

**Summary of Actions  
Alaska Board of Game**

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| <b>SOUTHEAST REGION AND SUPPLEMENTAL ISSUES<br/>BOARD OF GAME MEETING<br/>November 2-5, 2004<br/>Westmark Baranof Hotel, Juneau, AK</b> |
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**DESIGNATED REPORTERS: Art Hughes**

*This summary of actions is for information purposes only and is not intended to detail, reflect or fully interpret the reasons for the Board's actions. References to department staff means Department of Fish and Game staff, unless otherwise noted.*

**PROPOSAL NO. 1**

**ACTION: Deferred to March 2005**

**DESCRIPTION:** Require a registration permit for deer hunting in Unit 2.

**DISCUSSION:** Board members discussed implementation of a registration hunt on Prince of Wales Island. Because of conflicts with and differences between state and federal hunts and seasons, board members deferred this proposal to the March 2005 meeting in Anchorage, to allow further input from state Fish and Game Advisory Committees and federal Regional Advisory Councils.

**PROPOSAL NO. 2**

**ACTION: Failed**

**DESCRIPTION:** Open a drawing permit hunt for goat in Cleveland Peninsula portion of Unit 1A.

**DISCUSSION:** Board members considered goat population objectives and criteria for establishing goat hunts in this Unit. Department staff testified goat hunting in this Unit was closed two years ago, and the department preferred to wait another two years to allow for better data and herd development. Department staff also testified there are abundant other goat hunting opportunities in the surrounding areas.

**PROPOSAL NO. 3**

**ACTION: No Action**

**DESCRIPTION:** Open a drawing permit hunt for goat in Cleveland Peninsula area.

**DISCUSSION:** Board members took no action on this proposal because of action on Proposal No. 2.

**PROPOSAL NO. 4**

**ACTION: Carried**

**DESCRIPTION:** Open drawing permit hunt for Mahoney Peak/Deer Mountain area of Revillagigedo Island.

**DISCUSSION:** Board members reviewed the historical intent of the introduction of goats to this area for the purpose of opening an easily accessible goat hunt near Ketchikan. Department staff testified the herd has increased to suitable numbers. Board members also discussed legal and logistical issues concerning permits for this hunt, and established this season to open in 2005.

**PROPOSAL NO. 5**

**ACTION: Carried as amended**

**DESCRIPTION:** Lengthen wolf trapping season in Unit 1A.

**AMENDMENTS:** In Units 1, 3 and 5 the season will be November 10 – April 30.

**DISCUSSION:** Board members discussed incidental black bear harvest, and asked about techniques for trapping wolves to avoid incidental harvest of other animals. Board members considered season opening dates in relation to hide quality, denning time for wolf pups, trapper ethics and the self policing nature of trappers. Department staff testified trappers in Unit 3 had indicated they were not likely to participate in longer seasons because of concerns about emerging black bears. The board also heard support for uniformity in the regulations.

**PROPOSAL NO. 6**

**ACTION: No action**

**DESCRIPTION:** Open registration hunt for elk in Unit 3.

**DISCUSSION:** Board members took no action on this proposal because of action on Proposal No. 7.

**PROPOSAL NO. 7**

**ACTION: Carried as amended**

**DESCRIPTION:** Replace drawing permit hunts with registration permit hunts for elk in Unit 3.

**AMENDMENTS:** Added a provision: One bull by registration permit only, for residents from November 15 – 30 in general hunt only and for nonresidents from November 15 to November 30 in open season.

**DISCUSSION:** Board members considered whether it would be appropriate to have an open season outside the defined area if the intent of this proposal is to prevent elk migration to other islands. Department staff testified in opposition to an open season outside the defined area, and referenced prior legislation on this issue.

**PROPOSAL NO. 8**

**ACTION: Carried as amended**

**DESCRIPTION:** Establish drawing permit hunts for moose in Units 1B and 3.

**AMENDMENTS:** In Units 1(B) and 3, except in Stikine Drainage and in Unit 1(C) south of Point Hobart, including all Port Houghton Drainages, 1 bull by drawing permit only; up to 50 permits issued for residents (in general hunt only) and nonresidents (in open season), September 15 – October 15.

**DISCUSSION:** Board members deliberated holding the timing of the drawing hunt in relation to the existing registration hunt to determine what is most satisfactory for local residents.

