf population persists outside of active treatment areas on the Alaska Peninsula;

(G) harvest of predators by humans is necessary to slow the caribou population decline and promote recovery;

(H) reduction of wolf numbers in control areas defined by the seasonal distribution of caribou will mitigate factors that are adversely affecting population status in such a way as to promote the population decline;

(I) reduction of bear numbers remains problematic due to the high density of brown bears in 9(D) and logistical limitations;

(5) the permissible methods and means used to take wolves are as follows:

(A) hunting and trapping of wolves by the public in treatment areas during the term of the management program may occur as provided in the hunting and trapping regulations set out elsewhere in this title, including the use of motorized vehicles as provided in 5 AAC 92.080;

(B) the commissioner may issue public aerial shooting permits, public land and shoot permits, allow an agent of the State to conduct aerial shooting, or allow Department employees to conduct aerial shooting as a method of wolf removal under AS 16.05.783;

(C) the commissioner may authorize the use of state employees or state owned or charter equipment, including helicopters, as a method of wolf removal under AS 16.05.783;

(6) the anticipated time frame and schedule for update and reevaluation are as follows:

(A) the commissioner may reduce the wolf populations in the Southern Alaska Peninsula Wolf Predation Management Area for 5 years after adoption of this plan;

(B) annually the Department shall, to the extent practicable, provide to the board at the board's spring meeting a report of program activities conducted during the preceding 12 months, including implementation activities, the status of caribou, wolf, and brown bear populations, and recommendations for changes, if necessary to achieve the objectives of the plan;

(7) other specifications that the board considers necessary:

(A) the commissioner shall suspend wolf control activities

(i) when prey population management objectives are obtained;

(ii) predation management objectives are met;

(ii) upon expiration of the period during which the commissioner is authorized to reduce predator numbers in the predator control plan area;

(B) the commissioner shall annually close wolf hunting and trapping seasons as appropriate to ensure that the minimum wolf population objectives are met.

**Summary of Advisory Committee Comment
on Antlerless Moose Proposals
Board of Game Interior Region Meeting
February 29 – March 10, 2008**

Prepared by Boards Support Section

| Proposal number | Hunt area by GMU | Committee name | Committee location | Committee action (comment number) |
|-----------------|--------------------|---|---|--|
| 115 | 1C (Gustavus) | Juneau-Douglas Icy Straits | Subunit outside unit | Support RC 165 |
| 114 | 1C (Berner's Bay) | Juneau-Douglas | Subunit | Support RC 165 |
| 116 | 5A (Nunatak Bench) | Yakutat | Subunit | Support |
| 117 | 6A | Copper River/PWS | Unit | Approved AC 10 |
| 119 | 6C | Copper River/PWS | Subunit | Approved AC 10 |
| 118 | 6B | Copper River/PWS | Unit | Approved AC 10 |
| 121 | 7, 14C | Seward Cooper Landing Anchorage Matanuska Valley Kenai/Soldotna Seldovia | Unit Unit Unit outside unit outside unit outside unit | Support RC 11 Support RC 80 Support AC 12 |
| 122 | 14C (Ft. Rich.) | Anchorage Matanuska Valley | Subunit Unit | Support RC 80 |
| 124 | 14C (Birchwood MA) | Anchorage Matanuska Valley | Subunit Unit | Support RC 80 Support AC 12 |
| 125 | 14C (EAFB) | Anchorage Matanuska Valley | Subunit Unit | Support RC 80 Support AC 12 |
| 123 | 14C (Anch MA) | Anchorage Matanuska Valley | Subunit Unit | Support RC 80 Support AC 12 |
| 126 | 14C (Ship Creek) | Anchorage Matanuska Valley | Subunit Unit | Support RC 80 Support AC 12 |
| 120 | 14A | Matanuska Valley Anchorage | Subunit Unit | Support AC 12 Support RC 80 |
| 128 | 15C (Homer) | Central Peninsula Homer Seldovia Kenai/Soldotna Anchorage Cooper Landing Seward | Subunit Subunit Subunit Unit outside unit outside unit outside unit | Support AC 11 Support RC 75 Support RC 80 Support RC 11 |

Summary of AC Comment on Antlerless Moose Proposals (continued)

| Proposal number | Hunt area by GMU | Committee name | Committee location | Committee action (comment number) |
|-----------------|-----------------------|---|---|---|
| 127 | 15A (Skilak Loop) | Kenai/Soldotna Central Peninsula Seldovia Anchorage Cooper Landing Seward | Subunit Unit Unit outside unit outside unit outside unit | Support AC 11 Support RC 80 Support RC 11 |
| 129 | 16B (Kalgan) | Tyonek Mt. Yenlo Matanuska Valley Central Peninsula Seldovia Anchorage Cooper Landing | Subunit Unit outside unit outside unit outside unit outside unit outside unit | Support AC 12 Support AC 11 Support RC 80 Support RC 11 |
| 131 | 20B (FMA/Minto Flats) | Fairbanks Minto-Nenana Delta | Subunit Subunit Unit | Support with conditions AC 3 Support RC 10 Support AC 2 |
| 131 | 20B (F.M.A.) | Fairbanks | Subunit | Support with Condition RC 39 |
| 131 | 20B (Creamers) | Fairbanks | Subunit | Support with Conditions AC 3 |
| 131 | 20B (east of FMA) | Fairbanks Minto-Nenana Delta | Subunit Subunit Unit | Support with Conditions AC 3 Support RC 10 Support AC 2 |
| 150 | 18 | ? | | |
| 130 | 20A | Middle Nenana Riv. Minto/Nenana Fairbanks Delta | Subunit Subunit Unit Unit | Support with Conditions AC 5 Support with Conditions RC 10 Support with conditions AC 3 Support AC 2 |
| 135 | 20D | Delta Fairbanks | Subunit Unit | Support AC 2 Support AC 3 |
| 132 | 22C & D | N. Norton Sound | Subunit | Yes |
| 133 | 23 | Kotzebue Noatak/Kivalina Lower Kobuk Upper Kobuk North. Seward Pen. | Unit Unit Unit Unit Unit | Yes RC 160 Yes Yes RC 161 Yes |
| 134 | 26A Colville River | Eastern Arctic | Unit | |

PROPOSAL 106A

EFFECT OF THE PROPOSAL: Terminate the 19D East wolf control program in Unit 19D

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION: **DO NOT ADOPT**

RATIONALE:

1. The proponents of proposal 106 claim that the Unit 19D East wolf control program has been ineffective.

By the second year of the program, the bear population was reduced in the EMMA by about 78%. The wolf population in the area around the EMMA was reduced by about 77%. Moose calf survivorship increased by about 19%. Yearling moose survivorship improved by about 14%. The moose population in and around the EMMA increased by about 67%. A bull moose harvest will be phased in beginning this fall, while still allowing for continued growth of the moose population. The Department does not believe the 19D East program has been ineffective; to the contrary, the Department thinks the program thus far has been successful.

2. The proponents of proposal 106 provide an incomplete description of the establishment and subsequent changes to the moose population and moose harvest objectives for Unit 19D East.

The Board established an intensive management population objective of 6000-8000 and a harvest objective of 300-400 moose for Unit 19D East in 1998. A fall 2000 moose survey conducted under less than ideal circumstances produced an estimate of a little over 800 moose in a 5200 mi² survey area in the central portion of 19D East. In response to this extremely low estimate, the Board lowered the moose population objective to "at least 3000-3500" and the harvest objective to 130-150 which was considered adequate to meet the needs of the upper Kuskokwim River communities. The Board revised the objectives downward to accommodate the recommendations of the 19D East Adaptive Wildlife Management Team. The Team's recommendation resulted from a compromise reached by its members to remove as few wolves as possible, in as small an area as possible, for the shortest time period possible, to boost the moose population only enough to meet the minimum subsistence needs of local residents. A fall 2001 survey produced an estimate of over 3000 moose in a 5200 mi² survey area, demonstrating that the 2000 survey was false. The Board reestablished the original population objective of 6000-8000 and a harvest objective of 400-600 in 2003.

3. The proponents of proposal 106 claim that estimates of hunter harvest have been flawed at various stages in the development and implementation of the 19D East program.

The Department's Division of Subsistence concluded that prior to 2001 the rate of non-reporting of a little over 20% by residents of the upper Kuskokwim River communities using moose harvest tickets was among the lowest documented in rural Alaska. The proponents incorrectly applied a correction factor far larger than that documented by the Subsistence Division for the harvest ticket system, to the registration permit system that has been in place since 2001. During

the life of the registration permit, reporting has been at or near 100% every year. Various information sources suggest relatively little hunting takes place by individuals without permits.

4. The proponents of proposal 106 claim gross miscalculation of unreported and illegal harvest of moose.

Apparently, the proponents have based their argument on information derived from the first one or two years of the research project in the 19D East EMMA; specifically, survival rates of radiocollared moose.

Since the inception of the research project, data have become progressively more complete for all aspects of moose survival, including the illegal take of moose. In a 2003 report to the Board, staff used a theoretical model to explain what had been learned up to that point about the moose population in the EMMA. In that model, illegal take accounted for mortality of 12 adult moose annually. This number was derived by extrapolating the deaths of 1 radioed cow moose accidentally shot in the 2001 September bull moose season and 1 radioed cow accidentally snared by a trapper in 2002. These mortalities were extrapolated to the entire population of moose in the EMMA. Between 2003 and 2007, only one additional radiocollared moose was taken illegally in this study. Based on the combination of more than 6 years of data, the most appropriate estimate of illegal adult moose take in the EMMA, based on radiocollared moose, is approximately 1.5% of the adult population on an annual basis. This equates to an annual take of 6 to 9 adult moose from the EMMA.

However, it is important to realize several additional points:

- 1) Only 1 of 393 (0.25%) radiocollared moose calves was taken illegally in 7 years; this was an accidental snaring. Therefore, illegal take is not an issue of concern for calves.
- 2) Of the 5 illegally taken radiocollared moose in the McGrath study, 3 were accidentally snared by trappers and 1 was accidentally shot by a legally registered hunter during the legal season. Only 1 moose was taken in a manner that indicated a purposeful violation.
- 3) In thousands of hours of intensive flying within and around the EMMA staff have not observed illegal kills, and subjective information collected from the public suggest there is little purposeful illegal take.

5. The proponents claim there is no indication that wolf control in 19D East will benefit hunters in the future.

The intensive management program has reduced the wolf population by 77% in the portion of 19D East where wolf control was intentionally focused through a combination of ground-based trapping and aerial control. Because of the outstanding effort by ground-based trappers, aerial control permittees have had to remove a relatively small number of wolves. However, both methods of wolf removal are important to maintain the desired number of wolves. The Department believes that continuation of aerial control will be important for the ongoing success of increasing the moose population and moose harvest in 19D East.

6. The proponents claim that the Board and Department staff agreed the scientific value of the predator control program was lost due to the way the program was conducted.

The Department does not agree that the scientific value of the program was lost. The Department points out that if the program had been designed as primarily a research project, the study would have been set up to optimize data analysis and hypothesis testing. However, this was not primarily a research program, it was a management program. Therefore the research study design was set up to evaluate the management actions by allowing the most rigorous data analysis possible. This approach did not negate the scientific value of the research project. The results of this research will be submitted to one or more peer-reviewed scientific journals. The journal referees and other reviewers will determine the scientific value of the findings. The data analysis and writing processes have begun and are scheduled to be completed within the coming year.

