

Advisory Committee
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Alaska Board of Game
March, 2012

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BOG Proposal 151
GASH (Grayling, Anvik, Shageluk & Holy Cross) Advisory Committee

The GASH AC highly supports the Paradise Controlled Use Area (CUA) because it keeps all hunters, local and non-local alike, on an even ground by having to use the same means of harvest (ie...boats and walking), which was what the CUA was fully intended for.

The GASH AC strongly feels that the Paradise CUA will continue to be a useful tool and help maintain a harvestable population of moose in the future, which was what the CUA was fully intended for.

The GASH AC also feels that the Paradise CUA has always held its position as an important management area, and it produces a healthy and stable moose population.



GASH AC meeting

Blackwell School

Anvik on February 7, 2012

Quorum Established

Ken Chase & Robert Walker who sat in for Cliff Hickson (Anvik); Gabe Nikolia (Grayling); Bruce Werba & Kathy Chase (Holy Cross); Eluska John Jr (Shageluk)

Guests

Mark Cox (McGrath); little turnout from Anvik (meeting rescheduled many times, notice for this meeting not hung up in town very long)

Staff

Jerry Hill and Bo Sloan(FWS) and Josh Peirce(ADFG)

Election: The AC and attending public voted Ken Chase and Cliff Hickson for an additional 3 years. Bruce Werba was also voted into an Undesignated seat for a period of 3 years.

Meeting minutes from April 26, 2011 meeting and December 5, 2011 teleconference read into record and approved

ADFG was asked about predator control in 21E and the moose populations there as well.

Ken Chase gave an update on the last WIRAC meeting he attended (Sept 2011 in Aniak), specifically on the results of the proposal WP10-69.

The AC noted that they are still in opposition to this proposal and nominate Ken Chase to attend whatever FSB and WIRAC meetings.

Ken Chase read a letter to the AC from Randy Rogers, retired ADFG biologist who worked hard to get the wood bison released in the GASH region before he retired.

ACTION ITEM:

Draft letter of thanks for Randy Rogers

Unanimously approved

FISH ISSUES

- Discussion on how the 7.5" mesh change worked for the communities
- Discussion on lamprey fishery
- Subsistence Pike Fishing in Holy Cross discussed

ACTION ITEM

Proposal to the BOF on the Subsistence Pike Fishery by Holy Cross; Bruce Werba and Kathy Chase nominated to create the proposal- possible solutions addressed, such as setting catch or size limits. AC unanimously voted for Bruce and Kathy to create proposal



INTERIOR BOARD OF GAME COMMENTS

Proposal 151

Action: No support

Description: Review the conditions of the Controlled Use Areas in Region III and repeal those that are no longer meet the original intent.

The GASH AC would like the Paradise CUA to be left alone and does not feel that they have the ability or knowledge required to comment on other CUA's- they are outside of their area. Please see resolution that is attached

Unanimous

Proposal 155

Action: No Support

Description: Close certain caribou hunts in Units 19A, 19B, 19C, 19D, 21A, and 21E.

Unanimous

Proposal 166

Action: Support

Description: Lengthen the wolf hunting season for residents and nonresidents in Unit 21.

5 yea's; 1 abstain

Proposal 167

Action: Support

Description: Lengthen wolf hunting season to the end of May for Units 21, 22, and 24.

5 yea's; 1 abstain

Proposal 169

Action: Support

Extend the Lynx trapping season in Unit 21

This AC doesn't think the current lynx season drives the trapping season, so this would allow trappers to keep and utilize incidentally caught lynx while targeting other species.

Federal Land Update- Bo Sloan

Update on Fire Management Plan given

Meeting Adjourned



40 Mile/Upper Tanana Advisory Committee Meeting
January 10, 2012

2 at large seats (Lyle Cronk and Matt Snyder)

Tok seat (Leif Wilson)

(Leif Wilson, Mike Cronk, Frank Entsminger, Matt Snyder, Aaron Atchley, Lyle Cronk)

Election:

Tok seat: (Leif Wilson) Re-elected

2-at large seats: (Matt Snyder) (Lyle Cronk) Both Re-elected

Nominate another alternate seat (Thor Jorgensen)

Nominate Leif Wilson-Chair

Nominate Matt Snyder-Vice-President

Nominate Mike Cronk-Secretary

BOG PROPOSALS:

Make a motion to support all regional proposals to put them all on the table. (6-0)

(133-139)-(0-6) Oppose-Resident/non-resident and too much of a blanket policy that should be on a case by basis.

(140)-(6-0)-Support

(141)-(6-0)-Support

(142)-(0-6)-Oppose

(143-144)-(6-0)-Support

(145)-(0-6)-Oppose

(146)-(6-0) Support with an amendment to eliminate salvage requirements through May-August)

148-(0-6)-Oppose



149-(6-0)-Support with an amendment to eliminate units 12 and 20E from this proposal.

150-(0-6) Oppose

151-(6-0) Support and make amendment to eliminate unit 12 and 20E out of this proposal.

152-(0-6) Oppose

186-(6-0) Support with amendment supporting the Department of ADF&G ANR. Do not include the season days of SEPT. 18,19,20. It is too excessive. Could cause too large of an increase in the overall harvest. This could possibly drop the bull/cow ratio too low.

188-(0-6) Oppose-It is wrong to include the next of kin non-resident into the resident pool of drawing. And "UP to 10% is the correct language.

189-190 (0-6) Oppose. It is only fair the keep the up to 10% draw for non resident hunters.

191-(6-0) SUPPORT

192-195-(6-0) Support-Our AC thinks this plan is very good. All the parties involved did a very good job of making this happen.

193-194-(0-6) Oppose, doesn't follow the 40 mile harvest management plan

40 Mile Caribou Plan (6-0) Support plan as presented.

196-(6-0) Support

198-199-(Support) It is hunting and selectively shoot animals that have quality fur and there is bag limit of 2.

200-(0-6) Oppose

202-(6-0) Support





Copper River/ Prince William Sound Advisory Committee
PO BOX 1663
CORDOVA, ALASKA
99574
(907)424.3101

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JAN - 9 2011
BOARDS
ANCHORAGE

Committee Action: Approved 10-0

Proposal 242

Proposal: Reauthorize antlerless moose season GMU 6A EAST/WEST

Issue: Antlerless moose hunts must be reauthorized annually.

What will happen if nothing is done: ADF&G will lose a management tool, local subsistence could be disrupted.

Will the quality of the resource harvested or products produced be improved: YES

Who is likely to benefit: Species, subsistence users, sport hunters.

Who is likely to suffer:

Other solutions considered: GMU 6 is split into two sections *East* and *West*. 6A East is considered a trophy area in accordance with the moose management plan. Bulls allowable for harvest for residents must be spike, fork, 50" or three or more brow tines. Bulls allowable for non resident harvest must be 50" and larger or three brow tines. 6A West Resident allowable harvest is any bull through registration. Non resident allowable harvest is any bull through drawing. Both areas desirable population levels are between 300-350 animals. The latest census in 2008 found 275 in 6A West with 7% calves, and 230 in 6A East with 7% calves. Both areas are highly susceptible to predation by both wolves and bears. We feel reauthorizing antlerless hunts in GMU 6AEAST/WEST gives ADF&G the management tool they need to control populations.

Attn: Scott Cross
on time AC
BOG Interior



**Copper River/ Prince William Sound Advisory Committee
PO BOX 1663
CORDOVA, ALASKA
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(907)424.3101**

Committee Action: Approved 10-0

Proposal 243

Proposal: Reauthorize antlerless moose season GMU 6B

Issue: Antlerless moose hunts must be reauthorized annually.

What will happen if nothing is done: ADF&G will lose a management tool, local subsistence could be disrupted.

Will the quality of the resource harvested or products produced be improved: YES

Who is likely to benefit: Species, subsistence users, sport hunters.

Who is likely to suffer:

Other solutions considered: Desirable population levels are between 300-350 animals. The most recent census in 2008 found 180 animals, with 11% calves. This area is very prone to predation, especially by brown bears. The Board in the past has taken steps by liberalizing the brown bear season to help remedy this problem. It seems to have helped some with the calf survival doubling the past 10 years. Currently there is no planned antlerless hunt, but if the population continues to rebound, one will again. We feel reauthorizing antlerless hunts in GMU 6B gives ADF&G the management tool they need to control populations.



Copper River/ Prince William Sound Advisory Committee

PO BOX 1663

CORDOVA, ALASKA

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Committee Action: Approved 10-0

Proposal 244

Proposal: Reauthorize antlerless moose season GMU 6C

Issue: Antlerless moose hunts must be reauthorized annually.

What will happen if nothing is done: ADF&G will lose a management tool, local subsistence could be disrupted.

Will the quality of the resource harvested or products produced be improved: Yes

Who is likely to benefit: Species, subsistence users, sport hunters.

Who is likely to suffer:

Other solutions considered: Population objectives for GMU 6C is 400.

This was established in 1995, and the gain from 300 to 400 was to grow by 2006. The most recent census in January 2011 found 400 moose with 17% calves. The antlerless hunts are currently administered by the USFS in Cordova through the Federal subsistence program. We feel it is important to reauthorize antlerless hunt in GMU 6C because if the population objectives are met in the near future, this tool will be needed to hold the population within the objective level.



Anchorage Fish & Game Advisory Committee

Meeting of March 2 - 11, 2012
Comments to the ALASKA BOARD OF GAME
re: Interior Region

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FEB 16 2012

BOARDS
ANCHORAGE

On February 7, 2012 The Anchorage Fish & Game Advisory Committee held their monthly meeting, in part, to review the following proposals. 14 members attended the meeting; their votes and comments regarding each proposal are recorded below.

Ash: Scott
AC comments
BOG Interior

Regional

Proposal 133 **Action:** Oppose **0- Support 14 - Oppose 0 - Abstain**

Description: Open resident hunting seasons one week before nonresident seasons in all intensive management areas in Region III.

Discussion: No need to change season date.

Proposal 134 **Action:** Support **14 - Support 0 - Oppose 0 - Abstain**

Description: For Region III Units, allocate 10 percent of drawing permits to nonresidents; restrict nonresident participation with less than 10 permits.

Discussion: Support for reasons stated in proposal.

Proposal 135 **Action:** Support **14 - Support 0 - Oppose 0 - Abstain**

Description: For Region III Units, limit drawing permits to 10 percent for out of state hunters, 90 percent for residents.

Discussion: Support for reasons stated in proposal.

Proposal 136 **Action:** Oppose **0- Support 14 - Oppose 0 - Abstain**

Description: Begin the hunting season for Dall sheep seven days earlier than nonresidents in Region III Units.

Discussion: Don't see a need to change current hunting seasons.

Proposal 137 **Action:** Take No Action

Description: Convert nonresident sheep seasons to draw only hunts, require guide-client agreement and cap harvest at 15-20% of allowable harvest.

Proposal 138 **Action:** Support **14 - Support 0 - Oppose 0 - Abstain**

Description: Convert all sheep hunts in Region III to drawing only, 90% for residents.

Discussion: Support for reasons stated in proposal.

Proposal 139 **Action:** Oppose **0- Support 14 - Oppose 0 - Abstain**

Description: Convert all nonresident sheep seasons to drawing permit hunts and limit to 5 percent of total permits.

Discussion: 5% is too restrictive.



Anchorage Fish & Game Advisory Committee
Comments to the ALASKA BOARD OF GAME for Interior Region

Proposal 140 **Action:** Support **14 - Support 0 - Oppose 0 - Abstain**
Description: Reauthorize resident grizzly bear tag fee exemptions throughout Interior and Eastern Arctic Alaska.
Discussion: Support for reasons stated in proposal.

Proposal 141 **Action:** Support **11 - Support 3 - Oppose 0 - Abstain**
Description: Implement black bear trapping regulations.
Discussion: Support for reasons stated in proposal. Those oppose don't think bear trapping is sound practice, and that a negative response from the general public could hurt Intensive Management programs in the future.

Proposal 142 **Action:** Oppose **3 - Support 11 - Oppose 0 - Abstain**
Description: Prohibit trapping of black bear in the Interior region.
Discussion: Support for reasons stated in proposal. Those oppose don't think bear trapping is sound practice, and that a negative response from the general public could hurt Intensive Management programs in the future.

Proposal 143 **Action:** Support **14 - Support 0 - Oppose 0 - Abstain**
Description: Allow the taking of black bear at bait stations the same day you have been airborne.
Discussion: Support for reasons stated in proposal.

Proposal 144 **Action:** Support **14 - Support 0 - Oppose 0 - Abstain**
Description: Allow for same day airborne hunting or black bear over bait.
Discussion: Support for reasons stated in proposal.

Proposal 145 **Action:** Oppose **0- Support 14 - Oppose 0 - Abstain**
Description: Develop a Unit specific Amount Needed for Subsistence (ANS) finding for the Interior Region.
Discussion: This issue has been previously addressed.

Proposal 146 **Action:** Support **14 - Support 0 - Oppose 0 - Abstain**
Description: Open year-round coyote seasons in Region III.
Discussion: Support for reasons stated in proposal.

Proposal 147 **Action:** Take No Action
Description: Allow the use of helicopters for access to trapping in Region III.

Proposal 148 **Action:** Oppose **0- Support 14 - Oppose 0 - Abstain**
Description: Close certain nonresident trapping seasons in the Interior Region.
Discussion: Don't see a need to change current regulations.

Proposal 149 **Action:** Take No Action
Description: Extend the season for fox, martin, mink, and weasel in Units 12, 20, & 25C.
Discussion: TNA due to lack of population data.



Anchorage Fish & Game Advisory Committee
Comments to the ALASKA BOARD OF GAME for Interior Region

Proposal 150 **Action:** Oppose **0- Support 14 - Oppose 0 - Abstain**

Description: Close certain nonresident furbearer hunting seasons in the Interior Region.

Discussion: No need to change current regulations.

Proposal 151 **Action:** Support **14 - Support 0 - Oppose 0 - Abstain**

Description: Review the conditions of the Controlled Use Areas in Region III and repeal those that are no longer meet the original intent.

Discussion: Support for reasons stated in proposal.

Proposal 152 **Action:** Oppose **1- Support 13 - Oppose 0 - Abstain**

Description: Open early youth hunt (10-17 years) for all big game in Region III Units; require accompanying adult to forfeit bag limit.

Discussion: Oppose as written, proposal is too vague. However, AC likes the concept and is supportive of youth hunts.

Proposal 153 **Action:** Support **14 - Support 0 - Oppose 0 - Abstain**

Description: Eliminate the requirement to pick up moose registration permits weeks or months prior to the season in remote villages in Regions III. Make all registration permits available in season from designated vendors.

Discussion: Support for reasons stated in proposal.

McGrath Area – Units 19, 21A, & 21E

Proposal 154 **Action:** Oppose **0- Support 14 - Oppose 0 - Abstain**

Description: Reauthorize antlerless moose hunting seasons in Unit 19D.

Discussion: Concerned about moose populations declining due to cow harvest.

Proposal 155 **Action:** Oppose **0- Support 14 - Oppose 0 - Abstain**

Description: Close certain caribou hunts in Units 19A, 19B, 19C, 19D, 21A, and 21E.

Discussion: Prefer to leave caribou management to ADF&G.

Proposal 156 **Action:** Oppose **0- Support 14 - Oppose 0 - Abstain**

Description: Close the nonresident season for caribou in parts of Unit 19.

Discussion: Prefer to have ADF&G manage the heard as they see fit.

Proposal 157 **Action:** Support **14 - Support 0 - Oppose 0 - Abstain**

Description: Amend the Mulchatna Caribou Herd Predation Management Plan

Discussion: Support for reasons stated in proposal.

Proposal 158 **Action:** Take No Action

Description: Modify the population objective for Mulchatna caribou.

Discussion: Refer to proposal 157.

Proposal 159 **Action:** Take No Action



Anchorage Fish & Game Advisory Committee
Comments to the ALASKA BOARD OF GAME for Interior Region

Description: Implement a predator control plan for the range of the Mulchatna Caribou Herd.
Discussion: Refer to proposal 157.

Proposal 160 **Action:** Support **14 - Support** **0 - Oppose** **0 - Abstain**

Description: Extend the Lynx trapping season in Unit 19.

Discussion: Support for reasons stated in proposal.

Galena Area – Units 21B, 21C, 21D and 24

Proposal 161 **Action:** Support **14 - Support** **0 - Oppose** **0 - Abstain**

Description: Split the moose drawing permit hunt in Unit 21D (DM817) into two drawing permit hunts.

Discussion: Support for reasons stated in proposal.

Proposal 162 **Action:** Oppose **0- Support** **14 - Oppose** **0 - Abstain**

Description: Allow 10% of the Koyukuk CUA permit winners to use aircraft; allow guided permit winners to choose either boat or aircraft.

Discussion: No need to change current regulations.

Proposal 163 **Action:** Support **14 - Support** **0 - Oppose** **0 - Abstain**

Description: Authorizes a predator control program in a small portion of Unit 24B.

Discussion: Support for reasons stated in proposal.

Proposal 164 **Action:** Support **14 - Support** **0 - Oppose** **0 - Abstain**

Description: Eliminate the aircraft restriction in the Kanuti Controlled Use Area.

Discussion: Agree with increasing access to remote areas.

Proposal 165 **Action:** Oppose **0- Support** **14 - Oppose** **0 - Abstain**

Description: Close all hunting for the Galena Mountain Caribou Herd in Unit 24.

Discussion: Prefer to have ADF&G take appropriate action to manage this herd.

Proposal 166 **Action:** Support **14 - Support** **0 - Oppose** **0 - Abstain**

Description: Lengthen the wolf hunting season for residents and nonresidents in Unit 21.

Discussion: Support for reasons stated in proposal.

Proposal 167 **Action:** Support **14 - Support** **0 - Oppose** **0 - Abstain**

Description: Lengthen wolf hunting season to the end of May for Units 21, 22, and 24.

Discussion: Support for reasons stated in proposal.

Proposal 168 **Action:** Support **14 - Support** **0 - Oppose** **0 - Abstain**

Description: Allow brown bears to be harvested with bait in Unit 21D.

Discussion: Support for reasons stated in proposal.

Proposal 169 **Action:** Support **14 - Support** **0 - Oppose** **0 - Abstain**

Description: Extend the Lynx trapping season in Unit 21.



Anchorage Fish & Game Advisory Committee
Comments to the ALASKA BOARD OF GAME for Interior Region

Discussion: Support for reasons stated in proposal.

Northeast Alaska – Units 25A, 25B, 25D, 26B and 26C

Proposal 170 **Action:** Take No Action

Description: Shorten the moose season in a portion of 25A

Proposal 171 **Action:** Support **14 - Support** **0 - Oppose** **0 - Abstain**

Description: Require meat-on-bone salvage for moose in Unit 25A.

Discussion: Support for reasons stated in proposal.

Proposal 172 **Action:** Support **14 - Support** **0 - Oppose** **0 - Abstain**

Description: Require meat-on-bone salvage for moose in Unit 25B.

Discussion: Support for reasons stated in proposal.

Proposal 173 **Action:** Support **14 - Support** **0 - Oppose** **0 - Abstain**

Description: Require meat-on-bone salvage for moose in Unit 25D.

Discussion: Support for reasons stated in proposal.

Proposal 174 **Action:** Support **14 - Support** **0 - Oppose** **0 - Abstain**

Description: Establish a registration hunt for moose in the Firth/Mancha River drainage in Unit 26C.

Discussion: Support for reasons stated in proposal.

Proposal 175 **Action:** Support **14 - Support** **0 - Oppose** **0 - Abstain**

Description: Increase the nonresident bag limit for Porcupine Herd caribou in Units 25B, 25D, 26C, and the eastern portion of Unit 25A.

Discussion: Support for reasons stated in proposal.

Proposal 176 **Action:** Support **14 - Support** **0 - Oppose** **0 - Abstain**

Description: Return the nonresident bag limit on Porcupine Herd caribou to two bulls.

Discussion: Refer to proposal 175.

Proposal 177 **Action:** Take No Action

Description: Decrease the bag limit for caribou in Unit 26B.

Proposal 178 **Action:** Oppose **0- Support** **14 - Oppose** **0 - Abstain**

Description: Close Red Sheep Creek and Cane Creek drainages to hunting for sheep.

Discussion: Don't view sheep as a traditional subsistence animal targeted in these areas.

Proposal 179 **Action:** Support **14 - Support** **0 - Oppose** **0 - Abstain**

Description: Convert the general season nonresident sheep hunt to drawing hunt in the Dalton Highway Corridor area

Discussion: Support for reasons stated in proposal.

Proposal 180 **Action:** Support **14 - Support** **0 - Oppose** **0 - Abstain**

Description: Open wolf trapping in Units 25A, B, and C earlier, starting October 1.



Anchorage Fish & Game Advisory Committee
Comments to the ALASKA BOARD OF GAME for Interior Region

Discussion: Support for reasons stated in proposal.

Proposal 181 **Action:** Support **14 - Support** **0 - Oppose** **0 - Abstain**

Description: Extend brown bear seasons in Unit 26B.

Discussion: Support for reasons stated in proposal.

Proposal 182 **Action:** Support **14 - Support** **0 - Oppose** **0 - Abstain**

Description: Increase the annual bag limit for black bear in Unit 25D.

Discussion: Support for reasons stated in proposal.

Proposal 183 **Action:** Support **14 - Support** **0 - Oppose** **0 - Abstain**

Description: Allow hunters to take more than one brown bear by community harvest permit in Unit 25D.

Discussion: Support for reasons stated in proposal.

Proposal 184 **Action:** Oppose **1 - Support** **13 - Oppose** **0 - Abstain**

Description: Allow the use of crossbows in the Dalton Highway Corridor Management Area.

Discussion: The department needs to provide a definition of a crossbow. Crossbow hunters need to pass an efficiency test. Supporting member felt crossbow hunters should be permitted to hunt in bow-restricted areas.

Proposal 185 **Action:** Support **14 - Support** **0 - Oppose** **0 - Abstain**

Description: Allow the taking of small game by falconry in the Dalton Highway Corridor Management area.

Discussion: Support for reasons stated in proposal.

Tok Area – Units 12 & 20E

Proposal 186 **Action:** Support **14 - Support** **0 - Oppose** **0 - Abstain**

Description: Modify moose season in portion of Unit 12 and 11.

Discussion: Support for reasons stated in proposal.

Proposal 187 **Action:** Take No Action

Description: Convert the any bull moose hunt to a spike-fork 50-inch or 3 or more brow tines in portion of Unit 12.

Discussion: Refer to proposal # 186.

Proposal 188 **Action:** Oppose **0- Support** **14 - Oppose** **0 - Abstain**

Description: Allocate 10 percent of sheep drawing permits to nonresidents.

Discussion: Keep the language as up to 10 percent can go to nonresidents. Additionally, if 10 or less tags are available then no tags will be available for nonresidents.

Proposal 189 **Action:** Oppose **0- Support** **14 - Oppose** **0 - Abstain**

Description: Close the nonresident sheep season in the Tok and Delta drawing hunts.

Discussion: See comments on proposal # 188. There should be opportunity for nonresident hunters.



Anchorage Fish & Game Advisory Committee
Comments to the ALASKA BOARD OF GAME for Interior Region

Proposal 190 **Action: Oppose** **0 - Support 14 - Oppose 0 - Abstain**

Description: Close nonresident sheep season in the Tok and Delta drawing hunts.

Discussion: See comments on proposal # 188. There should be opportunity for nonresident hunters.

Proposal 191 **Action: Take No Action**

Description: Extend the moose season and restrict the harvest to larger bulls in Unit 20E

Proposal 192 **Action: Support** **14 - Support 0 - Oppose 0 - Abstain**

Description: Combine Fortymile and White Mountains Caribou herd seasons under 1 registration permit, remove harvest limits, lengthen the winter season for residents, and allow a new limited registration permit hunt

Discussion: Support for reasons stated in proposal.

Proposal 193 **Action: Oppose** **0 - Support 14 - Oppose 0 - Abstain**

Description: Move the Fortymile caribou season start date back to August 10, close corridor within one mile of highways during fall season.

Discussion: Too difficult to manage. Also difficult for hunters to know exactly where the one mile corridor is in relationship to the highway.

Proposal 194 **Action: Oppose** **0 - Support 14 - Oppose 0 - Abstain**

Description: Open a youth only hunt for Fortymile Caribou.

Discussion: No need to change regulations. There is ample opportunity for youth to harvest caribou.

Proposal 195 **Action: Support** **14 - Support 0 - Oppose 0 - Abstain**

Description: Remove the proxy prohibition for taking caribou in Unit 20E; and prohibit proxy hunting for Fortymile and White Mountain caribou in Unit 25.

Discussion: Support for reasons stated in proposal.

Proposal 196 **Action: Support** **14 - Support 0 - Oppose 0 - Abstain**

Description: Allow brown bear baiting with same season and restrictions as black bear baiting.

Discussion: Support for reasons stated in proposal.

Proposal 197 **Action: Support** **13 - Support 0 - Oppose 1 - Abstain**

Description: Re-Implement the grizzly bear control portion of the UYTSCP in Southern Unit 20E, and allow bear snaring and same day airborne taking of bears.

Discussion: Support for reasons stated in proposal.

Proposal 198 **Action: Support** **14 - Support 0 - Oppose 0 - Abstain**

Description: Align the Unit 12 and 20E fox trapping season with the coyote season, including snare and trap restrictions in October and April.

Discussion: Support for reasons stated in proposal.

Proposal 199 **Action: Support** **14 - Support 0 - Oppose 0 - Abstain**

Description: Extend hunting seasons for lynx and fox to April 30.



Anchorage Fish & Game Advisory Committee
Comments to the ALASKA BOARD OF GAME for Interior Region

Discussion: Support for reasons stated in proposal.

Proposal 200 **Action:** Oppose **0- Support 14 - Oppose 0 - Abstain**

Description: Amend the Amount Reasonably Necessary for Subsistence Uses in Unit 12.

Discussion: This issue has been previously addressed.

Delta Area – Unit 20D

Proposal 201 **Action:** Oppose **0- Support 14 - Oppose 0 – Abstain**

Description: Reauthorize antlerless moose hunting seasons in Unit 20D.

Discussion: Cow moose harvest will have a negative impact on the overall condition of the herd.

Proposal 202 **Action:** Support **14 - Support 0 - Oppose 0 - Abstain**

Description: Allow assistance from same-day-airborne for Delta bison permit holders

Discussion: Support for reasons stated in proposal.

Proposal 203 **Action:** Oppose **0 - Support 12 - Oppose 2 - Abstain**

Description: Restrict the use of all motorized vehicles in portion of 20D.

Discussion: Oppose due to lack of specific information that would justify limiting access.

Fairbanks Area - Unit 20A, 20B, 20C, 20F, & 25C

Proposal 204 **Action:** Take No Action

Description: Modify the Intensive Management findings for moose in Unit 20A.

Discussion: Too confusing.

Proposal 205 **Action:** Oppose **0- Support 14 - Oppose 0 - Abstain**

Description: Change the legal animal for the Unit 20A & 20B antlerless hunts.

Discussion: No calves should be harvested.

Proposal 206 **Action:** Oppose **0- Support 14 - Oppose 0 - Abstain**

Description: Reauthorize the antlerless moose hunting season in Unit 20A.

Discussion: Cow moose harvest will have a negative impact on the overall condition of the herd.

Proposal 207 **Action:** Support **12 - Support 1 - Oppose 1 - Abstain**

Description: Revert to the original hunt area for the November muzzleloader hunt in Unit 20A.

Discussion: Support for reasons stated in proposal.

Proposal 208 **Action:** Oppose **0 - Support 14 - Oppose 0 - Abstain**

Description: Establish a new muzzleloader hunt in Remainder of Unit 20A; outside the controlled use area.

Discussion: No need to establish another drawing hunt.

Proposal 209 **Action:** Support **14 - Support 0 - Oppose 0 - Abstain**



Anchorage Fish & Game Advisory Committee
Comments to the ALASKA BOARD OF GAME for Interior Region

Description: Require hunters to use a locking tag if hunting any bull drawing permit in Unit 20A.

Discussion: Support for reasons stated in proposal.

Proposal 210 **Action:** Support **14 - Support 0 - Oppose 0 - Abstain**

Description: Move the northern boundary of the Wood River Controlled Use Area.

Discussion: This would greatly increase access.

Proposal 211 **Action:** Oppose **0 - Support 13 - Oppose 1 - Abstain**

Description: Prohibit the use of ATVs above 2500 feet elevation in a portion of Unit 20.

Discussion: Not necessary to restrict ATVs above 2500 ft.

Proposal 212 **Action:** Oppose **0 - Support 13 - Oppose 1 - Abstain**

Description: Prohibit the use of ATVs in a portion of Unit 20.

Discussion: No need to limit ATV access.

Proposal 213 **Action:** Support **10 - Support 1 - Oppose 2 - Abstain**

Description: Allow motorized vehicle access in the Yanert Controlled Use Area in Unit 20.

Discussion: Support for reasons stated in proposal.