**PROPOSAL NO. 9**

**ACTION: No action**

**DESCRIPTION:** Modify moose bag limit in Units 1B and 3 to require two or more brow tines on both sides.

**DISCUSSION:** Board members took no action on this proposal because of action on Proposal No. 8.

**PROPOSAL NO. 10**

**ACTION: No action**

**DESCRIPTION:** Modify brow tine restriction in Units 1B and 3.

**DISCUSSION:** Board members took no action on this proposal because of action on Proposal No. 8.

**PROPOSAL NO. 11**

**ACTION: No action**

**DESCRIPTION:** Modify brow tine restriction in Units 1B and 3.

**DISCUSSION:** Board members took no action on this proposal because of action on Proposal No. 8.

**PROPOSAL NO. 12**

**ACTION: No action**

**DESCRIPTION:** Modify brow tine restriction in Units 1B and 3.

**DISCUSSION:** Board members took no action on this proposal because of action on Proposal No. 8.

**PROPOSAL NO. 13**

**ACTION: No action**

**DESCRIPTION:** Modify brow tine restriction in Units 1B and 3.

**DISCUSSION:** Board members took no action on this proposal because of action on Proposal No. 8.

**PROPOSAL NO. 14**

**ACTION: No action**

**DESCRIPTION:** Modify brow tine restriction in Units 1B and 3.

**DISCUSSION:** Board members took no action on this proposal because of action on Proposal No. 8.

**PROPOSAL NO. 15**

**ACTION: No action**

**DESCRIPTION:** Modify brow tine restriction in Units 1B and 3.

**DISCUSSION:** Board members took no action on this proposal because of action on Proposal No. 8.

**PROPOSAL NO. 16**

**ACTION: No action**

**DESCRIPTION:** Modify brow tine restriction in Units 1B and 3.

**DISCUSSION:** Board members took no action on this proposal because of action on Proposal No. 8.

**PROPOSAL NO. 17**

**ACTION: No action**

**DESCRIPTION:** Modify brow tine restriction in Units 1B and 3.

**DISCUSSION:** Board members took no action on this proposal because of action on Proposal No. 8.

**PROPOSAL NO. 18**

**ACTION: Carried**

**DESCRIPTION:** Establish a registration hunt for brown bear in Unit 3.

**DISCUSSION:** Board members discussed the possibility of allowing nonresident participation, but had conservation concerns because of the lack of scientific data on population in this area. Department of Law staff advised board members on legalities of excluding nonresidents. Board members decided not allow nonresident participation because nonresidents are required to hunt with a guide, and would incur guide fees, and the hunt would close before nonresidents had a reasonable opportunity to hunt.

**PROPOSAL NO. 19**

**ACTION: No action**

**DESCRIPTION:** Extend wolf hunting season in Unit 3.

**DISCUSSION:** Board members took no action on this proposal because of action on Proposal No. 60.

**PROPOSAL NO. 20**

**ACTION: Failed**

**DESCRIPTION:** Prohibit hunting and trapping in City of Kupreanof, Unit 3.

**DISCUSSION:** Department of Public Safety staff advised board members there is a state trooper in Petersburg who could enforce this law should it pass, and also discussed trespass laws and related issues and agreed with the Department of Fish and Game staff this proposal addresses a public safety issue and not a biological concern. Board members were reluctant to add more closed areas in light of the board's action on proposal 67. Board members agreed this proposal was similar to a city ordinance and could result in enforcement problems.

**PROPOSAL NO. 21**

**ACTION: No action**

**DESCRIPTION:** Open brown bear season in Unit 4 earlier.

**DISCUSSION:** This proposal was withdrawn by the author.

**PROPOSAL NO. 22**

**ACTION: No action**

**DESCRIPTION:** Establish early season archery-only deer hunt in Unit 1C.

**DISCUSSION:** Board members took no action on this proposal because of action on Proposal No. 49.

**PROPOSAL NO. 23**

**ACTION: Failed**

**DESCRIPTION:** Reduce bag limit to billy only in portion of Unit 1D east of Haines Highway.

**DISCUSSION:** Board members discussed the unique situation that occurred when four nannies were harvested on a portion of Tukshanuk Ridge. Board members decided subsequent management actions allowing the harvest of only one or two goats have mitigated the need for this proposal.