7. The proponents claim that the study plan for 19D East was shelved in 2003.

The study plan for 19D East was not shelved. The study plan was developed prior to the beginning of the research project initiated in 2001. A draft study plan was circulated to Department scientists as well as scientists outside of the Department, some of whom were the most vocal critics of the Department's predator control programs. The final study plan was modified to incorporate many but not all of the criticisms received from the reviewers; this is standard scientific process. The study plan guided the research project to the present.

8. The proponents claim that the monetary cost of removing wolves in the 19D East program was too high.

The proponents are correct in stating that the cost of the program has exceeded \$1.7 million. Although the exact figures have not been compiled, the additional cost is probably in the range of \$350-650 thousand. The vast majority of the cost is attributable to the research component of the program, not the removal of wolves. Wolves have been removed by private individuals at minimum cost to the Department. Research is not an obligatory component of a scientifically sound predator control program. Standard moose, wolf, and other surveys along with harvest monitoring are sufficient to adequately conduct and monitor predator control programs. The research component of the 19D East program was conducted not because it was necessary for monitoring predator control, but rather because the Department wanted to evaluate a fundamentally different approach to predator control, as embodied in the Experimental Micro-Management Area. The results of the 19D East research program have been presented and explained to the Board on many occasions over the past several years, and in the near future will be published in scientific proceedings. The results of this study have yielded insights into predator prey systems that are applicable to the North American boreal forest ecosystem, not just 19D East. Research on large carnivore-ungulate interactions in Alaska is expensive. The knowledge gained is priceless.

The results of this study will make an invaluable contribution to the scientific literature, just as dozens of other research studies by the Department of Fish and Game over the past three decades have done. The annual report and recommendation on the 19D East predator control program was presented by staff at this Board meeting (March 2008), and the Department recommended the continuation of the program.

PROPOSAL 113A

EFFECT OF THE PROPOSAL: Terminate the wolf control program for Units 20 and 25C

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION: **DO NOT ADOPT**

RATIONALE: The proponents of proposal 113 make reference to their criticism of the 19D East wolf control program as presented in proposal 106. However, proposal 113 contains no specific references to issues concerning the Upper Yukon-Tanana wolf control program. The Department's response to proposal 106 (19D East) is relatively detailed, and touches on several different themes and topics which are only generally relevant to the program in the Upper Yukon-Tanana. The Department points out that the wolf control programs in 19D East and in the upper Yukon-Tanana area, while they share some common features, are uniquely different. For instance, the program in 19D East is designed to address moose population and harvest objectives, while the program in the upper Yukon-Tanana is designed to address moose and caribou population and harvest objectives. It is impossible to determine the exact nature of the proponent's dissatisfaction with the upper Yukon-Tanana program based on a critical review of the 19D East program. The Department maintains that the upper Yukon-Tanana wolf control program is based on valid scientific information and is adequately monitored. The records of this Board of Game meeting as well as Board meetings during the past several years are replete with staff presentations on the relevant biological data. The annual report and recommendation on the upper Yukon-Tanana predator control program was presented by staff at this Board meeting (March 2008), and the Department recommended the continuation of the program.

PROPOSAL 102A

EFFECT OF THE PROPOSAL: Terminate the wolf control program in Unit 19A

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION: **DO NOT ADOPT**

RATIONALE: The proponents of proposal 102 make reference to their criticism of the 19D East wolf control program as presented in proposal 106. However, proposal 102 contains no specific references to issues concerning the 19A wolf control program. The Department's response to proposal 106 (19D East) is relatively detailed, and touches on several different themes and topics which are only generally relevant to the program in 19A. The Department points out that the wolf control programs in 19D East and 19A, while they share some common features, are uniquely different. For instance, the program in 19D East is designed to address a focused area (EMMA) within the subunit through both wolf and bear control, while the program in 19A is designed to address moose population and harvest objectives through wolf control only throughout the subunit. It is impossible to determine the exact nature of the proponent's dissatisfaction with the 19A program based on a critical review of the 19D East program. The Department maintains that the 19A wolf control program is based on valid scientific information and is adequately monitored. The records of this Board of Game meeting as well as Board meetings during the past several years are replete with staff presentations on the relevant biological data. The annual report and recommendation on the 19A wolf control program was presented by staff at this Board meeting (March 2008), and the Department recommended the continuation of the program.

Additional Considerations Regarding Proposal #85

Proposal 85 is intended to relieve conflict in the field. As passed it will have the opposite affect and additional ramifications. Please consider the following and the suggested solution on page 3:

1. Delaying the opening of the non-resident sheep season two days provides a very useful advantage to transporter and air taxi industries which will be marketed as such. This will result in additional conflict between two highly competitive industries, both who are attempting to cater to sheep hunters who will be caught in the middle.

2. The Transporter and Air Taxi industries have no wildlife conservation focus, which allows for substantial concern that the resource will be adversely affected.

3. The delayed non-resident opening for sheep hunting in the Interior region will create a domino effect of guides, resident hunters, transporters and non-resident hunters moving to or away from the affected area. It will not reduce conflict, in fact it has the very real consequence of increasing conflict.

4. BOG deliberation on this proposal included discussion on the resident versus non-resident harvest success and attempting to close the gap on these two factors. Please note that most persons who hunt sheep are hunting for trophy purposes more than for meat. Please consider the following:

a. Many resident hunters hunt only a few days at a time, generally, once or twice during the season, while the non-resident hunts from 7-30 days depending on the hunt he or she booked.

b. Many resident hunters have already harvested a sheep, and are hunting, hoping to find a better ram.

c. The non-resident is hunting in most cases, on a once in a lifetime hunt, has spent a tremendous amount of money to be here, and has a much greater focus on success.

d. Resident hunters have the inherent knowledge that if they are not successful for what ever reason, (weather, smoke, physical limitations, lack of game etc.) they can hunt again the following year for minimal expense.

5. The non-resident American hunter currently pays at \$525.00 twenty times more for the privilege to hunt sheep in Alaska than the resident hunter who has only to purchase a resident hunting license of \$25.00.

6. The professional guide industry has clearly supported and often initiating effort to increase ADF&G Wildlife Conservation funding and in general, works in numerous arenas to assist in wildlife conservation measures that benefit all hunters in Alaska. Passing of this proposal disaffects this important industry support and turns it into opposition in many areas. Additionally it works to divide Alaskans and pits hunter against hunter.

7. Development of the comprehensive state land Guide Concession Area, and the existing National Park Preserve and US Fish and Wildlife Refuge permits, all are competitive programs, in which conflict with other hunters is addressed as selection criteria. Any proven history of non-compliance with this important concern may well result in loss of the permit and the guide license.

8. The scope of the proposal addresses conflict in the field between sheep hunters. This conflict should be addressed most appropriately through the Departments of Public Safety and or Commerce by the Division of Wildlife Troopers and or the Big Game Commercial Services Board with the following existing regulations. *(Please see regulations and penalties listed beginning on page 3)*

9. Nothing in this proposal addressed biological concerns for sheep in this region. Although minimal information is available, we know that there are concerns about sheep populations in much of the area affected by this proposal and statewide. Previous actions taken by the BOG related to sheep concerns in the past one year include: development of drawing permit programs, going to a "any ram" harvest, two different methods of calculating second degree of kindred, and now, the shortening of the season for non-residents by two days in some of the interior region where information indicates both healthy and unhealthy population concerns. All of these actions have met with contentious outcome. When all of this is added together and we look at the path we have started down, (piecemeal action)

it makes it clearly apparent that we need better steering for comprehensive sheep management.

Recommended Solution,

Most appropriately, this issue should be worked out in a comprehensive statewide sheep management planning committee made up of all stakeholders and brought before the BOG.

a. AS 08.54.720 Unlawful Acts for Licensed Guides

(2) It is unlawful for a person licensed under this chapter to intentionally obstruct or hinder or attempt to obstruct or hinder lawful hunting engaged in by a person who is not a client of the person;

Sec. 08.54.710. DISCIPLINE OF GUIDES AND TRANSPORTERS. (a) The board may impose a disciplinary sanction in a timely manner under (c) of this section if the board finds, after a hearing, that a licensee

(1) is convicted of a violation of any state or federal statute or regulation relating to hunting or to provision of big game hunting services or transportation

(b) The board may impose a disciplinary sanction in a timely manner under (c)(3) - (7) of this section if the board finds, after a hearing, that a licensee has acted unethically as a registered guide-outfitter, class-A assistant guide, assistant guide, or transporter.

(c) The board may impose the following disciplinary sanctions, singly or in combination:

(1) permanently revoke a license;

(2) suspend a license for a specified period;

(3) censure or reprimand a licensee;

(4) impose limitations or conditions on the professional practice of a licensee;

(5) impose requirements for remedial professional education to correct deficiencies in the education, training, and skill of the licensee;

(6) impose probation requiring a licensee to report regularly to the board on matters related to the grounds for probation;

(7) impose a civil fine not to exceed \$5,000.

(d) The board shall permanently revoke a transporter license or any class of guide license if the board finds after a hearing that the license was obtained through fraud, deceit, or misrepresentation.

-6-

(e) The board shall suspend or permanently revoke a transporter license or any class of guide license without a hearing if the court orders the board to suspend or permanently revoke the license as a penalty for conviction of an unlawful act. If the board suspends or permanently revokes a license under this subsection, the board may not also impose an administrative disciplinary sanction of suspension or permanent revocation of the same license for the same offense for which the court ordered the suspension or permanent revocation under AS 08.54.720.

(f) A certified copy of a judgment of conviction of a licensee for an offense is conclusive evidence of the commission of that offense in a disciplinary proceeding instituted against the licensee under this section based on that conviction, regardless of whether the conviction resulted from a plea of nolo contendere or the conviction is under appeal, unless the conviction is overturned on appeal.

(g) A person whose license is suspended or revoked under this section may not engage in the provision of big game hunting services or transportation services during the period of license suspension or revocation.

(h) If the board revokes a license under this section, the person whose license has been revoked shall immediately surrender the license to the department.

(i) The board may summarily suspend a licensee from practice of the profession under this chapter, for a period of not more than 30 days, before a final hearing is held or during an appeal if the board finds that the licensee poses a clear and immediate danger to the public health and safety. A person is entitled to a hearing before the board to appeal the summary suspension within seven days after the order of suspension is issued. A person may appeal an adverse decision of the board on an appeal of summary suspension to a court of competent jurisdiction.

(b) In addition to a disciplinary sanction imposed under AS 08.54.710, a person who commits an offense set out in:

(a)(1) - (7), (17), (18), or (19) of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and is punishable by a fine of not more than \$10,000 or by imprisonment up to one year, or both.

(f) In addition to the penalties set out in (b) - (e) of this section and a disciplinary sanction imposed under AS 08.54.710,

(1) the court may order the board to suspend the guide license or transporter license of a person who commits a misdemeanor offense set out in (a)(1), (3) - (5), (7), (17), (18), or (19) of this section for a specified period of not more than three years;

(2) the court shall order the board to suspend the guide license or transporter license of a person who commits a misdemeanor offense set out in (a)(2) or (8) - (14) of this section for a specified period of not less than one year and not more than five years;

(3) the court shall order the board to suspend the guide license or transporter license for a specified period of not less than three years, or to permanently revoke the guide license or transporter license, of a person who commits an offense set out in (a)(15) or (16) of this section; and

(4) all guns, fishing tackle, boats, aircraft, automobiles, or other vehicles, camping gear, and other equipment and paraphernalia used in, or in aid of, a violation of (a) of this section may be seized by persons authorized to enforce this chapter and may be forfeited to the state as provided under AS 16.05.195.