Proposal 214 **Action:** Oppose **0 - Support 14 - Oppose 0 - Abstain**

Description: Create an "any ram" drawing permit hunt in Unit 20.

Discussion: Don't agree with argument presented in proposal.

Proposal 215 **Action:** Take no action

Description: Establish a community harvest hunt area for the Village of Minto in Unit 20.

Proposal 216 **Action:** Oppose **0 - Support 14 - Oppose 0 - Abstain**

Description: Open a general season bull hunt 10 days earlier in the Minto Flats Management Area; convert the winter any moose hunt to antlerless and issue unlimited permits.

Discussion: Too liberal of a harvest.

Proposal 217 **Action:** Take No Action

Description: Establish a community harvest permit hunt for the Village of Minto.

Proposal 218 **Action:** Oppose **0 - Support 14 - Oppose 0 - Abstain**

Description: Reauthorize the antlerless moose hunting season in Unit 20B.

Discussion: Too liberal of a antlerless season.

Proposal 219 **Action:** Support **14 - Support 0 - Oppose 0 - Abstain**

Description: Eliminate the Minto Flats Management Area restrictions on airboats.

Discussion: Support for reasons stated in proposal.

Proposal 220 **Action:** Take No Action



Anchorage Fish & Game Advisory Committee
Comments to the ALASKA BOARD OF GAME for Interior Region

Description: Lengthen the muzzleloaders season in Unit 20B and expand the hunt area to all of the Fairbanks Management area.

Proposal 221 **Action:** Take No Action

Description: Lengthen the muzzleloader season in Unit 20B, Creamers Refuge

Proposal 222 **Action:** Support **14 - Support** **0 - Oppose** **0 - Abstain**

Description: Modify the muzzleloader hunt area to prohibit harvest of antlerless moose in the Salcha River drainage.

Discussion: Support for reasons stated in proposal.

Proposal 223 **Action:** Support **14 - Support** **0 - Oppose** **0 - Abstain**

Description: Modify the muzzleloader hunt to prohibit harvest of antlerless moose in the Salcha River drainage.

Discussion: Support for reasons stated in proposal.

Proposal 224 **Action:** Take No Action

Description: Review the boundary of the Fairbanks Management Area; focus on changing the boundary near Murphy Dome and Ester Dome.

Proposal 225 **Action:** Support **14 - Support** **0 - Oppose** **0 - Abstain**

Description: Remove the prohibition on aircraft use for beaver trapping in the Minto Flats management area.

Discussion: Support for reasons stated in proposal.

Proposal 226 **Action:** Oppose **0 - Support** **14 - Oppose** **0 - Abstain**

Description: Align the resident and nonresident moose seasons in Unit 20C.

Discussion: Don't need to increase the harvest of moose in a proposed IM area.

Proposal 227 **Action:** Support **14 - Support** **0 - Oppose** **0 - Abstain**

Description: Establish an intensive management area for Unit 20C.

Discussion: Support for reasons stated in proposal.

Proposal 228 **Action:** Support **14 - Support** **0 - Oppose** **0 - Abstain**

Description: Adopt a wolf control program for Unit 20C.

Discussion: Support for reasons stated in proposal.

Proposal 229 **Action:** Support **14 - Support** **0 - Oppose** **0 - Abstain**

Description: Adopt an Intensive Management plan for Unit 20C.

Discussion: Support for reasons stated in proposal.

Proposal 230 **Action:** Support **14 - Support** **0 - Oppose** **0 - Abstain**

Description: Adopt a bear control program for Unit 20C.

Discussion: Support for reasons stated in proposal.



Anchorage Fish & Game Advisory Committee
Comments to the ALASKA BOARD OF GAME for Interior Region

Proposal 231 **Action:** Support **14 - Support 0 - Oppose 0 - Abstain**

Description: Establish a black bear trapping season in parts of Unit 20C.

Discussion: Support for reasons stated in proposal.

Proposal 232 **Action:** Support **14 - Support 0 - Oppose 0 - Abstain**

Description: Allow harvest of grizzly bear over a black bear bait site; require salvage of meat and hide

Discussion: Support for reasons stated in proposal.

Proposal 233 **Action:** Oppose **0- Support 14 - Oppose 0 - Abstain**

Description: Establish a new controlled use area near Denali.

Discussion: Too confusing, less access.

Proposal 234 **Action:** Support **14 - Support 0 - Oppose 0 - Abstain**

Description: Require meat-on-bone salvage for moose in Unit 25C.

Discussion: Support for reasons stated in proposal.

Proposal 235 **Action:** Support **14 - Support 0 - Oppose 0 - Abstain**

Description: Increase the bag limit for black bear in Unit 25C.

Discussion: Support for reasons stated in proposal.

Proposal 236 **Action:** support **14 - Support 0 - Oppose 0 - Abstain**

Description: Allow limited harvest of grizzly bear at black bear bait stations in Units 20A, 20B and 25C.

Discussion: Support for reasons stated in proposal.

Proposal 237 **Action:** Support **14 - Support 0 - Oppose 0 - Abstain**

Description: Align the brown/grizzly season in all of Unit 20.

Discussion: Support for reasons stated in proposal.

Other Units

Proposal 238 **Action:** Support **14 - Support 0 - Oppose 0 - Abstain**

Description: Implement a predation management plan in Unit 9B.

Discussion: Support for reasons stated in proposal.

Proposal 239 **Action:** Oppose **0- Support 14 - Oppose 0 - Abstain**

Description: Reauthorize antlerless moose hunt in Unit 1C, Berners Bay

Discussion: Cow moose harvest will have a negative impact on the overall condition of the herd.

Proposal 240 **Action:** Oppose **0- Support 14 - Oppose 0 - Abstain**

Description: Reauthorize antlerless moose hunt in Unit 1C, Gustavus

Discussion: Cow moose harvest will have a negative impact on the overall condition of the herd.

Proposal 241 **Action:** Oppose **0- Support 14 - Oppose 0 - Abstain**

Description: Reauthorize antlerless moose hunt in Unit 5A, Nunatak Bench



Anchorage Fish & Game Advisory Committee
Comments to the ALASKA BOARD OF GAME for Interior Region

Discussion: Cow moose harvest will have a negative impact on the overall condition of the herd.

Proposal 242 **Action:** Oppose **0- Support** **14 - Oppose** **0 - Abstain**

Description: Reauthorize antlerless moose hunt in Unit 6A

Discussion: Cow moose harvest will have a negative impact on the overall condition of the herd.

Proposal 243 **Action:** Oppose **0- Support** **14 - Oppose** **0 - Abstain**

Description: Reauthorize antlerless moose hunt in Unit 6

Discussion: Cow moose harvest will have a negative impact on the overall condition of the herd.

Proposal 244 **Action:** Oppose **0- Support** **14 - Oppose** **0 - Abstain**

Description: Reauthorize antlerless moose hunt in Unit 6C

Discussion: Cow moose harvest will have a negative impact on the overall condition of the herd.

Proposal 245 **Action:** Oppose **0- Support** **14 - Oppose** **0 - Abstain**

Description: Reauthorize antlerless moose hunt in Unit 13

Discussion: Cow moose harvest will have a negative impact on the overall condition of the herd.

Proposal 246 **Action:** Oppose **0- Support** **14 - Oppose** **0 - Abstain**

Description: Reauthorize antlerless moose hunt in Unit 14A

Discussion: Cow moose harvest will have a negative impact on the overall condition of the herd.

Proposal 247 **Action:** Oppose **0- Support** **14 - Oppose** **0 - Abstain**

Description: Reauthorize antlerless moose hunt in Units 7/14C Placer-20mile

Discussion: Cow moose harvest will have a negative impact on the overall condition of the herd.

Proposal 248 **Action:** Oppose **0- Support** **14 - Oppose** **0 - Abstain**

Description: Reauthorize antlerless moose hunt in Unit 14C

Discussion: Cow moose harvest will have a negative impact on the overall condition of the herd.

Proposal 249 **Action:** Oppose **0- Support** **14 - Oppose** **0 - Abstain**

Description: Reauthorize antlerless moose hunt in Unit 14C, Anchorage Mgt. Area

Discussion: Cow moose harvest will have a negative impact on the overall condition of the herd.

Proposal 250 **Action:** Oppose **0- Support** **14 - Oppose** **0 - Abstain**

Description: Reauthorize antlerless moose hunt in Unit 14C, Birchwood and remainder

Discussion: Cow moose harvest will have a negative impact on the overall condition of the herd.

Proposal 251 **Action:** Oppose **0- Support** **14 - Oppose** **0 - Abstain**

Description: Reauthorize antlerless moose hunt in Unit 14C, Ship Creek

Discussion: Cow moose harvest will have a negative impact on the overall condition of the herd.

Proposal 252 **Action:** Oppose **0- Support** **14 - Oppose** **0 - Abstain**

Description: Reauthorize antlerless moose hunt in Unit 15A, Skilak Loop

Discussion: Cow moose harvest will have a negative impact on the overall condition of the herd.



Anchorage Fish & Game Advisory Committee
Comments to the ALASKA BOARD OF GAME for Interior Region

Proposal 253 **Action:** Oppose **0- Support 14 - Oppose 0 - Abstain**
Description: Reauthorize antlerless moose hunt in Unit 15C, Homer
Discussion: Cow moose harvest will have a negative impact on the overall condition of the herd.

Proposal 254 **Action:** Oppose **0- Support 14 - Oppose 0 - Abstain**
Description: Reauthorize antlerless moose hunt in Unit 16B, Kalgin Island
Discussion: Cow moose harvest will have a negative impact on the overall condition of the herd.

Proposal 255 **Action:** Support **14 - Support 0 - Oppose 0 - Abstain**
Description: Reauthorize brown bear tag fees in Region IV
Discussion: Support for reasons stated in proposal.



STATE OF ALASKA

Central Peninsula Fish & Game
Advisory Committee

SEAN PARNELL, GOVERNOR

David Martin, Chair
PO Box 468
Clam Gulch, AK 99669
Phone: 567-3306

RECEIVED

FEB 15 2012

BOARDS
ANCHORAGE

February 15, 2012

Cliff Judkins, Chair
Alaska Board of Game
PO Box 115526
Juneau, AK 99811

Attn: Scott
AC Comments
BOG Int. Reg

Dear Cliff,

This is a reminder that I testified, with the approval of the Chair at the Statewide BOG meeting on our AC actions on the antlerless hunts in our area (proposals 252, 253 and 254) because I our AC will not be attending the Spring BOG meeting.

Our actions and comments to the BOG are attached, so they can be in the spring packet.

Sincerely,



David Martin

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ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

AC NAME: Central PeninsulaLOCATION (town): NinilchikDATE (of meeting): 12-21-11 (rescheduled meeting from 12-19-11)MEMBERS PRESENT: Steve Vanek, Dave Martin, Bob
Chase, John McCombs, Jeff Berger,
Gary Delmont, Mike Schuster

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Doug Blosson, Ron VANER, Max Feldstat,
Greg EncelowskiQUORUM PRESENT: YES ☒ NO ☐AGENCY STAFF PRESENT: Jeff Salinger,
Ted SprakerTime Meeting Called to Order: 7:15 PM

Old Business and New Business (See following pages)

Time Meeting Adjourned: 9:15 PMSteve Vanek

Signature, Committee Secretary

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Central Peninsula

Fish & Game Advisory Committee

Date: 12-21-11

Meeting Attendance Sign in Sheet

Name/Organization	Mailing Address City, Zip Code	Interests (optional - see below)	Email/Phone
Steve Vanele	Nimilchik		
David Martin	Cham Gulch		
John McCombs	Nimilchik	all except 11	
TED Spraker	Soldotna		
Jeff Selinger	Soldotna		
Robert O. Clausen	Cham Gulch		
Jeff Berger	Nimilchik		Decap@PTAASKA.net
Mike Schuster	Nimilchik		
Gary Deiman	"		

Interest Groups: 1 - Trapping 2 - Sport Fishing 3 - Subsistence 4 - Hunting 5 - Commercial Fishing
 6 - Photography 7 - Guiding 8 - Processing 9 - Personal Use 10 - Outdoorsperson
 11 - Association/Corporation 12 - Conservationist

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VOTER RECORD/COMMENT

ADVISORY COMMITTEE: Central PeninsulaDATE: 12/21/11 PAGE 16 OF 17Board of BOG Comments for Statewide

Please use this format to record the votes and comments of members regarding proposals. The boards are particularly interested in hearing the reasons why proposals are supported/opposed. If committee members believe a proposal does not pertain to their jurisdiction, it is not necessary to spend time on that proposal.

Proposal #	Support	Oppose	Abstain	Summary of Discussion (include minority view)
128	0	7	0	This would lead to abuse. No necessary enforcement nightmare.
129	7	0	0	Agree with the department.
130	7	0	0	Agree with the department.
131	7	0	0	Agree with the department.
132	7	0	0	Agree with the department.
252	7	0	0	We need to keep this hunt on the books. If only takes a little bit of paper work, if it is off the books then when the moose populations rebound it would be impossible to reestablish this hunt with the Feds on the Refuge. Not worth taking the chance.
253	5	2	0	Supporters agree with local biologist that this hunt harvests moose that would keep local populations higher than local habitat and lead to starvation. Those opposed don't believe habitat is an issue because Depart. doesn't have any current habitat survey. No accounting of number of starvations. Last 5 winters have been mild. Only 29 cows

BOG Int

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~~PAGE 17 OF 17~~

Board of Loane Comments for State wide

(include minority view)

PS85



Bethel Area:

Proposal 14

Action: Unanimous oppose

Description: Closes non-resident fur animal hunting seasons for certain species within the Arctic Region Units.

Discussion: No evidence of biological justification for this proposal. Non-resident fur animal hunters compose a very small portion of those hunting this region. They invest a fair amount of money to engage in hunting in a region unlike any other. There is no reason to deny non-residents this opportunity. Subsistence users have ample opportunity to harvest fur animals and non-residents are just too few to seriously consider that they are hampering their efforts.

STATEWIDE BOG MEETING

Proposal 48

Action: Oppose

Description: Prohibit the sale of bear parts harvested on National Park Service lands.

Discussion: This proposal appears to be one of many intended to curtail legal hunting on NPSL at the expense of Alaska enforcement. There is already too much federal intervention in Alaska game management and in the interest of Alaska's hunting and fishing heritage, this infernal interference should not be recognized.

Proposal 49

Action: Support

Description: Require logbooks for taxidermists and provide authority to the Alaska Wildlife Troopers to inspect taxidermy paperwork.

Discussion: Support is based on a belief that any professional license/log book and or requirement regarding the taking/sealing of animals should be an open book. Just as in presenting a hunting or trapping license this should not be an encroachment unless there are issues. Those in opposition are "rubbed" the wrong way by the ability of law enforcement to inspect without benefit of warrant and believe if there is suspect issues, a warrant is easy enough to obtain.

Discretionary Permit Conditions

Proposal 50

Action: Support

Description: Review and potentially repeal discretionary hunt conditions and procedures applied to permit hunts across the state

Discussion: Those in support feel the proposal will allow a review of permit conditions that have evolved into what appears to restrict some opportunities that should not be restricted and that place undue requirements on resident hunters.

1 Abstention has no opinion

Proposal 51**Action: Oppose**

Description: Allow ADF&G to require the latitude and longitude of kill locations on a harvest report for drawing and registration hunts.

Discussion: This proposal was opposed by a slim margin. Those in opposition felt it is too demanding, those in support feel it is reasonable.

Archery, Crossbow Regulations**Proposal 53****Action: Unanimous Support**

Description: Establish statewide standards for crossbow equipment used to take big game.

Discussion: The committee feels there is a lack of standardization, which in turn invites practices that may not be in the best interests of the resources being pursued with the crossbow.

Proposal 54**Action: Unanimous oppose**

Description: Expand the definition of bow to include crossbows.

Discussion: This proposal seeks to introduce a method that is not consistent with the ideology of archery hunting. Places an advantage that is not conducive to the resource in special season openings.

Proposal 56**Action: Take no action**

Description: Adopt crossbow standards and allow disabled hunters to use crossbows in archery hunts

Discussion: This proposal was brought forward and after discussion it appears that other proposals will adopt standards and there is already provisions in place to allow for disabled hunters to use crossbows in archery only seasons.

Proposal 57**Action: Unanimous support**

Description: Allow archers to use mechanical/retractable broadheads for all big game.

Discussion: This proposal allows for archers to utilize advanced technology regarding retractable broadheads for all big game in Alaska. Initially this regulation allowed retractable broadheads for the smaller big game species, which at the time seemed appropriate. Technological advancement in these types of broadheads deems them a reasonable and affective proposition for all big game. The initial regulation concerned penetration via the use of light weight projectiles. This has advance and is no longer the case.

Proposal 62**Action: Draw**

Description: Restrict the number of drawing permits a resident may apply for.

Discussion: Much discussion led to considering a withdrawal of the motion. Eventually a call for the vote ended with a 3 support, 3 oppose and 2 abstain vote.

Proposal 63**Action: Support**

Description: Increase the number of drawing permits for each species that a person may apply for.

Discussion: Supporters of this proposal see it in conjunction with proposal #64. Allowing the application for additional permits is a revenue producer and allows more attempts by individuals to gain a permit. In conjunction with proposal #64 no one will be able to draw actually receive more than two permits per annual hunting season. Most see this as a win/win proposal.

2 Opposing votes view the proposal as allowing too many permits.

Proposal 64

Action: Unanimous support

Description: Limit drawing permits to only two permits per year

Discussion: This proposal is a long overdue limit on the number of permits any one individual may draw in a given season. Year after year hunters have watched in frustration as numerous individuals have drawn three permits. Realistically most individuals cannot utilize three permits in a season. This proposal places a reasonable restriction and allows more hunters the opportunity of drawing at least one permit. This proposal goes well with proposal number 63.

Proposal 67

Action: Oppose

Description: Limit drawing permits to 10 percent for nonresidents, no nonresident permits if less than 10 permits available.

Discussion: Opposition is based on the reality that non-residents are a prime source of revenue for management of Alaska's fish and game resources. Restricting their ability to draw permits in an unbiased drawing system is counterproductive to the wildlife resources in question. Those opposed believe there should be a "home town" advantage.

Proposal 68

Action: Take no action

Description: Allow a maximum of 10 percent for the Alaska drawing permits to be awarded to nonresident hunters

Discussion: Based on the comments on proposal No. 67.

Proposal 69

Action: Oppose

Description: Establish bonus point/preference system for draw hunts.

Discussion: This proposal generated a fair amount of discussion. In the end it appear that a point system will reach a point of diminishing returns that after a few years in place will make it virtually impossible for a new hunter to have any hope of drawing, thus decreasing revenue and going against the entire concept of fair play in a drawing system. One does not receive "bonus points" for every attempt at pull tabs, it just does not set right.

Proposal 70

Action: Support

Description: Allow nonresident deployed military personnel to defer drawing permits.

Discussion: Consensus feels that military personal are sacrificing for the country and therefore should be given this consideration. Two members abstained, no opinion.

Statewide Big Game Seasons

Proposal 71

Action: Oppose

Description: Open resident seasons one week before nonresident seasons in all intensive management areas.

Discussion: This blanket proposal for intensive management areas covers too much ground and if it is in fact necessary or desirable for biological reasons in a given area should be considered for that particular area. One member abstained with mixed feeling about the concept.

Proposal 77

Action: Oppose

Description: Require hunters to use only one type of method; either firearm or bow; require a tag.

Discussion: Majority of the committee feels the archery season is an opportunity enhancement for all hunters. There is not enough special archery seasons at the present time to adopt this proposal. With that the committee recognizes the future could change that. One abstaining member felt ill advised to vote.

Statewide Sheep Seasons and Permit Allocations

Proposal 78

Action: Unanimous oppose

Description: Open resident sheep seasons seven days earlier than nonresident seasons.

Discussion: Sheep are a trophy animal, few are hunting sheep purely for consumption purposes. To restrict non-residents for the first seven days of the season would effectively be thumbing our collective noses at what is a very most significant contributor by license fees to game management in Alaska.

Proposal 79

Action: Unanimous oppose

Description: Open resident seasons one week before nonresident seasons for Dall sheep hunting.

Discussion: Sheep are a trophy animal, few are hunting sheep purely for consumption purposes. To restrict non-residents for the first seven days of the season would effectively be thumbing our collective noses at what is a very significant contributor by license fees to game management in Alaska.

Proposal 80

Action: Unanimous oppose

Description: Change the nonresident season and amount of permits available.

Discussion: Comments for this proposal essentially mirror those in #78 & #79. The non-resident economic contribution while hunting these trophy animals should be considered. Resident hunters pay \$25.00 and may hunt small game and 8 species of big game. Perhaps a resident harvest ticket fee for these trophy animals would make proposals such as this more palatable.

Proposal 81

Action: Unanimous oppose

Description: Allow an earlier Dall sheep hunting season for residents.

Discussion: See comments for proposals 78-80.

Proposal 82

Action: Unanimous oppose

Description: Begin the resident sheep season seven days earlier than nonresidents.

Discussion: Again, the Dall's sheep is a trophy animal and the non-resident economic contribution should be considered. There are certainly other states that promote early seasons for resident hunters but in the majority of those cases it involves small game/waterfowl. Additionally, resident hunters in virtually every other state pay more to hunt a whitetail or mule deer than Alaska residents pay to hunt small game and 8 species of big game, including the coveted Dall's sheep.

Proposal 83

Action: Unanimous oppose

Description: Begin the resident sheep seasons ten days earlier than nonresident seasons.

Discussion: Comments mirror those in proposals 78-82. The Dall's sheep is a trophy animal and the non-resident economic contribution should be considered. There are certainly other states that promote early seasons for resident hunters but in the majority of those cases it involves small game/waterfowl. Additionally, resident hunters in virtually every other state pay more to hunt a whitetail or mule deer than Alaska residents pay to hunt small game and 8 species of big game, including the coveted Dall's sheep.

Proposal 84

Action: Unanimous oppose

Description: Open resident sheep seasons five days earlier than nonresident seasons.

Discussion: Comments mirror those in proposals 78-83. The Dall's sheep is a trophy animal and the non-resident economic contribution should be considered. There are certainly other states that promote early seasons for resident hunters but in the majority of those cases it involves small game/waterfowl. Additionally, resident hunters in virtually every other state pay more to hunt a whitetail or mule deer than Alaska residents pay to hunt small game and 8 species of big game, including the coveted Dall's sheep.

Proposal 85

Action: Unanimous oppose

Description: Begin resident Dall sheep seasons five days earlier.

Discussion: See comments for proposals 78-84.

Proposal 86

Action: Unanimous oppose

Description: Begin the youth hunting season for Dall Sheep five days earlier than residents.

Discussion: The opposition for this proposal is the same as with previous proposals that would drastically change the dynamics and therefore the economic contribution by non-resident trophy sheep hunters.



Proposal 87**Action: Unanimous oppose**

Description: Convert all nonresident sheep seasons to drawing permit hunts and limit to 5 percent of total permits.

Discussion: Comments from proposals 78-86 apply. If there is in fact a biological need to restrict sheep hunting then perhaps other options should be considered.

Proposal 88**Action: Unanimous oppose**

Description: Convert all nonresident sheep seasons to drawing permit and limit to 10 percent of total permits

Discussion: See comments from proposals 78-87.

Proposal 89**Action: Unanimous oppose**

Description: Convert all sheep hunts to drawing only, 90% for residents.

Discussion: See comments from proposals 78-87.

Proposal 90**Action: Unanimous oppose**

Description: Allocate two percent of all sheep drawing permits to nonresidents, close nonresident season if harvestable surplus is less than 50.

Discussion: See comments from proposals 78-87.

Proposal 91**Action: Unanimous oppose**

Description: Nonresident next of kin sheep tags come out of the resident pool in Units where there are a limited number of nonresident sheep tags.

Discussion: See comments from proposals 78-87.

Statewide Other Game Seasons**Proposal 92****Action: Unanimous oppose**

Description: Allow only the use of traps and snares for taking wolf and wolverine. Prohibit the use of firearms except for dispatching trapped animals.

Discussion: There is no biological justification for this proposal and it appears to be an attempt to restrict hunting, which would also eventually restrict trapping. If firearms utilization for these species were detrimental to the overall health of the population then the State of Alaska would address the issue. It is not and therefore this proposal has no validity.

Proposal 93**Action: Oppose**

Description: Allow only the use of traps and snares for taking wolf and wolverine on National Park Service lands and prohibit the use of firearms except for dispatching trapped animals.

Discussion: There is no biological necessity for this regulation and it appears to be an intent to further encroach on legal hunting and trapping on NPSL and as a state regulation it would be the responsibility of Alaska to enforce. Seasons, bag limits and methods and means should never be dictated by a line on a map.



Proposal 94

Action: Oppose

Description: Prohibit the taking of wolf, fox, wolverine, or coyote during May, June and July on National Park Service lands.

Discussion: No biological justification, this is simply another attempt to limit hunting on NPSL and to force Alaska law enforcement to deal with it. Alaska game regulations are fashioned to manage the species in question for the best possible utilization while sustaining populations. There are times when taking animals in non-typical seasons is justified and desirable.

Methods and Means

Proposal 97

Action: Oppose

Description: Prohibit the use of artificial light for taking game on all lands managed by the National Park Service.

Discussion: This proposal is contrary to Alaska regulations, which allow the use of artificial light when taking animals under a trapping license. This is a recognized method that promotes taking of predatory species that are nocturnal, which in the cases it is legal is a desirable and affective method. There is no biological reason to restrict this method because it happens to fall in NPSL. The attempts to curtail hunting and trapping efforts on NPSL are transparent and disturbing.

Proposal 99

Action: Unanimous oppose

Description: Hunters using a licensed transporter cannot harvest an animal on the same day being transported.

Discussion: This proposal is unrealistic given the dynamics of some of the game being hunted. As an example, deer hunting from boats.

Proposal 100

Action: Support

Description: Allow the use of laser sight, electronically-enhanced night vision scope, or artificial light for taking coyotes.

Discussion: Majority of the committee feel a dead coyote is a good coyote and any way that will enhance the harvest is a good thing. The opposing vote believes this crosses ethical lines that are not justified, the coyote has not and is unlikely to reach epidemic numbers that would justify these methods. Three abstentions who have no opinion

Proposal 102

Action: Unanimous oppose

Description: Prohibit the use of pack animals other than horses while hunting goat or sheep.

Discussion: The committee recognizes the issues and the dangers to sheep populations however, as written this proposal would restrict mules, dogs, etc... There appears to be a justification for a restriction but it needs more thought and a better proposal before adopting.

Sealing and Bag Limits

Proposal 105

Action: Unanimous oppose

Description: Clarify the definition of wounded as it applies to the restrictions to bag limits.

Discussion: Proposal is virtually impossible to enforce and there is no evidence that suggests a hunter would be absolutely able to identify a mortal wound in the field.

Proposal 108

Action: Oppose

Description: Prohibit the harvest of cubs and sows accompanied by cubs on National Park Service (NPS) lands.

Discussion: Management units prescribing the taking of cubs or sows with cubs are done with a very specific biological justification to decrease predatory impact on ungulates use for human consumption. This proposal is simply another attempt to restrict hunting and to force Alaska to enforce rules they have no need or desire to do.

Evidence of Sex, Transfer & Possession

Proposal 110

Action: No action

Description: Require the hunter to keep sex attached to the meat if it (the skull) needs to be sealed.

Discussion: After being brought forward and discussed the committee elected to take no action. There seems to be a need/desire for modification of the existing regulations however; it seems to require a more in depth look to make a rational decision.

Black Bear Baiting

Proposal 116

Action: Unanimous oppose

Description: In addition to the 10 bait sites in total, guides and assistant guides may also have two personal sites each; guides and assistant guides may hunt all sites for personal use without guide client agreements.

Discussion: Committee feels there is no need to further enhance bait station opportunities for guided bait hunting endeavors.

Proposal 118

Action: Withdrawn

Description: Clarify and modify the permit for hunting black bear with the use of bait and scent lures

Discussion: Motioned forward and then after discussion was withdrawn.

Proposal 121

Action: Oppose

Description: Prohibit black bear baiting on all National Park Service lands.

Discussion: Baiting is the most effective method of managing populations of black bears in lowland brush country. Black bears occur and require population management on NPSL as

much as anywhere. Means of managing game populations does not change because a line is superimposed on a map. Nor is it reasonable or desirable to have separate regulations for the same game populations. Wildlife conservation is managed by the State of Alaska and methods and means are set to facilitate the best possible utilization of the resource. Alaska is Alaska and its wildlife population should not be managed by lines on a map. These efforts to curtail traditional hunting opportunities and sound wildlife management are transparent and offensive.

Trapping

Proposal 124

Action: Oppose

Description: Require trap identification for all Units on lands managed by the National Park Service.

Discussion: Not a statewide regulation and there is no justification for Alaska to be responsible for enforcing a regulation they have chosen not to adopt for general trapping endeavors.

Proposal 125

Action: Oppose

Description: Require a 72 hour trap check for all traps and snares set on National Park Service lands.