**PROPOSAL NO. 24**

**ACTION: Failed**

**DESCRIPTION:** Limit goat hunting in a portion of Unit 1D to youth hunters only.

**DISCUSSION:** Board members decided this proposal is unnecessary because current regulations allow harvest of only one or two goats. A youth only hunt is allocative, and the current regulation is the result of some members of this age group harvesting four nannies.

**PROPOSAL NO. 25**

**ACTION: Failed**

**DESCRIPTION:** Establish archery-only goat hunt in Unit 1C.

**DISCUSSION:** The board decided this proposal was primarily allocative and an earlier archery-only hunt would impact the goat population available to rifle hunters when the season begins on September 1. The board noted archers are not precluded from using archery equipment during the established season.

**PROPOSAL NO. 26**

**ACTION: Carried as amended**

**DESCRIPTION:** Open archery-only goat hunt earlier in Unit 1C.

**AMENDMENTS:** Changed the boundary from Point Salisbury to the mouth of Little Sheep Creek, and changed the season from September 1 – November 30 to August 1 – November 30.

**DISCUSSION:** Board members changed the boundary and lengthened the season, noting the addition of one month will increase opportunity and harvest, making it more likely optimum harvest levels will occur.

**PROPOSAL NO. 27**

**ACTION: Carried**

**DESCRIPTION:** Reauthorize the existing antlerless moose season at Nunatak Bench.

**DISCUSSION:** The board decided the low participation and success rates in the antlerless hunt make it biologically acceptable to continue the antlerless hunt.

**PROPOSAL NO. 28**

**ACTION: Carried**

**DESCRIPTION:** Reauthorize the existing antlerless moose season at Berners Bay.

**DISCUSSION:** The board agreed with the department that without this antlerless hunt, the moose population could exceed the carrying capacity of the habitat.

**PROPOSAL NO. 29**

**ACTION: Carried**

**DESCRIPTION:** Reauthorize the existing antlerless moose season in the Gustavus area.

**DISCUSSION:** The board agreed with the department that without this antlerless hunt, the moose population could exceed the carrying capacity of the habitat.

**PROPOSAL NO. 30**

**ACTION: No action**

**DESCRIPTION:** Open archery-only registration permit for moose in Gustavus area, Unit 1C.

**DISCUSSION:** Board members took no action on this proposal because of action on Proposal No. 36.

**PROPOSAL NO. 31**

**ACTION: No action**

**DESCRIPTION:** Separate Gustavus area moose hunt from registration RM046 hunt in Unit 1C.

**DISCUSSION:** Board members took no action on this proposal because of action on Proposal No. 32 as amended.

**PROPOSAL NO. 32**

**ACTION: Tabled to March 2005**

**DESCRIPTION:** Alter season dates for RM046 moose hunt in Gustavus area, Unit 1C.

**AMENDMENTS:** Lengthened antlerless season to three weeks, September 1 – September 30, and allows department discretion to split antlerless hunt into three separate drawing hunts, one week each. Shifted bull season to begin September 1, allows people to hold only one moose permit in Southeast, and provides department discretion to separate bull restriction hunt in Gustavus from other registration hunts in Southeast; provides department discretion to discontinue issuing bull permits one week prior to season start; separates registration permit holders by time, to prevent overcrowding, by allowing certain number of people to hunt at specific times.

**DISCUSSION:** Board members noted a November 3, 2004 subcommittee meeting on this proposal, where concerns about the three day derby nature of this hunt, impacts to sandhill cranes, and providing more hunting opportunities to Gustavus residents were discussed at length. Members discussed allowing only one permit per person in Southeast, alternating days when a permit holder could hunt by the even or odd number on the permit, and tabled this proposal until March 2005 to allow the public an opportunity to review a Board of Game proposal on this issue.

**PROPOSAL NO. 33**

**ACTION: Failed**

**DESCRIPTION:** Require safety orientation in Gustavus area moose hunt, Unit 1C.

**DISCUSSION:** Board members indicated the department could take care of this administratively without board action.

**PROPOSAL NO. 34**

**ACTION: No action**

**DESCRIPTION:** Establish archery-only bull moose hunt in Unit 1C.

**DISCUSSION:** Board members took no action on this proposal because of action on Proposal No. 36.

**PROPOSAL NO. 35**

**ACTION: No action**

**DESCRIPTION:** Establish archery-only antlerless moose hunt in Unit 1C.

**DISCUSSION:** Board members took no action on this proposal because of action on Proposal No. 36.

**PROPOSAL NO. 36**

**ACTION: Failed**

**DESCRIPTION:** Modify drawing hunt for moose in Unit 1C for archery.

**DISCUSSION:** Board members decided the tabled version of Proposal No. 32 as amended is the preferred solution for the cow hunt. People with a drawing permit may already use archery equipment.