(g) Upon conviction of a person for committing an offense set out in (a) of this section, the execution of sentence may not be suspended and probation may not be granted except on the condition that the minimum term of imprisonment is served. Imposition of sentence may not be suspended.

Submitted by,

Robert Fithian

Lower Tonsina, Alaska 99573

RC 170

**Findings for the Alaska Board of Game
2008-175-BOG**

**Unit 9D (Southern Alaska Peninsula Caribou Herd)
Intensive Management Supplemental Findings
March 6, 2008**

The Board of Game finds as follows, based on information provided by Department staff, Alaska residents and users of moose in Unit 9D. These findings are supplemental to the findings set forth in 5AAC 92.108.

1. The caribou population size, currently estimated to be 600 caribou, is less than the population objective of 4,000 – 5,000. The population objective has not been achieved for at least the last five years.
2. The Unit 9D caribou harvestable surplus, as described in 5 AAC 92.106(3)(A), is currently estimated at zero, which is less than the harvest objective of 200 – 500. The harvest objective has not been achieved for at least the last 7 years.
3. The Unit 9D caribou population is depleted due to poor recruitment, and has already resulted in a complete hunting closure so that there is no human harvest of the population.
4. Increases in abundance and productivity are achievable utilizing the recognized and prudent active management technique of predator control.
5. The bull ratio of 15 bulls per hundred cows and the increasing age of the cows in the herd cause concern that the herd may no longer be viable in another year or two, and recovery will be difficult unless immediate action is taken. Collared cow caribou have shown a 79% to 85% pregnancy rate. However, calf survival during the first four weeks after birth has resulted in a survival rate between 0.5 to 1 calf per 100 cows by October.
6. The population and harvest objectives have not been achieved, at least in part, because wolf and brown bear predation have been important causes of mortality in the population, to the extent that the population is unlikely to recover, and objectives are unlikely to be achieved in the foreseeable future unless predator control is conducted.
7. Reducing predation can reasonably be expected to aid in achieving the population and harvest objectives.

Vote: 5-0-2
March 6, 2008
Fairbanks, Alaska

Cliff Judkins, Chairman
Alaska Board of Game

Proposal 138

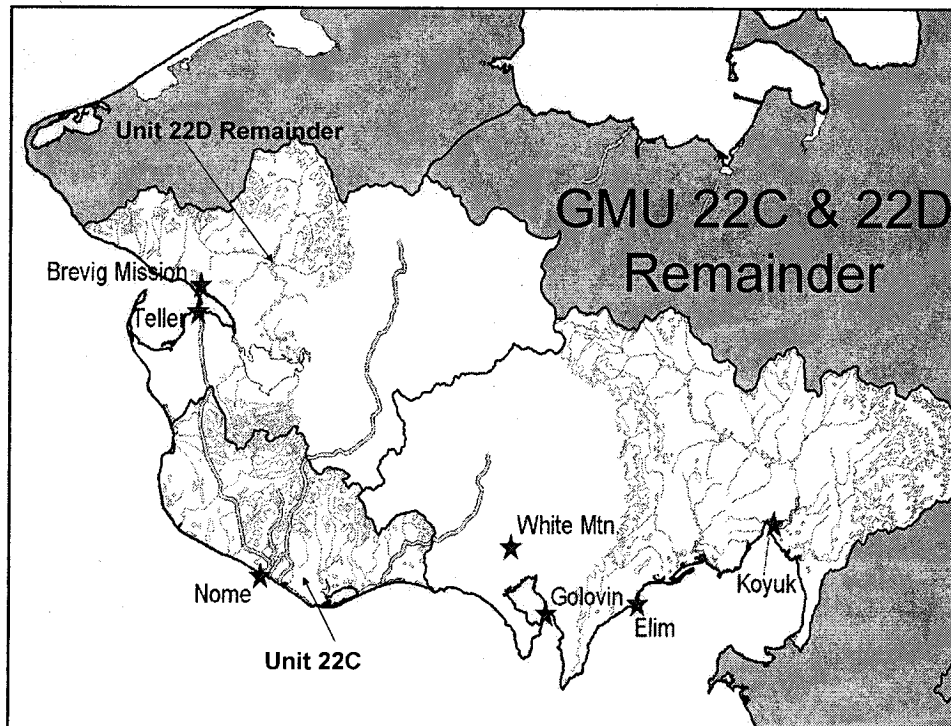
- This proposal reauthorizes the brown bear tag fee exemption for subsistence hunts in Units 18, 22, 23 and 26A, and general hunts in Units 22 and 23
- Department Recommendation: ADOPT

Background

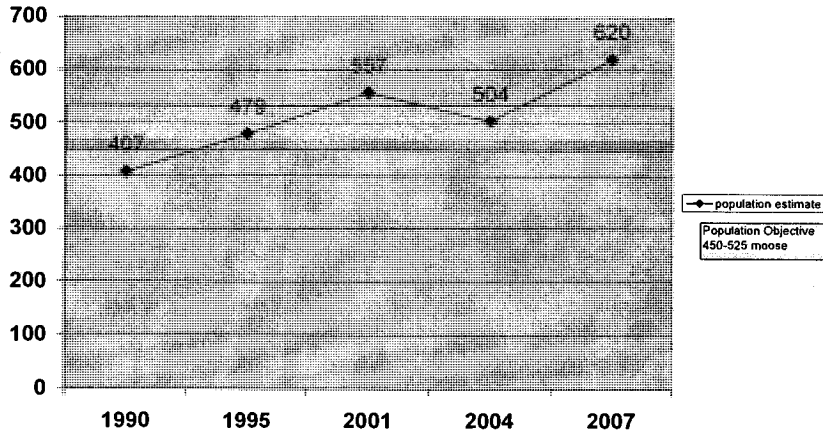
- During the past 5 years, the reported subsistence harvest for each Unit has not exceeded 5 bears annually, and normally has ranged from 1-3 bears
- General hunt harvests in Units 22 and 23 have increased during the past 10 years; however, increased liberalization of bag limits and season length also occurred
- Effect of tag fee exemption on the general hunt harvest difficult to measure, but is believed to be small

Proposal 132

- Reauthorizes the antlerless registration hunt in Unit 22C, and the antlerless general hunt in the remainder of Unit 22D.
- Season dates of September 15--30 for Unit 22C, and December 1—31 for the remainder of Unit 22D.
- Department Recommendation: ADOPT



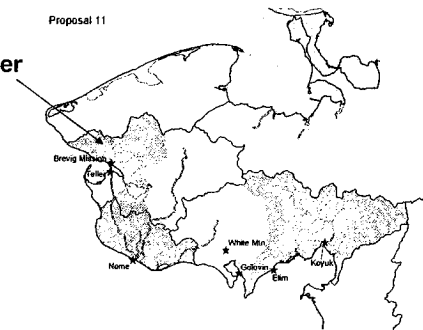
**Unit 22C Population Estimates
1990-2007**



Unit 22D Remainder (1517 square miles)

- ➔ The Unit 22D remainder moose population was estimated at 599 moose from a census conducted in 2006, and has been stable since 1997. The recruitment rate was estimated at 26%, and has fluctuated between 14% and 26% during the last 10 years.
- ➔ The bull:cow ratio is stable at 30 bulls:100 cows, which is our management goal.

**Unit 22D
Remainder**



Proposal 133

- This proposal reauthorizes the antlerless registration hunt for residents in Unit 23
- Season dates: November 1—December 31

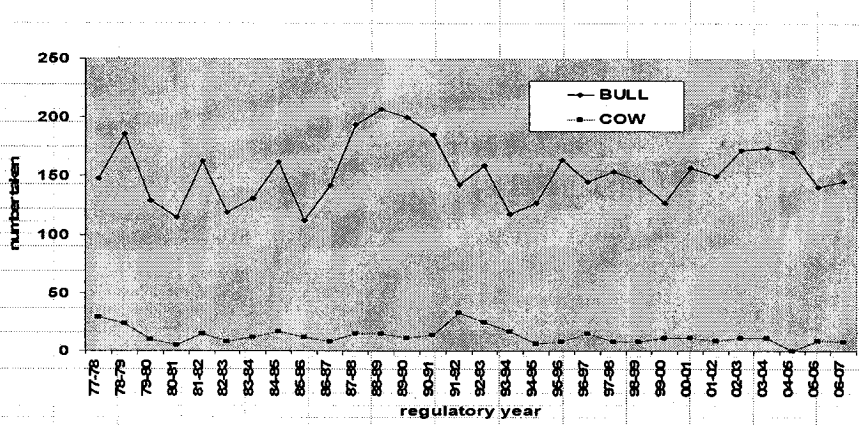
- Department Recommendation: ADOPT

Unit 23 Spring Moose Census Results

| <u>Area</u> | <u>Year</u> | <u>Moose Obs'ed</u> | <u>Total est.</u> | <u>Adult density (moose/mi²)</u> | <u>Ca:100 Adults</u> |
|--------------------------------|-------------|-------------------------|-------------------|---|--------------------------|
| Noatak-Upper Squirrel | 2001 | 709 | 1731 | 0.33 | 10 |
| Noatak-Upper Squirrel | 2005 | 575 | 1838 | 0.34 | 12 |
| Lower Kobuk- lower Squirrel | 2006 | 1536 | 3322 | 0.59 | 16 |
| Upper Kobuk | 2003 | 252 | 856 | 0.19 | 12 |
| Upper Kobuk | 2006 | 219 | 737 | 0.16 | 15 |
| N. Seward Peninsula | 2002 | 520 | 614 | 0.10 | 7 |
| N. Seward Peninsula | 2004 | 610 | 810 | 0.12 | 12 |
| Selawik | 2007 | 678 | 2341 | 0.32 | 10 |

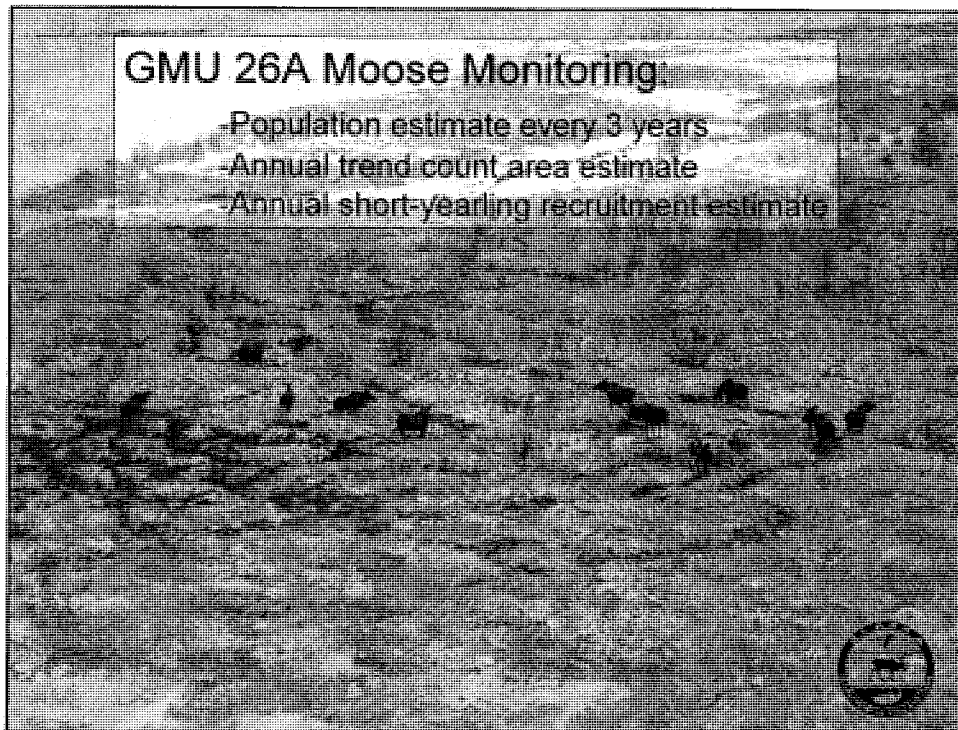
NPS, BLM and USF&WS all contributed to Unit 23 moose censuses

