



Alaska Board of Game

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**ALASKA BOARD OF GAME
Southcentral Region Meeting
UAA Student Center, Anchorage, Alaska
March 13 – 17, 2015**

Meeting Summary

The Board of Game (board) convened the Southcentral Region meeting on Friday, March 13, 2015, at the University of Alaska, Student Center. All seven board members were present (Ted Spraker, Chair, Nate Turner, Vice-Chair, Stosh Hoffman, Teresa Sager Albaugh, Pete Probasco, Bob Mumford, and Dave Brown.)

Following introductions and ethics disclosure statements, the board listened to oral reports from agency representatives, including the National Park Service and the USF&WS, Kenai Wildlife Refuge (see list of oral reports in Record Copy (RC) 1). Public testimony began Friday, March 13, ending Sunday, March 17. The board listened to 75 testifiers (see RC 86), of which 17 were advisory committee representatives. Deliberations on proposals followed public testimony on the afternoon of March 17.

The board took action on 74 proposals, adopting 29 and deferring one to a future meeting. Actions are recorded as: C = Carried; F = Failed; CA = Carried as Amended; NA = No Action; and D = Deferred).

The meeting audio, and all other meeting materials are available online at www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=gameboard.meetinginfo&date=03-13-2015&meeting=anchorage. To listen to the board discussion, the audio tracking information is referenced for each section unless otherwise specified.

Cordova Area – Unit 6

The board deliberations on this section began March 15; see the audio log at 5:25:47. Prior to the proposal deliberations for this section, the board received an area overview by ADF&G.

C 140 Reauthorize the antlerless moose season in Unit 6C.

C 141 Restrict the taking of goat for five years when a nanny is taken in Unit 6.

Glennallen Area – Units 11 and 13

The board deliberations on this section began March 16; see the audio log at 0:02:00, and at 2:45:21.

- CA 71 Implement a system to ensure communities or groups approved to participate in the moose and caribou Community Subsistence Hunt (CSH) meet the intent of the board of Game findings for the CSH program. *(The board amended the proposal with substitute language (RC 65) as amended which would require the group coordinator to submit a report to the department that includes voluntary household reports. If the group coordinator does not submit a report, the entire group will be placed on the “Failure to Report” (FTR) list and cannot participate in the hunt the following regulatory year. The group coordinator can appeal the FTR decision from the department.)*

Kodiak Area – Unit 8

The board deliberations on this section began March 16; see the audio log at 1:27:06. Prior to the proposal deliberations for this section, the board received an area overview by ADF&G.

- F 142 Reduce the nonresident bag limit for deer in Unit 8.
- F 143 Change bag limit restriction for brown bear in Unit 8.
- C 144 Modify the resident and nonresident hunting regulations for Unit 8 to include Arctic fox.
- C 145 Modify the resident and nonresident trapping regulations for Unit 8 to include Arctic fox.
- C 146 Modify the resident and nonresident hunting regulations for Unit 8 to remove coyote and lynx.
- C 147 Modify the resident and nonresident trapping regulations for Unit 8 to remove lynx and wolverine from current trapping regulations.

Anchorage Area – Unit 14C

The board deliberations on this section began March 16; see the audio log at 4:29:41. Prior to the proposal deliberations for this section, the board received an area overview by ADF&G.

- C 148 Reauthorize the antlerless moose seasons in Unit 14C.
- C 149 Reauthorize the antlerless moose season in the Twentymile/Portage/Placer hunt area in Units 7 and 14C.
- NA 150 Establish an antlerless moose drawing permit hunt for physically disabled residents in Kincaid Park, Unit 14C. *(The board took no action due to lack of advisory committee support for authorizing the hunt as required under AS 16.05.780.)*

- C 151 Change the any sheep bag limit for Unit 14C to any ram, for draw hunts DS140, DS141, DS240 and DS241.
- F 152 Establish a resident only sheep hunt area in Chugach State Park, Unit 14C.
- F 153 Limit the number of next of kin nonresident sheep tags in Unit 14C.
- F 154 Increase the number of nonresident goat drawing permits on Unit 14C.
- C 155 Add a drawing permit hunt for black bears within the JBER Management Area in Unit 14C.

Kenai Peninsula Area – Units 7 & 15

The board deliberations on this section began March 17; see the audio log at 0:03:08, and also on March 18 at 0:01:47. Prior to the proposal deliberations for this section, the board received an area overview by ADF&G on 3/16; see the audio log at 6:30:31.