**PROPOSAL NO. 37**

**ACTION: Failed**

**DESCRIPTION:** Close moose season or initiate transplant program in Haines Chilkat Valley, Unit 1D.

**DISCUSSION:** The Department of Law advised the board members that the portion of the proposal dealing with transplanting moose has legal problems. After listening to department staff, the board members determined the population is stable and healthy and the current harvest level is adequate and sustainable.

**PROPOSAL NO. 38**

**ACTION: Carried as amended**

**DESCRIPTION:** Change Unit 1D brown bear hunt to registration permit.

**AMENDMENTS:** Allows residents and nonresidents, one bear every four years by registration permit in Unit 1.

**DISCUSSION:** The board compared pros and cons of drawing permits to registration permits. There was discussion about drawing permits negatively affect guiding businesses and about reverting to a registration hunt for nonresidents. The department agreed with the board that guided hunters primarily harvest large, male bears, which is desirable from a management standpoint. Board members discussed the guided bear hunting industry and potential impacts of this proposal.

**PROPOSAL NO. 39**

**ACTION: No action**

**DESCRIPTION:** Increase wolf hunting season in Unit 1.

**DISCUSSION:** Board members took no action on this proposal because of action on Proposal No. 60 as amended.

**PROPOSAL NO. 40**

**ACTION: Failed**

**DESCRIPTION:** Allow hunting from a boat in freshwater in Unit 5.

**DISCUSSION:** The board expressed concern passage of this proposal could lead to allowing shooting from a boat in salt water. The board decided the current regulations are sufficient.

**PROPOSAL NO. 41**

**ACTION: Failed**

**DESCRIPTION:** Add Unit 1C to the list of units where bear baiting is allowed.

**DISCUSSION:** After considerable discussion about garbage bears and bear baiting in general, Department of Law staff advised board members the proposal is based upon a prior regulation the board had amended July 1, 2004, (Register 170), and the department already has the authority requested in this proposal, under 5 AAC 92.044 and 5 AAC 92.085, to issue permits for bear baiting.

**PROPOSAL NO. 42**

**ACTION: No action**

**DESCRIPTION:** Allow bear baiting in all of Unit 1C.

**DISCUSSION:** Board members took no action on this proposal because of action on Proposal No. 41.

**PROPOSAL NO. 43**

**ACTION: Failed**

**DESCRIPTION:** Allow archery hunt in Juneau Road System Closed Area and Mendenhall Lake Closed Area in Unit 1(C).

**DISCUSSION:** Board members debated whether this proposal would help alleviate urban bear problems and whether allowing archery hunting in closed areas would negatively impact the public's perception of hunting.

**PROPOSAL NO. 44**

**ACTION: Failed**

**DESCRIPTION:** Prohibit hunting within one-quarter mile of a home or road in the Mendenhall Wetlands State Game Refuge.

**DISCUSSION:** After hearing about department efforts and success in educating the waterfowl hunting public utilizing the Mendenhall Wetlands, the board determined the current registration and education efforts are working and occurrences of stray shot have been almost completely eliminated. Board members noted passage of this proposal would effectively eliminate waterfowl hunting in the Juneau area.

**PROPOSAL NO. 45**

**ACTION: Carried as amended**

**DESCRIPTION:** Modify the Douglas Island Management Area in Unit 1C.

**AMENDMENTS:** Allows the harvest of up to three wolves per year, requires reporting of wolf harvest within 48 hours, allows for emergency closure of wolf harvest, requires wolf trappers to register with the department prior to trapping on Douglas Island, and incorporates deer conservation provisions, based upon the 1983-2003 average deer-harvest-per-hunter-day as a base measurement.

**DISCUSSION:** Board members noted the local Advisory Committee's hard work over the past two years to involve members of the community having a wide range of interests in this proposal, to arrive at the compromise language. Board members discussed differences between bag limits and harvest caps, but agreed the intent is to close wolf hunting and trapping when three wolves have been harvested, unless deer conservations measures are necessary.