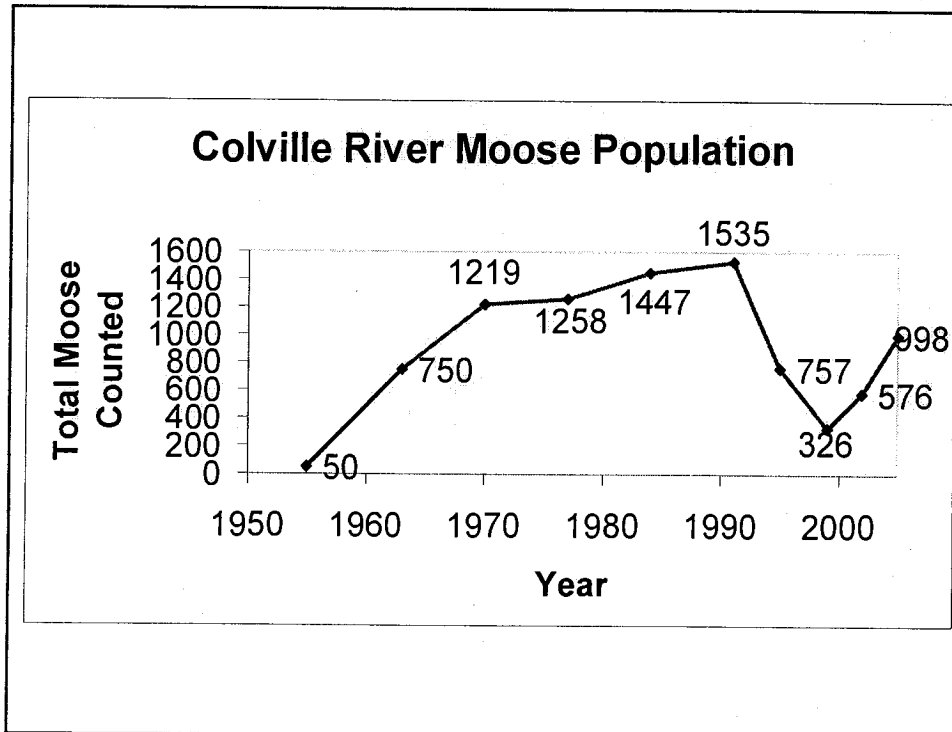
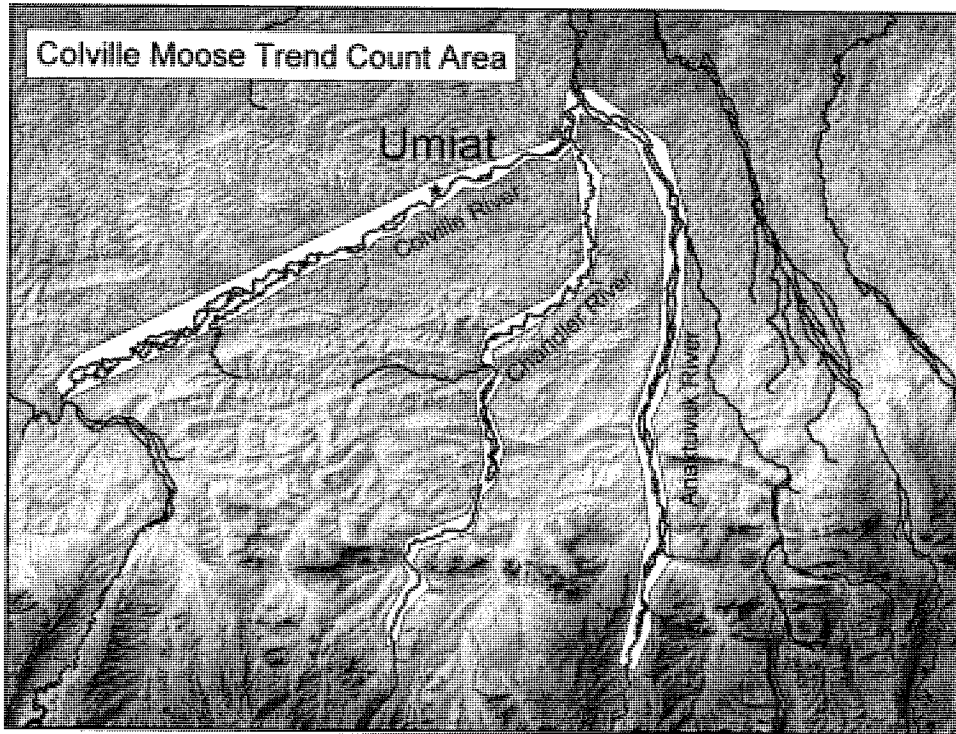
Unit 23 Moose Harvest



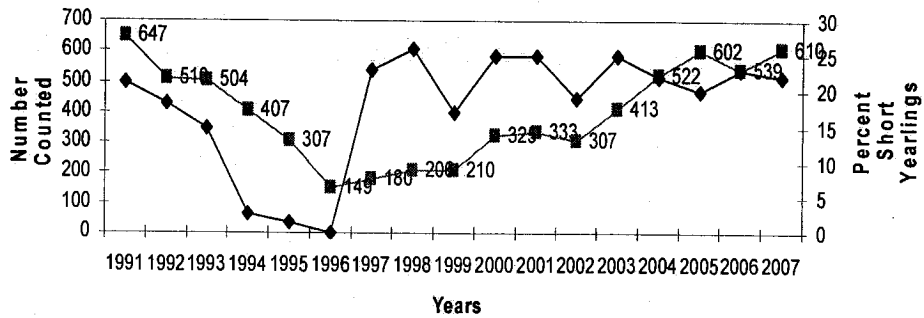
Proposal 134

- Reauthorizes the antlerless moose season in two areas within Unit 26A
- Season of Feb. 15—April 15 in the Colville drainage upstream of the Anaktuvuk drainage
- Season of July 1—Sept. 14 in that portion of Unit 26A west of 156 degrees west longitude
- Department Recommendation: ADOPT





Colville River Moose Trend Area Counts 1991 - 2007



Proposal 54 - Slide 3

Unit 26A Reported Moose Harvest

| Year | Unit | Alaska | Non- | Total |
|-----------|----------|----------|----------|-------|
| | Resident | Resident | Resident | |
| 1997-1998 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| 1998-1999 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 5 |
| 1999-2000 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| 2000-2001 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2001-2002 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 4 |
| 2002-2003 | 8 | 2 | 0 | 10 |
| 2003-2004 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 5 |
| 2004-2005 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 5 |
| 2005-2006 | 7M 2F | 2 | 0 | 11 |
| 2006-2007 | 5M 3F | 3 | 0 | 11 |
| 2007-2008 | 8M 1F | 6 | 0 | 15 |

Proposal 4: Caribou

This proposal would:

- close the nonresident caribou season in Unit 18
- require a Tier I subsistence registration permit to hunt Mulchatna caribou.

This is a public proposal.

Department Recommendation: **No Recommendation.**

An allocation issue to be determined by the board.

Unit 18 - Caribou

Proposal 4: Slide 1

Background

- Proposal was deferred from the November 2007 BOG meeting at Bethel
- Uniform regulations for the Mulchatna Caribou Herd were adopted in March 2007
- Regulations were applied across the range of the herd
- Seasons and bag limits in Units 9, 17, 18 and 19 were reduced
- Recommend that changes be applied across the range of the Mulchatna caribou herd

Unit 18 - Caribou

Proposal 4: Slide 2

Proposal 5: Caribou

This proposal would close nonresident caribou season in Unit 18.

This is a public proposal.

Department Recommendation: **Take No Action.**

The effect of this proposal is the same as Proposal 4 and no further board action is necessary.

Proposal 6: Caribou

This proposal would split the caribou season in Unit 18 into two seasons:

Aug 1 – Oct 15

Feb 1 – Mar 15

This is a public proposal.

ADFG Recommendation: **Do Not Adopt.**

Unit 18 Caribou

Proposal 3: Slide 1

Background

- Uniform regulations for the Mulchatna Caribou Herd were adopted in March 2007.
- Regulations were applied across the range of the herd.
- Seasons and bag limits in Units 9, 17, 18 and 19 were reduced.

Current Status

- Changes from March 2007 are ongoing.
- No further changes are recommended.
- Allow time to assess the effects of the regulatory changes.

Unit 18 Caribou

Proposal 3: Slide 2

RC172

5 AAC 92.230. Feeding of game. Except under the terms of a permit issued by the department, a person may not

(1) negligently feed a moose, deer, elk, bear, wolf, coyote, fox, wolverine, or deleterious exotic wildlife, or negligently leave human food, animal food, or garbage in a manner that attracts these animals. However, this prohibition does not apply to use of bait for trapping furbearers or deleterious exotic wildlife, or hunting black bears under 5 AAC 92.044, or hunting wolf, fox, or wolverine with bait defined under 5 AAC 92.210, and other regulations under 5 AAC 84 – 5 AAC 92.

(2) intentionally feed a moose, deer, elk, bear, wolf, coyote, fox, wolverine, or deleterious exotic wildlife, or intentionally leave human food, animal food, or garbage in a manner that attracts these animals. However, this prohibition does not apply to use of bait for trapping furbearers or deleterious exotic wildlife, or hunting black bears under 5 AAC 92.044, or hunting wolf, fox, or wolverine with bait defined under 5 AAC 92.210, and other regulations under 5 AAC 84 – 5 AAC 92.

*Submitted by Kevin Saxby
Department of Law*

RC173

March 7, 2008

DRAFT

The Honorable Sarah Palin
Office of the Governor

Dear Governor Palin:

At our ongoing meeting in Fairbanks, we considered a proposal from the public to create a wildlife refuge to protect the Tangle Lakes area from possible mining activity and the habitat destruction that might result. We heard compelling testimony from the public and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) about the area's significant value to wildlife. We were impressed by the extent of public support for protecting the Tangle Lakes area in the long term primarily as wildlife habitat and as an important source of long-term opportunities for hunting, fishing, and recreation.

The Alaska Board of Game shares the public's concern for the future of wildlife habitat in the Tangle Lakes area, but we recognize the limitations on the Alaska Board of Game regarding proactive measures to protect and enhance wildlife habitat. In the absence of a clear and present danger to wildlife, we haven't the authority to act pre-emptively to create a habitat reserve or a wildlife refuge.