- F 156 Shorten the moose seasons in Unit 15.
- CA 157 Change the general bull moose season dates in Unit 15 to September 1-30. *(The board amended the proposal to align Units 7 and 15 resident and nonresident season dates as 9/1 – 25 for the general moose season, and 8/22 – 29 for the archery season. The board also shifted the dates for the motorized vehicle closure in the Lower Kenai Controlled Use Area to September 16 – 19, and September 20 – 21. The board reconsidered proposal 157 on 3/18/15; see the audio log at 1:54:50 for final action.)*
- CA 158 Open a nonresident moose season in Unit 15C. *(The board amended the proposal to set the season dates as 8/20 – 9/20 which align with seasons in Units 7 and 15B. After deliberation of proposals 158 and 157, the board clarified the action taken on proposal 157 would override the action taken on this proposal.)*
- NA 159 Open nonresident moose drawing hunt in Unit 15. *(The board took no action due to action on proposal 158.)*
- NA 160 Open a nonresident moose season in Unit 15C or implement predator control. *(The board took no action due to action on proposal 158.)*
- F 161 Change the bag limit for moose in Units 7 and 15 to 50-inch antlers with three or more brow tines.
- F 162 Eliminate all early and late season start dates for archery, muzzleloader, and shotgun hunts in Unit 15.

- NA 163 Eliminate the early archery season for moose in Units 15A and 15B. *(The board took no action due to action on proposal 162.)*
- F 164 Open seven day archery seasons for moose following the general seasons in Units 7 and 15
- NA 165 Open an archery moose season for residents and nonresidents in Unit 15C. *(The board took no action due to action on proposal 164.)*
- CA 166 Change the resident, antlerless moose season in Unit 15C to November 1-30. *(The board amended to proposal to set the season dates as 10/20 – 11/20 for the residents and nonresident hunts.)*
- CA 167 Issue resident moose permits for problem areas near roads during the winter in Unit 15C. *(The board amended the proposal to remove the limited weapon reference, to establish it as a registration hunt with season dates as 10/15 – 3/31, and with intent for ADF&G administer it based on the target hunt model.)*
- C 168 Reauthorize the antlerless moose season in a portion of Unit 15C.
- F 169 Open a nine day, resident archery season in August for Dall sheep in Units 7, 14C and 15.
- NA 170 Modify of the harvest management strategy for Kenai Peninsula brown bears, Units 7 and 15. *(The board agreed to a quota for maximum human-caused mortality of 50-60 brown bears, with 8-12 adult sows (at least 5 years old). The board intent will be adopted in board findings.)*
- NA 171 Modify the brown bear harvest management strategy on the Kenai Peninsula, Units 7 and 15. *(The Board took no action due the action taken on proposal 171.)*
- F 172 Lengthen the brown bear season in Units 7 and 15 and remove the meat salvage requirements for brown bear taken over bait.
- F 173 Remove meat salvage requirements for taking brown bear over bait in the Southcentral Region.
- NA 174 Remove meat salvage requirements for brown bear taken over bait in the Southcentral Region. *(The board took no action due to the action on proposal 173.)*
- CA 175 Shorten the season and reduce the bag limit for ptarmigan in Unit 15C, north of Kachemak Bay and Fox River. *(The board amended to proposal to change*

the season end date to 1/31, and the bag limit to five per day and ten in possession. The board reconsidered the proposal on March 18; see audio log at 1:49:22 for final action.)

- NA 176 Reduce the bag limit for ptarmigan in Unit 15C, north of Kachemak Bay and Fox River. *(The board took no action due to the action on proposal 175.)*
- CA 177 Shift to an earlier opening date for beaver trapping in Units 7 and 15. *(The board amended the proposal to require traps to be submerged, with season dates set as October 15 – April 30.)*
- F 178 Require trap identification in Units 7 and 15.
- NA 179 Establish a trapper identification numbering system for Units 7 and 15. *(The board took no action due to action on proposal 178.)*
- F 180 Restrict trapping in the Cooper Landing area.
- F 181 Restrict trapping in the Seward and Moose Pass areas.
- F 182 Prohibit the taking of big game from boats in Units 7 and 15 in coastal or estuarine waters, with an exception for persons with disabilities.
- F 183 Create a management area for Kachemak Bay in Unit 15C.
- C 99 Reauthorize the antlerless moose hunt on Kalgin Island, Unit 16B.