**PROPOSAL NO. 46**

**ACTION: No action**

**DESCRIPTION:** Modify Douglas Island Management Area and modify bag limit for wolf in Unit 1C.

**DISCUSSION:** Board members took no action on this proposal because of action on Proposal No. 45.

**PROPOSAL NO. 47**

**ACTION: No action**

**DESCRIPTION:** Modify Douglas Island Management Area and modify bag limit for wolf in Unit 1C.

**DISCUSSION:** Board members took no action on this proposal because of action on Proposal No. 45

**PROPOSAL NO. 48**

**ACTION: No action**

**DESCRIPTION:** Repeal Douglas Island Management Area for wolf in Unit 1C.

**DISCUSSION:** Board members took no action on this proposal because of action on Proposal No. 45

**PROPOSAL NO. 49**

**ACTION: Failed**

**DESCRIPTION:** Create a July archery hunt for deer in Units 1A, 1B, 1C, and 4.

**DISCUSSION:** Board members and department staff determined this proposal was allocative. The current deer season runs August 1 through December 31 with the bulk of the harvest occurring in November. Archers are able to use archery equipment throughout the five month season and the board decided this provides ample opportunity to harvest deer with archery equipment.

**PROPOSAL NO. 50**

**ACTION: Failed**

**DESCRIPTION:** Require waterproof tags to be attached to deer harvested in Units 1-4.

**DISCUSSION:** Board members discussed the difficulties associated with attaching tags to deer, and keeping the tags attached during transport from the field.

**PROPOSAL NO. 51**

**ACTION: Failed**

**DESCRIPTION:** Modify brow tine restriction in Units 1 thru 5.

**DISCUSSION:** Board members determined current antler restrictions are adequate and effective. The department testified to conservation concerns of overharvest. Board members noted the relatively small and isolated nature of moose populations in Southeast Alaska, and antler regulations should be made for the local game management units rather than on a regionwide basis.

**PROPOSAL NO. 52**

**ACTION: Failed**

**DESCRIPTION:** Modify brow tine restriction in Units 1 and 3.

**DISCUSSION:** After considering taking no action on this proposal because of its similarities with Proposal 51 and prior actions on similar antler restriction proposals, board members reiterated the current antler restrictions are adequate and effective in managing small and isolated moose populations in Southeast Alaska.

**PROPOSAL NO. 53**

**ACTION: Failed**

**DESCRIPTION:** Extend trapping season for coyote in Units 1C, 1D, and 4.

**DISCUSSION:** Board members discussed game populations, hide condition, and the lack of public support for this proposal.

**PROPOSAL NO. 54**

**ACTION: No action**

**DESCRIPTION:** Extend trapping season for fox in Units 1C, 1D, and 4.

**DISCUSSION:** Board members took no action on this proposal because of action on Proposal No. 53.

**PROPOSAL NO. 55**

**ACTION: No action**

**DESCRIPTION:** Extend trapping season for lynx in Units 1C, 1D, and 4.

**DISCUSSION:** Board members took no action on this proposal because of action on Proposal No. 53.

**PROPOSAL NO. 56**

**ACTION: Failed**

**DESCRIPTION:** Extend trapping season for marten in Units 1C, 1D, and 4.

**DISCUSSION:** Board members discussed federal and state trapping regulations in this area, and expressed concern about the extensive road system and substantial harvest in the Northeast Chichagof Controlled Use Area. The department testified if there was a restriction on the use of motorized vehicles, there might not be a conservation problem, but because there is no restriction on motorized vehicles in this area, there are conservation and biological problems with this proposal.