While our legal charter does not allow us to create a wildlife refuge as the proposal requested, we can work proactively with ADF&G and land management agencies, notably the Alaska Department of Natural Resources (DNR). We seek your support for immediate discussions between these and any other appropriate state agencies to thoroughly catalog wildlife-related values, identify important habitat, affirm the extent of hunting, fishing, and recreation activities, document potential threats to those values and activities, and discuss possible courses of action designed to protect wildlife resources and uses in the area. We recognize the potential for mineral extraction in this area and in associated mineral leases, but remain convinced the long-term value of maintaining wildlife habitat far outweighs the potential benefits of possible development projects known at this time.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Cliff Judkins, Chair
Alaska Board of Game

Cc: Commissioner Denby Lloyd, ADF&G
Commissioner Tom Irwin, DNR
Representative John Harris, Speaker
Representative John Coghill

By ADF-6

pg 1/2

RC173

Representative Woodie Salmon
Representative David Guttenberg
Senator Gene Therriault
Senator Albert Kookesh
Representative Craig Johnson, Co-chair, House Resources Committee
Representative Carl Gatto, Co-chair, House Resources Committee
Senator , Co-chair, Senate Resources Committee
Senator , Co-chair, Senate Resources Committee

**ALASKA BOARD OF GAME
Interior Region Meeting
February 29 – March 10, 2008
Fairbanks, Alaska**

MISCELLANOUS BUSINESS AGENDA

1. Feeding of Game Regulations (RC 172)
2. Sheep hunting in Units 13 & 14
3. Falconry Regulations
4. Tangle Lakes Refuge Letter to Governor (RC 173)
5. Active Management letter of support by the Board of Game
6. Use of poison to eradicate rats on the Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge
7. Public Comment Policy
8. Board Committee on Advisory Committee/board process
9. Joint Board Committee Update

**Board of Game Policy for Limits on Written Comment
March 8, 2008**

Comments submitted to the Board of Game on or before the two week on-time public comment deadline is limited to 100 pages single-sided or 50 double-sided pages in length from any one individual or group relating to proposals at the meeting. Comments may be faxed or mailed; electronic format is not accepted.

Written comments submitted after the two week on-time public comment deadline is limited to 10 pages, single-sided or 5 pages double-sided in length from any one individual or group relating to proposals at the meeting.

The new policy will insure that public comments can properly be reviewed by board members prior to taking action during regulatory meetings. Last year, an organization submitted in electronic format, the equivalent of 28,000 pages to the Board of Game on a single issue. This prompted both the Board of Fisheries and the Board of Game to review their policy for accepting written public comment. The Board of Fisheries adopted this policy in October 2007.

The new policy will not diminish the reverence it has for public input that it relies upon before considering regulatory changes; however, it will prevent individuals or groups from obstructing the system by taking advantage of the written comment procedure.

Submitted by boards support

Draft

Letter Regarding SB 176/HB256

The Alaska Board of Game (Board) supports SB 176 and HB 256 (“An Act relating to active game management and to the airborne or same day airborne taking of certain game animals...”) and urges your positive action on these measures. These bills will harmonize existing law, reduce confusion, and minimize litigation.

State predator control programs have been subjected to continuous and repetitive lawsuits, alleging that the Board failed to follow the intensive management law (AS 16.05.255(e)-(j)) and the same-day airborne law (AS 16.05.783). No court has yet held that the Board has violated either, and plans adopted by the Board as prescribed by 5 AAC 92.125 are based on scientific information currently available. We will continue to follow this practice. Critics suggest that predator control programs be curtailed until more field data can be gathered. The Board and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (Department) welcome review of these programs and constantly strive to improve their efficacy, but suspending them will not help meet the statutory and constitutional requirements we are compelled to follow in working to meet the needs of Alaskans.

Opponents argue that the bills abandon science while conversely claiming that the Board ignores scientific input it receives from various organizations in adopting predation control plans. The Board demands and receives high quality information and applies appropriate wildlife science to its decisions. The Department acts as staff and primary science advisor to the Board, and nearly always has the best available scientific data. The bills’ deletion of AS 16.05.783’s unnecessary, superfluous requirement that predation control programs be “based on information provided by the department” will not change the Board’s continued reliance on the Department’s expertise.

The Board always considers information presented by other individuals or groups, even though critics sometimes claim otherwise. Department wildlife biologists are members of professional societies, regularly attend scientific conferences, publish information in peer-reviewed professional journals, and are participating in a Wildlife Society review of North American predator control programs. Department participation follows up on criticism that Alaska has not implemented the recommendations put forth in the 1997 National Academy of Science – National Research Council review of Alaska’s predator control programs. These scientific activities are critical to our decision-making process, just as legislative funding for intensive management studies is necessary both to Board deliberations and to continue and expand the solid scientific basis for managing complex predator-prey-human-ecological systems.

SB 176/HB 256 will clarify existing laws without changing the Board’s longstanding reliance on science. We recommend they be enacted.

Submitted by Board Support

RC 177

**YUKON FISH AND WILDLIFE
MANAGEMENT BOARD**



RECEIVED
MAR 07 2008
BOARDS

Box 31104, Whitehorse, Yukon, Y1A 5P7
Phone: (867) 667-3754 Fax: (867) 393-6947 yfwmbadmin@yknet.ca

February 15th, 2008

Cliff Judkins, Chair
Alaska Board of Game
P.O. Box 11526
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Re: Comments on Proposal 1 (Chisana Caribou Hunt) for the Spring 2008 Alaska Board of Game Meeting

Dear Mr. Judkins,

The Yukon Fish & Wildlife Management Board has become recently aware of a proposal by the Upper Tanana / Fortymile Advisory Committee to open a limited harvest of the Chisana Caribou Herd in Unit 12, and that this proposal (Proposal #1) will be considered by the Alaska Board of Game at the Spring 2008 meeting. We have some very serious concerns regarding the sustainability, financial implications, and ethics of this proposed hunt, and we ask that you review our comments.

The Yukon Fish and Wildlife Management Board (YFWMB) is established under Chapter 16 of the Umbrella Final Agreement. Our primary responsibility is to act in the public interest and provide recommendations to governments on all matters related to fish and wildlife management, legislation, research, policies and programs. Our focus is on territory-wide issues and we have specific responsibilities related to legislation and regulations, as outlined in UFA Section 16.7.16. We also have specific authority to make recommendations on the need for, and on positions on, inter-jurisdictional agreements that affect the conservation and use of fish and wildlife resources in the Yukon.

Although the YFWMB was actively involved in the Chisana Caribou Recovery Program and participated in funding this program through our Yukon Fish and Wildlife Enhancement Trust, the proponent did not consult us on this proposal and we are not in support of this hunt. Our reasons for not supporting the hunt are as follows:

The YFWMB, as mentioned previously, aided in funding the recovery of the Chisana Caribou herd over several years, and the YFWMB recommended the Yukon's emergency closure for hunting of this herd to arrest its serious decline. We understood throughout the recovery program that this would not bring the herd back to a level where sustainable harvest could occur in the near future. In addition, we understood that this recovery strategy was completed to lower the average age of cow caribou to avoid a reproductive void that could have spelled a steeper decline of the herd. The recovery program has been over for a few

short years, and the herd has benefited from this strategy, but the cost of bringing this herd from the brink of extirpation was very steep. The introduction of legislation to include a 20 bull caribou harvest flies in the face of all we have accomplished and is premature to say the least.

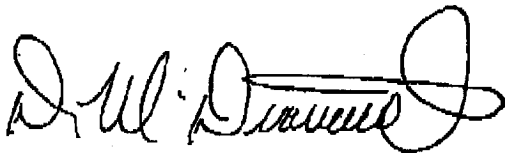
It cannot be ignored that Yukon First Nations stopped all hunting of the Chisana Caribou on a voluntary basis, and this proposal which is at a level of 2.6% for the overall herd does not take into account that Alaskan harvest could also open the door for Yukon First Nation harvest. First Nation harvest could push the overall harvest level well over the sustainable harvest range of 2-3% for stable populations of ungulates. Sustainable harvest must take into account all factors, and First Nation harvest, licensed resident harvest, non-resident harvest on both sides of the border must be taken into account.

Lastly, the YFWMB understands that a harvest rate of 2-3% is considered sustainable for ungulate populations that are stable or increasing, but it is not apparent whether the Chisana herd is either stable or increasing. In fact, our understanding was that the population was still undergoing a slight decline, which indicates that no harvest is sustainable at this time.

The YFWMB would like to take this opportunity to invite members of the Alaska Board of Game to attend our next Board meeting scheduled for April 29th, 30th, and May 1st, and 2nd of 2008. We would like to discuss joint caribou management and deal specifically with trans-boundary herds such as the Chisana herd. If you cannot spare the time to send representation to our meeting we would be interested in making a presentation at your next meeting to express our concerns in person and discuss the future of this herd and any herd for which we share trans-boundary responsibility.

Thanks you for taking the time to review our concerns and we sincerely look forward to your response.

Sincerely,



Dan McDiarmid
Chair, YFWMB

Cc. Harvey Jessup, Director Fish and Wildlife – Yukon Government
David Johnny, Chief, White River First Nation
Doug Larsen, Director, Alaska Department of Fish and Game
Mason Reid, Biologist, US National Parks Service
Brian Pelchat, A/Manager, Whitehorse Office, Canadian Wildlife Service
Andy Carvill, Grand Chief, Council for Yukon First Nations
Alan Young, President, Yukon Outfitters Association

Taking of Raptors

1[4]5. An eyas may be taken only from May 26 through August 5. A passage bird, adult American kestrel, or adult great horned owl may be taken only from August 15 through November 30. Except for American kestrels and great-horned owls, a raptor that is over one year of age may not be taken. An eyas may be taken only by general or master class falconer; no more than two eyases may be taken during the specified period[, EXCEPT FOR AMERICAN PEREGRINE FALCON AND ARCTIC PEREGRINE FALCON ONLY ONE EYAS MAY BE TAKEN]; and, at least one nestling must be left in any nest from which a bird is removed. [FOR THE TAKING OF PEREGRINE FALCONS THE SPECIAL PROVISIONS APPLY:

A. AMERICAN PEREGRINE FALCON AND ARCTIC PEREGRINE FALCON CAPTURE PERMIT REQUIREMENTS:

THE DEPARTMENT MAY ISSUE A SINGLE NONTRANSFERABLE PERMIT (CAPTURE PERMIT) TO TAKE AN AMERICAN PEREGRINE FALCON OR ARCTIC PEREGRINE FALCON ONLY TO ALASKA FALCONERS WHO QUALIFY UNDER PERMIT APPLICATION PROCEDURES ESTABLISHED IN 5 AAC 92.037. THE FOLLOWING PROCEDURES AND CONDITIONS APPLY TO THE APPLICATION FOR AND ISSUANCE OF AMERICAN PEREGRINE FALCON AND ARCTIC PEREGRINE FALCON CAPTURE PERMITS (CAPTURE PERMITS) AND TO THE TAKING OF AMERICAN OR ARCTIC PEREGRINE FALCONS FOR THE PRACTICE OF FALCONRY:

- (1) AN APPLICANT, WHO MUST POSSESS EITHER A) AN ALASKA MASTER CLASS FALCONRY PERMIT OR B) AN ALASKA GENERAL CLASS FALCONRY PERMIT WITH MORE THAN TWO YEARS OF EXPERIENCE IN THE PRACTICE OF FALCONRY AT THE GENERAL CLASS LEVEL, SHALL SUBMIT A COMPLETED APPLICATION ON A FORM PROVIDED BY THE DEPARTMENT;
- (2) A PERSON MAY NOT SUBMIT MORE THAN ONE APPLICATION NOR RECEIVE MORE THAN ONE CAPTURE PERMIT DURING A CALENDAR YEAR;
- (3) THE TOTAL NUMBER OF CAPTURE PERMITS ISSUED ANNUALLY BY THE DEPARTMENT WILL NOT EXCEED SIX, AND THE TOTAL NUMBER OF CAPTURE PERMITS ISSUED ANNUALLY BY THE DEPARTMENT FOR THE SAGAVANIRK TOK AND TANANA RIVERS WILL NOT EXCEED THREE FOR EACH AREA. CAPTURE PERMITS WILL BE ISSUED TO ALASKA