Discussion: This proposal is obviously presented by those who know nothing of trapping. Numerous traps and snares are “kill” sets and there is no justification for setting a 72 hour time limit for checking them. Leg hold traps that are not “kill” traps are checked by trappers in accordance with experience with the animals targeted. This proposal has no basis of any sort.

Proposal 126

Action: Oppose

Description: Prohibit the trapping of black bears in all National Park Service managed lands.

Discussion: If the trapping of black bears is deemed necessary for a given region/population then a superimposed boundary on a map does not change that need. Another attempt to curtail legal hunting/trapping opportunities and management.

Proposal 128

Action: Oppose

Description: Establish a tag and fee to allow trappers to retain incidental catch.

Discussion: This proposal seems like an invitation to harvest animals and keep them out of season.

Interior Region BOG meeting comments

Proposal 252

Action: Support

Description: Re-authorizes the antlerless moose season in the Skilak Loop Management area of Unit 15A.

Committee supports keeping this proposal alive even though it has little chance of being implemented.

Proposal 253**Action: Support**

Description: Re-authorizes the antlerless moose hunt on Kalgin island in Unit 16B.

The antlerless moose season on Kalgin Island is a viable means of keeping the moose population in check. With no natural predators on the island moose numbers would quickly rise to starvation levels without this hunt.

Proposal 254**Action: Support**

Description: Re-authorizes the antlerless moose season in a portion of Unit 15C.

This hunt is a reasonable utilization of available resources.

Proposal 258**Action: Support**

Description: Opens a registration permit hunt for brown bear on the Kenai Peninsula in lieu of the current drawing hunt system.

Discussion: This proposal is intended to increase the harvest of a brown bear population on the Kenai Peninsula that has grown out of proportion to its element. Repeated pleas from the public to do something about the exploded population of brown bears have gone unanswered for too long. The current policy in place that allows for a minimal amount of harvest through the drawing permit system has been ineffective in controlling the brown bear population on the Kenai. Bear populations are virtually impossible to accurately survey and thus, the policy has remained very conservative. With that, the amount of anecdotal, not to mention documented encounters with brown bears and the public leads to this proposal. Individuals who have lived and hunted on the Kenai for 40-50 years know without question that the brown bear population is higher than it had ever been in memorable history. The study or whatever took place that made them a species of concern has no validity, there were no accurate counts then, just as there are not now. What there is, is an overwhelming realization by the residents of the Kenai Peninsula that there are too many brown bears. There has been an extraordinary number of bear/people encounters and at the present population rates, there will be more. When there was a regular hunting season there were virtually no bear/people issues. Black bear hunters utilizing bait as a hunting method on the Kenai have been severely curtailed largely because brown bears move into bait stations and thus make it virtually impossible to harvest black bears, which have also increased in numbers. Additionally, studies have repeatedly shown that bears, black and brown are the most significant mortality factor for moose calves. While we propose to aerial hunt wolves as a moose enhancement measure without in turn checking the bear population seems at cross purpose.

Copper Basin Fish & Game Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of December 20, 2011

Meeting began at 6:25 pm.

Members Present: Alysia White, Chuck McMahan, Jim Odden, Mike Roscovius, David Bruss, Bruce Dickerson, Roy Ewan, Brad Henspeter, Karen Linnell, Mel Matthews, Dave Sarafin

Members Absent Excused: Fred Williams, Nick Jackson, Nathan Woodcock, Loren Bell

Members Absent Unexcused: Don Horrell

Public Present: Jim Marchini, Leif Sorhe, Gloria Stickwan, T. White, Joe Gregory, Bob Fithian,

Staff Present: Becky Schwanke, Frank Robbins, Sherry Wright

Elections were held with the following results: Nathan Woodcock resigned from the committee. Gakona/Gulkana – Chuck McMahan for 3 year seat; Glennallen – Mike Roscovius for 3 year seat; Copper Center – Alysia White for 3 year seat and Brad Henspeter for 1 year seat; Don Horrell for 3 year Tazlina seat; Jim Marchini and Elmer Marshall were elected for 1 year alternate seats. Chuck McMahan was elected Chair; Mel Matthews was elected Vice Chair; Karen Linnell was elected Secretary.

Public Comments

Bob Fithian: Appointed to a council for Wildlife Conservation and Hunter Heritage. 2 items he wanted to see: a Park Service Representative and 13343 Executive Order – 10 year plan for conservation that includes cooperation between state, federal and native corporations. They recently formed AFWA sub-committee to discuss issues common to the states wildlife management. State / Federal agency divisions continue across the nation. Defining the historical doctrines so that driving statutory language matches the intent. Defining problems and resolutions – adoptions of policies that are not in keeping with sustained yield or abundance based management. State management goals have remained the same, but federal policies have eroded much of the state management efforts. Bi-partisan efforts may be able to help resolve some of the state/federal agency issues. BLM policy re: shooting on public lands were not in keeping with hunting heritage of America. After 4 months of recommendations, Secretary Salazar wrote a memo stopping those new policies. The council does have some strength and Bob is interested and willing to assist the local AC.

Discussion of any ideas for upcoming Central Region BOG meeting. There are things pending in court regarding community harvest, so depending on how those go, we may need to come up with something.

Discussion of Susitna Dam - (now being called Zoatana Hydroelectric project). Becky gave some data about the different species and research efforts going on. Monitoring of the uses of those areas also are intended, access issues and are radio collaring moose in the projected area. There are several maps (north of Fog Lake on the Susitna and run east of Jay Creek – will be the size of the lake, 35 miles long and 2 miles wide).

STATEWIDE BOARD OF GAME PROPOSAL COMMENTS:

Falconry, Other Permits



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Proposal 41

Action: Support unanimous 12-0

Description: Review the regulation for permits to take game for cultural purposes.

Amendment: Remove the language of taking meat outside of Alaska.

Discussion: Support the proposal except for outside of Alaska. Public was opposed because the cultural permits was set up for the opportunity to teach the youth for their culture. It shouldn't include meetings. Culture camps set up throughout the region would not expect to use that for an annual meeting. It would be considered an inappropriate use. Potlatches that occur for 2 – 3 days are totally outside of the cultural camp permits. We are concerned about waste and abuse, but are not concerned about the people of the Copper Basin valley. They work with the department on the educational permits and unless there are some biological reasons to limit harvest, there is no reason to limit harvest on those. One member told about trying to get an educational permit – he had the Prince William Sound charter operators providing species that he used to teach local school children. It was unobtainable for him when he tried to use the stomach contents of a halibut and was told he must stop immediately. Specimens were donated to the schools for dissection projects. We have a new commissioner. There is a need to educate the youth on hunting safety and hunting heritage. The application includes where a group wants to go and what they are looking to harvest, as well as the event that went along with it.

Proposal 44

Action: Support 10 –2

Description: Modify the ADF&G discretionary authority for Governor's tags.

Discussion: Discretionary permits given to an organization that is perpetually suing the Board of Game and seeking actions against subsistence uses is wrong in principle. Many of the Governor tags are going to specific conservation issues. FNAWS monies mostly go into sheep benefit. 90% of the money goes to the state and 10% goes to the organization. Monies come back to the general fund, not the specific species. The tags are not getting utilized as they should be compared to other states and the attempt of this proposal is to increase the value of those tags. Tags are given out based on population objectives and the Governor works with the department to determine what species and where in the state they can harvest. Don't agree with leniency of seasons and can have the same opportunity to hunt as others that have applied and been drawn. Anything that takes away from existing guide laws should not be allowed. Support was that there are only 2 animals and the opportunity for the state to generate revenue that can be used for research is a good thing. Methods and means should be consistent with current state regulations. Those in support were OK with a 12 month tag because it would add value.

Sale of Big Game, Big Game Trophies

Proposal 48

Action: Opposed unanimous

Description: Prohibit the sale of bear parts harvested on National Park Service lands.

Discussion: The proposal goes against the grain of belief. It does nothing for conservation and doesn't stop anything that isn't already illegal.

Proposal 49

Action: No action

Description: Require logbooks for taxidermists and provide authority to the Alaska Wildlife Troopers to inspect taxidermy paperwork.

Discussion: Local taxidermists don't believe enforcement should have the carte blanche ability to inspect a business. Some people run these businesses out of their home and that would be a direct violation of a person's 4th amendment rights.

Discretionary Permit Conditions



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Proposal 50

Action: Support as amended

Description: Review and potentially repeal discretionary hunt conditions and procedures applied to permit hunts across the state

Amendment: Remove (22) a permittee may transfer the permittee's Unit 13 subsistence permit to a resident member of the permittee's family, within the second degree of kinship; a person may not receive remuneration for the transfer of a permit under this paragraph;

Discussion: That section was designed for a Tier II hunt that no longer exists.

Proposal 51

Action: Oppose

Description: Allow ADF&G to require the latitude and longitude of kill locations on a harvest report for drawing and registration hunts.

Discussion: You can use a map to get the lat/long after the kill. One member has no intention of purchasing a GPS. Public knows that many people may not know how to read lat/long even on a map. People don't want to give out there special hunting spots.

Permits, Permit Allocations

Proposal 63

Action: Support

Description: Increase the number of drawing permits for each species that a person may apply for.

Discussion: If a person is willing to pay the money, they should be able to put in for as many drawings as they want. There was some concern of equity by those who can't afford to put in for multiple hunts. Six permits is not excessive.

Proposal 64

Action: No action

Description: Limit drawing permits to only two permits per year

Discussion: The idea behind this is that it would give more people an opportunity. Trying to sort through the preferences with drawings occurring at different times would be a logistical nightmare. A person should be able to put in as many as they want and they should be able to decide which ones they want to hunt.

Proposal 65

Action: No action

Description: Limit drawing permit winners to only two permits per year.

Discussion: Same comments as Prop 64

Proposal 66

Action: Oppose unanimous

Description: Allow a maximum of 10 percent for the Alaska drawing permits to be awarded to nonresident hunters.

Discussion: The nonresidents bring a lot of money to the state and there are many guides that make a living from taking nonresidents hunting. Statewide regulations have so much of the general population residing in Southcentral Alaska and this could really hurt some of the rural areas. There are a great variety of hunts around the state with different caps on non-resident hunters. Where a guide is required, it wouldn't do any good for a person to apply if they have no chance of getting a permit. Concern of this drastically changing hunting patterns was expressed. To change hunting regulations across the board for many species doesn't make sense.

Proposal 67 - 68

Action: No action



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Description: Limit drawing permits to 10 percent for nonresidents, no nonresident permits if less than 10 permits available.

Discussion: Same comments as Proposal 66.

Proposal 69

Action: No action

Description: Establish bonus point/preference system for draw hunts.

Discussion: The board already passed a proposal but the department has not implemented it.

Proposal 70

Action: Support

Description: Allow nonresident deployed military personnel to defer drawing permits.

Discussion: This applies to residents currently and this would allow nonresident deployed military personnel the same ability. We should support our military.

Statewide Big Game Seasons

Proposal 71 - 74

Action: Oppose

Description: Open resident seasons one week before nonresident seasons in all intensive management areas.

Discussion: Residents have the advantage of living here and these type of proposals are divisive. In Unit 13 there are already four different seasons. Terrain, species, all need to be taken into consideration when these type of regulations are made. Arbitrarily changing regulations can be substantial in some areas.

Proposal 75 - 76

Action: Oppose

Description: Open early youth hunt for all big game, ten days before other seasons; require hunter education.

Discussion: Concern of this being abused as proxy hunting was – this is just the other end of the age spectrum. People can take their children during the regular season. Generally, it is good for people to take their children out hunting and teach them, but don't like the way this is written. Organizations also take people out (like Migratory Bird) with cooperation of agencies, using experienced hunters and native hunters to encourage the youth to hunt.

Proposal 77

Action: Oppose

Description: Require hunters to use only one type of method; either firearm or bow; require a tag.

Discussion: This is too restrictive.

Statewide Sheep Seasons and Permit Allocations

Proposal 78 - 85

Action: Oppose

Description: Open resident sheep seasons seven days earlier than nonresident seasons.

Discussion: Same comments as Prop 71 – 74. Competition for the resource will be there regardless of the seasons. This would also complicate regulations.

Proposal 86

Action: Oppose

Description: Begin the youth hunting season for Dall Sheep five days earlier than residents.

Discussion: Same comment as Prop 75-76.

Proposal 87 - 90

Action: Oppose



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Description: Convert all nonresident sheep seasons to drawing permit hunts and limit to 5 percent of total permits.

Discussion: This would be very difficult to implement. These don't take into consideration the different hunts, terrain, and conservation. There are a lot of non-residents who hunt during the general season.

Proposal 91

Action: Oppose

Description: Nonresident next of kin sheep tags come out of the resident pool in Units where there are a limited number of nonresident sheep tags.

Discussion: Residents don't want to give up their opportunity and don't think they should. A non-resident is still a non-resident. Understand where the proposer is coming from; however the current regulations seem to be working.

Statewide Other Game Seasons

Proposal 92

Action: Oppose

Description: Allow only the use of traps and snares for taking wolf and wolverine. Prohibit the use of firearms except for dispatching trapped animals.

Discussion: It is a legal harvest method.

Proposal 93-94, 97, 108, 121, 124 - 126

Action: Oppose

Description: Allow only the use of traps and snares for taking wolf and wolverine on National Park Service lands and prohibit the use of firearms except for dispatching trapped animals.

Amendment:

Discussion: These all are attempting to restrict harvest on National Park lands.

Methods and Means

Proposal 98

Action: Oppose

Description: Prohibit the use of hand held electronics in taking game.

Discussion: We believe you should be able to use hand held electronic devices and this proposal is too vague.

Proposal 99

Action: Oppose

Description: Hunters using a licensed transporter cannot harvest an animal on the same day being transported.

Discussion: This is too broad for statewide.

Proposal 100

Action: Support

Description: Allow the use of laser sight, electronically-enhanced night vision scope, or artificial light for taking coyotes.

Discussion: Some of this is already legal if you have a trapping license. This would also increase the season. If someone wants to use that, they should be able to.

Proposal 101

Action: No action

Description: Allow same day airborne taking of coyotes statewide.

Discussion: You can already do this as long as you are 300 feet from the airplane. Would support if the feds didn't have a problem with it.



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Proposal 102

Action: Support as amended

Description: Prohibit the use of pack animals other than horses while hunting goat or sheep.

Amendment: Prohibit the use of domestic sheep or goat only.

Discussion: Some species have become extinct and it can be traced back to this practice. Other animals should be able to be used as pack animals.

Proposal 103

Action: Support 11-1

Description: Prohibit the use of felt soled wading boots while hunting game.

Discussion: This aligns regulations and is a good conservation effort. One member is against for safety concerns, just like in the fishing issue. There are other materials of a boot that could also carry disease.

Proposal 104

Action: Support

Description: Prohibit the use of deer or elk urine for use in taking game.

Discussion: Concern of protecting our resources was expressed. Question of how this would be enforced was raised. They doubt many people use it, but outlawing it might be good.

Sealing and Bag Limits

Proposal 105

Action: No action

Description: Clarify the definition of wounded as it applies to the restrictions to bag limits.

Discussion: This is a judgement call made by the hunter in the field. This seems like it would be unenforceable.

Proposal 106

Action: No action

Description: Count wounded muskox, bison, sheep and goat that are not recovered as bag limit.

Discussion: Same comments as Prop 105.

Proposal 107

Action: No action

Description: Eliminate the statewide bag limit for black bear.

Discussion: This would be reported to law enforcement. Very few people take their limit and they are sealed by ADF&G.

Proposal 109

Action: Oppose

Description: Clarify and remove complicated and restrictive regulations and ADF&G discretionary provisions pertaining to black bear hunting.

Discussion: This is too broad. Regulations have been developed by region over time. Keeping up on the intensive management programs, and allowing this type of removal in areas where predator management is ongoing, could impact those programs.

Evidence of Sex, Transfer & Possession

Proposal 110

Action: No action

Description: Require the hunter to keep sex attached to the meat if it (the skull) needs to be sealed.

Discussion: For black bears, it's irrelevant what sex it is.

Proposal 111

Action: No action

Description: Clarify the sex organs, or portions of, that must remain attached for proof of sex.

Discussion: Don't understand this one.



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Proposal 112

Action: Oppose 3 - 9

Description: Eliminate the evidence of sex regulation.

Discussion: Agree with the proposal – it is a pain. A year old skull cap should be able to be identified as such. For some people it's not that big of a deal. This may allow for more abuse. What about the DNA? 99% of the hunters will have their horns, so it's going to be the exception more than the rule. A photograph of the moose with their antler configuration could be produced.

Mel Matthews left the meeting.

Proposal 113

Action: No action

Description: Remove the reference to federal agent under the transfer and possession regulation.

Discussion: The feds already have an MOU regarding regulations. The proposal is poorly written.

Trapping

Proposal 127

Action: No action

Description: Prohibit the taking of a black bear by trap or snare.

Discussion: The concern of setting a precedent with this type of proposal. Already no existing trapping season for bear.

Proposal 128

Action: Support as amended

Description: Establish a tag and fee to allow trappers to retain incidental catch.

Amendment: Any animal except otter would be an incentive to trap out of season, so the amendment is to apply this to retention of incidental catch of otter only. 9 – 2 Support

Discussion: Incidental harvest does occasionally happen for trappers. This may adversely affect the harvest. Wolverine are more susceptible to over-harvest. Lynx and fox are easy to release. Wolverine are the one animal that one member hasn't figured out how to release. Times this would be good is when you are beaver trapping and you catch an otter. This is just part of trapping and incidental harvest has been a long time problem. Otters are caught in beaver traps and they are dead. The seasons are put in place, knowing there will be some incidental harvest.

Miscellaneous

Proposal 132

Action: Support as amended

Description: Modify the Agenda Change Request Policy.

Amendment: Allow Agenda Change Requests for the first meeting of the year only.

Discussion: Taking things up out of cycle with little notice is very difficult for everyone. There should be a higher standard for taking issues out of cycle.

INTERIOR REGION BOG PROPOSAL COMMENTS

Tok Area – Units 12 & 20E

Proposal 186

Action: Support as amended

Description: Modify moose season in portion of Unit 12 and 11.

Amendment: Remove Unit 11 (not Interior Region), modify Unit 12 Nabesna Road portion to align with current Unit 11 season and bag limit. 11-0 Support



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Discussion: The season in Unit 12 is very complicated. The SRC is meeting in February and the Federal season dates will be determined at that time. Making it more easily defined to include the entire Nabesna Road will help hunters and enforcement.

Proposal 187

Action: No action

Description: Convert the any bull moose hunt to a spike-fork 50-inch or 3 or more brow tines in portion of Unit 12.

Discussion: The spike fork 50-inch is not necessary. See comment on Prop 186.

Proposal 245

Action: Support 9-2

Description: Reauthorize antlerless moose hunt in Unit 13

Discussion: This is an annual reauthorization. The moose counts have increased and it is good to keep this on the books to use by management, if needed.

Proposal 255

Action: Support

Description: Reauthorize brown bear tag fees exemption in Region IV

Discussion: This is another annual renewal.

Chuck McMahan was nominated to represent the Copper Basin AC at the Board of Game statewide meeting in Anchorage.

Next meeting to be determined if Board of Game proposals are needed by May 1 deadline.

Meeting adjourned at 11:00 pm.



DRAFT

Yukon Flats Fish and Game Advisory Committee Meeting

November 29, 2011

Gwichaa Zhee Tribal Hall, Conference Room

Meeting called to order at 1:06

Quorum Established -10 of 15 Members

Adlai Alexander, Rocky James, Andrew Firmin (Fort Yukon); Ernest Eric, Larry Williams, Margaret (Maggie) Roberts (Venetie), Debra George (Stephens Village), Craig Edwards, Charles Yatlin (Beaver); John Jonas (Canyon Creek)

Guests

Eric Lincoln, Carol and John Shoefelt, Walter (Wallie) Better, Walter Peter, Shirley Fields, other residents of Fort Yukon

Agency Staff Present:

ADF&G: Wildlife Division: Beth Lenart and Jason Caikoski; Boards Section: Nissa Pilcher; Commercial Fisheries Division: Dayna Green (in person) and Amanda Wiese by teleconference during fisheries discussion.

CATG: Andrew Firmin and James Kelly

FWS: Mark Bertram, Vince Mathews, and Fred Bue by teleconference during fisheries discussion

Officer Elections-

The AC felt that officer elections should be held when all villages are represented (missing Birch Creek, Circle and Chalkyitsik)

Ft Yukon elections-

The community nominated the following: Rocky James; Adlai Alexander; Clayton Tackett; Andrew Firmin; Walter Peter

The Village Council endorsed Andrew Firmin and Walter Peter. Adlai, Rocky, and Clayton are to be alternates.

Questions were addressed about the responsibilities of the Committee, answered by Nissa

Agenda additions'-

- Feeding black bear meat to dogs- is it legal?
 - When no meat salvage requirement, then you can use it as dog food per ADF&G
- Black River King Salmon fishery- will be discussed further down the agenda.
- Ernest Eric-Upper Drainage- chandler- mining issues; concerned for the people- water needs to be clean, a letter should be drafted to the Board of Fish with our concerns. Health of people and water a concern- *passed along to Division of Habitat per Dayna Green with Commercial Fish after the meeting*



- John Shoefelt- address fishing on the first pulse for Ft Yukon, Eagle and Circle
And bring issues to the attention of each of our village councils to get things rolling. This will be discussed more in depth at the end of the agenda.

Approval of February 22, 2011 meeting minutes

Motion to approve- Craig

2nd-Debora

Discussion on nomination of BOG attendee and alternate- Adlai Alexander; Larry Williams; Rocky James; Walter Peter; Andrew Firmin

Larry respectfully declined- mentioned that the representative will represent the entire Yukon Flats, not just Fort Yukon

Adlai- received 9 votes; Andrew received 6 votes; Rocky received 2 votes; Wallie received 1 vote

There was a lengthy discussion on getting each village to send a representative to the board meetings so there is a lot of representation for the Yukon flats. While one voice is good, more would be better. Larry noted that there is a - 638 grant that will help send village representatives to these meetings and that the Yukon Flats communities need to take advantage of this federal money to attend the BOG and BOF.

Board of Game- Interior 2012 meeting Comments

Proposal 183

Action: Supported as Amended

Description: Allow hunters to take more than one brown bear by community harvest permit in Unit 25D.

The committee was informed that there was no current C&T use determination for brown bear in 25D. The committee supported the idea of a community harvest system because it follows their customary and traditional practice of harvesting game in their communities. It was also noted that the EIRAC made an amendment to support a 2 bear bag limit. The committee supported a larger increase but didn't want to make it too large of an increase as to make the BOG concerned with the passing of the proposal so it was agreed that the EIRAC's amendment of an increase to a 2 bear bag limit was a good starting point. The committee expressed interest in having a C&T determination at the next call for proposals for the Interior BOG, in 2014.

Amendment: Allow the taking of 2 bears per the EIRAC's amendment to the same proposal

Forward Committee Action: AC Unanimously voted to Support as Amended for the FSB's parallel proposal WP12-62

Proposal 182

Action: Support

Increase the annual bag limit for black bear in Unit 25D

This one was put in by this Advisory Committee; Current bag limit 3; requesting 5
There was concern raised that if the bag limit is increased, more non-local hunters would hunt in the area during moose season. The concern was appeased when ADFG staff mentioned that in other areas where this has already passed there was no increase in non-local hunters, and it was noted that this potential change does not affect the Chalkyitsik Community Harvest area.

Passes unanimously



Proposal 141 **Action: Not Supported**

Description: Implement black bear trapping regulations.

This committee does not like the idea of bucket snaring.

Unanimous Not supported

The committee noted that black bear meat can be fed to dogs during certain times of the year; as long as that bear was harvested on federal lands. It was noted that not only are there salmon being fed to dogs down by Tanana that some members on the committee would like to have to eat themselves, someone should have the EIRAC look at aligning the federal regulations on black bear salvage with the states, so there isn't the worry about feeding the wrong bear to dogs. This Motion was 2nd, and the committee voted unanimously to take the matter up with the EIRAC.

Proposal 171 **Action: Support**

Description: Require meat-on-bone salvage for moose in Unit 25A.

See proposal 173 for discussion

Proposal 172 **Action: Support**

Description: Require meat-on-bone salvage for moose in Unit 25B.

See proposal 173 for discussion

Proposal 173 **Action: Support**

Description: Require meat-on-bone salvage for moose in Unit 25D

EIRAC supports these- authored these- lowers the number of waste, dealing with non-resident hunters coming in and boning out the meat and the meat rotting- BOG shot it down last time this idea came before them because they felt it would be detrimental to subsistence- but subsistence users don't bone their meat out in this area.

Unanimous support

Proposal 170 **Action: Support**

Description: Shorten the moose season in a portion of 25A

This proposal doesn't impact many people in this area, idea is that many fly in floaters are dropped off in the begging of the season when it is hot, and by the time they have floated out the moose meat they shot would have spoiled. This would give them a smaller time limit and help shorted the time they have to hunt and float out, reducing the amount of time they have to have their moose meat go bad.

Unanimous support

Proposal 180 **Action: Support**

Description: Open wolf trapping in Units 25A, B, and C earlier, starting October 1.

Discussion: to align these units and 25D so no one would have to worry about where they were while trapping. Some confusion on 5 AAC 84.270 raised- the committee wanted to make sure that *only* wolf trapping was on the table, and voting occurred after they were assured it was.

Unanimous

Forward Committee Action: AC Unanimously voted to Support for the FSB's parallel proposal WP12-80



Proposal 175**Action: Oppose****Increase the nonresident bag limit for Porcupine Herd caribou in Units 25B, 25D, 26C, and the eastern portion of Unit 25A**

Discussion: ADFG explained the history of the current bag limit for nonresidents. The department also noted that this would align this bag limit with the Canadian nonresident bag limit. Concerns were raised by both AC members and the public on changing the bag limit without understanding how such things like global warming, fires, changing migration patterns- that these animals no longer follow their traditional migration patterns. The AC noted that the people who depended on these animals that were local were not sport hunters, that these animals are a necessary part of their lives. More needs to be looked at why this herd is changing before the bag limit should be increased. This increase would not currently be in the best interest of the people who live in this area and depend on these animals. Unanimously oppose

Proposal 178**Action: Support****Close red sheep creek and cane creek drainages to hunting for sheep**

Discussion: The EIRAC testimony was discussed- namely Josephine Peter's native allotment had a runway cut into it and trash all over it. The AC believes that this proposal make sense, regardless of the amendment. Troopers would be able to enforce trespass easier. The local people and land owners do not want to be required to take the course.

Unanimous support

Forward Committee Action: Unanimous support to carry over to the FSB for proposal WP12-76

Proposal 178- ADFG's Amendment**Action: Support**

More discussion that came about later specifically regarding the orientation class:

IF and ONLY IF proposal 178 was not passed, the AC supports the orientation amendment- but wanted to note that it should be limited to non-local hunters- we don't need a class to tell us who owns our land. People need to understand that the land isn't all state land and that they can't just litter. This would help enforcement solidify what they can do in the case of noncompliance. Once a citation is issued, are the people who own the land going to be notified if anything is done, if they want to collect damages- restitution/compensation awarded. All tribes and local land owners be notified of trespass. Support the proposal noting that the motion is in a draft stage, recognizing that this is in a draft stage. Unanimous

Forward Committee Action: Ernest Eric (Venetie) and Andrew Firmin (FT Yukon) were the recommended people to talk to developing a curriculum if that is where the Board chooses to go

Proposal 147**Action: Not Supported****Allow the use of helicopters for access to trapping in Region III**

If we had money for a helicopter we wouldn't need to be out trapping! Opening this door could be bad- no justifiable reason at this point. The AC noted that you could sure trap a lot of wolves with a helicopter, and if the Fairbanks AC could change it to wolves only, then *maybe* the Yukon Flats AC would support.

Unanimous

Proposal 133**Action: Support****Open resident hunting season one week before nonresident seasons in all intensive management areas in Region III**

It was noted that with the warmer temperatures that the interior has been having lately, this might not be a functional proposal. It was also confirmed that the hunting season in many areas already has an earlier start date for residents than nonresidents.

Other Items:

- Discussion on in times of hardship, the upriver folks should be able to fish the first pulse to make sure that their needs are met, also that other industries should be held accountable in the times of hardship for the whole river.
- Alaska Trooper show- isn't a good representation of the subsistence users. Need to show our side of the story. As state employees, they shouldn't be showing us in such a bad light.

Joe Matesi - Discussion of King Salmon fishery on Salmon River (Black River). Outfitters have been flying people in to the spawning grounds. We think it is reasonable that the department close this fishery. These fishes aren't subsistence fished because there aren't enough- they watch them go by in an attempt to help boost the population.

- motion to support and co-author

Jonas- 2nd

Unanimous

Fisheries- Season summaries Summer and Fall

Dayna- YRDFA is putting together a group of people to look at the king salmon management plan- especially in the last 4 years, so everyone has a chance to put in their input for that plan. Communicate with the managers directly, YRDFA is attempting to get all knowledge out to the fishermen and communicate their concerns back to the Department.