**PROPOSAL NO. 57**

**ACTION: No action**

**DESCRIPTION:** Extend trapping season for mink and weasel Units 1C, 1D, and 4.

**DISCUSSION:** Board members took no action on this proposal because of action on Proposal No. 53.

**PROPOSAL NO. 58**

**ACTION: No action**

**DESCRIPTION:** Extend trapping season for muskrat in Units 1C, 1D, and 4.

**DISCUSSION:** Board members took no action on this proposal because of action on Proposal No. 53.

**PROPOSAL NO. 59**

**ACTION: No action**

**DESCRIPTION:** Extend trapping season for land otter in Units 1C, 1D, and 4.

**DISCUSSION:** Board members took no action on this proposal because of action on Proposal No. 53.

**PROPOSAL NO. 60**

**ACTION: Carried as amended**

**DESCRIPTION:** Lengthen wolf hunting season in Unit 1.

**AMENDMENTS:** For both residents and nonresidents the season will run from August 1-April 30.

**DISCUSSION:** Board members discussed making the season uniform throughout the region and considered biological impacts associated with a harvest increase. Department staff reported the wolf populations are healthy and stable in Units 1, 3, and 5, and stated the amended season restores the season to pre-2002 levels, noting the prior harvests were typically low during the additional time period. Board members also discussed reasons why Unit 2 is not included in this proposal, including genetic distinctions and regulatory differences between the affected population in this proposal and the population in Unit 2, and the more active wolf harvesting and substantial road system in Unit 2. Board members also discussed past attempts by conservation groups to include the *Alexander Archipelago* wolves listed in the Endangered Species Act (ESA), and the department's management to avoid the need for the ESA listing.

**PROPOSAL NO. 61**

**ACTION: No Action**

**DESCRIPTION:** Extend wolf hunting season in Units 1-3.

**DISCUSSION:** Board members took no action on this proposal because of action on Proposal No. 60 as amended.

**PROPOSAL NO. 62**

**ACTION: Carried**

**DESCRIPTION:** Repeal sealing requirement (requiring left leg bones) for wolves in Units 1 – 5.

**DISCUSSION:** The board discussed sealing requirements with the department. Board members considered the unnecessary burden on trappers and hunters to retain the leg bones and how repealing this requirement would make sealing requirements more consistent throughout the state.

The department testified that after seven years of collecting data, the requirement is no longer necessary for managing wolf populations.

**PROPOSAL NO. 63**

**ACTION: Carried**

**DESCRIPTION:** Require unused deer harvest tickets be carried while hunting, and used sequentially.

**DISCUSSION:** Board members questioned the need for this proposal and discussed enforcement issues and whether this proposal would be a hardship to deer hunters. Department staff testified this proposal is intended to prevent hunters from harvesting deer beyond unit-specific bag limits.

**PROPOSAL NO. 64**

**ACTION: Carried**

**DESCRIPTION:** Clarify brown bear bag limit (to count wounded brown or black bears).

**DISCUSSION:** Board members discussed enforcement and ethical issues associated with this proposal, and the reluctance to adopt this proposal in other regions. The adopted proposal applies to brown and black bears.

**PROPOSAL NO. 65**

**ACTION: Failed**

**DESCRIPTION:** Eliminate sale of brown bear fur for handicraft for Units 1, 4, and 5.

**DISCUSSION:** Board members noted brown bear can be harvested for sale under a cultural permit for making Alaska Native regalia, that even if this proposal were adopted, federal regulations would still allow the practice, and in Units 1, 4, and 5, hunters are limited to one bear every four years. The original intent of allowing sale of brown bear fur for handicraft was to encourage harvest of bears in areas with high bear populations and predator control problems.

**PROPOSAL NO. 66**

**ACTION: No action**

**DESCRIPTION:** Eliminate sale of brown bear fur for handicraft for Units 1, 4, and 5.

**DISCUSSION:** Board members took no action on this proposal because of action on Proposal No. 65.

**PROPOSAL NO. 67**

**ACTION: Carried as amended**

**DESCRIPTION:** The Board of Game requested a statewide review, by Region, of the original history of, reasons for, and boundaries of all closed and controlled use areas in order to ascertain the continued need for each area.

**AMENDMENTS:** For Unit 1A, a technical correction to the boundary definition, adding the headwaters of both Fish Creek and Skookum Creek to areas closed to bear hunting; for Unit 1B, allowing the taking of snow geese; for Unit 2 Prince of Wales Island Area, adding Joe Mace Island Marine Park, a small island off Point Baker on Prince of Wales Island to areas closed to trapping of furbearers; for Unit 3, clarifying the boundary definition in the Petersburg vicinity, by deleting "Milepost 0" and adding "the Petersburg city limits"; and clarifying the boundary definition in Blind Slough by inserting specific milepost numbers; for Unit 4, modifying Pack Creek Closed Area to allow spring bear hunting in Swan Cove, as a Board of Game generated proposal to be considered at the next Southeast meeting in 2006; and excluding the city limits of Angoon from Mitchell Bay as a Board of Game generated proposal to be considered at the next Southeast meeting in 2006.

