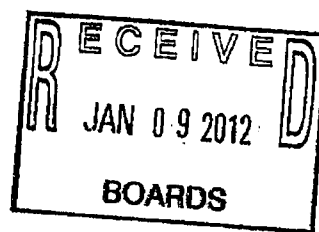


RCS



Board of Game Comments January 10-15, 2013
Alaska Department of Fish and Game
PO Box 115526
Juneau, AK 99811-5526

As a retired wildlife biologist from another state, I understand why many former Alaska biologists have voiced their frustrations in the way that you are failing to follow some of the most basic professional management guidelines that they followed in their days and were proud of. When I moved to Alaska over 12 years ago it was obvious to me that you were not following professional wildlife management practices in many cases, but as time went on it became obvious that your values were based more on the desires of the hunters rather than on the needs of big game species, primarily moose. As your attention to wolves and bears became more and more significant than attention to wildlife habitat it became more apparent to me that professional wildlife management was not going to be important in this state again until there was a change in administration. It has not always been this way from what I hear from previous biologists. It is a shame that so many former state biologists can no longer be proud of the organization that they helped develop and were associated with for so many years and must now make excuses for. I am also embarrassed to admit that Alaska now has such an unprofessional wildlife management organization.

And now that you are adding the cruelest form of bear killing to your airborne wolf killing program, you make it nearly impossible to explain how you are in any way trying to appear to act like a professional wildlife management organization. At one time Alaska Fish and Game was well thought-of, had a good reputation, and was an organization where new biologists wanted to work. How did it come to this?

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