Adlai- we don't have one channel- we have a lot of tributaries that the fish could be going down. If you put a net in the water and use your expensive gas to do it- if you don't get any fish, you don't get the gas back.

Walter- voiced concerns with the limiting of the first pulse restriction.

Ernest- burden is on the up river folks.

Vince- Canadian fish are spawners, so they are your fish too

Larry- first people of Canada don't subsistence fish in order to make sure that the kings can fish for the last several years. They are already going through hardships.

Ernest- Arctic village has a spawning area, Venetie has a couple of them as well. Chums come in a big number and spawn as well. We protect those spawning areas. We don't fish in those areas. A lot of fish are taken at the lower river, then we suffer. They are taking our spawners.

Larry- someone should make a motion to put in a proposal to Yukon flats fishermen to be allowed to fish on the first pulse- Adlai how about you.

Adlai- so we want to be able to harvest the fish when they first get to the flats- July 4th for 7 days for 2 weeks

Jonas- we had to pull their nets and wheels and watch the fish go by. I only caught one king this year.

Walter- the fish are radio tagged, they know when they get here.

Unanimous passed to write the proposal

Why- rivers three channels, many tributaries, many different ways for the kings to go, same treatment as lower fishermen and they have one channel and more fish that haven't gone up the tributaries.

Fred Bue and Amanda Wiese- teleconferenced it

Fred- district 5 D is a long section of river, when you are thinking of dates, Stevens or Beaver has different dates that kings are hitting then Ft Yukon and Arctic. Something to think about. Lower river



isn't all the same either- district 1 is really spread out, district 2 and 3 are very channelized, fishing time in the lower river is 2 36 hour periods a week, your normal fishing period is 24 hours 7 days a week. The lower river the fish come in spikes, where upper river is much more constant. 1st and 2nd pulses are closed for down river and try to protect them all the way to the boarder. The fish that passed you were protected in the lower river as well. The later fish are lower river stocks. Lower river was restricted to smaller mesh size.

Jonas- higher water this year, so the fish could go anywhere they wanted to.

Fred- last year, no restrictions, and didn't meet boarder goals. Thought the high water would make up for it, but it seems to not have done it. Curious how the 7 ½ inch net worked- if the fish looked different

Jonas- for the last two years, we have caught a ton of driftwood in our nets.

Fred polled the AC and public on what sex of fish they were seeing in the earlier part of the year-

Adlai- varies from year to year-

Some said females and some said males

Dayna- anyone interested in YRDFA-Larry, Paul Shoefelt, Craig Edwards, Walter Peters- *their names have been passed on to YRDFA per Dayna Green after the meeting*

Vince- wanted to note that a letter was passed around to the tribes and councils thanking them for their efforts in not fishing the first pulse. We know it was a hardship for you all, and I wanted to make sure that everyone had a chance to see it

Dayna- getting subsistence numbers- have a good idea by January. Decent idea on what to expect by early April

Amanda- sounds about right

Walter- attended an YRDFA conference in April- had us break into groups and answer questions. a lot of questions on how things should be handled for lower river folks, but none for the upper river folks.

Other Concerns raised by the public and AC

- Jonas- concern- moose spotting happening on river with planes
 - Mark- get the tail number of the plane and call the refuge
- Ernest- concern with mining refuse being washed into the chandler; GPS moose spotting, sport hunting outfitters need to be watched
- Beth- wondered how the moose season went for you guys
 - Walter- majority of people here got them it seemed
 - Debora- we don't have moose in our area, I eat buffalo
 - Craig- no one is okay with killing cows in beaver, if that is on the table, even if we see more cows then bulls.

Larry- just wanted to thank the people from ft Yukon who was here and participated. We can't sit back and just watch, need to be active in making things happen.

Meeting Adjourned at 5:00 pm



Delta Advisory Committee vote on Interior Game Proposals 2011

*Expert taken from their January 18th, 2012 meeting minutes
Delta City Hall, Delta Junction, AK*

Proposal 154, 201, 206, 218 and 239-253, Delta AC voted unanimously 9-0 to support the reauthorization of all antlerless moose hunts

Proposal 140, 9 in favor

Proposal 143 & 144, 9 in favor

Proposal 147, 9 opposed No reason to add helicopters to legal trapping, no way it can be cost effective and only a very few could ever use them

Proposal 149, 9 opposed, Not a good idea to extend the trapping season into the time of year when fur begins to deteriorate

Proposal 152, 9 opposed, This proposal appears to be an attempt to find a way to have a wide open early season hunt. There are ways that youth can participate now and this is not a sound way to regulate the seasons.

Proposal 196, 8 in favor 1 abstain , Allow the use of baiting grizzly bear as needed to reduce numbers

Proposal 199, 8 oppose 1 abstain, Fox and lynx fur are not worth taking at that time of year. No need to be harvesting a worthless fur

Proposal 202, 6 in favor, 2 oppose 1 abstain,

Proposal 214, 9 oppose, No reason to make an any ram season, full curl ram statewide works well

Proposal 233, 6 opposed 3 abstain, No need to make anymore "park" area than is already there or divide anymore lands making it difficult to determine proper use.



**Tok Cutoff/Nabesna Road Fish & Game Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes of December 19, 2011**

Meeting began at 5:10 pm.

Members Present: Thumper Williamson, Bill Albaugh, Cole Ellis, Ernie Charley, Wayne Schafer, Ole Bates

Public Present: Teresa Albaugh, Jim Beeter, Christy Ellis

Staff Present: Becky Schwanke, Sherry Wright

Elections were held with the following results: Ernie Charley – 3 year Chistochina seat; Thumper Williamson – 3 year Undesignated seat; Jim Beeter – 1 year Undesignated seat

Thumper Williamson was elected to finish out Thelma Schrank's secretary term. Ole Bates was elected to finish out Thumper Williamson's Chair term. Regular officer election will be held next year.

Board of Game Statewide Proposal Discussion

Prop 41

Action: Support as amended 7-0

Discussion: Prefer in state only – doesn't believe any of our game should go out of the state for any reason. The **amendment** "as needed" would be acceptable as long as the game stays in the state. Amendment approved.

Prop 48

Action: Opposed unanimous

Discussion: The National Park can control activity on federal park lands.

Prop 50

Action: No action

Discussion: Language needs to be clarified. This proposal was put in place for review. Specific language regarding the type of radio is included in the hunt permit conditions.

Prop 51

Action: No action

Discussion: Don't believe a person should be required a GPS for some hunts. This would be included in the permit conditions.

Prop 62

Action: Opposed unanimous

Discussion: There's no reason to restrict the number of permits a person applies for. You are only allowed three per species now. This was poorly written.

Prop 71-86

Action: Opposed unanimous

Discussion: Air taxis may profit and the local guides would be left with little to harvest. The guides are the last subsistence hunter – the people who live off hunting. Many people also use and need the meat. Don't like preferring one user group over another. There are ample options for a variety of users. If you are a hunter, you are going to be out scoping for your harvest.

Prop 87-90

Action: Oppose unanimous

Discussion: These are too restrictive.



**Tok Cutoff/Nabesna Road Fish & Game Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes of December 19, 2011**

Prop 91 **Action: Oppose unanimous**
Discussion: Even if non-resident is next of kin, the law provides for that opportunity.

Prop 92-94 **Action: Opposed unanimous**
Discussion: Currently can use a firearm to dispatch an animal caught in a trap. Don't want that changed.

Prop 97 **Action: Opposed unanimous**
Discussion: There is already a law against using artificial light.

Prop 98 **Action: Opposed unanimous**
Discussion: This is very vague. It is common to use hand held electronics during predator hunting.

Prop 102 **Action: Support as amended**
Discussion: There is a concern of using domestic sheep or goats as pack animals and inadvertently introducing disease to the wild stocks. Dogs, llamas and alpacas are OK. Amendment of restricting only domestic sheep or goats. Amendment approved.

Prop 105 **Action: Opposed 6-0-1**
Discussion: Would not put mortally in front of wounded.

Prop 108 **Action: Opposed unanimous**
Discussion: The National Park can control activity on federal park lands.

Prop 116 **Action: No action**
Discussion: Prefer status quo. Not sure what the proposer is trying to get.

Prop 117 **Action: No action**
Discussion: Prefer status quo.

Prop 121 **Action: Opposed unanimous**
Discussion: The National Park can control activity on federal park lands. Why should we agree to close anything on Park Service lands.

Prop 124 **Action: Opposed unanimous**
Discussion: This is not practical to put tags on every trap.

Prop 125-126 **Action: Opposed unanimous**
Discussion: The National Park can control activity on federal park lands.

Prop 127 **Action: No action**
Discussion: Currently no law in place.

Prop 128 **Action: Support unanimous**
Discussion: This would help trappers improve reporting.



**Tok Cutoff/Nabesna Road Fish & Game Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes of December 19, 2011**

Board of Game Interior Region Proposal Discussion

Prop 186

Action: Oppose unanimous

Discussion: The committee concept was misrepresented, as well as their name. The emphasis was that reporting would improve. Most people do report. The committee also does not agree with changing Unit 11 regulations to match Unit 12.

Prop 187

Action: Support as amended

Discussion: The wording would significantly alter the remainder of Unit 12 area.

AMENDMENT: It should be specific to only along the Nabesna Road and season should be the same as Unit 11.

Prop 245

Action: Support 7-1

Discussion: This authorization is required by AC's. There are 10 antlerless moose permits allowed and it is a management tool. The moose populations continue to increase in Unit 13.

Prop 255

Action: Support unanimous

Discussion: An annual approval necessary to increase opportunity.

Wayne Schafer is approved to represent the Tok Cutoff/Nabesna Road AC at the Statewide BOG meeting.

Next meeting is tentatively set for February or March.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.



Denali Fish & Game Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes February 17th, 2012

Meeting called to order at 7 pm at the Cantwell School Library.

Members Present: Marty Caress, Don Holum, Caleb Holum, Ray Atkins, Bruce Gore, Lance Williams, Gordon Carlson

Members Absent Excused: Marie Gore, Jeff Burney

Public Present: Armeda Bulard, Dan Wright

Elections were held with the following results: Don Holum, Jeff Burney, Caleb Holum – 3 year seats; Armeda Bulard – 1 year alternate

Comments on the Interior Region proposals

Proposal 46

Action: Support 7-0-1

Description: Allow sale of big game trophies

Discussion: If a person has legally harvested, paid for taxidermy and then for some reason comes into financial need, they should be able to sell their trophy that is their own property. Abstention has mixed feelings and could be opening a can of worms.

Proposal 146

Action: Support 8 - 0

Description: Open year-round coyote seasons in Region III.

Discussion: The coyote population seems to be on the increase, with fox seen less often.

Fairbanks Area - Unit 20A, 20B, 20C, 20F, & 25C

Proposal 206

Action: Support 5-3

Description: Reauthorize the antlerless moose hunting season in Unit 20A.

Amendment: Remove the Yanert Controlled Use Area for antlerless moose

(Vote on amendment – 8 – 0 Support)

Discussion: It comes down to science and biology. If you believe the science is adequate, you can allow the hunts. There is also the emotional aspect of cow hunts. This area is close to Fairbanks and gets counted annually. Initially, they wanted to shoot 9 cow moose while active predator control hunting was going on. The moose that come down and funnel down the river go right into 20A. We're still building the herd up here, because we don't have the moose numbers we had. Cows travel back and forth here in 13E. You can't get off the road and shoot a cow without flying or using the river (or trespassing on private property). There is trust of the numbers of committee members who fly that area, but it's the access routes that go back in there and it gets heavily hunted, with some damage to private properties reported in the north side of the range (Ferry and Rex trail areas). Some overall control over the number of people going into that area needs to occur. Some of those areas are maintained by private citizens and gets really wrecked, whether by vehicles or just trash left behind. Some of those same people that have been trying to maintain it, are now coming to the Borough to get assistance to maintain it.

Proposal 213

Action: Opposed 0-8

Description: Allow motorized vehicle access in the Yanert Controlled Use Area in Unit 20.



Denali Fish & Game Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes February 17th , 2012

Discussion: The motorized access on snowmachines to get to those cows, which would deplete the moose populations that have been in progress of rebuilding. Taking pressure off another area and adversely impacting populations that are trying to rebuild doesn't make sense. There is already lots of hunting pressure in this area. This would make it worse.

Proposal 214

Action: Take no action

Description: Create an "any ram" drawing permit hunt in Unit 20.

Discussion: There are quite a few sheep, but a lot of pressure in hunting them and not many legal. Could support if they stopped all other sheep hunting in Unit 20, with only so many rams taken. Loss of the genetic change is occurring. The circular horns are getting taken, and the ones left are the ones flaring out, rather than curling, which are left to breed.

Proposal 245

Action: Support 7-1

Description: Reauthorize antlerless moose hunt in Unit 13

Discussion: The department gave information that up to 50 cow moose could be available but they will limit any harvest to 10 cow moose permits in 13A, and would like to keep this management tool on the books. Traditional counts have been done annually in 13A. The heavily hunted Denali Highway counts have been limited. Between there and here is a dead zone in the Monahan Flats (in 13E) which wasn't counted for many years. Moose counts in 13E have been limited. The population does seem to be recovering in 13E. The committee supported antlerless moose hunts in 13A only. Opposition vote is because it goes against antlerless hunts, and the proposal doesn't only apply to 13A, which opens the door for the entire unit.

Don Holum volunteered to represent the Denali AC at the Interior Region meeting. Marty Caress also said that he will be in Fairbanks at that time, as well. The committee approved his attendance.

Discussion of proposals to submit for the Southcentral Region will be taken after the BOG Interior Region meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 9:01 pm.



Eagle AC
Eagle Community School
12.19.2011 6PM

Meeting called to order 6:15 pm

Andy Bassich; Mike McDougal; Bo Fay; Chalia Selman, William Mosher; Don Woodruff; Charlie House; Issac Juneby; Jackie Helmer

Guests: Jeff Gross and Nissa Pilcher (both ADFG)

AC member Andy Bassich and guest Nissa Pilcher listened in on teleconference

Agenda approved with the agenda item added to include commenting on Interior BOG Proposals after the Statewide.

December 2010 Minutes approved

EIRAC Summery

Chairman Bassich gave a brief summary of the EIRAC meeting in Fairbanks in fall of 2011. BOG proposals and Customary Trade Subcommittee's results to limit customary trade in years of low abundance (if subsistence fishing is restricted) would be restricted to the areas of the Yukon basin only- so you wouldn't be able to trade in urban areas. It was noted that there was a lot of public testimony from people from Tanana against this decision. This SC is to meet later this winter to discuss this idea some more.

Discussion of the 40mile Caribou Herd Harvest Plan

Jeff Gross gave a brief rundown of the changes to the harvest plan that the 40mile coalition came up with. Noted that Andy or Mike is the rep from Eagle AC, and Don Woodruff (who is on the committee) represents the EIRAC, so Eagle is pretty well represented.

Concerns raised by the AC were:

Predator control, as well as carrying capacity for the herd.

It was noted that the current plan is a dynamic plan, and can be changed if early indications of a stressed herd is noted. If any major adjustments need to get made, then the Coalition can get together and address those concerns at that time.

Andy- Motioned

Charlie- Seconded

The Eagle AC endorses the current Draft Fortymile Caribou Herd Harvest Management Plan

DNR Land sales discussed near Chicken and how it will relate to wildlife. It was noted that these sales would be good for the communities of Chicken and Boundry, for their expansion and people moving in to those areas, although it was noted that there is no power, no infrastructure where these sales are being offered- so Princess Lodges, McDonalds, and WalMart are not around the corner in these areas. Motion that the Eagle AC does not support DNR's efforts to have land sales on the Taylor highway due to the negative impacts the further efforts to increase the 40mile herd.

By Andy



2- Chaliea
Passed Unanimously

STATEWIDE PROPOSALS FOR THE BOARD OF GAME

Proposal 71

Action: Not supported

Open resident seasons one week before nonresident seasons in all intensive management areas

Happy with the way things are. There would be a lot involved in this since it is a statewide proposal.

Motion

2nded

Unanimously unsupported

Proposal 92

Action: Not supported

Allow only the use of traps and snares for taking wolves and wolverines. Prohibit the use of firearms except for dispatching trapped animals.

Unnecessary regulation, excess burden to the hunter/trapper, removes the ability of a trapper from taking incidental wolves and wolverines. This is not consistence with C&T of hunters and trappers.

Motion

2nd

Unanimously unsupported

Proposal 92

Action: Not Supported

Description: Allow only the use of traps and snares for taking wolf and wolverine. Prohibit the use of firearms except for dispatching trapped animals.

Allow only the use of traps and snares for taking wolf and wolverine on NPS lands and prohibit the use of firearms except for

Limit opportunity, and it is not consistent with customary and traditional practices of trappers and hunters.

Motion

2nd

Unanimously unsupported

Proposal 94

Action: Not Supported

Description: Prohibit the taking of wolf, fox, wolverine, or coyote during May, June and July on National Park Service lands.

This would restrict the end of wolf season in our area. See reasoning for Proposal 92 and 93.

Motion

2nd

Unanimously unsupported

Proposal 97

Action: Not Supported

Description: Prohibit the use of artificial light for taking game on all lands managed by the National Park Service.



It is our understanding that some user groups have stated that it is C&T for them to use artificial light to hunt bears in their dens. We want to support this practice if it is in fact C&T for these people.

Motion

2nd

Unanimously unsupported

Proposal 108

Action: No Action

Description: Prohibit the harvest of cubs and sows accompanied by cubs on National Park Service (NPS) lands

Ethical issues with supporting this unless there is an IM plan in place.

Motion 2nd

No Action

Proposal 109

Action: Not Supported

Description: Clarify and remove complicated and restrictive regulations and ADF&G discretionary provisions pertaining to black bear hunting.

These regulations should be done on a much smaller scale than statewide- individual GMU black bear seasons should be done on a case by case basis.

Motion

2nd

Unanimously not supported

Proposal 113

Action: No Action

Description: Remove the reference to federal agent under the transfer and possession regulation.

Remove the reference to federal agent under the transfer and possession regulation

Our understanding is that there is an MOU between the federal and state agencies.

Motion

2nd

No Action Unanimous

The AC chose to take up Proposals 114, 118, 119 and 120 at the same time

Proposal 114

Description: Allow black bear to be taken same day airborne within 1/4 mile of bait station.

Inappropriate to do this- unethical to spot animals from the air, regardless of the species. Does not set a good message, especially if you were able to set multiple bait stations. Unfair, and taking the sport out of the hunt.

Proposal 118

Description: Clarify and modify the permit for hunting black bear with the use of bait and scent lures

Proposal 119

Establish a codified location for permitted black bear bait stations and establish seasons for all of Alaska

Proposal 120

Description: Eliminate black bear baiting as a method requiring a predator control permit in predator control areas



Action on Proposal 114; 118; 119; 120 Not Supported

Motion

2nd

Not Support 8; abstain 1

Proposal 121

Action: Not Supported

Description: Prohibit black bear baiting on all National Park Service lands.

Baiting is a good way to hunt bears and wouldn't want to see it stopped. It is a traditional way of taking that animal species. Do not understand the rationale for not wanting to have this on the Park Service Land. Goes against traditional practices of rural Alaskan's and should not be supported.

Motion

2nd

Unanimously not supported

Proposal 122 & 123

Action: No Support

Allow the use of scent lures for black bear baiting while floating

Potential for making an unsafe situation for floaters that come along that are not baiting. No traditional hunting means.

Motion

2nd

Unanimously not supported

Proposal 124, 125, 126 Lumped together because they all put undue hardship on trappers operating on NPS land

124

Action: Not Supported

Require trap identification for all Units on lands managed by the National Park Service.

125

Require a 72 hour trap check for all traps and snares set on National Park Service lands.

126

Prohibit the trapping of black bears in all National Park Service managed lands

Interrupts C&T behavior of trappers on NPS lands

Motion

2nd

Unanimously not supported

Proposal 127

Action: Not Supported

Prohibit the taking of a black bear by trap or snare.

Very viable means in remote areas to take care of bears. If you need meat, this is a good way of obtaining it, since it is operating 24 hours.

Motion

2nd

Unanimously not supported

Proposal 128

Action: Not supported

Establish a tag and fee to allow trappers to retain incidental catch



Creates incentive for trappers to operate outside of the season for their target species, which is not good.

Motion

2nd

Unanimously not supported

INTERIOR PROPOSALS FOR THE BOARD OF GAME

Proposal 133

Action: Not Supported

Open resident hunting seasons one week before nonresident seasons in all intensive management areas in Region III

The nonresident seasons bring money to state and into our economy

143

Allow the taking of black bear at bait stations the same day you have been airborne

- On an individual GMU basis, we don't have a shortage of bears here. Why wait till we have a huge problem with bears. If black bears are noted as being overpopulated, then we can do something. People flying in and shooting bears and taking hides, claws and gallbladders and leaving- they aren't taking the meat.
- On the other hand- you allow same day airborne for bears, why not for moose!
 - Biologists for each unit decide on what is best for their unit. If an individual biologist sees a need, then...but to blanket okay this...not a conservation concern in this area, but there might be more of a concern in other spaces.
 - Unit 16 is already using snares and same day airborne and helicopters isn't reducing the population.
- Allocation issue, no conservation issue.

Proposal 140

Action: Support

Re-authorize resident grizzly bear tag fee exemptions throughout Interior and Eastern Arctic Alaska

Maintain incidental take

Motion

2nd

Proposal 141

Action: No Support

Implement black bear trapping regulations

Discussion:

It was noted that while the Department did put a lot of work into putting this together, there is concern expressed over the same day airborne and multiple bait stations, regardless of where and status as a test area. AC had issue with not salvaging meat from any animal, black bear included. Not salvaging meat would be wasteful. Severe concern with noting that some CUA's are open to mechanized access for trapping. (American Summit). Proposal has merit but needs to be worked on. The Eagle AC would like to see the Department work more on it and resubmit the proposal for the Spring 2014 BOG Interior Meeting.

Motion

2nd



Yes 1 rest no

Proposal 143 & 144

Action: No Support

Allow the taking of black bear at bait stations the same day you have been airborne.

&

Allow for same day airborne hunting or black bear over bait

- On one hand, this could increase the opportunity to take black bears, commercial value- it is pretty dang hard to hunt black bears with a plane.
- On the other hand, allowing same day airborne for any species is distasteful. If a biologist sees an area that this would be appropriate, then that would work, but no blanket approval for the interior region

Motion

2nd

Yes 2 rest no

Proposal 145

Action: not support

Develop a Unit specific Amount Needed for Subsistence (ANS) finding for the Interior Region

A little too specific

Motion

2nd

Proposal 146

Action: Support

Open year-round coyote seasons in Region III

There are a lot of them, and in areas where there is already a IM program it makes sense

Unanimous

Proposal 171-173

Action: Support

Require meat-on-bone salvage for moose in Unit 25

An issue of wanton waste and lack of meat care. On the flip side, air carriers will have to take more trips, but people just have to learn how to take care of their meat. This AC would support a proposal put forth to make this a statewide requirement.

Proposals 192 & 195

Action: Support

Combine Fortymile and White Mountains Caribou herd seasons under 1 registration permit, remove harvest limits, lengthen the winter season for residents, and allow a new limited registration permit hunt

&

Remove the proxy prohibition for taking caribou in Unit 20E; and prohibit proxy hunting for Fortymile and White Mountain caribou in Unit 25

Little Discussion- noted satisfaction with the 40mile Coalition and their decisions.

Unanimous support

Proposal 196

Action: Support

Allow brown bear baiting with same season and restrictions as black bear baiting

Tough to bait black bears, not brown. Social issue, not biologic concern

Unanimous support



Proposal 197**Action: Support****Re-Implement the grizzly bear control portion of the UYTPCP in Southern Unit 20E, and allow bear snaring and same day airborne taking of bears**

This is a good example of how these methods should be used- a small, highly regulated area, not a broad ranging unit wide proposal.

Unanimous support

Proposal 198**Action: Support****Align Units 12 and 20E fox trapping season with the coyote season, including snare and trap restrictions in October and April.**

The fur quality was brought up

Unanimous support

Proposal 199**Action: Support****Extend the hunting season for lynx and fox to April 30**

Noted it is a hunting regulation, not a trapping, allowing the hunter to be selective in taking animals, perhaps when they are out checking traps for other legal species.

Unanimous support

Proposal 201**Action: Support****Reauthorize antlerless moose hunting seasons in 20D**

- If the biologist for this area is saying it is biologically needed, then the Eagle AC supports the antlerless hunt in 20D.
- We are not saying that the biologists are always right, but they are trained to tell things like twinning rates, browse surveys and calf weights.
 - These things are relatively hard to evaluate incorrectly across the board.

The AC also commented on proposal 142, 191, 194, but the note taker missed the conversations for these and is hoping to submit additional comments on these three proposals prior to the March 2nd meeting.

Bill Moshier is nominated to attend the BOG meeting in March

Meeting adjourned 10 pm



Tanana Rampart Manley AC Meeting

January 24, 2012

Tanana Elders Basement, Tanana

Quorum Established

Stan Zuray, Charlie Campbell, Aaron Kozevnikoff Sr., Lester Erhart from Tanana, Henry Whiehler from Rampart, and Linda Johnson from Manley.

Members of the Public

Helium "Una" Edwardsen, Julie Roberts Hyslop, Kathleen Peters-Zuray, Curtis Sommer, Gerald Nicholia, Ruth Althoff, John Huntington, Glenn Beck

Elections

The AC and the public and Tanana Tribal Council representative (Kathleen Peters-Zuray) elected to reserve one of the Tanana seats for the current Natural Resource Director. It was discussed reserving a like seat for someone at the city office, but since there was no representative of the city, and that they didn't have a similar position it was decided that this would not work.

Lester Erhart retained the At Large Seat, Stan Zuray & Thomas Hyslop retained their Tanana seats, with the addition of the Natural Resource Director seat (currently held by Una Edwardsen), Curtis Sommers and Gerald Nicholia. Charlie Campbell and Aaron Kozevnikoff Sr retained their Alternate seats, with the addition of Ruth Althoff.

Concerns from the Public

- Float plane activity in Long Lake & Fish Lake which is on Village Corporation land- watched a grey plane come land, hunt, and leave, leaving the entire head of a moose and other usable parts. Concern over wanton waste, same day airborne, and trespassing since moose was shot on land.
DPS was notified when coordinator returned to town
- Concern over federal state dual management. Feds worse then the state ever was. They need to come to some agreement- feds promised so much, and haven't delivered any of those promises

BOG Proposals to be entered in next cycle

ACTION ITEM:

- 20F moose season- December hunt; extend it a full month. Important for us, good time, not in rut, won't increase or decrease numbers, people are already taking them anyway. 10 day hunts in the winter don't work due to weather. Economic climate makes it better to have an extended season in the winter, fuel usage for snow machines. December already a busy month, but the people that need the meat need it sooner then later, and the season already exists in December.

Dec 1-10 to Dec 1 to 31st

Other solutions considered:

Split Dec 1-15 days in December, 15 Days in February 1-15

Unanimously for the proposal



ACTION ITEM:

- BOG proposal

It is illegal to use salmon for bait for trapping. Maybe somewhere this makes sense, but in this GMU it doesn't make sense to not be able to use them here- where we could just use our dog food as bait. Unanimously for the proposal

ACTION ITEM:

- 20F Sept 1-20th; proposal to change dates to either 10-30th or 1-30th. Moose haven't come down to the river on the 20th anymore. 70 degrees in the beginning of September, residents only

Unanimous for the proposal

Interior Board of Game Proposals

Proposals 227, 228, 229, and 230 were decided to be taken up together, since the AC deemed them intertwined

Action: Support

Proposal 227

Description: Establish an intensive management area for Unit 20C.

Amendment:

Discussion:

Proposal 228

Description: Adopt a wolf control program for Unit 20C.

Proposal 229

Description: Adopt an Intensive Management plan for Unit 20C.

Proposal 230

Description: Adopt a bear control program for Unit 20C.

The AC had a lot of concern over how all of these proposals would affect the people of TRM, and they request that they be a part of the planning for the IM plan in 20C. They support these hesitantly.

Support 8, 1 abstain

Fisheries Issues

The AC focused on two topics during this discussion, spreading fishing more evenly over all of the pulses, instead of hammering one specific pulse, and the Customary and Trade issue that has come up under federal management. A reoccurring subject throughout the meeting was that this AC would like to see the federal government out of the management of the Yukon River.

Anyone on Tanana drainage is already restricted to 60 kings due to the terminal nature of the fishery. Discussion on Pilot Sonar Estimates Compared to Rapids Video 24 HR CPUR handout. Noted pulse



protection isn't working like intended. Every pulse should be fished in part, so we are not taking all of the fish in one pulse.