**DISCUSSION on GMUs 1A and 2:** Board members discussed each of the Closed Areas and Controlled Use Areas within Region 1, Southeast, by game management units in the Ketchikan, Petersburg, Douglas, and Sitka areas, respectively. Board members reiterated the Board of Game's statutory authority to adopt regulations to conserve and develop the game resources of the state, and not for purely public safety reasons. For the Ketchikan area, board members discussed the Ketchikan Road System Closed Area and noted the road system is contained in two government structures, a borough and a municipality. Board members also discussed the Salmon River Controlled Use Area in the Hyder Area, noting the unique opportunity for vehicle access to bear

viewing in this area. Prior to adopting amendments, board members discussed adding the headwaters of Fish Creek and Skookum Creek and bear viewing in that area. Board members also discussed activities, including pets being caught in traps, that conflict with trapping in the Joe Mace Closed Area before adopting the related amendment. Board members pointed out other issues in this Closed Area may be more appropriately addressed by the local government's adoption of restrictions relating to discharge of firearms within the local government boundaries.

**DISCUSSION on GMUs 1B and 3:** Board members discussed five Closed Areas, Anan Creek in GMU 1B; Zimovia Highway in Wrangell; Mitkof Highway in Petersburg; Petersburg Creek on Kupreanof Island, and Blind Slough on Mitkof Island. The board addressed the Mitkof Highway Closed Area and Petersburg's ban on discharging firearms within the city limits, and the current regulation's need for the amendment clarifying the Closed Area boundary descriptions before adopting the appropriate amendments. The board members also learned from department staff of the ambiguity surrounding the boundaries of the Blind Slough Closed Area because there are two areas referred to as Blind Island, before adopting the appropriate amendment to use specific milepost numbers to solve this ambiguity.

**DISCUSSION on GMUs 1(C), 1(D), and 5 - Douglas Area:** Board members discussed the prohibition on taking snow geese in GMU 1(C). Department staff noted the current regulation may have been adopted to protect trumpeter swans, but there have been no problems with hunters mistaking swans for snow geese. The amendment makes this particular regulation consistent with other state regulations. Board members also discussed Closed to Trapping Areas in GMU 1(C), including the Juneau Road System Area Closure, the Auke Lake Area Closure, Mendenhall Valley Area, Douglas Road System, Mendenhall Glacier Recreation Area, and Juneau Trails Area, and decided there were no changes necessary to any of these Closed to Trapping Areas. Board members suggested department staff work with representatives of the Municipality of Juneau to address flooding in the Mendenhall Valley caused by beavers.

**DISCUSSION GMU 4 - Sitka Area:** After reviewing this Controlled Use Area, and hearing the department's testimony, board members decided there were no changes necessary to this segment of Region 1. After discussion of the historical intent of closing Pack Creek, and the various groups of persons visiting Pack Creek, the board adopted a motion to generate a Board of Game proposal modifying the Pack Creek Closed Area to allow spring bear hunting in Swan Cove, for deliberation at the Board of Game's next Southeast – Region I meeting in 2006. After discussing the bear population in Salt Lake and Mitchell Bay, bear and human conflicts, and the various groups of persons visiting Salt Lake and Mitchell Bay, the board adopted a motion to generate a Board of Game proposal excluding the city limits of Angoon from Mitchell Bay, to be considered at the Board of Game's next Southeast – Region I meeting in 2006.

**PROPOSAL NO. 68**

**ACTION: Carried**

**DESCRIPTION:** Allow use of snowmachines for taking wolves in all of Unit 18.

**DISCUSSION:** This regulation requires halting a snowmachine prior to harvesting wolf, but does not require turning the engine off before harvesting. (Note: 5 AAC 92.080(5), prohibits use of snowmachines to harass, herd, drive, or molest game.)