GENERAL CLASS FALCONRY PERMITTEES WITH MORE THAN TWO YEARS OF EXPERIENCE IN THE PRACTICE OF FALCONRY AT THE GENERAL CLASS LEVEL ONLY IF SURPLUS CAPTURE PERMITS ARE AVAILABLE AFTER ISSUING CAPTURE PERMITS TO ALASKA MASTER CLASS FALCONRY PERMITTEES;

- (4) IF THE NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS RECEIVED BY THE DEPARTMENT EXCEEDS THE NUMBER OF CAPTURE PERMITS AVAILABLE, THE CAPTURE PERMITS WILL BE ISSUED ON A LOTTERY BASIS USING THE FOLLOWING RANKING CRITERIA: A) FIRST RANK – MASTER FALCONERS WITH NO PREVIOUS YEAR CAPTURE PERMIT, B) SECOND RANK – MASTER FALCONERS WITH CAPTURE PERMIT IN PREVIOUS YEAR, C) THIRD RANK – QUALIFIED GENERAL CLASS FALCONERS WITH NO PREVIOUS YEAR CAPTURE PERMIT, D) FOURTH RANK - QUALIFIED GENERAL CLASS FALCONERS WITH CAPTURE PERMIT IN PREVIOUS YEAR;
- (5) FOR THE SAGAVANIRK TOK AND TANANA RIVERS, A CAPTURE PERMIT WILL BE ISSUED FOR EACH OF THE FIRST THREE APPLICATIONS DRAWN UNDER (4) OF THIS SUBSECTION THAT SPECIFIES A PREFERENCE FOR TAKING A PEREGRINE FALCON FROM ONE OF THOSE AREAS;
- (6) IF A PERMIT DRAWING IS OVERSUBSCRIBED AND A SURPLUS CAPTURE PERMIT BECOMES AVAILABLE, IT WILL BE ISSUED AS PROVIDED IN (4) AND (5) OF THIS SUBSECTION;
- (7) A CAPTURE PERMIT IS NONTRANSFERABLE AND AN AMERICAN OR ARCTIC PEREGRINE FALCON MAY BE TAKEN ONLY BY THE PERSON NAMED ON THE CAPTURE PERMIT;
- (8) A CAPTURE PERMITTEE MAY NOT TAKE MORE THAN ONE EYAS AMERICAN OR ARCTIC PEREGRINE FALCON IN COMBINATION FROM THE WILD PER YEAR;
- (9) ARCTIC PEREGRINE FALCONS MAY BE TAKEN ONLY IN GAME MANAGEMENT UNITS 22, 23, AND 26, EXCLUDING A CORRIDOR EXTENDING ONE-HALF MILE ON EITHER SIDE OF THE COLVILLE RIVER, BEGINNING AT THE MOUTH OF THE ETIVLUK RIVER AND EXTENDING DOWNSTREAM TO OCEAN POINT, WHICH IS CLOSED TO HARVEST; AND
- (10) AMERICAN PEREGRINE FALCONS MAY BE TAKEN ONLY IN GAME MANAGEMENT UNITS 12, 18-21, 24 AND 25, EXCLUDING A CORRIDOR EXTENDING ONE-HALF MILE ON

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EITHER SIDE OF THE YUKON RIVER, BEGINNING AT THE ALASKA/CANADA BORDER AND EXTENDING DOWNSTREAM TO CIRCLE, ALASKA, WHICH IS CLOSED TO HARVEST; AND

- (11) ONLY EYASES MAY BE TAKEN.

B. PEALE'S PEREGRINE FALCON TAKING REQUIREMENTS:

- (1) AN ALASKA MASTER CLASS PERMITTEE, AND AN ALASKA GENERAL CLASS PERMITTEE WITH MORE THAN TWO YEARS OF EXPERIENCE IN THE PRACTICE OF FALCONRY AT THE GENERAL CLASS LEVEL MAY TAKE PEALE'S PEREGRINE FALCONS;
- (2) PEALE'S PEREGRINE FALCON MAY BE TAKEN ONLY IN GAME MANAGEMENT UNITS 1-10 AND 15; AND
- (3) ONLY EYASES MAY BE TAKEN.]

a. Peregrine falcon take requirements:

- (1) An Alaska master class permittee, and an Alaska general class permittee with more than two years of experience in the practice of falconry at the general class level may take peregrine falcons; and
- (2) Peregrine falcons may not be taken from a corridor extending one-half mile on either side of the Colville River, beginning at the mouth of the Etivluk River and extending downstream to Ocean Point, nor from a corridor extending one-half mile on either side of the Yukon River, beginning at the Alaska/Canada border and extending downstream to Circle, Alaska.
- (3) The department may restrict the take of peregrine falcons from specific sites or general areas.

1[5]6. [BEFORE TAKING A RAPTOR FROM THE WILD, A PERMITTEE SHALL PROVIDE NOTIFICATION OF THE INTENDED AREA AND TIME OF TAKE TO THE DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEE WHO IS DESIGNATED AS THE REGIONAL FALCONRY REPRESENTATIVE IN THE INTENDED AREA OF TAKE AND SHALL PROVIDE THE SAME INFORMATION TO THE DEPARTMENT OFFICE NEAREST THE LOCATION WHERE THE RAPTOR WILL BE TAKEN. WITHIN FIVE DAYS AFTER TAKING A RAPTOR, THE PERMITTEE SHALL NOTIFY THE REGIONAL FALCONRY REPRESENTATIVE IN THE AREA OF TAKE OF THE SPECIFIC LOCATION OF THE TAKE, SHALL SUBMIT COPIES OF FEDERAL FORM

3-186A (MIGRATORY BIRD ACQUISITION/DISPOSITION REPORT) TO BOTH THE ADF&G PERMITS SECTION AND THE U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE, SHALL PROVIDE TO THE DEPARTMENT THE SPECIFIC LOCATION OF CAPTURE, AND SHALL SUBMIT OTHER INFORMATION RELATED TO THE TAKING, AS REQUIRED BY THE DEPARTMENT.

A. THE DEPARTMENT MAY RESTRICT THE TAKE OF PEREGRINE FALCONS FROM SPECIFIC SITES OR GENERAL AREAS. SPECIAL NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR THE TAKING OF AMERICAN PEREGRINE FALCONS AND ARCTIC PEREGRINE FALCONS ARE LISTED BELOW. A PERMITTEE:

- (1) SHALL NOTIFY THE DEPARTMENT'S FAIRBANKS REGIONAL OFFICE AT LEAST FIVE DAYS BEFORE TAKING AN AMERICAN OR ARCTIC PEREGRINE FALCON AND IDENTIFY THE INTENDED AREA AND TIME OF TAKE; IF TAKING A PEREGRINE FROM UNITS 7, OR 11-17, NOTIFICATION SHALL OCCUR IN ANCHORAGE, IN UNITS 18 - 26, NOTIFICATION SHALL OCCUR IN FAIRBANKS, AND IF TAKING A PASSAGE BIRD, NOTIFICATION SHALL OCCUR IN JUNEAU. NO MORE THAN 3 ARCTIC PEREGRINE FALCONS MAY BE TAKEN FROM THE SAGAVANIRK TOK RIVER AND NO MORE THAN 3 AMERICAN PEREGRINE FALCONS MAY BE TAKEN FROM THE TANANA RIVER;
- (2) SHALL, WITHIN FIVE DAYS AFTER TAKING AN AMERICAN OR ARCTIC PEREGRINE FALCON, INFORM THE DEPARTMENT'S FAIRBANKS REGIONAL OFFICE AND THE PERMITTEE'S REGIONAL FALCONRY REPRESENTATIVE OF THE DATE OF TAKING, THE LOCATION OF THE NEST SITE, AND THE NUMBER OF YOUNG IN THE NEST;
- (3) SHALL, WITHIN FIVE DAYS AFTER TAKING AN AMERICAN OR ARCTIC PEREGRINE FALCON, INFORM THE DEPARTMENT'S FAIRBANKS REGIONAL OFFICE OF THE LOCATION OF ALL OTHER AMERICAN OR ARCTIC PEREGRINE FALCON NESTS VISITED, THE NUMBER OF YOUNG IN EACH NEST, AND OTHER INFORMATION REQUESTED BY THE DEPARTMENT; AND
- (4) SHALL, WITHIN FIVE DAYS AFTER TAKING AN AMERICAN OR ARCTIC PEREGRINE FALCON, TURN IN TO THE PERMITTEE'S REGIONAL FALCONRY REPRESENTATIVE ANY LEG BAND RETRIEVED FROM AN AMERICAN OR ARCTIC PEREGRINE FALCON REMOVED FROM A NEST.]]

Permittees shall comply with the following notification requirements when taking raptors for falconry.

a. Regional falconry representatives and department offices where permittees shall report their planned and completed taking activities:

(1) Game Management Units 1 - 5: ADF&G, Division of Wildlife Conservation, Region I, 803 3rd Street, P.O. Box 110024, Douglas, AK 99824-0024;

(2) Game Management Units 6 - 17: ADF&G, Division of Wildlife Conservation, Region II, 333 Raspberry Road, Anchorage, AK 99518-1565;

(3) Game Management Units 19 - 21, 24, 25, 26B, and 26C: ADF&G, Division of Wildlife Conservation, Region III, 1300 College Road, Fairbanks, AK 99701-1599;

(4) Game Management Units 18, 22, 23 and 26A: ADF&G, Division of Wildlife Conservation, Region V, Pouch 1148, Nome, AK 99762;

(5) State copy of form 3-186A: ADF&G, Permits Section, Division of Wildlife Conservation, 1225 West 8th Street, P.O. Box 115526, Juneau, AK 99811-5526; and

(6) Federal copy of form 3-186A: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Migratory Birds Permit Office, 1011 East Tudor Road, Anchorage, AK 99503.

b. Before taking any raptor from the wild, a permittee shall notify:

(1) the department regional falconry representative in the intended area of take of the permittee's planned taking activities, including the area, species, and timing of take; and

(2) the nearest department office in the intended area of take of the permittee's planned taking activities, including the area, species, and timing of take.

c. Within five days after taking a raptor, excluding an American peregrine falcon or arctic peregrine falcon, a permittee shall:

(1) notify the department regional falconry representative in the area of take of the permittee's completed taking activities, including the specific location, date, species, age (if known) and sex (if known) of take; and

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(2) submit other information related to the taking, as requested by the department.

d. Within five days after taking an American peregrine falcon or arctic peregrine falcon from the wild, a permittee shall:

(1) notify the department regional falconry representative in the area of take of the permittee's completed taking activities, including the specific location of taking, date, species, age (if known), sex (if known), and the number of young in the nest at the time of taking (when eyas birds are taken);

(2) notify the department regional falconry representative in the area of take of the specific location of all American peregrine falcon or arctic peregrine falcon nests visited, the number of young in each nest visited, and other information requested by the department; and

(3) submit to the department regional falconry representative in the area of take any leg band retrieved from an American peregrine falcon or arctic peregrine falcon removed from a nest.

e. Within five days after taking any raptor, a permittee shall submit copies of federal form 3-186A (Migratory Bird Acquisition/ Disposition Report) to the following locations:

(1) ADF&G Permits Section; and

(2) U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Migratory Birds Permit Office.