This AC opposes any limits on the C&T trade of strips, but support full protection of all the pulses from beginning to end in times of shortage

- Una noted that there is a C&T law- state/federal statute
- EIRAC was NOT in favor of any of the other C&T findings, yet here they are in this paper!
- Letter from Curtis Sommer & a Position Paper from Una, Linda's Letter, Stan's opinion paper to be read into record, and should be a part of supporting documents for the above motion

Committee to put together all supporting documents- to be formed
Charlie, Una, Stan, Linda, Gerald

ACTION ITEM:

Discussion on formulating proposal for pulse protection

Allow fishing prior to the first major pulse, after the last major pulse, other openings to be determined by ADFG between each pulse, this could keep Chinook fishing alive on the Yukon, until the runs show SIGNIFICANT improvement over a period of time, not just yearly
Unanimously passed

Sending someone to send to the FSB meetings & EIRAC

Stan as the AC rep

Cc Kathleen and Una on email-

ACTION ITEM:

Have to pay for commercial fishing license, even though not able to use it, and we don't pay for it, we lose it. Want to draft a proposal that says that the state needs to pay us back, or we only pay when we fish.

If permits are not used, then the expense of the permit will be returned to the permit holder for all districts. Even if opener is called, might be a short season, no buyers.

Unanimously passed

BOG- Gerald Nickolia elected to attend the BOG for TRM AC in March



**Fairbanks Advisory
Committee
Comments re: Interior
Region Board of Game,
March 2012**



Regional

Proposal 133 Larry Dalrymple Action: Amend and Adopt

Description: Open resident hunting seasons one week before nonresident seasons in all intensive management areas in Region III.

Amendment: Amend the language to indicate that the “big game prey populations” specified in the Intensive Management law are moose, caribou, and deer.

Discussion:

This proposal is unique in that it is only for Intensive Management areas, and is based on Intensive Management law.

Pros:

The Board is ultimately going to have to address the issue of Alaska resident preference, and this is a good place to start.

Cons:

It should be adopted statewide.

Proposal 134 Douglas Lammers Action: Do Not Adopt (see #135)

Description: For Region III Units, allocate 10 percent of drawing permits to nonresidents; restrict nonresident participation with less than 10 permits.

Amendment:

Discussion: See Proposal #135

Pros:

Cons:

These proposals do not detail the problem with the number of non-residents in existing policy for non-resident hunts. (For example, TMA sheep permits now use the 10% these proposals ask for.) The proposals generally seek to increase the number of permits for resident hunters.

Proposal 135 Paul Ferucci Action: Adopt



Description: For Region III Units, limit drawing permits to 10 percent for out of state hunters, 90 percent for residents.

Amendment:

Discussion:

Pros:

This proposal has the correct “up to 10%” language in it and was supported by a majority of the AC.

Cons:

These proposals do not detail the problem with the number of non-residents in existing policy for non-resident hunts. (For example, TMA sheep permits now use the 10% these proposals ask for.) The proposals generally seek to increase the number of permits for resident hunters. There is also a concern that it would reduce the amount of revenue generated by non-resident sheep hunters for the Department budget.

Proposal 136 Jake Sprankle/James Von Holle Action: Do Not Adopt

Description: Begin the hunting season for Dall sheep seven days earlier than nonresidents in Region III Units.

Amendment:

Discussion:

Premise that the number of legal rams is declining may be incorrect. Trophy rams are usually defined as having reached the criteria for legal harvest, either full curl or 8 years old.

Pros:

The AC was split on this Proposal—vote was 5-5, with one abstaining. Many felt this was a good proposal for allowing a resident preference, but should be done Statewide. Some felt there would be little to no reduction in non-resident hunters because Alaska is still a very inexpensive place to hunt, and non-resident hunters can still buy an over-the-counter tag.

Cons:

Some felt it would reduce the amount of revenue coming into the department from a possible reduction in non-resident hunters.

Proposal 137 Backcountry Hunter/Anglers Action: Do Not Adopt

Description: Convert nonresident sheep seasons to draw only hunts, require guide-client agreement and cap harvest at 15-20% of allowable harvest.

(137) cap nr harvest at 15% to 20% of allowable harvest.

(138) convert all sheep hunts in R 3 to drawing with 90% permits for residents.



(139) Convert non-res. Sheep to drawing hunts and limit to 5% of the total permits.

Amendment:

Discussion:

- (a) Review board action and discussion on this “all draw” issue from the statewide meeting.
- (b) Difficult to calculate the “allowable harvest”, with unrestricted hunts in heavily hunted units about 50% of the legal sheep is harvested.
- (c) No biological reason to restrict to a certain number.
- (d) He means allow 5% of the total harvest available to non-res. ??, without everyone in a drawing, having a % doesn’t make sense.

A substitute proposal is needed if the Board seeks to take action on this issue. The FAC discussed, as a substitute, opening the resident sheep season seven (7) days earlier than opening for non-resident hunters. Under the present season, resident season would open on August 3 and the non-resident season would open on August 10

That change would give some advantage, especially for the more easily accessible sheep resources, to resident hunters. Both residents and non-residents report the duration of sheep hunts averages five days (5) days in the field. Because of the heavy preference of resident hunters for hunting the opening, the sponsors seek to reduce conflicts with guide and non-resident hunters.

Recent analysis of the ram harvest for the last 20 years suggests that there is no real difference in the horn size between R and NR. The same analysis suggests there has been no substantial change in the percentage of harvest by R or NR hunters. The analysis seen by the FAC from Mr. Joe Want and Mr. Wayne Heimer suggest that in the highest harvest areas nearly half of the “legal” rams remain at the end of the season.

A change to earlier openings for residents would not be necessary for conservation or biological reasons. Additionally, no resource issue exists that would prohibit opening the season earlier for resident. Such a change would be for social and reducing conflicts reasons.

The staggered season openings could reduce the hunter competition for transportation services between R and NR. The difference we discussed would not require the guide industry to change their present planning and advertising cycles.

The FAC had public testimony that guides will be “in camp” whenever the first season opens to occupy their guide area camps as resident hunters. Some suggested that guides and their employees who are residents may hunt for themselves during an non-resident restricted season. Discussion was also heard that this type of behavior would be cost prohibitive, and that it would be unlikely that guides would harvest animals in an area where they intend to bring paying clients later. The benefit of revenue earned from non-resident hunters to the support management programs was discussed, and there is no doubt to the benefit the state receives from those license and tag fees. Both AC members and the public addressed “conflicts” between guide operations and resident non-guided hunters.

Pros:



Cons: Guides would not know how many non-resident permits would be available, from year to year and would therefore be unworkable for them.

Proposal 138 Doug Lammers

Action: Do Not Adopt (see #137)

Description: Convert all sheep hunts in Region III to drawing only, 90% for residents.

Amendment:

Discussion: See Proposal #137

Pros:

Cons:

Proposal 139 James Von Holle

Action: Do Not Adopt (see #137)

Description: Convert all nonresident sheep seasons to drawing permit hunts and limit to 5 percent of total permits.

Amendment:

Discussion: See Proposal #137

Pros:

Cons:

Proposal 140 ADF&G

Action: Adopt

Description: Reauthorize resident grizzly bear tag fee exemptions throughout Interior and Eastern Arctic Alaska.

Amendment:

Discussion:

If no proposal passes that allows additional brown bear harvest, for example, allowing some harvest over bait in IM areas, then pass without amendment. FAC has proposal to allow brown bear to be taken in IM over black bear bait permits BUT the hunter would have to buy a tag and only 1 bear in 4 years could be taken over bait. The tag and 1 in 4 would allow the department to monitor the rate of harvest and determine the interest by hunters.

Pros:

Cons:



Proposal 141 ADF&G**Action:** Adopt**Description:** Implement black bear trapping regulations.**Amendment:****Discussion:**

Please find attached an alternate snaring technique and anchor system that may help the BOG avoid/mitigate some of the social/biological arguments brought up by opponents of this proposal. These techniques will reduce injuries and increase efficiency of effort (this tube trap has one of the highest trap-night ratios. Because this trap is made of schedule 40 PVC the length of the trap can be adjusted to limited target animals (i.e. if you want to catch only mature bears you would make the tube length longer resulting in only mature bears being able to trigger the trap, in fact this could be part of the department discretionary authority). The diameter can also be limited to reduce the risk of catching most grizzly bears (using a 6 inch pipe for instance should prevent most grizzly bears from being able to access the trigger mechanism at the rear of the tube). The rubber sleeves over the cable have proven to reduce most injuries, out of 304 bears captured with this technique only 12 sustained injuries of lacerations less than 1cm in length from the lock rubbing against the paw (1 bear was killed by another bear while in the snare however, this is likely unavoidable). The addition of the two anchor system also reduces the potential for the bear to injure itself or humans by immobilizing the bear to a preselected small area. Randy Cross a bear biologist from Maine (which as you no doubt already know is the only other state that allows bear trapping). Randy stated that he was confident that a 2.5-3.0 inch snare stop would allow the release of most juvenile bears, as they would be able to simply pull free of the snare. The benefits of this type of trapping technique affectively mitigates arguments about non-target animals, as the screen at the rear of the tube prevents non-target animals from being able to trigger the trap.

Mitigates the argument that bear trapping would be non-selective. With the ability to limit the tube size, length of tube used, and the implementation of the snare stop you affectively could selectively harvest black bear with a reasonable assumption that non-target animals and grizzly bear would not be able to trigger the trap.

The two anchor system and the padded snare reduces the potential for injuries to trapped animals. The attached study shows 304 bears were trapped using this technique and only 12 sustained injuries, lacerations less than 1 cm at the point where the lock rubs on the pad.

This snaring method is the same technique used by the scientific community to capture and study bears. The only difference between the two uses is that trappers will humanely euthanize the animals once they arrive, and the scientists sedate the bears and take specimens, measurements, and other scientific data.

Please see appendix A to review these documents.



Pros:

Cons:

Proposal 142 AK Center for the Environment Action: Do Not Adopt

Description: Prohibit trapping of black bear in the Interior region.

Amendment:

Discussion:

See Proposal #141. Alaska Center for the Environment does not understand the requirements for black bear snaring/trapping. There is no safety problem; this is done in back yards in much of eastern Canada.

Fair chase ethics are not usually discussed in trapping regulations. Question the need to do so here.

Pros:

Cons:

Proposal 143 Thomas Scarboro Action: Adopt

Description: Allow the taking of black bear at bait stations the same day you have been airborne.

Amendment:

Discussion: There is no reason to not allow this. First we are talking about an extremely small number of hunters who would access their bait sites by aircraft. Secondly, bears generally do not come into bait sights until dark, or near dark, and anyone flying to a site would have to do so in daylight.

Pros: Might allow a few more predators to be taken, and more moose calves to live.

Cons: Should be adopted Statewide

Proposal 144 FAC Action: Adopt (see #143)

Description: See #143. Allow for same day airborne hunting or black bear over bait.

Amendment:

Discussion: See 143

Pros:



Cons:

Proposal 145 Science Now Project

Action: No Recommendation

Description: Develop a Unit specific Amount Needed for Subsistence (ANS) finding for the Interior Region.

Amendment:

Discussion:

The proposer tries to equate the need for an ANS with some GMU or even Regional boundary. The C&T findings are based on a “population” or species that are in multiple GMU’s. (Western Arctic Caribou, Porcupine Caribou, Salmon, etc.). There is no requirement to look at boundaries. If the subsistence division of ADF&G does make an issue or bring proposals to differentiate population, the board is not under any obligation to discuss this.

Pros:

Cons:

Proposal 146 Fairbanks AC

Action: Adopt

Description: Open year-round coyote seasons in Region III.

Amendment:

Discussion: Coyote populations are growing to fast and they are an invasive species.

Pros:

Cons:

Proposal 147 Fairbanks AC

Action: Adopt

Description: Allow the use of helicopters for access to trapping in Region III.

Amendment:

Discussion:

Pros:

This would allow surgical reduction in problem areas where difficult access thwarts usual trapping efforts.



Cons: The AC was split on this Proposal (6-5 vote). Some felt that it was sending the wrong message to many “anti hunters”, that Alaska is now allowing helicopters for trapping, and would soon allow them for hunting. Many of our constituents are opposed to the use of helicopters for anything but scientific research, and certainly not for any type of hunting or trapping. There was also a concern that with extended trapping seasons that cross over into hunting season, there will be abusive use of the helicopters.

Proposal 148 Science Now Project Action: Do Not Adopt

Description: Close certain nonresident trapping seasons in the Interior Region.

Amendment:

Discussion:

The proposer confuses non-resident harvest as significant to the harvestable surplus. What he seeks to “close” is non-resident harvest of wolves using a firearm with a trapping license. A very small number of wolves are taken by this method in R 3.

Pros:

Cons:

Proposal 149 Fairbanks AC Action: Amend and Adopt-Take no action on proposals #160, 169, 180, 198, 199, due to this action

Description: Extend the season for fox, martin, mink, and weasel in Units 12, 20, &25C.

Amendment: The intent of this amendment is to align the majority of region III fur bearers with the same start and end dates for trapping. This would somewhat eliminate the majority of incidentals catch of fur bearers. Seasons would be consistence though out the region. Should lessen proposals summited to the BOG for matching or aligning season dates in units or sub-units within the region. This would give clear understanding to trappers and AWT of what methods and means are lawful, and seasons, with no gray areas.

Making trapping season’s consistence throughout the region simplifies regulations. If anyone should want to harvest fur bearers (coyote, fox, lynx, mink, weasel, martin, and wolverine) before or after the amended trapping dates, these types of proposals should be addressed as hunting opportunities. This also addresses the possible incidental catch issues.

Coyote

- [It is against the law to trap coyote in units 12 and 20E during April or October with a steel trap or with a snare smaller than 3/32 inch in diameter.]

[Units 12 and 20E.....Oct 15 – Apr.
30.....No limit]



Units 12, 19, 20 [(except 20E)], 21, 24, 25.....1 Nov. – [Mar. 31]
Mar.15.....No limit

Red Fox

Units 12 and 20E.....Nov. 1 –
Mar. 15.....No limit.
Units 20 [(except 20E)] 21, 24, 25.....Nov.1 – [Feb.29]
Mar.15.....N.L.
Unit 19.....Nov.1 –
[Mar.31] Mar. 15.....N.L.

Lynx

Units 12, 20, 25C.....Nov.1 –
Mar.15.....N.L.
Units 19, 21, 24, 25A, 25B and 25D.....Nov.1 – [Feb.29]
Mar.15.....N.L.

Martian

Units 12, 19-21, 24 and 25.....Nov.1 –
[Feb.29] Mar.15.....N.L.

Mink and Weasel

Units 12, 19 – 21, 24, 25.....Nov.1-
[Feb.29] Mar.15.....N.L.

Wolverine

[Units 12 and 20E.....Nov.1 – Apr.
30].....N.L.
[Units 19, 21, 24, and 25A, 25B, 25D.....Nov.1-
Mar.30].....N.L.
[Units 20A, 20B, 20C, 20D, 20F, and 25C.....Nov.1-
Feb.29.].....N.L.
Units 12, 19-21, 24, 25.....Nov.1-
Mar.15.....N.L.

Wolf

Seasons stay the same. But add language to 5AAC 92.095.

1) After Mar.15 in units 12, 19-21, 24, 25 no killer style traps, no traps with less than a 6 inch inside jaw spread may be used for the taking of wolves.

2) After Mar.15 in units 12, 19-21, 24, 25 no use of a traditional appearance of a cubby set may be used for the taking of wolves.

TRAPPING SEASONS WOULD LOOK LIKE THIS.

Coyote

Units 12, 19, 20, 21, 24, 25.....Nov.1 –
Mar.15.....N.L.

Red fox

Units 12, 19, 20, 21, 24, 25.....Nov.1 –
Mar.15.....N.L.



Lynx

Units 12, 19-21, 24, 25.....Nov.1-
Mar.15.....N.L.

Martian

Units 12, 19-21, 24, 25.....Nov.1-
Mar.15.....N.L.

Mink and Weasel

Units 12, 19-21, 24, 25.....Nov.1-
Mar.15.....N.L.

Wolverine

Units 12, 19-21, 24, 25.....Nov.1-
Mar.15.....N.L.

Wolf

- It is against the law to trap a wolf with a steel trap or snare smaller than 3/32 inch in diameter in units 12, 19D, 20D, and 20E during April or October, or in units 19 (except 19D), 20 (except 20D and 20E), 21, 24, and 25, during April.
- It is against the law to trap a wolf with a steel trap with smaller than a 6 inch inside jaw spread, or a killer style trap, and it is against the law to use or have the appearance of a traditional cubby set after March 15, in units 12, 19-21, 24, 25.

Units 19D, 21A, 20E.....Oct.1-Apr.
30.....N.L.

Units 19A, 19B, 19C, 20A, 20B, 20C
20F, 21B, 21C, 21D, 21E, 24, 25A, 25B,
25C, 26B, 26C.....Nov.1-
Apr.30.....N.L.
Units 12, 20D, and 20E.....Oct.15-
Apr.30.....N.L.

Discussion: If this amendment is adopted by the Board, then they can Take No Action on Proposals, 160, 169, 180, 198, and 199.

Pros:

Cons:

Proposal 150 Science Now Project Action: Do Not Adopt

Description: Close certain nonresident furbearer hunting seasons in the Interior Region.

Amendment:

Discussion: Similar to Prop. 148. NR harvest is incidental to overall harvest.

Pros:



Cons:

Proposal 151 Fairbanks AC

Action: Take No Action This Cycle

Description: Review the conditions of the Controlled Use Areas in Region III and repeal those that are no longer meet the original intent.

Amendment:

Discussion:

We think the Public needs to be involved in this process and therefore suggest forming a committee of BOG/Region 3 AC's/Department to review the CUA's for conditions needed in 2014 (next cycle).

Pros:

May open up hunting opportunities that have not been available in many years.

Cons:

The AC would not like to see controlled use area removed if they are no longer meeting their original intent, but have since fulfilled another beneficial intent. For instance if the original intent was to protect a species that has recovered, but now the primary benefit is reduction of user conflict; the controlled use area should then remain. There was also testimony that indicated that this proposal is too broad—if there is a concern about one CUA or another, then address that concern, and not take this “shotgun approach”.

Proposal 152 Michael Dullen

Action: Do Not Adopt

Description: Open early youth hunt (10-17 years) for all big game in Region III Units; require accompanying adult to forfeit bag limit.

Amendment:

Discussion:

Region III was the only region statewide to recommend hunting opportunities in compliance with the Take a Child Hunting Statute. This quickly became a hotbed of controversy. Local hunters were not supportive of this type of hunting opportunity, and preferred parents and guardians take their children hunting during normal hunting seasons. This is not to say that Region III is not supportive of bring children into the sport of hunting, simply that we are not willing to be the only Region in the state to provide the opportunity. This became labeled as the rent a kid program locally.

Pros:



This would provide young hunters an opportunity to participate in hunts that are typically not available to them as school usually starts before moose season.

Cons:

The previous such experiment for moose only was a disaster on a large scale.
Region wide would be a bigger disaster.

Proposal 153 Aaron Bloomquist Action: Adopt

Description: Eliminate the requirement to pick up moose registration permits weeks or months prior to the season in remote villages in Regions III. Make all registration permits available in season from designated vendors.

Amendment:

Discussion:

The FAC has supported this concept for years. Mr. Bloomquist's dates would be "a good start".

Pros:

Cons:

McGrath Area – Units 19, 21A, & 21E

Proposal 154 ADF&G Action: Support local AC recommendation

Description: Reauthorize antlerless moose hunting seasons in Unit 19D.

Amendment:

Discussion: FAC is not a "local" advisory committee.

Pros:

Cons:

Proposal 155 Science Now Project Action: No Recommendation

Description: Close certain caribou hunts in Units 19A, 19B, 19C, 19D, 21A, and 21E.

Amendment:



Discussion: Defer to recommendations from local AC's and the department.

Pros:

Cons:

Proposal 156 NPS ASS.

Action: No Recommendation

Description: Close the nonresident season for caribou in parts of Unit 19.

Amendment:

Discussion:

Tonzona herd. Defer to local AC's and the department.

Pros:

Cons:

Proposal 157 ADF&G

Action: No Recommendation

Description: Amend the Mulchatna Caribou Herd Predation Management Plan

Amendment:

Discussion:

New statistics should be added but there is a lack of consistency in discussion of calf/cow ratios. As presented it's confusing and not standard with other caribou plans. The intent is to increase the population. This plan needs to get the calf/cow ratio fixed and used similar to other managed herds. For example, simplify to if the survival is more than 30/100 the herd is growing and IM should be planned accordingly. If the survival is less than 30/100 IM should be planned as aggressively as possible – the herd is not “growing”. Page 229 of Proposal Book says the herd will grow with 20/100. This is way below the planned growth minimum for other herds. OK to add in bears to the list of predators to be removed.

Pros:

Cons:

Proposal 158 Frank Woods

Action: No Recommendation

Description: Modify the population objective for Mulchatna caribou.

Amendment:



Discussion:

See comments on proposal 157

Pros:

Cons:

Proposal 159 Frank Woods

Action: No Recommendation

Description: Implement a predator control plan for the range of the Mulchatna Caribou Herd.

Amendment:

Discussion:

See comments on proposal 157

Pros:

Cons:

Proposal 160 Rhone Baumgartner

Action: Amend/Adopt (see #149)

Description: Extend the Lynx trapping season in Unit 19.

Amendment:

Discussion: See comments on Proposal #149

Pros:

Cons:

Galena Area – Units 21B, 21C, 21D and 24

Proposal 161 Mid-Yukon AC

Action: No Recommendation

Description: Split the moose drawing permit hunt in Unit 21D (DM817) into two drawing permit hunts.

Amendment:

Discussion:

Pros:



Cons:

Proposal 162 Joe Schuster

Action: Do Not Adopt

Description: Allow 10% of the Koyukuk CUA permit winners to use aircraft; allow guided permit winners to choose either boat or aircraft.

Amendment:

Discussion:

Why not allow non-resident hunters to use both? Aircraft would “fit” the goal of separating hunters in KCUA.

Pros:

Cons:

Proposal 163 ADF&G

Action: Adopt

Description: Authorizes a predator control program in a small portion of Unit 24B.

Amendment:

Discussion:

Pros:

Cons:

Proposal 164 AL Barrette

Action: Adopt

Description: Eliminate the aircraft restriction in the Kanuti Controlled Use Area.

Amendment:

Discussion:

Control by other means, example, an “aircraft use permit” for some number of participants. A drawing hunt would be popular.

Pros:

Cons:

Proposal 165 Science Now Project

Action: Do Not Adopt



Description: Close all hunting for the Galena Mountain Caribou Herd in Unit 24.

Amendment:

Discussion:

Q. Present harvest?

Q. Access?

Q. Res. Vs Non-Res. Harvest?

Pros:

Cons:

Proposal 166 Benjamin Holbrook Action: Do Not Adopt (see #167)

Description: Lengthen the wolf hunting season for residents and nonresidents in Unit 21.

Amendment:

Discussion: See Proposal #167

Pros:

Cons:

Proposal 167 Virgil Umphenour Action: Adopt

Description: Lengthen wolf hunting season to the end of May for Units 21, 22, and 24.

Amendment:

Discussion: The AC felt that the season needed to be extended in all three units, rather than just Unit 21, to reduce the number of predators and increase calf survival.

Pros:

Cons:

Proposal 168 Mid-Yukon AC Action: Adopt with Amendment

Description: Allow brown bears to be harvested with bait in Unit 21D.



Amendment: to add: “buy resident harvest tag and one in four years requirement”

Discussion:

Support the MYAC but condition with buy resident harvest tag and one in four years.

Pros:

Cons:

Proposal 169 Brad Scotton/Charlie Green Action: Amend and Adopt (see #149)

Description: Extend the Lynx trapping season in Unit 21.

Amendment: See proposal #149

Discussion:

Pros:

Cons:

Northeast Alaska – Units 25A, 25B, 25D, 26B and 26C

Proposal 170 Heimo Korth Action: Do Not Adopt

Description: Shorten the moose season in a portion of 25A

Amendment:

Discussion:

(Note) Population may decline... Cramming hunters into a shorter season does not equate with having less hunters. (Likely the real issue is the need for some kind of predator control)

Pros:

Cons:

Proposal 171 Eastern RAC Action: Do Not Adopt

Description: Require meat-on-bone salvage for moose in Unit 25A.

Amendment:



Discussion:

There is not much detail on the “problem” of waste and spoilage.

Q. How big is this problem?

Pros:

Cons:

Unless an enforcement or biological issue can be demonstrated this would require unnecessary regulations/restrictions for hunters.

Proposal 172 Eastern RAC

Action: Do Not Adopt

Description: Require meat-on-bone salvage for moose in Unit 25B.

Discussion: see 171

Proposal 173 Eastern RAC

Action: Do Not Adopt

Description: Require meat-on-bone salvage for moose in Unit 25D.

Discussion: see 171

Proposal 174 Aaron Bloomquist

Action: No Recommendation

Description: Establish a registration hunt for moose in the Firth/Mancha River drainage in Unit 26C.

Amendment:

Discussion:

Q. for the department. Is the projected harvest of 5 – 10 large bulls Sustainable/Desirable?

Pros:

Cons:

Proposal 175 ADF&G

Action: Adopt

Description: Increase the nonresident bag limit for Porcupine Herd caribou in Units 25B, 25D, 26C, and the eastern portion of Unit 25A.

Amendment:

Discussion:

Herd population estimate is now much higher thus the added harvest is not a conservation issue.



Pros:

With the trend to request the restriction on nonresident hunters this might be a harvest opportunity we can provide without expecting resident/nonresident conflict.

Cons:

Proposal 176 Aaron Bloomquist Action: Do Not Adopt

Description: Return the nonresident bag limit on Porcupine Herd caribou to two bulls.

Discussion: see 175

Proposal 177 Arctic AC Action: Do Not Adopt

Description: Decrease the bag limit for caribou in Unit 26B.

Amendment:**Discussion:**

Request is to decrease from 5 to 3. Most of the area east and west of 26B has slowly declining caribou population with bag limit of 10. Unit 26B (Central Arctic) has a growing population and can support the limit of 5.

Q. Is there any evidence of the “inexperienced hunters” has either overharvested or there is an increase in wanton waste since the board adopted the limit of 5? If not, the board should not adopt.

Pros:

Maintain a high potential for harvest on a harvestable surplus we have not even come close to capitalizing on.

Cons:

There may be the rare occurrence when an inexperienced hunter may harvest more caribou than he/she can successfully salvage. This however would be an enforcement issue, and would be hard to justify reducing opportunity to prevent.

Proposal 178 Eastern RAC Action: Do Not Adopt

Description: Close Red Sheep Creek and Cane Creek drainages to hunting for sheep.

Amendment:**Discussion:**

- The EIARAC has drafted a conservation reason for a social issue. Their testimony to the federal subsistence board is that trespass, litter on private allotments, etc. is the “problem”. There is no conservation issue with the listed density of sheep. Recent hunting seasons saw a high of 7 out of area hunters with only a couple of sheep killed. This is a “we’d rather not have the out of area hunters”.
- The FAC would prefer the solution offered by the Division of Wildlife Conservation’s Agenda Change Request to consider changes to 5AAC 92.003, education regulation for sheep hunting in GMU 25A –vs.- losing this hunting opportunity
-
- :
- The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (Department) requests the Board of Game (Board) accept this Agenda Change Request to consider changes to the hunter education requirements for sheep hunting in GMU 25A. Specifically the Department is interested in having the Board consider changes to sheep hunting regulations that threaten to restrict or eliminate hunting opportunity because of trespass problems that have been occurring for many years in the area of Red Sheep Creek and Cane Creek within the Federal Arctic Village Sheep Management Area. The Department is currently working in collaboration with many parties including State, Federal, Tribal, and private to refine the specifics of this concept and intends to submit a proposal to require an orientation class be completed prior to hunting in this area.

Pros:

Unnecessary lose of hunting opportunity!

Cons:

Reduce conflict

Proposal 179 Thor Stacey

Action: Do Not Adopt

Description: Convert the general season nonresident sheep hunt to drawing hunt in the Dalton Highway Corridor area

Amendment:

Discussion: Q. Has the harvest increased in the Dalton Corridor? The fact that a general season has been in place for decades means that the allocation for both residents and nonresidents has not been a problem.

Pros:

Cons:

Proposal 180 Eastern RAC

Action: Amend and Adopt (see #149)

Description: Open wolf trapping in Units 25A, B, and C earlier, starting October 1.



Amendment: See Proposal #149

Discussion:

Pros:

Cons:

Proposal 181 ADF&G

Action: Adopt

Description: Extend brown bear seasons in Unit 26B.

Amendment:

Discussion: This proposal will help with musk ox survival, if the brown bear population can be reduced and problem bears are harvested.

Pros:

- Increased hunting opportunity
- Increased survival rate of 26B Musk Oxen

Cons:

Proposal 182 Yukon Flats AC

Action: Adopt

Description: Increase the annual bag limit for black bear in Unit 25D.