Regional & Multiple Units

The board deliberations on this section began March 18; see the audio log at 2:16:10.

- F 131 Lower the bag limit for goldeneye for the Southcentral Region.
- F 184 Begin resident sheep seasons seven days earlier than nonresident seasons in the Southcentral Region.
- NA 185 Begin resident sheep seasons seven days earlier than nonresidents in Units 7, 14, and 15. *(The board took no action due to their action on proposal 184.)*
- F 186 Limit nonresident sheep hunts in the Southcentral Region with shorter seasons, drawing permits, or other methods.
- F 187 Allow a maximum of 10% of nonresident sheep hunt participation for the Southcentral Region.

- NA 188 Limit sheep harvest by nonresidents to 10% of total harvest in Units 7, 14, and 15.
- NA 189 Limit allocation of nonresident sheep permits to 10% in the Southcentral Region Units.
- NA 190 Allocate 10% sheep harvest for nonresidents in Southcentral Region Units.
- F 191 Remove the restriction against using felt sole waders while hunting in Southcentral Region Units.
- F 192 Require harvest reporting of migratory birds by species in Southcentral Region Units.
- F 193 Require certification for big game hunters using crossbows in Southcentral Region Units.
- NA 194 Prohibit the use of hunting dogs for taking upland game birds after October 31, in Southcentral Region Units. *(The board took no action due to a request by the author to withdraw it.)*
- F 195 Remove the requirement to clean up contaminated soil from bear bait stations in Southcentral Region Units.
- F 196 Add five days to all resident hunting seasons and allocate 75% of the drawing permits to residents in the Southcentral Region.
- F 197 Allocate 90% of big game drawing permits to residents for Southcentral Region Units.

Statewide and Other Regions

- CA 202 Change the caribou regulations for all GMUs associated with the Western/Arctic & Teshekpuk caribou herds. *(The board amended proposal 202 with substitute language, RC 76, as amended, to set season dates and bag limits for residents and nonresidents.) The board deliberated this proposal on 3/17; see audio log at 3:55:50.*
- C 203 Close Dall sheep seasons in Unit 23 and 26A. *The board deliberated this proposal on 3/18; see audio log at 3:53:12.*
- CA 205 Allow the immediate harvest of musk ox on stranded ice flow in Unit 18. *(The Board amended proposal 205 with language found in RC 80, as amended, which requires hunters to demonstrate the ice flow conditions by submitting time stamped photographs or video to ADF&G within 48 hours of harvest. Season must still be opened by emergency order. The board also amended the proposal to*

allow the commissioner to waive the resident tag requirement.) The board deliberated this proposal on 3/17; see audio log at 7:25:10.

- CA 207 Modify sheep hunting opportunities. *(The board amended the proposal to retain option 1 and to remove options 2 and 3.) The board deliberated this proposal on 3/18; see audio log at 5:00:21.*
- D 208 Review and potentially modify sheep hunting opportunities statewide. *(The board deferred proposal 208 to the 2016 Statewide Regulations meeting.) The board deliberated this proposal on 3/18; see audio log at 5:38:34.*
- C 213 Repeal the Unit 8 bison hunt and clarify the definition of free ranging animals. *The board deliberated this proposal on 3/18; see audio log at 6:18:03.*
- C 214 Modify the Board of Game Agenda Change Request Policy. *(The board clarified the intent to accept ACRs for the reason of correcting an error in any board regulation, rather than just a hunting regulation.) The board deliberated this proposal on 3/18; see audio log at 6:21:22.*

Miscellaneous Business

The board considered an emergency petition requesting a closure for taking wolves on state lands near Denali National Park. The board did not find that the petition met the emergency criteria as defined in the Joint Board Petition Policy, 5 AAC 96.625. *(The audio log for this discussion begins on March 13 at 2:31:32.)*

The board requested a proposal for the 2016 Statewide Regulations meeting to address clarification on setting submerged traps in water. *(The audio log for this discussion begins March 18, at 0:41:32.)*

The board adopted findings providing recommendations to ADF&G on following topics:

1. Copper Basin community subsistence hunt,
2. Hatcher's Pass Youth Hunt Management Area I Unit 14A, and
3. Human-caused mortality quota for brown bear on the Kenai Peninsula.

(The audio log for this discussion on the findings begins on March 18 at 2:31:32.)

The board adjourned March 18, at approximately 6:00 p.m.