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5 AAC 92.080(3) is amended to read:

5 AAC 92.080. Unlawful methods of taking game; exceptions.

(3) **unless otherwise provided in this chapter**, knowingly, or with reason to know, with the use of a helicopter in any manner, including transportation to, or from, the field of any unprocessed game or parts of game, any hunter or hunting gear, or any equipment used in the pursuit or retrieval of game; this paragraph does not apply to transportation of a hunter, hunting gear, or game during an emergency rescue operation in a life - threatening situation;

5 AAC 92.125 is amended by adding a new section, to read:

(h) **Alaska Peninsula Predation Management Area in Unit 9.** Notwithstanding any other provisions in this title, and based on the following information contained in this section, the commissioner or the commissioner's designee may conduct a wolf population reduction or wolf population regulation on the Alaska Peninsula in Unit 9D:

(1) The Southern Alaska Peninsula Predation Management Area is established to increase the Southern Alaska Peninsula Caribou Herd (SAPCH) on the mainland portion of Unit 9(D) to aid in achieving intensive management objectives; the control area includes all drainages of the Alaska Peninsula west of a line from the southernmost head of Port Moller Bay to the head of American Bay, encompassing approximately 3,819 square miles; this wolf control program does not apply to any federal lands unless approved by federal land management agencies;

(2) the discussion of wildlife populations and human use information is as follows:

(A) SAPCH population and human use information is as follows:

(i) the SAPCH was estimated to contain over 10,000 caribou in 1983; following a population decline to 1,500 caribou in the 90s, the SAPCH increased to 4,200 caribou by 2002; since 2002 the SAPCH population has declined to fewer than 800 caribou; a post-calving count of the SAPCH in 2007 estimated the herd size at 600 caribou;

(ii) nutritional limitations are not currently implicated as a factor affecting the current status of the SAPCH;

(iii) 79% of cows that were 24 months of age or older exhibited signs of pregnancy in 2007 based on a random sample of adults (n=235) observed during an aerial survey; a similar pregnancy rate was observed in caribou marked with radio collars;

(iv) calf survival to one month of age was estimated to be less than 1% in 2007 based on 23 radio marked cows that exhibited signs of pregnancy; no calves were observed in the SAPCH during the post-calving count despite repeated efforts to find calves in caribou groups and locating 85% of the estimated total population;

(v) research into calf mortality in the SAPCH conducted in 1999 documented a survival rate during the first two months of life to be 34% and survival during the first year of life to be 31%; cause of death during the first two weeks of life was primarily attributed to wolves and brown bears;

(vi) October calf:cow ratios declined annually since 2002, averaging 6.4 calves per 100 cows during the period of 2002 to 2007 (range 0.5 to 16); calf ratios were 1 calf per 100 cows in 2006 and 0.5 calves per 100 cows in 2007;

(vii) bull ratios declined to 15 bulls per 100 cows by 2007; the bull ratio is expected to continue to decline based on the lack of calf recruitment in 2006 and 2007;

(viii) the harvestable surplus is estimated to be 0 caribou in 2007 based on chronic poor calf recruitment and reduced bull ratio;

(ix) the intensive management population objective established by the board for the SAPCH is 4,000 - 5,000 caribou; the intensive management harvest objective is 200 - 500 caribou annually;

(x) reported human harvests peaked at 388 caribou in 1984; estimates of unreported harvests suggest that harvests may have exceeded 1,000 caribou annually during the 1980s; human harvest remained low during the brief recovery following an extended period of closures from 1993 to 1998; reported harvests between 1998 and 2007 were not an important factor in the recent decline;

(B) the predator population and human use information is as follows

(i) wolves are a major predator of caribou on the Alaska Peninsula;

(ii) while no current aerial population survey data are available for the wolf population in the Southern Alaska Peninsula Predation Management Area, recent anecdotal evidence obtained from pilots and local residents indicates that wolves are abundant and likely increasing;

(iii) in 2008 the wolf population in the Southern Alaska Peninsula Predation Management Area was estimated at 60 to 80 wolves in 9 to 13 packs based on habitat type and prey base;

(iv) research into the causes of caribou calf mortality indicates that wolves are responsible for 45% of the calf deaths during the first 2 weeks of a life;

(v) an average of 3 wolves (range of 0 to 6 wolves) have been harvested annually in Unit 9D since 2000;

(vi) the boundaries of the Southern Alaska Peninsula Wolf Management Area correspond to the current and historic range of the SAPCH;

(vii) brown bears are important predators of caribou on the Alaska Peninsula; while brown bears have been known to kill adult caribou opportunistically, brown bears are effective predators of calves during the first 10 days of life;

(viii) brown bears are abundant throughout the Alaska Peninsula; spring brown bear density was estimated at 170 bears per 1000 square kilometers in the Southern Alaska Peninsula Predation Management Area in May 2002;

(ix) research into the causes of caribou calf mortality indicates that brown bears are typically responsible for 30% of the calf deaths during the first 2 weeks of a life;

(3) predator and prey population levels and objectives and the basis for those objectives are as follows:

(A) the intensive management population objective established by the board for the SAPCH is 4,000 - 5,000 caribou; the intensive management harvest objective is 200 - 500 caribou annually;

(i) intensive management objectives were established by the board based on historic information regarding population numbers, habitat limitations, human use, and sustainable harvests;

caribou;

(ii) the estimated SAPCH population in July 2007 was 600

year;

(iii) No human harvest was authorized during the 2007 regulatory

(B) wolf population objectives for Unit 9 were to maintain a wolf population that can sustain a 3-year-annual harvest of 50 wolves prior to the adoption of this management plan;

(C) brown bear population objectives in Unit 9 are to maintain a high density bear population with a sex and age structure that can sustain a harvest composed of 60% males, with 50 males 8 years of age or older during combined fall and spring seasons;

(4) justification, objectives, and thresholds for the predator management implementation plan are as follows:

(A) justification for the Southern Alaska Peninsula Predation Management Area is based on the board decision to designate the SAPCH as being important for providing high levels of human consumptive use; the board established the objectives for population size and annual sustained harvest of caribou in Units 9D consistent with multiple use and principles of sound conservation and management of habitat and all wildlife species in the area;

(B) the objective of the Southern Alaska Peninsula Predation Management Plan is to halt the population decline of the SAPCH and to achieve a population sex and age structure that will sustain the population. Because 40% of the land area in Unit 9D is federal land and federal regulations restrict typical control methods, the program will not affect all wolves in Unit 9D. The goal of this program will be to remove all wolves from a focus area which will be defined annually by the Department based on the distribution of caribou calving;

(C) the commissioner may initiate the reduction of wolf numbers in a Predation Management Area on the Alaska Peninsula according to the following thresholds:

(i) the caribou population is below intensive management objectives established by the board and harvest objectives are not being met, and

(ii) adult nutrition is not considered the primary factor limiting caribou population growth, and

(iii) calf recruitment is the most important factor limiting population growth and calf survival during the first 4 weeks of life is less than 50%.

(D) the commissioner may continue to reduce wolf numbers in Predator Management Areas on the Alaska Peninsula until the following thresholds are met without the benefit of wolf control:

(i) the bull:cow ratio can be sustained within management objectives and

(ii) fall calf:cow ratios can be sustained above 30 calves per 100 cows or

(iii) the population can grow at a sustained rate of 5% annually or

(iv) harvest objectives are realized;

(E) the wolf population objective for the Southern Alaska Peninsula Predation Management Area is to annually remove all wolves from caribou calving areas

within Unit 9(D); Because wolves will not be removed from all lands within the management area and because logistic limitations limit public access to the management area and minimize public take of wolves, the majority of wolves in Unit 9(D) will not be affected by the management activities authorized in this plan;

(F) The department will utilize radio-telemetry, wolf surveys, or a combination of those methods to ensure that a viable wolf population persists outside of active treatment areas on the Alaska Peninsula;

(G) reduction of predators by humans is necessary to stop the caribou population decline and promote recovery;

(H) reduction of wolf numbers in control areas defined by the seasonal distribution of caribou is expected to stop the caribou population decline;

(I) reduction of bear numbers remains unlikely due to the high density of brown bears in 9(D), logistical limitations, and competing management priorities;

(5) the authorized methods and means used to take wolves are as follows:

(A) hunting and trapping of wolves by the public in treatment areas during the term of the management program may occur as provided in the hunting and trapping regulations set out elsewhere in this title, including the use of motorized vehicles as provided in 5 AAC 92.080;

(B) the commissioner may issue public aerial shooting permits, public land and shoot permits, allow agents of the State to conduct aerial shooting, or allow Department employees to conduct aerial shooting as a method of wolf removal under AS 16.05.783, including the use of any type of aircraft;

(C) the commissioner may authorize the use of state employees or state owned or charter equipment, including helicopters, as a method of wolf removal under AS 16.05.783;

(6) the anticipated time frame and schedule for update and reevaluation are as follows:

(A) the commissioner may reduce the wolf populations in the Southern Alaska Peninsula Predation Management Area for four years after adoption of this plan;

(B) annually the Department shall, to the extent practicable, provide to the board at the board's spring meeting a report of program activities conducted during the preceding 12 months, including implementation activities, the status of caribou, wolf, and brown bear populations, and recommendations for changes, if necessary to achieve the objectives of the plan;

(7) other specifications that the board considers necessary:

(A) the commissioner shall suspend wolf control activities

(i) when prey population management objectives are obtained;

(ii) predation management objectives are met;

(ii) upon expiration of the period during which the commissioner is authorized to reduce predator numbers in the predator control plan area;

(B) the commissioner shall annually close wolf hunting and trapping seasons as appropriate to ensure that the minimum wolf population objectives are met.