Amendment:

Discussion: Increase from 3 to 5 (from the Yukon Flats AC)

Pros:

- May increase harvest of black bear in a GMU with excessively high black bear populations.
- Black bear population can certainly handle increased harvest.

Cons:

Proposal 183 Eastern RAC

Action: Adopt

Description: Allow hunters to take more than one brown bear by community harvest permit in Unit 25D.

Amendment:



Discussion:

Assume the “ethnographic reports” are from the fed. Where were these reports during the “denning” and “use of flashlight” discussions last cycle.

Action is fine, set low limit for Community Harvest Objectives.

Pros:**Cons:****Proposal 184 Dale Ware****Action:** Adopt

Description: Allow the use of crossbows in the Dalton Highway Corridor Management Area.

Amendment:**Discussion:**

Could get some more caribou killed in the Dalton Highway Corridor.

Pros:

- Would allow additional hunting opportunity
- Should increase harvest of a resource that is lightly harvested
- May result in lower wound loss rate along this corridor

Cons:

- Archery Hunters will have additional competition in a hunt area they have traditionally enjoyed without competition.
- Consider making legal north of Galbreath Lake

Proposal 185 AK Falconers Assn.**Action:** Adopt

Description: Allow the taking of small game by falconry in the Dalton Highway Corridor Management area.

Amendment:**Discussion:**

Defer to the Alaskan Falconry Association comments

Pros:**Cons:****Tok Area – Units 12 & 20E****Proposal 186 Upper Tanana/Slana AC****Action:** No Recommendation

Description: Modify moose season in portion of Unit 12 and 11.

Amendment:

Discussion:

Q. What is the bull/cow ratio?

Pros:

Cons:

Proposal 187 Wrangell- St.Elias NPS Action: No Recommendation

Description: Convert the any bull moose hunt to a spike-fork 50-inch or 3 or more brow tines in portion of Unit 12.

Amendment:

Discussion: (Similar to 186)

Pros:

Cons:

Proposal 188 Lance Kronberger Action: Do Not Adopt

Description: Allocate 10 percent of sheep drawing permits to nonresidents.

Amendment:

Discussion:

Wants to remove “up to” in favor of just 10%. Reasons are not appropriate. Consider 189 first....

Pros:

Cons:

Proposal 189 Terry Marquette Action: Adopt

Description: Close the nonresident sheep season in the Tok and Delta drawing hunts.

Amendment:

Discussion: This is a relatively small trophy sheep area. The pressure is mounting, statewide, to provide a resident preference for sheep, and this would be a good place to start.



Pros: Would provide residents with a hunt area where they receive 100% preferential treatment towards a very desirable species.

Cons: The loss of revenue to the state for management of game.

Proposal 190 Ray Heuer

Action: Adopt

Description: Close nonresident sheep season in the Tok and Delta drawing hunts.

Amendment:

Discussion: See comments on proposal 189

Pros:

Cons:

Proposal 191 Upper Tanana 40ml AC Action: No Recommendation

Description: Extend the moose season and restrict the harvest to larger bulls in Unit 20E

Amendment:

Discussion:

Longer season is good but why limit to Later in the year?

Would the limitation of only larger bulls reduce opportunity for subsistence harvest?

Pros:

Cons:

Proposal 192 40 ml Caribou Coalition Action: Adopt

Description: Combine Fortymile and White Mountains Caribou herd seasons under 1 registration permit, remove harvest limits, lengthen the winter season for residents, and allow a new limited registration permit hunt

Amendment:

Discussion:

The Fairbanks Advisory Committee would like to express some concern for loss of non resident's winter hunting opportunity in the White Mountains if proposal 192 passes.

In the last 3 years, 9 non residents hunted (All Fairbanks, North Pole, Ft. Wainwright addresses) and none got a caribou. Based on where they reported that they hunted, it is suspect most were recreating in the



White Mts. and took a tag along just in case they spotted a caribou. We believe that the coalition felt that consistency between the Fortymile and White Mountains hunts was more important than retaining the opportunity to get 2 or 3 caribou. Additionally we considered that the animals are scattered and very difficult for hunters to find in the winter. We believe this fact coupled with historical reported hunting effort mitigates the concern for loss of nonresident hunting opportunity.

We strongly support the recommendations from the Planning Coalition, and would like to see the BOG implement their recommendations.

This is the recommendation of the AC Coalition already reviewed by the FAC.

Proposal 193 Steve Klaich

Action: Do Not Adopt

Description: Move the Fortymile caribou season start date back to August 10, close corridor within one mile of highways during fall season.

Amendment:

Discussion:

Corridor closure not needed. Harvest plan has other options for controlling the rate of harvest. Aug. 10 opening in Zone 2 now. Aug. 29 resulted in a longer open season than previous.

Proposal 194 Larry DeBoard

Action: Do Not Adopt

Description: Open a youth only hunt for Fortymile Caribou.

Amendment:

Discussion:

Follow 40 planning group recommendations

An “open” youth hunt for Fortymile caribou would be like the ill fated youth hunt for moose in 20B. Families hunting with young hunters would take the entire quota. The coalition discussed such a hunt under a limited number of drawing permits but did not forward it in the present plan. It is a future consideration when quotas are expected to be much larger.

Proposal 195 40 ml Caribou Coalition

Action: Adopt

Description: Remove the proxy prohibition for taking caribou in Unit 20E; and prohibit proxy hunting for Fortymile and White Mountain caribou in Unit 25.

Amendment:

Discussion:



Adding the White Mountain segment in GMU 25 causes the need to change the restrictive language limiting proxy hunts for the Fortymile and White Mountain herds. This is recommended by the AC coalition.

Proposal 196 Upper Tanana/40 ml AC Action: Amend and Adopt

Description: Allow brown bear baiting with same season and restrictions as black bear baiting.

Amendment: Require a tag and allow only one bear every four years.

Discussion:

To determine interest and track the harvest, require a resident brown bear tag and limit the harvest to one in four years per individual.

Pros:

Cons:

Proposal 197 Upper Tanana/40 ml AC Action: No Recommendation

Description: Re-Implement the grizzly bear control portion of the UYTPCP in Southern Unit 20E, and allow bear snaring and same day airborne taking of bears.

Amendment:

Discussion:

- The previous attempt at this was a failure, because out of area hunters (who were the hunter targeted for this reduction program. If the local hunters were going to harvest these bears it would have been successful) could not register the bait effectively. Hunters were required to drive to the baiting location circa 70 miles away, take a GPS coordinate, report back to ADF&G in Tok on a Monday-Friday basis to register the bait station, then drive back to the bait site to set up the bait station. After success, the hunter had to seal the bear locally, meaning they had to stick around until Monday-Friday to get the bear sealed. Additionally Brown Bear habituate these bait stations differently than black bear. Black bear will remain in the area until the food source is depleted, brown bear will hit bait and not return for a week or more. This makes targeting/patterning them even harder, coupled with the sealing requirements this was not a successful experiment.
- We would recommend allowing these sites to be registered at the hunter's local Department headquarters.
- We would recommend allowing the harvested bears to be sealed at the local Department headquarter



- We would also like to see a 1 in 4 years with a brown bear tag requirement. This is to allow the Department to track hunter interest, and success rates

Proposal 198 Upper Tanana/40 ml AC Action: Amend and Adopt (see #149)

Description: Align the Unit 12 and 20E fox trapping season with the coyote season, including snare and trap restrictions in October and April.

Amendment: See Proposal #149

Discussion:

(May conflict with No closure from statewide proposals)

Pros:

Cons:

Proposal 199 Upper Tanana/40 ml AC Action: Amend and Adopt (see #149)

Description: Extend hunting seasons for lynx and fox to April 30.

Amendment: See Proposal #149

Discussion:

Pros:

Cons:

Proposal 200 Science Now Project Action: No Recommendation

Description: Amend the Amount Reasonably Necessary for Subsistence Uses in Unit 12.

Amendment:

Discussion:

The board is under no obligation to limit the ANS for Unit 12 wolves to only Unit 12's subsistence needs. If it is a subsistence population, the user group could be much larger and include out of Unit 12 participants.

Delta Area – Unit 20D

Proposal 201 ADF&G Action: Adopt



Description: Reauthorize antlerless moose hunting seasons in Unit 20D.

Amendment:

Discussion: The FAC traditionally does not participant in this reauthorization on this sub-unit, but as long as the Delta AC is in support of this hunt and the Department recommends a hunt because biological information exists to support the Fairbanks AC would support this hunt.

Proposal 202 Don Quarberg

Action: No Recommendation

Description: Allow assistance from same-day-airborne for Delta bison permit holders

Amendment:

Discussion: The Fairbanks AC wishes to support the Delta Bison planning group's recommendation of this issue.

Proposal 203 Delta AC

Action: Do Not Adopt

Description: Restrict the use of all motorized vehicles in portion of 20D.

Amendment:

Discussion:

Q. What is the actual size of this "small area"? Any closure should not block long term existing trails to "to" or "through" traffic.

Pros:

Cons:

Fairbanks Area - Unit 20A, 20B, 20C, 20F, & 25C

Proposal 204 Ray Heuer

Action: Amend and Adopt

Description: Modify the Intensive Management findings for moose in Unit 20A.

Amendment: Amend the Harvest Objective to 900-1100 animals (8% of the population objective). Also amend the "Area of Consideration" to GMU 20A, **outside of the US Army Impact Areas**".



Discussion: 12K to 15K is better than 10K to 12K. This number seems to more accurately reflect carrying capacity of this area as established by reviewing the last four years of population estimates. These numbers are in alignment with the Department objectives and the Department is currently managing at this level. Additionally, the population is currently stable at this level.

Pros:

Cons:

Proposal 205 Valerie Baxter

Action: Do Not Adopt

Description: Change the legal animal for the Unit 20A & 20B antlerless hunts.

Amendment:

Discussion:

The U. 20A & 20B public has not ever been comfortable with a calf harvest.

Biology isn't the issue.

Pros:

Cons:

Proposal 206 ADF&G

Action: Amend and Adopt

Description: Reauthorize the antlerless moose hunting season in Unit 20A.

Amendment: Amend to reauthorize by subunit zone 1-7. During a meeting of the joint Interior AC's and the Department, a compromise proposal was developed and will be presented to the Board. The Fairbanks AC spent many hours listening to public testimony on this issue, in addition to reviewing the results of a "survey" conducted by the Department. All of that information was taken into consideration when developing the compromise proposal. The Fairbanks AC supports that compromise.

Discussion:

Pros:

Cons:

Proposal 207 Dave Machacek

Action: No Recommendation

Description: Revert to the original hunt area for the November muzzleloader hunt in Unit 20A.



Amendment:

Discussion: At the Region III BOG meeting two years ago, it is our understanding that the Board gave the Department the authority to put this hunt wherever they wanted in GMU 20A, instead of it being in the same place every year. This allows the Department more flexibility in management of that resource. There was considerable testimony during the AC meetings that the muzzleloader hunters wanted the hunt in the same general area that it has been in for years, due to “sightability of moose” issues (the original location is in the hills), and access issues. Also, in the past there has been an antlerless moose hunt going on in the same area, at the same time, so this causes some “social issues” with the residents and trappers in the original hunt area. (The “issue” statement is not correct with respect to public involvement and notice.)

Pros:

- This is a high quality hunting experience. Hunters who have drawn this hunt in the past report seeing countless bulls in the old area, where in the new area visibility and hunt quality is notably less desirable.
- It is reasonable to assume that closing the antlerless moose season early in this location might allow for this hunt to be re-implemented with fewer user conflicts.

Cons:

- Concern for user conflicts in hunt area if hunt is allowed back in original hunt area and antlerless moose hunting pressure remains the same.

Proposal 208 Dave Machacek**Action:** No Recommendation

Description: Establish a new muzzleloader hunt in Remainder of Unit 20A; outside the controlled use area.

Amendment:**Discussion:**

Proposer states “few opportunities for late season muzzleloader hunts”, however, there are few any methods late season hunts. Muzzleloaders are not restricted from other late season hunts. Additionally, the proposer mentions the “Wood River Controlled Use Area”, however there are no vehicle restrictions in that CUA after September 30.

Pros:

- This is a high quality hunting experience. Hunters who have drawn this hunt in the past report seeing countless bulls in the old area, where in the new area visibility and hunt quality has drastically declined.
- It is reasonable to assume that closing the antlerless moose season early in this location might allow for this hunt to be re-implemented with fewer user conflicts.



Cons:

- Concern for user conflicts in hunt area if hunt is allowed back in original hunt area

Proposal 209 Mid-Nenana AC

Action: No Recommendation

Description: Require hunters to use a locking tag if hunting any bull drawing permit in Unit 20A.

Amendment:

Discussion:

This is a “feel good” proposal with no conservation issues. Additionally, there was some testimony that this would be another regulation and burden added to hunters. They felt if there is a concern that sublegal bulls are being taken then the Troopers should be notified.

Pros:

Cons:

Proposal 210 Roggie Hunter

Action: Take No Action this Cycle

Description: Move the northern boundary of the Wood River Controlled Use Area.

Amendment: See Proposal #151. The AC felt that this needed to be included in the working group discussion, that would be to review all CUA's.

Discussion: There was testimony that moving this boundary off the Rex Trail would just lead to additional habitat destruction like we are seeing now, all along the Rex. This is one of the most contentious areas in GMU 20A for trespass and social issues, and they felt that moving that boundary would just exasperate that problem.

Pros:

Cons:

Proposal 211 Delta AC

Action: Do Not Adopt

Description: Prohibit the use of ATVs above 2500 feet elevation in a portion of Unit 20.

Amendment:

Discussion:



Q. How will hunters determine the elev.?

Q. Isn't this a de-facto CUA?

Q. What about snow machines?

Q. Assume that aircraft are OK?

Proposal 212 Delta AC

Action: No Recommendation

Description: Prohibit the use of ATVs in a portion of Unit 20.

Amendment:

Discussion:

Q. Are they asking the board to pick an ATV type or the hunter to pick an ATV type?

Proposal 213 Fairbanks AC

Action: Adopt

Description: Allow motorized vehicle access in the Yanert Controlled Use Area in Unit 20.

Align the closing/opening of this CUA with the adjoining Wood River CUA.

Amendment:

Discussion:

Now limits ability to spread out hunts like muzzleloader and antlerless. There was testimony that this would lead to more habitat destruction if approved.

Pros: Would allow more access into the area.

Cons: Could lead to more habitat destruction due to vehicle traffic, and more "social issues", due to increased access.

Proposal 214 Mid-Nenana AC

Action: Do Not Adopt

Description: Create an "any ram" drawing permit hunt in Unit 20.

Amendment:

Discussion:

Q. Is the problem finding full curls?

Q. What reason to override the biology of using full curl as the standard?

Pros:



Cons:

Proposal 215 Minto Village Council Action: No Recommendation (see #216)

Description: Establish a community harvest hunt area for the Village of Minto in Unit 20.

Amendment:

Discussion:

- Minto Prefers the proposal from Al Barrette (#216) and the Department and FAC would like to support Minto/Nenana AC comments. Specifically, if the 20B proposal as recommended by the Department is not supported we would like to see a community hunt implemented in this area. The FAC prefers to manage subsistence opportunity and the remaining harvestable surplus without these registration permits; which require hunters to stand in line days in advance.
- The issues around getting rid of the stand-in-line permit for winter hunts, changing to community harvest, etc., have been discussed among the ACs (Fbks. and Minto-Nenana) and the department. A new proposal has been approved to allow “any bull moose” general hunt from August 21 – 27, followed by a Sept. 8 – 25 spike fork 50 inch four brow tine general hunt, followed by an Oct. – Feb. 20 registration hunt for antlerless moose only with (initial cycle) up to 85 moose harvested and the season would close by emergency order.

Proposal 216 Al Barrette Action: Adopt

Description: Open a general season bull hunt 10 days earlier in the Minto Flats Management Area; convert the winter any moose hunt to antlerless and issue unlimited permits.

Amendment:

Discussion:

- **This is the preferred action by the Fairbanks AC –vs.- 217 & 215.**
- The issues around getting rid of the stand-in-line permit for winter hunts, changing to community harvest, etc., have been discussed among the ACs (Fbks. and Minto-Nenana) and the department. A new proposal has been approved to allow “any bull moose” general hunt from August 21 – 27, followed by a Sept. 8 – 25 spike fork 50 inch four brow tine general hunt, followed by an Oct. – Feb. 20 registration hunt for antlerless moose only with (initial cycle) up to 85 moose harvested and the season would close by emergency order.

Pros:



- Gets rid of the stand in line for a permit, and provides excellent hunting opportunity for all categories of hunters.

Cons:

- We would prefer that the antlerless moose hunts end prior to, or on 15 December. This will prevent antlerless bulls from being harvested, and the village of Minto verbalized a preference to shooting moose earlier in the season when moose still have good fat on them.

Proposal 217 Village of Minto

Action: No Recommendation (See #216)

Description: Establish a community harvest permit hunt for the Village of Minto.

Discussion:

See comments on proposal 215 and 216

Proposal 218 ADF&G

Action: Amend and Adopt

Description: Reauthorize the antlerless moose hunting season in Unit 20B.

Amendment:

Discussion:

For the most part the 20B antlerless management plan is working. The Fairbanks AC and the other Interior AC's held a joint meeting to discuss 20B antlerless as well as 20A. As a result there were minor changes to the Departments proposal, which we support.

New Minto Management Area hunt (215, 216) has antlerless component. Hunts organized and permitted by small zones and different time periods. Fairbanks Management Area hunts are included.

Pros:

Cons:

Proposal 219 Fairbanks AC

Action: Do Not Adopt

Description: Eliminate the Minto Flats Management Area restrictions on airboats.

Amendment:

Discussion:



- Water levels are changing in Minto Flats. Harvest is controlled by use of tags and permits. Moose density may be highest in the state besides Gustavus.

Pros:

- The population is certainly healthy enough to handle additional pressure from this user group, but we would not want to jeopardize the plans of the Department to implement the new 20B Minto Flats plan.

Cons:

- There is likely to be significant user conflict between air boater users and local residents of Minto

Proposal 220 Valerie Baxter

Action: Do Not Adopt

Description: Lengthen the muzzleloaders season in Unit 20B and expand the hunt area to all of the Fairbanks Management area.

Amendment:

Discussion:

This Proposal needs to be tabled until the next Interior cycle.

All FMA will be difficult because of some areas like City of Fairbanks which bans the discharge of firearms. The FAC can look for other areas in the FMA besides Creamers Refuge when they review the FMA next cycle for R 3. The public needs to be involved in this discussion, and therefore more time is needed to explore this action.

Pros:

Cons:

Proposal 221 Valerie Baxter

Action: Adopt

Description: Lengthen the muzzleloader season in Unit 20B, Creamers Refuge

Amendment:

Discussion:

Present Nov. 21-27, would like Nov. 1-30 Hunt is limited to 10 permits. There was some concern that this would cause too many “social issues” with hunters in that small area for 30 days. The Department felt that there would be no problem with too many moose taken.

Pros:

Cons:



Proposal 222 Fairbanks AC

Action: Adopt

Description: Modify the muzzleloader hunt area to prohibit harvest of antlerless moose in the Salcha River drainage.

Amendment:

Discussion:

Last cycle the board approved hunter generated proposal for a boundary for this hunt that exceeded the zone for antlerless authorized by the FAC. We would like this language to be clear. **We the FAC do not wish to reauthorize any antlerless moose hunts in the Salcha River drainage of 20B.**

Cons:

- This area does not enjoy the high moose densities found elsewhere in unit 20.
- We feel that a harvest of antlerless moose in this drainage is not sustainable.
- We understand that the harvest was biologically insignificant during 2011-12, but the precedence of this hunt in the upper reaches may spread to the lower river which is absolutely unacceptable.
- Public support for other antlerless moose hunts could be affected by the inclusion of this hunt.
- It is expected that significant political pressure will also be solicited to stop all cow hunts from a group in opposition to this hunt if it were to be continued.

Proposal 223 Leonard Jewkes

Action: No Recommendation (see #222)

Description: Modify the muzzleloader hunt to prohibit harvest of antlerless moose in the Salcha River drainage.

Amendment:

Discussion:

See proposal 222 comments

Proposal 224 Fairbanks AC

Action: Defer to next Interior region BOG

Description: Review the boundary of the Fairbanks Management Area; focus on changing the boundary near Murphy Dome and Ester Dome.

Amendment:



Discussion:

The Fbks. Advisory Committee needs more time to work on the issues and boundaries of the FMA. Another cycle is requested. The FAC will prepare a new proposal with details for changes.

Proposal 225 Fairbanks AC**Action:** Adopt

Description: Remove the prohibition on aircraft use for beaver trapping in the Minto Flats management area.

Amendment:

Discussion: Testimony indicates that this would allow a little more access to trappers who trap by airplane, and would have very limited impact on the resource.

.

Pros:**Cons:****Proposal 226 Mid-Nenana AC****Action:** No Recommendation

Description: Align the resident and nonresident moose seasons in Unit 20C.

Amendment:

Discussion: Currently the estimates for the moose population in GMU 20C is within the IM population objective, yet harvest remain notably below the IM harvest objective. We believe there is room to increase the resident and nonresident moose seasons, but we would not like to see nonresident hunting opportunity increased unless resident seasons are lengthened as well.

Proposal 227 Ray Heuer**Action:** Adopt

Description: Establish an intensive management area for Unit 20C.

Amendment:**Discussion:**

Currently the Department is engaged in the process of collecting additional biological information. We would request the BOG review this information and take steps to increase harvest levels to meet IM harvest objectives. We also would request loosening of methods and means as needed to ensure an increase harvest of predator in the area. Specifically, if the BOG is considering experimenting with allowing the take of Brown Bear over black bear bait, or



trapping of black bear this area would be an excellent test area. It is close to a major population center, but few year round inhabitants exist in comparison to other areas of the state.

Proposal 228 Ray Heuer Action: Adopt (see #227)

Description: Adopt a wolf control program for Unit 20C.

Amendment:

Discussion:

See comments on proposal 227

Proposal 229 Fairbanks AC Action: Adopt (see #227)

Description: Adopt an Intensive Management plan for Unit 20C.

Amendment:

Discussion:

See comments on proposal 227

Proposal 230 Ray Heuer Action: Amend and Adopt

Description: Adopt a bear control program for Unit 20C.

Amendment: Require a harvest ticket, and limit to one bear every four years.

Discussion:

See comments on proposal 227

Proposal 231 Fairbanks AC Action: Adopt

Description: Establish a black bear trapping season in parts of Unit 20C.

Amendment:

Discussion:

See comments on proposal 227

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Proposal 232 Ray Heuer Action: Amend and Adopt

Description: Allow harvest of grizzly bear over a black bear bait site; require salvage of meat and hide

Amendment: Require a Harvest Ticket and limit to one bear every four years.



Discussion:

Add conditions of having resident brown bear tag and bag limit of one every four years.

Pros:**Cons:**

Proposal 233 Jim Stratton, NPS Assn. Action: Do Not Adopt

Description: Establish a new controlled use area near Denali.

Amendment:**Discussion:**

This new CUA does not have any “controls” proposed, thus cannot be approved. It asks the board to delegate allocation authority to some unknown entity that would use “broad public participation in the development of policy to guide the allocation of resources, etc. etc.”. The proposing group has a history of stacking the deck against Alaskan participants by appeals to huge numbers of outside Alaska interests. The board does not need this “help” and the user groups who don’t like hunting and trapping can go north a few miles into Denali Park.

Proposal 234 Eastern RAC Action: Do Not Adopt

Description: Require meat-on-bone salvage for moose in Unit 25C.

Discussion:

The board should ask the EIRAC to “quantify” the problem. Are there citations, pictures, numbers, and written reports? The decision to require meat on the bone should not be based on emotional issues or a small number of incidents.

Proposal 235 Fairbanks AC Action: Adopt

Description: Increase the bag limit for black bear in Unit 25C.

Amendment:**Discussion:****Pros:****Cons:**

Proposal 236 Fairbanks AC Action: Amend and Adopt



Description: Allow limited harvest of grizzly bear at black bear bait stations in Units 20A, 20B and 25C.

Amendment: Add conditions of the hunter required to have a resident brown bear tag and a bag limit of one every four years.

Discussion:

Add conditions of the hunter required to have a resident brown bear tag and a bag limit of one every four years.

Pros:

Cons:

Proposal 237 Fairbanks AC **Action:** Adopt

Description: Align the brown/grizzly season in all of Unit 20.

Amendment:

Discussion:

Pros:

Cons:

Other Units

Proposal 238 ADF&G **Action:** No Recommendation

Description: Implement a predation management plan in Unit 9B.

Discussion: The FAC does not have authority for this proposal.

Proposal 239 ADF&G **Action:** No Recommendation

Description: Reauthorize antlerless moose hunt in Unit 1C, Berners Bay

Discussion:

The FAC does not have authority for this proposal.

Proposal 240 ADF&G **Action:** No Recommendation

Description: Reauthorize antlerless moose hunt in Unit 1C, Gustavus

Discussion: The FAC does not have authority for this proposal.



Proposal 241 ADF&G

Action: No Recommendation

Description: Reauthorize antlerless moose hunt in Unit 5A, Nunatak Bench

Discussion: The FAC does not have authority for this proposal.

Proposal 242 ADF&G

Action: No Recommendation

Description: Reauthorize antlerless moose hunt in Unit 6A

Discussion: The FAC does not have authority for this proposal.

Proposal 243 ADF&G

Action: No Recommendation

Description: Reauthorize antlerless moose hunt in Unit 6

Discussion: The FAC does not have authority for this proposal.

Proposal 244 ADF&G

Action: No Recommendation

Description: Reauthorize antlerless moose hunt in Unit 6C

Discussion: The FAC does not have authority for this proposal.

Proposal 245 ADF&G

Action: No Recommendation

Description: Reauthorize antlerless moose hunt in Unit 13

Discussion:

The board recognized the Fbks. AC as having high use by our area residents in GMU13 many years ago. We request clarification on our involvement in the antlerless reauthorization.

Proposal 246 ADF&G

Action: No Recommendation

Description: Reauthorize antlerless moose hunt in Unit 14A

Discussion: The FAC does not have authority for this proposal.

Proposal 247 ADF&G

Action: No Recommendation

Description: Reauthorize antlerless moose hunt in Units 7/14C Placer-20mile

Discussion: The FAC does not have authority for this proposal.

Proposal 248 ADF&G

Action: No Recommendation

Description: Reauthorize antlerless moose hunt in Unit 14C

Discussion: The FAC does not have authority for this proposal.



Proposal 249 ADF&G

Action: No Recommendation

Description: Reauthorize antlerless moose hunt in Unit 14C, Anchorage Mgt. Area

Discussion: The FAC does not have authority for this proposal.

Proposal 250 ADF&G

Action: No Recommendation

Description: Reauthorize antlerless moose hunt in Unit 14C, Birchwood and remainder

Discussion: The FAC does not have authority for this proposal.

Proposal 251 ADF&G

Action: No Recommendation

Description: Reauthorize antlerless moose hunt in Unit 14C, Ship Creek

Discussion: The FAC does not have authority for this proposal.

Proposal 252 ADF&G and US FWS

Action: No Recommendation

Description: Reauthorize antlerless moose hunt in Unit 15A, Skilak Loop

Discussion: The FAC does not have authority for this proposal.

Proposal 253 ADF&G

Action: No Recommendation

Description: Reauthorize antlerless moose hunt in Unit 15C, Homer

Discussion: The FAC does not have authority for this proposal.

Proposal 254 ADF&G

Action: No Recommendation

Description: Reauthorize antlerless moose hunt in Unit 16B, Kalgin Island

Discussion: The FAC does not have authority for this proposal.

Proposal 255 ADF&G

Action: Adopt

Description: Reauthorize brown bear tag fees in Region IV

Discussion:



Tube traps and rubber padded snares for capturing American black bears

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Abstract: American black bears (*Ursus americanus*) are commonly captured for research purposes with Aldridge traps. Disadvantages of this method include the possibility of non-target species setting off traps or being captured, a lengthy installation time, the possibility of bears being captured by the toes, and hind-foot captures. Here, we describe the RL04 trap, used with rubber-padded snares and drags, designed to address these issues. The RL04 trap is built from sturdy PVC tubing, can only be triggered by a bear in most areas, requires 20 minutes of installation time for 2 people, rarely results in toe captures due to the distance between the trigger and the snare, and eliminates hind-foot captures. This trap design captured 38 bears in 2 study areas. Every trap triggered by a previously untrapped bear resulted in a capture, and all snares tightened proximal to the metacarpal pad. Between 2001 and 2005, we trapped 304 bears using rubber-padded snares in an effort to reduce cuts and swelling often caused by bare-wire snares. These snares, tightened around bear paws with various trap designs including ground sets, produced surface cuts smaller than 1 cm in only 12 bears. Rubber-padded snares were linked to custom-designed drags and shock absorbers to reduce the risk of shoulder injuries. We provide detailed design descriptions of the RL04 trap and the restraining mechanism, which includes the snare, shock absorber, and drag.