**PROPOSAL NO. 69**

**ACTION: Carried as amended**

**DESCRIPTION:** Create a predation control plan for Upper Yukon/Tanana control area.

**AMENDMENTS:** Excludes federal lands not approved by federal agencies.

**DISCUSSION:** Board members deliberated on the issue of predation control in portions of the Upper Yukon/Tanana Predation Control Area, and adopted specific findings identifying the control area. Board members recognized the moose population has been at chronically low numbers and the importance of moose to subsistence users in the area. The area has experienced growth in wolf densities, and bear harvest has had little effect on brown bear populations. The board found

predation to be an important cause for low moose density. The full text of the 2004-152-BOG is available online: [www.boards.adfg.state.ak.us/gameinfo/regs/pfindx.php](http://www.boards.adfg.state.ak.us/gameinfo/regs/pfindx.php)

**PROPOSAL NO. 70**

**ACTION: No action**

**DESCRIPTION:** Require transfer of possession form, license, and harvest ticket for each year of Tier II use claimed.

**DISCUSSION:** Board members took no action on this proposal because of action on Proposals No. 71A and 71B.

**PROPOSALS 71A and 71B**

**ACTION: Tabled to March 2005**

**DESCRIPTION:** Modify point system for Tier II subsistence permits.

**AMENDMENTS:** Change the permit scoring system, and require community subsistence harvest permits in specific areas.

**DISCUSSION:** Board members received a report from the board's Tier II Subsistence Committee, which has drafted a proposal utilizing the Nelchina caribou Tier II permit hunt, and reviewing the Tier II scoring system. The board deferred action on Proposals 71A and 71B until the March 2005 Board of Game meeting in Anchorage.

**PROPOSAL NO. 72**

**ACTION: No action**

**DESCRIPTION:** Add verification requirements for Tier II permit applications.

**DISCUSSION:** Board members took no action on this proposal because of action on Proposals No. 71A and 71B.

**PROPOSAL NO. 73**

**ACTION: No action**

**DESCRIPTION:** Modify point system for Tier II subsistence permits.

**DISCUSSION:** Board members took no action on this proposal because of action on Proposals No. 71A and 71B.

**PETITION 1.** From Mt. Yenlo Advisory Committee, asking the Board of Game to direct the Department to use aerial shooting as the method and the minimum wolf population objective as the goal in implementation of predator control in GMU 16B for the 2004-2005 predator control season. **Discussion:** Board members found the petition did not meet the emergency petition criteria contained in 5 AAC 96.625(f).

**PETITION 2.** From Warren Olsen, asking the Board of Game to follow channels with a letter to the Attorney General of Alaska for the removal of the State Subsistence Law, AS 16.05.258, October 1, 1995. Board members found the petition did not meet the emergency petition criteria contained in 5 AAC 96.615(a) or 5 AAC 96.625(f).

**PETITION 3.** From Anchorage Fish and Game Advisory Committee, requesting the Board of Game to write a letter to the Attorney General to remove the subsistence statute. Board members found the petition did not meet the emergency petition criteria contained in 5 AAC 96.615(a) or 5 AAC 96.625(f).

**PETITION 4.** From Gary Childers, requesting the Board of Game to consider changing 5 AAC 85.045(A)(18) and reapplying AS 16.05.258. Board members found the petition did not meet the emergency petition criteria in either 5 AAC 96.615(a) or 5 AAC 96.625(f).

**PETITION 5.** From Isaac Juneby, requesting the Board of Game to create an emergency caribou hunt in Eagle Village area. Board members found the petition did not meet the emergency petition criteria in either 5 AAC 96.615(a) or 5 AAC 96.625(f).

**RESOLUTION**

**ACTION: Carried**

**DESCRIPTION:** Requested changes to FY'06 budget for the Boards of Fisheries and Game and Advisory Committees.

**DISCUSSION:** Board members discussed the requested increase in the board budget. The requested increase will assist the board in carrying out statutory duties and may allow the board to resume holding meetings in locations other than Anchorage, Fairbanks and Juneau.

**RESOLUTION**

**ACTION: Carried**

**DESCRIPTION:** Supporting increasing resident and nonresident hunting license and tag fees.

**DISCUSSION:** The board passed this resolution.

**LETTERS**

**ACTION: Carried**

**DESCRIPTION:** Draft letter to congressional delegation re: USFS funding.

**DISCUSSION:** Board members requested the department to draft this letter.

**2005/2006 CYCLE**

**ACTION: Tabled**

**DESCRIPTION:** Select Fall 2005 Arctic and Western Region V and Spring 2006 Interior Region III meeting times and locations.

**DISCUSSION:** Board members agreed to provide dates to the Executive Director for the Fall 2005 meeting regarding Arctic and Western Region V and Statewide regulations. The full future meeting schedule will be distributed and posted online.