RC LOG

| Submitted by | Subject |
|---|------------------------------------|
| 1. 2/28 ADF&G | |
| 2. 2/28 ADF&G | Wildlife Staff Reports |
| 3. 2/28 ADF&G | Subsistence Staff Reports |
| 4. 2/28 Deborah Hansen | Bear Viewing |
| 5. 2/28 Audun Enstad | Props 89 & 90 |
| 6. 2/28 Carl Dixon | Props 3,23 |
| 7. 2/28 Orville Huntington | Prop 94 |
| 8. 2/28 Mike Tvenge | Prop 45 |
| 9. 2/28 GASH AC | Meeting Minutes |
| 10. 2/28 Minto Nenana AC | Meeting Minutes |
| 11. 2/28 Cooper Landing AC | Props 121, 127-129 |
| 12. 2/28 John Graham | Prop 38 |
| 13. 2/28 Nat. Village of Goodnews Bay | Goodnews River Drainage Moose Hunt |
| 14. 2.28 City of Goodnews Bay | Moose opener fall 2008 |
| 15. 2/28 Frank Kein | Prop 86 |
| 16. 2/28 Yukon Environment | Prop 1 |
| 17. 2/28 USF&W | Poisons to take rats |
| 18. 2/28 Ben Barclay | Prop 38 |
| 19. 2/28 Mark Graham | Prop 38 |
| 20. 2/28 Dael Devenport | Prop 86 |
| 21. 2/28 Mark Stea | Prop 86 |
| 22. 2.28 Todd rust | Prop 3 |
| 23. 2/28 Shelly Jacobson | Prop 95-96 |
| 24. 2/28 Chickaloon Village Traditional Council | Prop 38 |
| 25. 2/29 Don Quarberg | Prop 44 |
| 26. 2/29 USFW | Power Point Presentation |
| 27. 2/29 USFW | AK Maritime NW Refuge |
| 28. 2/29 ADF&G boards | Staff Report List |
| 29. 2/29 ADF&G Div WC | Staff Report |
| 30. 2/29 ADF&G Div WC | Staff Report |
| 31. 2/29 Agmes Sweetsor | Prop 94 |

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| Submitted by | Subject |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| 32. 2/29 Sidney Huntington | Prop 94 |
| 33. 2/29 Tanana Chiefs Conference | Prop 94 |
| 34. 2/29 Nulato Tribal Council | Prop 94 |
| 35. 2/29 Koyukuk Tribal Council | Prop 94 |
| 36. 2/29 Sandra Sedwarft | Wolves and Bears |
| 37. 2/29 ADF&G Div WC | Staff Report |
| 38. 2/29 ADF&G Div WC | Staff Report |
| 39. 2/29 Mike Tinker | Fairbanks AC Comment corrections |
| 40. 2/29 ADF&G Boards | On Time Comment Index |
| 41. 2/29 ADF&G Div WC | Staff Report |
| 42. 2/29 ADF&G Div WC | McGrath Staff Report |
| 43. 2/29 Ruth McHenry | Map re Prop 86 |
| 44. 2/29 Doug Carney | Prop 87 |
| 45. 2/29 Village of Sleetmute | comments |
| 46. 2/29 Doug Carney | Stony-Holitna AC comments prop 13 |
| 47. 2/29 blank withdrawn | |
| 48. 2/29 Ed Sarten | Ruby AC comments on prop 50 |
| 49. 2/29 Dustin Hopkins | Prop 42 |
| 50. 2/29 Don Horrell | Copper Basin AC Prop 86 |
| 51. 2/29 Mike Brase | Prop 92 |
| 52. 2/29 Charlie & Linda Rutledge | Tangle Lakes Refuge Area |
| 53. 2/29 John Basile | Map of Antlerless 20A Zones |
| 54. 2/29 ADF&G | NE Alaska Region Staff Report |
| 55. 2/29 ADF&G | McGrath Region Staff Report |
| 56. 3/1 Village of Koyukuk | Prop 94 |
| 57. 3/1 Jack Reakoff | Black bear harvest Units 21,24 |
| 58. 3/1 Jack Reakoff | Props 63,78,79,85,88,94,11,49,50,51,59,62 |
| 59. 3/1 Bob Aloysius | Props 4-7 |
| 60. 3/1 SHAC AC | Props 13,100,101,103 |
| 61. 3/1 Naidine Johnson | Tangle Lakes prop 86 |
| 62. 3/1 David Miller | Antlerless Hunt 20A |

RC LOG

| Submitted by | Subject |
|--|---|
| 63. 3/1 Various People | Props 130-131 Petition |
| 64. 3/1 Jim Tilly | Prop 92,98 |
| 65. 3/1 Harlan Sweetsir | Map for Prop 94 |
| 66. 3/1 Warren Olson | Sheep Mgmt Prop 158 |
| 67. 3/1 Warren Olson | Sheep Mgmt Prop 158 |
| 68. 3/1 Warren Olson | Sheep Mgmt Prop 158 |
| 69. 3/1 Tom Kirstein | Prop 89, 90 |
| 70. 3/1 Defenders of Wildlife | GMU 190 |
| 71. 3/1 ADF&G Subsistence | |
| 72. 3/1 ADF&G Subsistence | |
| 73. 3/1 ADF&G Subsistence | |
| 74. 3/1 ADF&G Subsistence | |
| 75. 3/1 Homer AC | Minutes |
| 76. 3/1 David Wellman | Tangle Lakes Prop 86 |
| 77. 3/1 New Stuyahok Traditional Council | Prop 98 |
| 78. 3/1 New Stuyahok Traditional Council | Prop 97 |
| 79. 3/1 ADF&G Boards | Public Testimony Log |
| 80. 3/1 Aaron Bloomquist | Anchorage AC Minutes |
| 81. 3/2 ADF&G Div WC | McGrath Area Report |
| 82. 3/2 Mike Tinker | Fairbanks AC outline for 20A |
| 83. 3/2 Sally Endestad | Props 89, 90 |
| 84. 3/2 Hugh Krank | Prop 13 |
| 85. 3/2 ADF&G Subsistence | Unit 21 Moose/Caribou Sub Region Review |
| 86. 3/2 ADF&G Subsistence | |
| 87. 3/2 Jamie Otthoff | Props 43,44,91.92 |
| 88. 3/2 Mary Bishop | Energy for Growing Food |
| 89. 3/2 Nate Turner | Props 55,34,91 |
| 90. 3/2 Karen Gorden | Reconsideration on Sheep |
| 91. 3/2 Steve McLeod | Wildlife Management |
| 92. 3/3 ADF&G Div WC | Prop 85, sheep |
| 93. 3/3 ADF&G Div WC | Prop 83 |

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| Submitted by | Subject |
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| 94. 3/3 ADF&G Div WC | Prop 82 |
| 95. 3/3 ADF&G Div WC | Amended Prop 82 |
| 96. 3.3 ADF&G Div WC | Amended Prop 17 |
| 97. 3/3 ADF&G Div WC | Prop 137 |
| 98. 3/3 ADF&G Div WC | Prop 17 Report |
| 99. 3/3 ADF&G Div WC | Unit 21E, McGrath Area Overview |
| 100 3/3 Ruby Tribal Council | Prop 94 |
| 101 3/3 Doug Carney | Prop 13, RC84 |
| 102 3/3 ADF&G Div WC | Galena Management Area Overview |
| 103 3/3 ADF&G Div WC | Props 60,61,95,96 |
| 104 3/3 Alan Echols | Tangle Lakes |
| 105 3/3 DNR | Power point on mine permitting |
| 106 3/3 Matt Malcarm | Prop 38 |
| 107 3/3 Suzan Bowen | Amended Prop 81 |
| 108 3/4 Larry Bell | Letter re: predator control |
| 109 3/4 Delta Vanguard | Prop 38 |
| 110 3/4 Board Support | AC comments Prop 97 |
| 111 3/4 Doug Carney | Comments re: Proposal 13 |
| 112 3/4 ADF&G Div WC | Yukon Moose Management |
| 113 3/4 ADF&G Boards | AC Matrix |
| 114 3/4 Abe Horschel | Prop 38 oppose |
| 115 3/4 Robert Blake` | Prop 86 support |
| 116 3/4 Mary Jane Derendoff | Oppose Prop 94 |
| 117 3/4 Gabriel Scott | Support 86 |
| 118 3/4 David Wellman | Support 86 |
| 119 3/4 Doug Ohms | cold weather hunting |
| 120 3/4 Don Kiely | Prop 86 |
| 121 3/4 Sleetmute Traditional Council | Position on Proposals |
| 122 3/4 ADF&G Div WC | Galena Area Presentation |
| 123 3/4 ADF&G Div WC | Delta Area Overview |
| 124 3/4 ADF&G Div WC | Delta Proposal Comments |

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| 125 3/4 ADF&G Div WC | Amendment language for 134 |
| 126 3/4 ADF&G Div WC | Amendment language for 35 |
| 127 3/4 Val Geist | Ram horn growth genetics & nutrition |
| 128 3/5 ADF&G Div WC | Fairbanks Area Overview |
| 129 3/5 ADF&G Div WC | Fairbanks Area Proposal comments |
| 130 3/5 ADF&G Suzan Bowen | 63A Amendment Language |
| 131 3/5 ADF&G Suzan Bowen | 55A Amendment Language |
| 132 3/5 ADF&W Div WC | Tok Area Overview |
| 133 3/5 ADF&G Div WC | Yukon/Tanana Predator Control |
| 134 3/5 ADF&G Div WC | Prop 2 |
| 135 3/5 ADF&G Div WC | Prop 1 |
| 136 3/5 ADF&G Div WC | Prop21 |
| 137 3/5 ADF&G Div WC | Prop 37 |
| 138 3/5 ADF&G Div WC | Prop 76 |
| 139 3/5 ADF&G Div WC | Prop 77 |
| 140 3/5 ADF&G Div WC | Prop 41 |
| 141 3/5 ADF&G Div WC | Prop 40 |
| 142 3/5 ADF&G Div WC | Prop 43 |
| 143 3/5 ADF&G Div WC | Prop 74 |
| 144 3/5 ADF&G Div WC | 20D Wolf Predation Control Implementation |
| 145 3/5 ADF&G Div WC | Amendment language for Prop 135 |
| 146 3/5 Mike Tinker | Fairbanks AC position on Prop 20 |
| 147 3/5 Paul Leidberg | Togiak Na'l Wildl Ref Goodnews Bay Comments |
| 148 3/6 Reed Morisky | Support Prop 92 |
| 149 3/6 ADF&G Div WC | Unit 13 Predator control report |
| 150 3/6 ADF&G Div WC | Unit 16 wolf control report |
| 151 3/6 ADF&G Div WC | Unit 16 Bear control |
| 152 3/6 ADF&G Div WC | Region II Proposals |
| 153 3/6 ADF&G Div WC | Proposal 98 Report |
| 154 3/6 APHA Fithian | mmou between ADF&G and NPS |
| 155 3/6 APHA Fithian | mmou between ADF&G and USF |

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| Submitted by | Subject |
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| 156 3/6 APHA Fithian | mmou between ADF&G and USFWS |
| 157 3/6 APHA Fithian | mmou between ADF&G and BLM |
| 158 3/6 ADF&G Div WC | Proposal 130 Amended Language |
| 159 3/6 ADF&G Div WC | Proposal 131 Amended Language |
| 160 3/6 Noatak/Kivalina & No. Seward Peninsula AC's | Minutes |
| 161 3/6 Upper Kobuk & Lower Kobuk AC's | Minutes |
| 162 3/6 ADF&G Div WC | Southwest Caribou |
| 163 3/6 ADF&G Div WC | Proposal 97 C&R |
| 164 3/6 Rory O'Neill | Comments supporting Prop 92 |
| 165 3/6 Juneau Douglas AC | Minutes |
| 166 3/6 ADF&G Div WC NOT AVAILABLE | GMU 9D Draft Predator Plan |
| 167 3/7 ADF&G Boards | Antlerless Hunts |
| 168 3/7 ADF&G | Substitute langg. Props 106,113,102A |
| 169 3/7 Bob Fithiah | Comments prop 85 |
| 170 3/7 ADF&G Boards | Unit 9A IM findings |
| 171 3/7 ADF&G Div WC | Arctic Region Prop 138 comments |
| 172 3/7 Kevin Saxby | Feeding Game |
| 173 3/7 ADF&G Tibbles | Tangle Lakes Refuge |
| 174 3/8 ADF&G Boards | Misc Business Agenda |
| 175 3/8 ADF&G Boards | Public Comment Policy |
| 176 3/8 ADF&G Boards | Active Mgmt Letter of Support SB 176/HB 256 |
| 177 3/8 Yukon Fish. Wildl Mtg Board | Prop 1 |
| 178 3/8 ADF&G | Falcon Regs. |
| 179 3/8 ADF&G | Final Plan Language re: Unit 9 SAPCH (Prop 97) |
| 180 3/8 ADF&G Boards | RC Log |