Key words: American black bear, capture efficiency, capture injuries, drags, humane trapping, rubber-padded snares, shock-absorbers, trap design, tube traps, *Ursus americanus*

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American black bears are most commonly captured using either culvert traps or Aldrich traps for foot snares. Culvert traps are ideal in high human-use areas because they protect the public and allow for the easy transport and relocation of problem bears. However, the large-scale use of these traps for research purposes in more remote areas is not practical for reasons of cost and mobility. The Aldridge trap addresses these issues and has proven a very popular and successful design for capturing bears in a diversity of field situations (Johnson and Pelton 1980). However, the Aldridge trap may have a relatively slow trigger depending on the dimensions of the spring, which could increase the likelihood of toe captures and which prevents the trap from being buried and hidden from the bear.

Rolland Lemieux designed the L-83 trap in 1983 to improve on the Aldridge design (R. Lemieux and H.

Jolicoeur, 1984, Comparaison de l'efficacité de trois pièges utilisés pour la capture de l'ours noir et mise au point d'une technique de piégeage de l'ours noir; rapport préliminaire. Ministère du Loisir de la Chasse et de la Pêche, Service de la faune terrestre, Québec, Canada. [In French]) and won the 1988 Ontario Trapper's Association Innovation prize. The L-83 is presently endorsed by the Quebec Trapper's Association. This trap has a more powerful spring and a long lever which reduces the number of toe captures. Also, the trap can be completely concealed with a substantial amount of vegetation without affecting the performance of the snare. In boreal forests, the snare and trap can be covered with 10–20 cm of wet moss with no effect to performance. Another advantage of the L-83 is the flexibility to use a larger diameter snare than is used with the Aldridge trap, thus decreasing the likelihood of a large bear stepping on or beside the snare.

Both the Aldridge and L-83 traps have the disadvantage of being relatively unselective. Non-target species can set off the snare, leaving it non-functional until it is

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reset. There is always the possibility of injuries when trapping, which is of particular concern when non-target endangered species are present in the area. Reagan et al. (2002) designed a passively-triggered foot snare from PVC (polyvinyl chloride) pipe which reduced the capture of non-target species. However, the ratio of caught bears to triggered traps was only 0.20. This trap also requires digging a hole, which could be problematic in certain study areas.

Most bear injuries are caused by the restraining mechanism (the snare linked to a fixed attachment or drag) and not the trap (the mechanism that projects the snare). Snares can cause swelling and lacerations around the restrained area, and constant tugging by captured animals can cause fractures and muscle, tendon, nerve, and joint injuries. Public scrutiny concerned with the suffering of animals has placed increased pressure on the scientific community to continually improve capture methods and establish standards (Gilbert 1991). Our objective was to design a trap and restraining mechanism that would reduce the chance of injury and the capture of non-target species while not sacrificing efficiency. The RL04 is the latest in a series of bear traps and restraining mechanisms developed with these objectives in mind. Several prototypes were designed and tested before the development of the RL04 (R. Lemieux and A. Desrosiers, 2001, Deux nouveaux prototypes de piège servant à la capture des ours noirs, Société de la Faune et des Parcs, Direction de la Recherche sur la Faune, Québec, Canada [in French]). However, these traps were built from plastic 20-L pails making them fragile and prone to destruction from captured bears. In this paper, we describe in detail the RL04 trap and accessories, which we believe to be a significant improvement over previous designs in both performance and injury prevention.

Study area

We tested RL04 traps in 2 study areas in Canada. The first study area was in the Cold Lake Air Weapons Range (CLAWR), a military zone operated by the Canadian Armed Forces in northeastern Alberta, and Conklin, an adjacent area north of the CLAWR border. Hunting and public access are prohibited in the CLAWR, and all entry points to the area are monitored. Although logging operations are not permitted within the CLAWR, the oil and gas sector is very active and has constructed an extensive network of cutlines throughout the area. Most of this 5,100 km² landscape consists of mixed-wood boreal forest composed of trembling aspen (*Populus*

tremuloides), balsam poplar (*Populus balsamifera*), white spruce (*Picea glauca*), and balsam fir (*Abies balsamea*) at higher elevations. Black spruce (*Picea mariana*), tamarack (*Larix laricina*), and muskeg characterize lower elevations. Stands of jack pine (*Pinus banksiana*) are dispersed throughout the area where sandy soils are present. We captured bears in this area as part of a University of Alberta black bear study.

The second study area was located in the Laurentide Wildlife Reserve 100 km north of Quebec City, Quebec. The area trapped was located in the center of the reserve at 800 m of elevation. Forestry operations have been active in this area and have generated an extensive network of gravel logging roads. The forest is boreal, and cover is dominated by black spruce and balsam fir with trembling aspen regenerating in cutblocks. We captured bears in this area as part of a Quebec Ministry of Natural Resources, Wildlife, and Parks caribou (*Rangifer tarandus*) study.

Methods

RL04 trap specifications

The body of the RL04 trap consists of a 51-cm long PVC pipe (Royal Seal PVC 12454 type PMS SDR35) with a 20-cm diameter (0.7-cm wall thickness; Fig. 1). To close one end of the pipe, we drilled three 6.4-cm steel-plated roofing screws equidistantly into the pipe 2.0 cm from the edge. Then, a circular piece of tight-fitting plywood was placed on the screws to seal the opening (A, Fig. 1). Finally, we spread a thick layer of epoxy between the plywood and the end of the pipe to create a sturdy plug.

The trigger consists of a 2.54 x 1.27-cm wire screen (17 x 17-cm grid size) with rounded edges to fit within the pipe (B, Fig. 1). We removed several mesh squares so bears could easily grab the trigger with their claws. We left 1 to 2 cm of space between the wire screen and the pipe wall to allow the screen to tilt easily within the pipe. A 7.3-cm long nail, bent at a 90° angle and welded to the top of the screen, served as the attachment point for the spring. Finally, we welded the mesh trigger to a hinge fastened to the inside of the pipe 8-cm from the plywood plug.

Once the trigger was installed, we used a jig saw to cut several slits in the pipe (Fig. 2). The first slit, a 1.0 x 3.0-cm wide oval slit above the bent nail, provides an entry point for the spring to connect to the nail of the trigger. The second slit, a 2-cm wide T-shaped incision cut at the open end of the pipe, along the same lengthwise axis as the first incision, enables the snare to

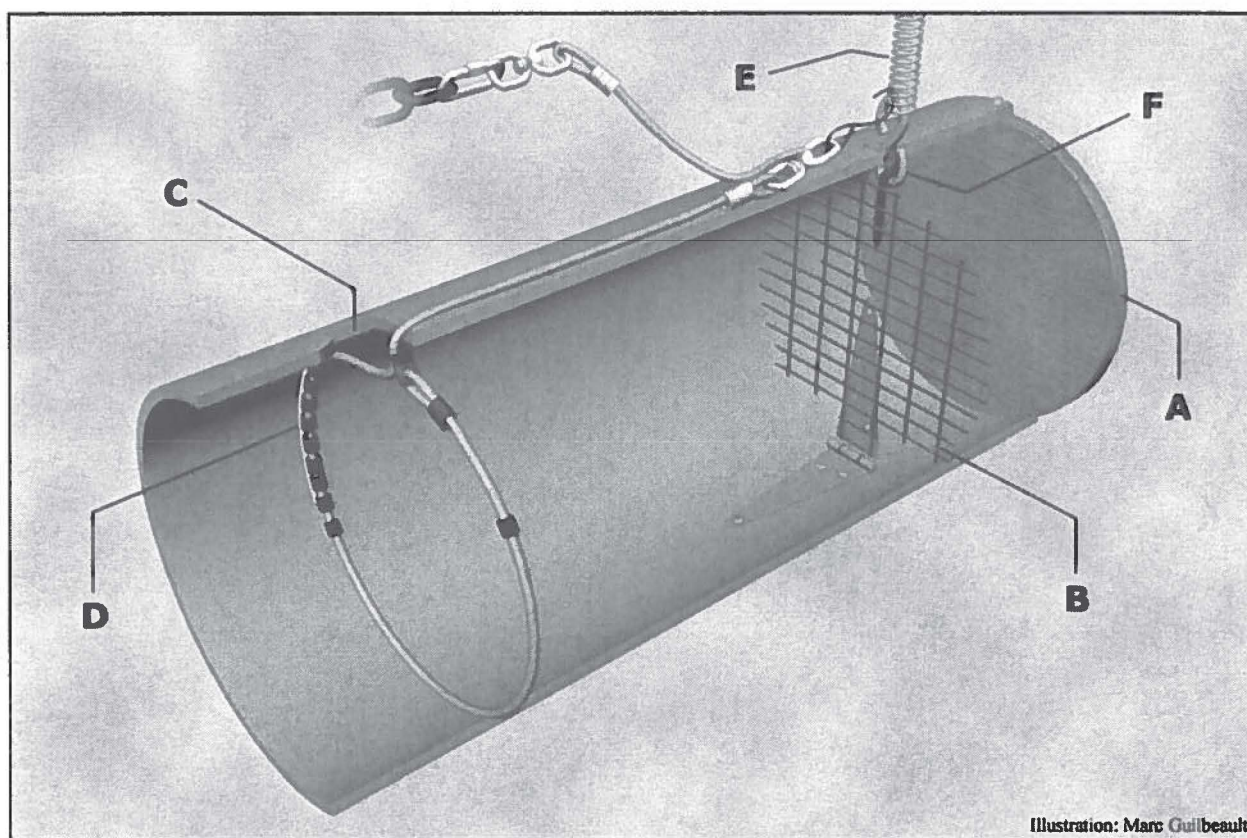


Fig. 1. The RL04 tube trap is constructed of PVC tubing closed at one end with plywood and epoxy (A). Bait is placed between the plug and a mesh trigger fastened to the tube with a hinge (B). The snare is fastened to the trigger and extends into the tube through a T-incision (C) where it is squeezed into slits (D). When a bear pulls on the trigger, the extended spring (E) shortens and tightens the snare.

link properly to the trigger (C, Fig. 1). The shorter section of the T-shaped opening allows the snare to tighten within the pipe, while the longer section allows the bear to retract his restrained paw from the trap. The last set of slits are 2 narrow 10-cm long incisions cut 7.5-cm from the open edge of the pipe on either side of the T-shaped incision (D, Fig. 1). The width of these slits is later adjusted to make a tight fit with the rubber pieces of the snare, thus securing it tightly along the inside wall of the pipe and making it less visible to the bear. The last component of the RL04 trap is a 40-cm long and 1.5-cm wide spring to which we attached a 3.8-cm S-hook (E, Fig. 1). The snare and S-hook connect to the nail of the trigger (F, Fig. 1).

Restraining mechanism

The snare used in the RL04 trap was designed so that the expanded loop fit precisely within the PVC pipe and

the extremity extended to the trigger device. A longer or shorter snare would prevent the trap from operating properly. The snare for the RL04 consists of 2 sections of wire (75.0 and 27.5 cm in length) joined by 0.635-cm galvanized-steel swivels with 386 kg of rupture strength (Fig. 3). We used 0.20 cm swivels in our original snares, but after 2 of them were broken by captured bears, we replaced all swivels with the larger model described above, and none broke in subsequent captures. The snare cable is 0.476 cm in diameter and constructed of 7 x 19 wire with 1900 kg of rupture strength. This cable is more rigid and frays less than the 7 x 7 aviation cable often used for snare assembly. All cable pieces were electrocut to prevent fraying from the extremities.

We used the Mikin BL02 lock (Fig. 3 insert; Mikin Inc., Quebec, Quebec, Canada) on all bear snares. This lock is 5.5 cm long and made of 4-mm thick steel bent at a 110° angle with holes drilled at either end. The hole, in

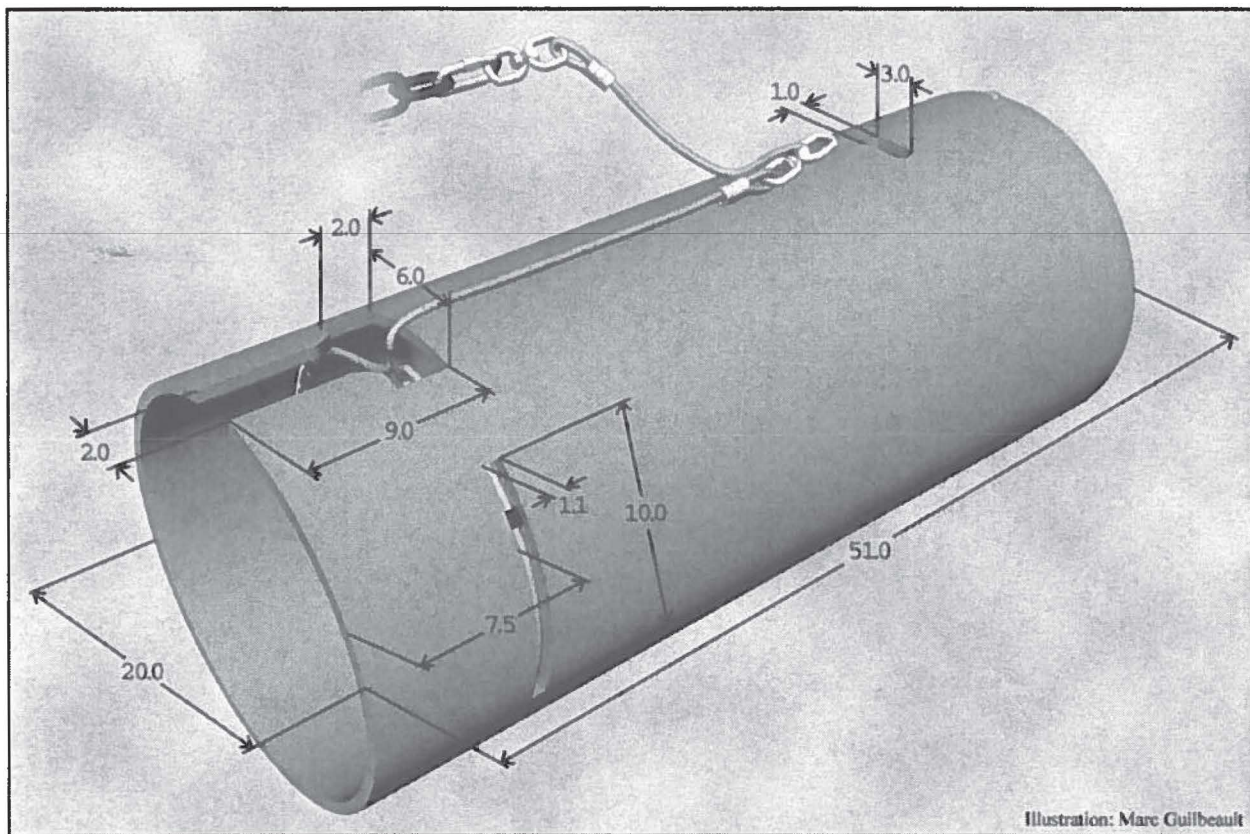


Illustration: Marc Guilbeault

Fig. 2. RL04 trap design measurements in cm.

the shorter 2-cm arm of the lock, has a diameter slightly larger than the cable, whereas the longer 2.5-cm arm has a larger hole. This design allows for a more rapid tightening of the snare. All rough edges and corners of these locks are rounded and polished to reduce chaffing and cuts to the limbs of restrained animals.

We assembled snares taking into account the natural curvature of the cable for the main loop of the snare (Fig. 3). First, we bent the cable 8 cm from one end in the opposite direction of its natural curve. Next, we inserted a 1-cm long and 0.6-cm wide piece of rubber tubing followed by the BL02 lock using the larger of the 2 holes. A 3-cm aluminum sleeve closed the loop with the lock; the loose end of the cable was pushed completely within the sleeve to prevent cuts from the extremity of the cable. We polished the aluminum sleeve and covered it with rubber tubing to further reduce abrasions. Once completed, the elbow of the lock faced the outside of the snare. Then, we alternately strung 1-cm long rubber pieces of 0.50 and 0.60-cm diameter through the open end of the cable ending with a larger

diameter piece which secured the snare within one of the slits in the trap (Fig. 1, 2). We used 19 rubber pieces for black bears to avoid skin contact with bare wire of the snare. Finally, we threaded the snare cable through the smaller hole of the BL02 lock and attached the cable to a swivel using a 3.0-cm long sleeve.

For the second part of the snare, we used the shorter 27.5-cm long cable (Fig. 3). We attached one end of the cable to the swivel (described above) using a 3.0-cm long sleeve and attached a second swivel to the other end of the cable. We used a 0.635-cm long zinc-plated quick-link to connect the snare to the drag chain.

We custom designed drags from a 120-cm long and 17-mm thick steel rod twisted to take on the shape of an anchor (Fig. 4). Once formed, the drag was 39-cm wide by 39-cm long and weighed 3 kg. The tips of the drag were cut diagonally and twisted to increase resistance when pulled through vegetation. We attached the drag to a 3-m of chain (0.635 cm diameter and 477 kg of resistance) with a quick-link. The length of the chain can be adjusted based on the density of vegetation in the

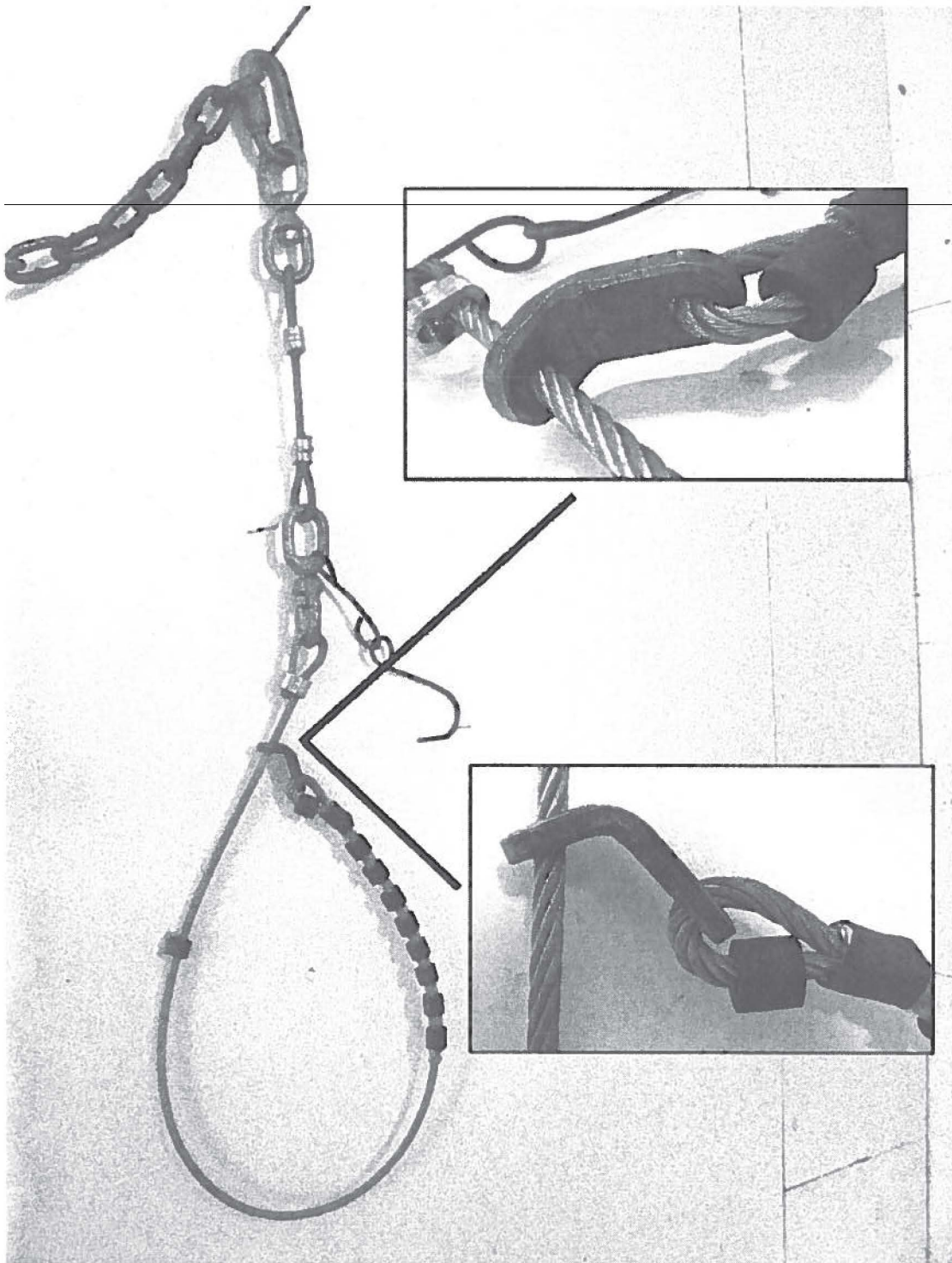


Fig. 3. Rubber-padded snare used to capture bears with insert of the Mikin BL02 rounded lock. Snares are constructed of 0.476-cm diameter cable constructed of 7×19 wire with 1900 kg of rupture strength, 0.635-cm galvanized steel swivels with 386 kg of rupture strength, and 19 1-cm long rubber pieces of 0.5 and 0.6-cm diameter.

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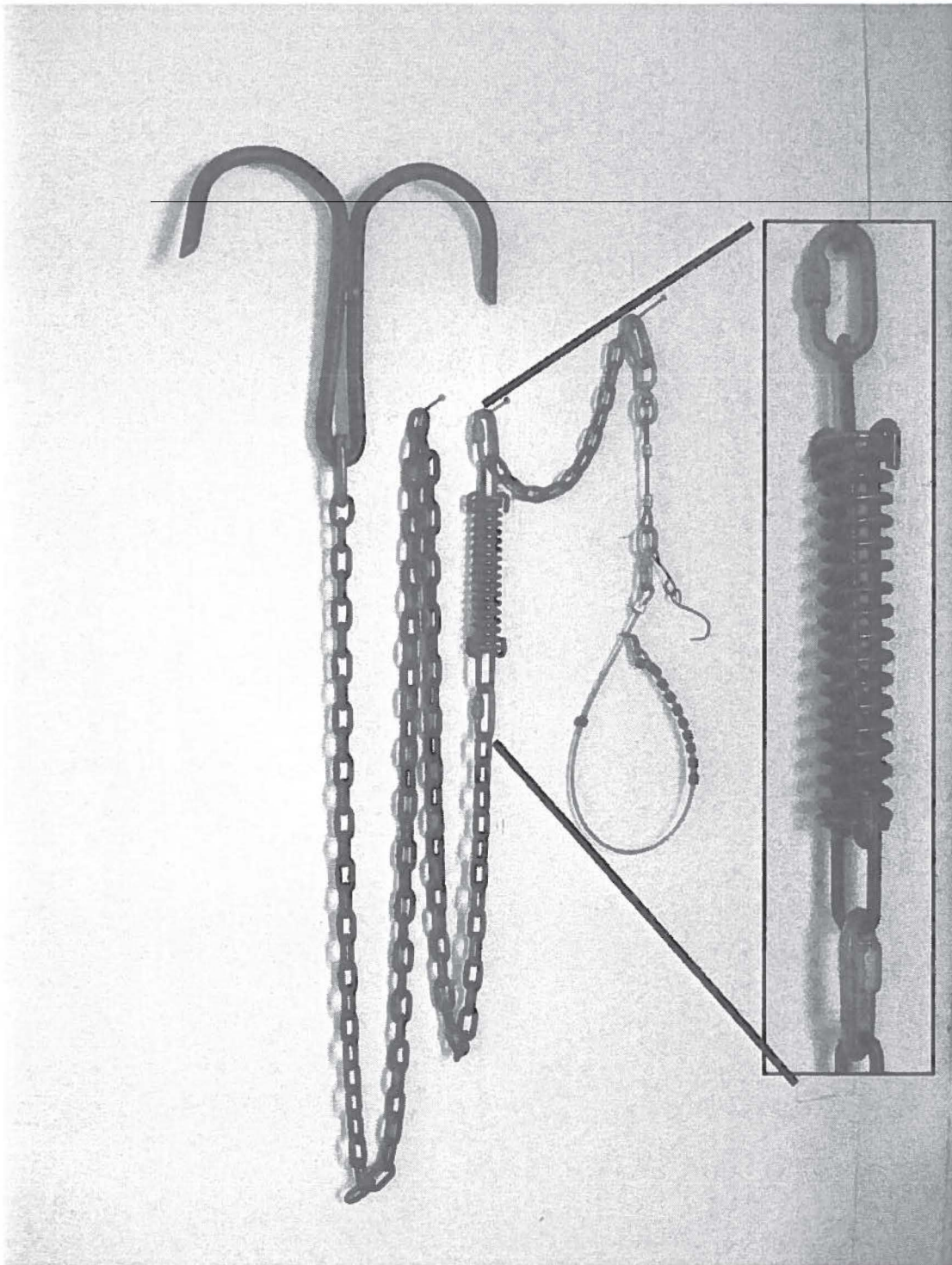


Fig. 4. Components of the restraining mechanism include the rubber-padded snare attached to 30 cm of chain followed by the Mikin SA03 shock absorber (insert). The length of chain between the shock absorber and drag depends on the density of surrounding vegetation (3.0-m chain shown here).

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trapping area; the longer the chain, the faster the animal is likely to get tangled.

The last component of the restraining mechanism is a 35-cm long Mikin SA03 shock absorber (Fig. 4 insert). We fastened one end of the shock absorber to the 3-m chain and drag. We fastened the other end to 30-cm of chain and the snare (Fig. 4). The shock absorber is made of steel, has 18 coils, and has an external diameter of 3.66 cm. The design is closed at both ends to prevent bears from pulling it apart.

Installation

Installation of the RL04 trap requires 3 trees forming a tight triangle. Ideally, the pipe would fit snugly between 2 of the trees, and the back of the trap should have slight contact with the third tree (Fig. 5). When a perfect fit could not be located in the area, we selected a tighter triangle of trees and thinned the front trees to fit the pipe. We nailed 2 pieces of wood (A, Fig. 5) lateral to and 85 cm from the ground on either side of the 2 front trees. The pipe should fit between the trees with the T-incision facing up. Using 6.4-cm steel-plated roofing screws, we secured the pipe to each of the lateral pieces of wood and the 2 front trees. Next, we secured the pipe from above by nailing a third piece of wood (B, Fig. 5) diagonally between the 2 front trees. We attached the spring to another piece of wood with a tie-rop and nailed the wood behind the 2 front trees 1.10 m above the pipe. To protect the spring and trigger from curious bears, we nailed 2 pieces of wood (C, Fig. 5) across the 2 front trees above the pipe. A 20-cm space left between the trap and the lower piece of wood (D, Fig. 5) permitted the snare to slide freely until it was fully tightened. Lastly, we covered the back of the trap with vegetation to encourage bears to visit the front end of the pipe (Fig. 6). During trap installation, we placed bait bags (a mixture of sweet cookies, molasses, and honey in transparent 10-L bags each weighing approximately 1 kg) behind the mesh trigger and sprayed them with anise oil; sometimes, we placed an additional bait bag at the front of the trap (Fig. 6). We sprayed seal (*Phocidae* spp.) blood and oil onto trees during daily trap visits to attract bears to the sites.

We activated the trap by attaching the spring to the bent nail of the trigger (F, Fig. 1). Next, we hung the quick-link in the snare end of the shock absorber on a nail placed 34 cm above the pipe on the left side of the front-right tree (E, Fig. 5). This prevented the spring from having to lift the drag when tightening the snare. Lastly, we placed the snare inside the pipe with the rubber pieces squeezed into the long slits and connected

the snare to the trigger with a #14 non-galvanized steel rod pressed into a figure 8 (F, Fig. 1). Thus, when a bear pulls on the screen, the nail is released from the S-hook, activating the spring to tighten the snare around the bear's paw.

In both study areas, when possible, we selected dense black spruce stands so bears would get tangled in shady and humid areas with little human activity. All traps were checked daily.

Results

Between 2001 and 2005, we trapped 304 bears in the CLAWR and Conklin areas in rubber-padded snares using a variety of bucket-type trap designs and L-83 traps. Injuries included 1 bear killed by another bear while in a snare and 12 bears (4%) with surface cuts smaller than 1 cm located where the lock rubbed against the paw. Snares were attached to drags unless there were tall trees in the surrounding area. In such circumstances, the restraining mechanism was tied around a large tree, leaving just enough chain length to allow the shock-absorber to function properly. We did not measure the distances traveled by bears with drags, but we estimate the average distance to have been 10 m from the trap site. The longest distance any of the bears moved with the drags was approximately 20 m.

Bears were trapped in the CLAWR using the RL04 trap from 1–10 September 2004. Forty traps were set along a 40-km stretch of gravel road at approximately 1-km intervals, alternating between the east and west side of the road. This area was previously trapped with plastic bucket traps (Lemieux and Desrosiers 2001 unpublished) and L-83 traps (Jolicœur and Lemieux 1984 unpublished) in 2001 and 2002. Therefore, many of the bears in the area had been handled more than once. We trapped 11 bears, including 6 bears captured in previous years. Nine bears were captured using the RL04 trap, whereas 2 of the previously trapped bears were captured with the L-83 traps that were set after the RL04 traps had been ripped out from between the trees (Table 1). There were no capture-related injuries from either trap (i.e., cuts, broken teeth, etc.).

Trapping occurred in the Laurentide reserve from 20 May–5 June 2005 (session 1) and 17–23 June 2005 (session 2). During the first capture session 30 RL04 traps were set and 12 bears were captured; 2 were bears trapped the previous year with different trap designs, and 3 had been captured that spring. During the second capture session, we set 30 RL04 traps and captured 15 bears, 3 of which were bears captured that same year.

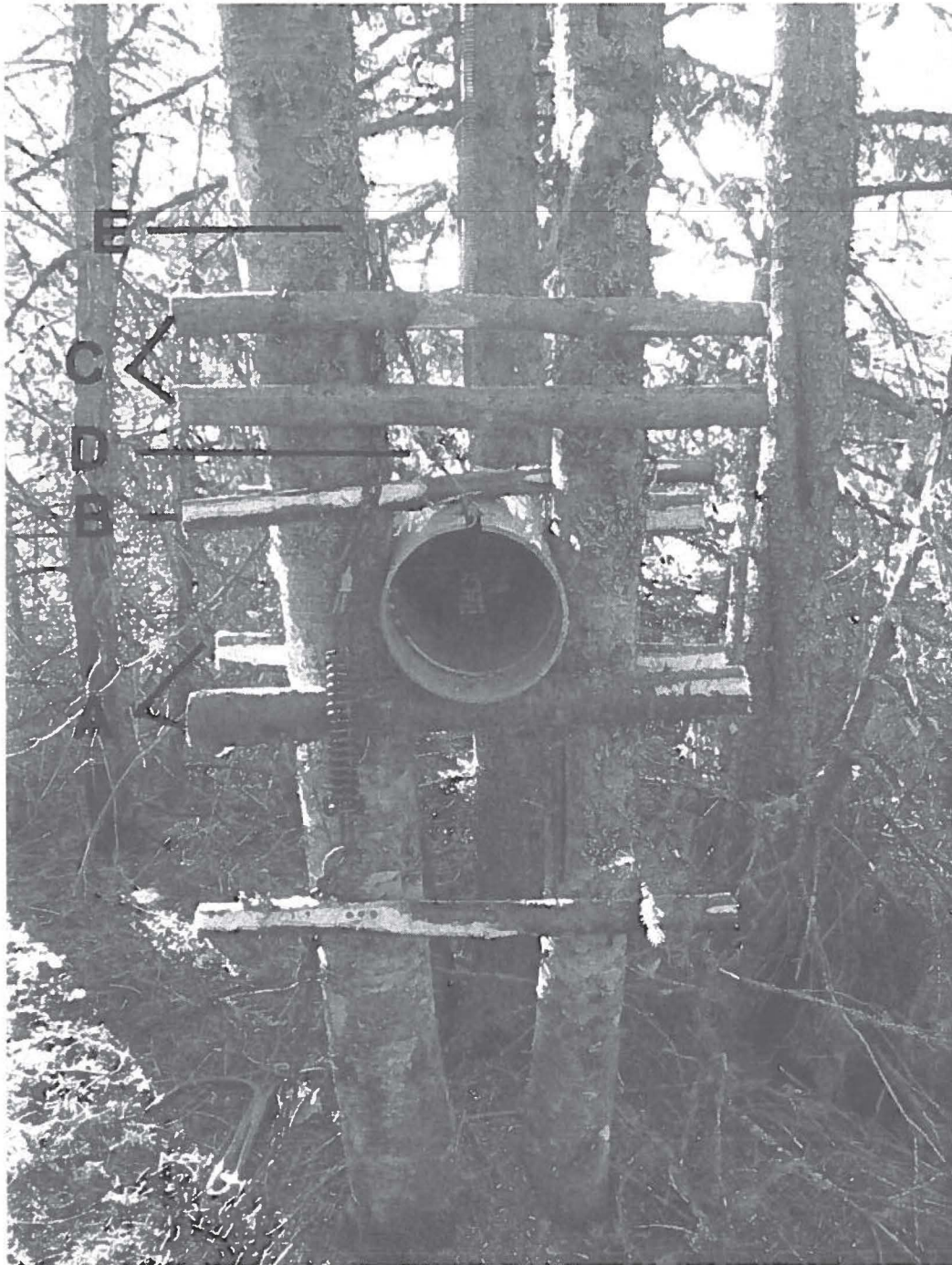


Fig. 5. Skeleton installation of the RL04 trap between 3 trees forming a triangle. The tube trap is set 85 cm from the ground on 2 pieces of wood (A), screwed in place using 4-cm steel-plated roofing screws, and further solidified with a diagonal piece of wood (B). Two lateral pieces of wood (C) were nailed above the trap to protect the trigger and spring, leaving a 20-cm gap to allow the snare to tighten (D). The quick link joining the snare to the chain hangs on a nail placed 34 cm above the pipe on the left side of the front-right tree (E) and prevents the spring from having to lift the drag when tightening the snare.



Fig. 6. Completed installation of the RL04 trap. Dense vegetation placed around the trap and additional bait bags placed near the trap opening directed bears to the front of the trap.

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Table 1. Age, sex, and weights of American black bears captured using the RL04 trap with rubber-padded snares in 3 trapping sessions in Quebec and Alberta, Canada, 2004–2005.

	Bears from all areas combined	
	Males (n)	Females (n)
Total captures	20	18
Total unique bears	14	17
Mean weight (kg)	78 (14)	62 (17)
Range of weights (kg)	29–140 (14)	40–100 (17)
Mean age (yrs)	6 (14)	8 (12)
Range of ages (yrs)	1–12 (14)	2–24 (12)

The only visible injury observed during either capture session was minimal swelling of restrained paws.

In 2 instances, bears ripped RL04 traps out from between the trees to extract the bait and avoided being captured. In both cases, we verified that these bears had previously been captured by capturing them the subsequent day using L-83 traps with a well camouflaged snare. None of the extracted RL04 traps had damage beyond claw marks, and all silicone plugs withstood the bear attacks. Due to the distance between the snare and the trigger and the speed of the spring, all captured bears had snares tightened proximal to the metacarpal pad of the front paw. Except for these 2 instances, every triggering event of an RL04 resulted in capture of a bear.

Discussion

We found the RL04 trap to be very successful in capturing bears. Several bears previously captured in bucket sets were recaptured with the RL04, possibly because of the lack of a lid and a better camouflaged snare; lids with cut out holes were used in previous plastic bucket sets in both study areas (Lemieux and Desrosiers 2001 unpublished). Similarly to the Reagan trap (Reagan et al. 2002), the RL04 prevented non-target species from triggering the traps due to either the height of the pipe in the tree (coyotes [*Canis latrans*], foxes [*Vulpes vulpes*], wolves [*C. lupus*]) or the resistance of the elastic on the mesh (squirrels [*Tamiasciurus hudsonicus*], martens [*Martes americana*]). Small mammals are unlikely to be able to trigger the trap because it requires a strong tug to be activated. If this were to occur, the distance between the trigger and the snare is likely long enough to prevent the capture of animals such as martens and fisher (*M. pennanti*). We did capture fishers around their waist with previous bucket designs; however, the rubber-padded snares prevented suffocation and all were successfully released.

Another problem encountered with bucket-type designs is the capture of cubs by the neck. We captured 4 cubs by the neck with previous bucket designs because they were able to trigger them with their head. In these cases, the rubber-padded snares prevented strangulation and we were able to release the animals. Initial triggers used in some of our bucket designs were very sensitive and were activated when they were pushed. The mesh trigger in the RL04 trap requires a significant amount of force to be activated and needs to be pulled, which is difficult for a bear to do with its teeth because of the mesh design (the trap will not be activated if the animal pushes on the mesh trigger). Bears are quite ingenious, and our sample sizes are relatively small, so we acknowledge that although we did not encounter such problems during our trapping sessions, they may occur and further modifications may be required. However, we believe that this trap design significantly reduces the likelihood of trapping cubs by the neck. Furthermore, the use of rubber-padded snares should prevent strangulation for cubs managing to trigger the trap with their teeth. Larger bears are not able to trigger the trap with their head due to the distance between the mesh trigger and the trap opening (43 cm).

The fact that only bears could disturb the trap significantly increased the number of trap-nights that sets were operational for and reduced the amount of bait needed. Other advantages of the RL04 trap are simple assembly, low cost because a commercial trap is not required for the trigger, and the elimination of hind-foot captures. Hind-limbs have a smaller range of motion than fore-limbs and could sustain more severe injuries if a bear fights to get free. Most importantly, the trigger is fast enough to tighten before the bear is able to retract its paw, yet gentle enough that a person can set off the trigger with a bare arm and not receive any bruising from the snare tightening.

We believe the use of rubber-padded snares was the most important innovation of the RL04. Snare-related injuries are best reduced by minimizing the time animals are restrained. However, bears trapped at night can spend many hours in a snare before being released and could benefit from any modification reducing the constriction and abrasiveness of the snare. The use of varying sizes of rubber pieces minimizes the surface area of the snare squeezing the paw of the bear and thus potentially reduces swelling. Only 4% of captured bears exhibited small 1-cm cuts due to contact with the lock of the snare (Fig. 3, insert). All injured bears were captured with the L-83, which has more powerful springs to tighten the snare than bucket sets and RL04 traps. We have no measurements comparing the swelling of paws with and without

padding on the snares; however, swelling appeared to be reduced compared to previous captures with bare-wire snares. In most cases, it was difficult to identify which foot had been restrained once the snare was removed. Having previously captured bears with non-padded snares, we found a substantial improvement in the condition of restrained paws in rubber-padded snares (minimal cuts and chaffing). Initially, we had concerns about charging bears slipping out of the snares. However, in over 350 captures with padded snares, this has never occurred. We encourage all researchers and wildlife officials involved in black bear captures to experiment with this design.

Bears are extremely powerful animals, and when captured, have the potential to injure not only the restrained area but to inflict serious damage to limbs and joints (broken bones, dislocations, pulled muscles, nerve damage). We used drags at all trap sites unless there was a danger of bears climbing tall trees because we believe they offer several advantages over fixed-point attachments. First, captured bears are able to travel away from the trap site, thus leaving the installation intact and significantly reducing time to reset the trap. Second, bears can retreat from the capture site which may reduce stress, particularly for animals trapped for the first time. In general, we found that bears restrained at the trap site caused more damage to the surrounding area than bears on drags. In fact, bears captured with drags were often found sleeping and only became destructive when discovered. Third, drags can dampen the strain on the limbs of a bear by acting as a shock-absorber when tangled in the vegetation. The Mikin SA03 shock absorber can act either in consort with the drag or provide most of the elasticity when an animal is tangled. However, we did not specifically measure stress levels and have no data comparing injury rates between bears restrained with drags versus solid anchors, so these comments are based only on personal observation. Lastly, when tying the restraining mechanism to a tree in areas with tall trees, the drag served as an additional safety restraint in case the bear were to fell the tree. Using only a fixed-point attachment was a concern in our boreal study areas where large diameter trees were rare. We acknowledge that the use of drags is a controversial issue and that many researchers prefer to use solid anchors as a safer alternative for capture crews, particularly where capturing grizzly bears (*U. arctos*) is a possibility. For this reason, we recommend that traps with drags be set in

areas with low human use and only by experienced field staff as more precautions are necessary during trap visits.

We found the RL04 trap easy to install. Two people can build and set the trap in approximately 20 minutes once an appropriate trap site is located, less time than we required to set up a ground snare and build a cubby for the bear to approach the trap from the appropriate angle. Although we developed this trap for American black bears, it could be modified for any sized bear by strengthening the snare components and by adjusting the diameter of the PVC tube and the distance between trigger mesh and snare. It would also be possible to use this trap with scented lures instead of bait. We did not test using lures only with this trap design but suggest placing small branches sprayed with lures behind the mesh trigger to create the illusion of bait; we have trapped several bears in other bucket trap designs using only anise oil and branches when bait was not available. It is important for traps to keep evolving so as to minimize potential injuries to bears and non-target species. We hope that these designs and some of the lessons we've learned may be of use to other researchers and that they will spawn further developments.

Acknowledgments

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Anchor modification for a foot-hold snare to capture American black bears

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Abstract: During 1995–2006 research projects in Florida and Kentucky, USA, we captured 191 (72 F:119 M) American black bears (*Ursus americanus*) 251 times using modified Aldrich spring-activated snares. In our modification, the swivel at the base of the foot loop was attached to 2 cables that ran in opposite directions and were anchored to trees. Shortening the free cable to only the foot loop limited the area in which the captured animal could move and provided more options for snare placement. This smaller area reduced the distance that a captured bear could run when attempting to charge or flee, which made immobilization easier. This modification also prevented the bear from climbing or reaching the anchor trees. Using this modification also increased available trap sites by allowing use of trees that would have been inadequate as a single anchor because of low branches, forked or leaning trunks, proximity to hazards, or small size. We believe this alternative anchor method is an improvement, particularly for snares set on trails, because they often require longer anchor cables to reach the desired location. This anchor method should work with any snare trigger and for any species that is trapped using an anchored foot snare.

Key words: Aldrich foot snare, American black bear, foot-hold snare, leg-hold snare, snare anchor, trap method, *Ursus americanus*

Ursus 20(1):47–49 (2009)

The most common methods of trapping wild bears are culvert traps and spring-activated foot-hold snares. Culvert traps are much more expensive and require road access or helicopters. Because of their

versatility, portability, and low price, snares have been used to capture a wide variety of large mammals, including American black bears (*Ursus americanus*; Johnson and Pelton 1980, LeCount 1986), grizzly bears (*U. arctos*; Jonkel 1993), cougars (*Puma concolor*; Logan et al. 1999), tigers (*Panthera tigris*; Goodrich et al. 2001), and lions (*P. leo*; Frank et al. 2003). Traditionally, these cable snares have been constructed with a foot loop connected to a single anchor cable, which is attached to either a drag (LeCount 1986, Brandenburg 1996, Logan et al. 1999, Lemieux and Czetwertynski 2006) or a manufactured-home auger anchor (Brandenburg 1996), but most often it is attached to a tree (Johnson and Pelton 1980, LeCount 1986, Jonkel 1993, Goodrich et al. 2001, Frank et al. 2003). Snares with a single anchor can be problematic for several reasons.

Standard, single anchor snares are usually either set to one side of a wildlife trail or require an excessively long anchor cable to reach the desired location. With the anchor-cable length added to the length of the foot loop, a captured animal could reach 3 to 5 m from the anchor. In those situations, long cables allow a trapped animal to exert extreme force on the cable when attempting to charge or flee, especially downhill, and increase the chances that the cable would become entangled with blocking or other shrubbery.

A trapped animal can cause problems when it can reach the snare's single anchor. If the fixed end of the cable is loose around the base of the anchor tree, bears could pull the anchor loop up the trunk, allowing the cable to become hung up on branch stumps or uncut branches. Often, trappers cut low branches off the anchor tree and trapped bears damaged or killed the anchor tree; such damage could be a source of conflict with certain property owners or where trees are commercially grown. In addition, a bear could dig up or unscrew a single manufactured-home auger anchor, allowing the bear to escape with the snare still attached.

To alleviate these problems, we modified Aldrich spring-activated snares by attaching a second anchor cable. We used these modified snares from 1995 to 2006 to capture 191 individual black bears (72 F, 119

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M) 251 times for several research projects in Florida and eastern Kentucky, USA. Weights of captured bears ranged from 9-kg cubs-of-the-year to 219-kg adults. Trapping areas ranged from open to dense understories, evergreen to deciduous overstories, and flat to steeply sloped terrain.

Our Aldrich spring-activated foot snares were standard except for the second anchor cable (Fig. 1). Aldrich springs, black bear-sized foot snares, and anchor cables were manufactured by Capture Techniques, Inc. (Calgary, Alberta, Canada) or Margo Supplies Ltd. (High River, Alberta, Canada). The 0.476 cm (3/16 inch) x 122 cm (48 inch) foot loop and 0.635 cm (1/4 inch) x 2.7 m (9 feet) anchor cables were made from galvanized airplane cable. Anchor cables came with a 0.794 cm (5/16 inch) swivel at one end and a choker loop at the other. All cable end loops were held with crimped ferrules, not u-bolt cable clamps. We connected the 2 anchor cables together with a 0.794 cm (5/16 inch) Quick-link, rated at 800 kg, purchased at a local hardware store for US \$2.99 (2009).

The foot loop was attached by the swivel to the main anchor cable. This cable was then wrapped around the base of a tree and threaded through its choker loop. The second cable was also threaded through its choker loop at the base of a tree opposite the first tree. Each swivel end was then brought together at the desired snare location and any excess cable was wrapped around one or both anchor trees until the cables were taut. Wrapped cable was attached to itself with 2 standard cable clamps set snugly against the trunk. The two anchor cables were then connected by a Quick-link (Fig. 1). Although taut, a captured animal can pull the anchor cable perpendicular to a line between the anchor trees (less than a meter), making the usual circle of movement a slight oval. Because of this inherent play we did not put shock absorbing springs on the cables (Johnson and Pelton 1980), but they could be attached if desired.

Trees of sufficient distance were selected as anchors to ensure that a bear could at most touch the trees, but not use them to pull against the cable; we used a minimum of 3.0 m between the Aldrich spring's throwing arm and any tree. We connected additional anchor cables in series when needed, but longer or shorter cables could be custom-made for added flexibility in selecting trap sites.

Our anchor modification has several advantages. By adjusting the lengths of the anchor cables, we could place the throwing arm and snare loop almost anywhere desired. Also, the animal's movement was

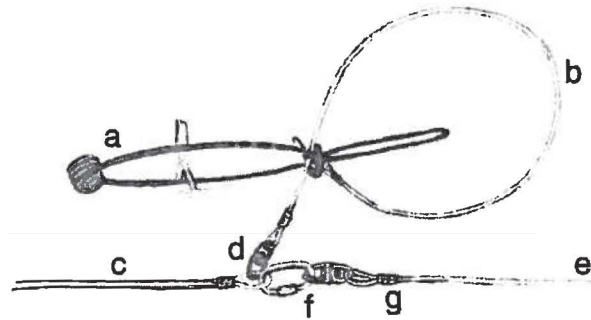


Fig. 1. Aldrich spring-activated snare (a) attached to 2 anchor cables instead of the usual single cable. The foot loop (b) is attached to the main anchor cable (c) by a swivel (d). The second anchor cable (e) has its own swivel, and is attached to the main cable with a Quick-link (f). All cable end loops were held with crimped ferrules (g).

limited to a small area not much larger than the radius of the foot loop's length instead of the usual foot loop plus anchor cable. No matter how far the snare is placed from the anchors, the only free cable is the foot loop because both ends of the anchor cables are fixed. The smaller area allows animals to be easily immobilized with any method, but safer and quicker for trappers using a pole syringe. A smaller area also means less area to clear. Clearing woody vegetation around the snare is a common and necessary practice to minimize injuries to trapped bears. It is easier for inexperienced trappers to judge the size of this smaller area so they can clear vegetation the proper distance from the trap. Reducing the distance that a charging or fleeing bear can run decreases the force exerted on the cable, especially downhill. This may reduce the number of bears that suffer limb injuries (Johnson and Pelton 1980) and minimize escapes when the cable has been frayed. One disadvantage to this modification is that a little more time is needed to set the snare because of the added cable.

Johnson and Pelton (1980) suggested no trees (other than the anchor tree) be within reach of the bear, but we believe the anchor tree itself can be a safety hazard. Bears often climb the anchor tree, so low branches are typically cut flush to the trunk. If the tree trunk is not properly cleared of limbs, bears can climb over a branch or catch the cable on a branch stump and get hung up. Longer anchor cables require cutting more branches, and inexperienced trappers can underestimate the proper height. Furthermore, bears might succeed in pulling a loosely attached anchor loop up the tree, allowing them to climb higher than

intended and possibly reach uncut branches. With this double anchor set, bears are between anchor trees but unable to reach either one, so no branches need to be cut. Forked, leaning, and smaller trees can be effectively used as anchors because the trees cannot be reached or climbed; this may increase the number of trap sites in some areas. Damage to trees is avoided completely because trapped bears are unable to reach the anchor tree.

Auger anchors for manufactured homes have been successfully used as a single anchor (Brandenburg 1996), but in Florida bears have dug up or unscrewed them (B. Scheick, personal observation). Because our double anchor modification prevents a captured bear from reaching either anchor, we believe auger anchors might work well; however, we did not use them during this study. Using an auger anchor and a tree or two auger anchors might open more areas to trapping.

Our modification has been successfully used to capture brown bears in Greece (J. Beecham, Craighead Beringia South, Kelly, Wyoming, USA, personal communication, 2008). We have recently used this modified anchor with passive snares (Reagan et al. 2002), and it should work with anchored foot snares using any triggers and for any species. We urge trappers to use a cable and foot loop of appropriate size and ensure the proper distance from obstacles for any species likely to be caught. Always approach the snare location carefully to safely determine the captured animal's reach, especially since this anchor makes that reach a little less predictable than the standard set.

We believe using 2 anchors eases immobilization and gives trappers more options. However, selecting safe trap sites and reducing the length of time that an animal is in a trap are important safety factors. Using this double anchor modification will not alleviate the risks to trapped animals associated with poor trap placement, exposure to the elements, or conflicts with other animals.

Acknowledgments

We thank E. Garrison for drafting Fig. 1. We also thank the many field technicians who have assisted

in setting snares with this method over many years and J. Beecham for trying this anchor modification on brown bears. Comments by J. Gore and T. O'Meara improved early drafts. Constructive comments by J. Beecham, C. McLaughlin, R. Harris, and an anonymous reviewer further improved this manuscript and were much appreciated.

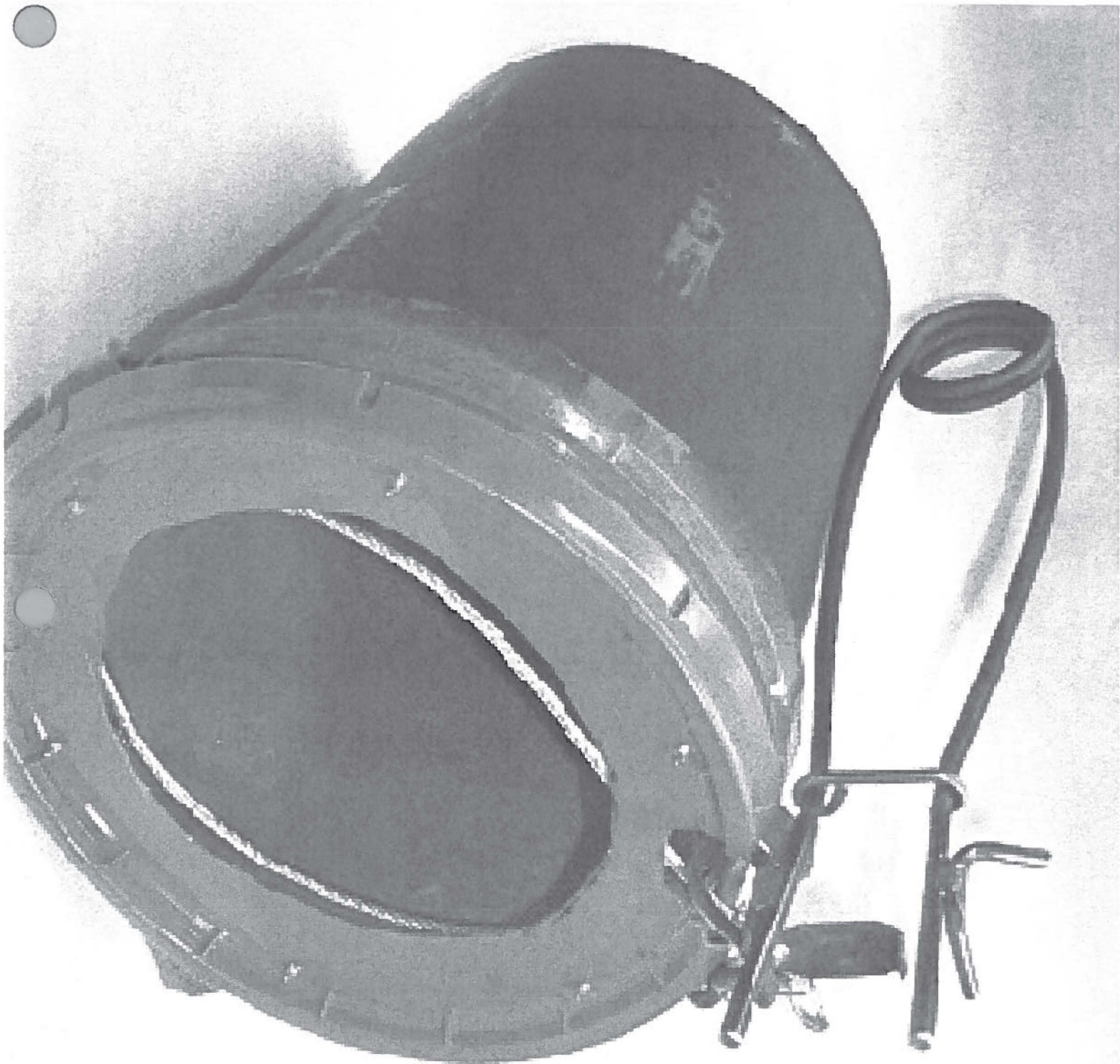
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Tok Cutoff/Nabesna Road Fish & Game Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes of February 13, 2012

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Members present: Ole Bates, Bill Albaugh, Thumper Williamson, Cole Ellis

Members absent: Ernie Charley, Jim Beeter, Wayne Shaffer

Attn: Scott
BOG Int.
AC Comments

Also present: Teresa Albaugh – Board of Game; Barbara Cellarius – NPS, Becky Schwanke – Glennallen Biologist, Frank Robinson – Glennallen Biologist, Torsten Benson – Tok Biologist, Jeff Gross – Tok Biologist, Matt Snyder – Tok Fish & Game Advisory Committee, and two from the general public.

Ole called the meeting to order.

The main purpose for the meeting was to clarify some confusion on Game proposals 186 and 187 which has to do with aligning the state and federal seasons more closely and make the hunt a joint registration between the state and feds. Torsten gave a lengthy presentation on what Fish and Game wants to accomplish.

After a discussion of the facts we came to a unanimous decision to pull our support of proposal 187 because we felt we had more facts to go by and support 186 as amended.

This hunt would be a joint state and fed registration hunt.

Season: Aug. 20 – Sept. 17 Resident

Aug. 24 – Sept. 17 Nonresident

Bag: One bull, spike-fork or 50" or 3 browtines - Resident
50" or 3 browtines - Nonresident

We felt that with the evidence that Torsten presented and taking into account the federal hunt that there was adequate opportunity for resident subsistence.

Barbara Cellarius asked the board for recommendations on tag distribution for a 7 caribou hunt in the Chisana area. We came up with a short reporting period and park service reporting checkpoints.

Ole called the meeting to a close and Bill seconded it.



HOMER FISH & GAME ADVISORY COMMITTEE Meeting Minutes of February 13, 2012

Members Present: Marv Peters(Chair), Tom Young, Michael Craig, Lee Martin, George Matz, Tabor Ashment, Gus Van Dyke, Thomas Hagberg, Skip Avril, Jim Meesis & Gary Sinnhuber.

Excused: Trina Fellows(Sec), Pete Wedin, Joey Allred Jr., Dave Lyon.

Public: Dave Boone

Proposal 253

Support as amended

Reauthorize Antlerless Moose season - 15C.

Amendment #1 Housekeeping - Regular hunt should be 50-inch or 4 brow tines (not spike-fork or 50-inch. 11 Favor 0 Abstain 0 Oppose

Amendment #2 Expand cow hunt area to all of 15C (to avoid property problems in too small an area. 10 Favor 1 Abstain 0 Oppose

Amendment #3 Raise number of permits to 100.
6 Favor 2 Abstain 3 Oppose

Meeting adjourned at 8:00PM

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*AAH: Scott
AC Comments
BOG Int.*



KOYUKUK RIVER FISH AND GAME ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Draft

Extended Stay Hotel, Fairbanks*

February 6, 2012

Establish a Quorum

Jack Reakoff of Wiseman, Wilmer Beetus of Hughes, Max Hanft of Bettles, Andy Simon Sr., Pollock Simon Sr., Stanley Ned, and Warner Bergman of Allakaket, Harding Sam and Eddie Bergman of Alatna, Shawn Huffman, Darrel Vent, and Jack Wholecheese of Huslia

Guests/Staff

Glenn Stout, Seth Wilson, David James and Nissa Pilcher (ADFG), Kenton Moos, Jeremy Havner, Myra Harris, Vince Mathews (FWS), Heidi Hatcher (UAF)

*This meeting was to take place in Hughes, but had been postponed 3 times over the winter due to weather. In an attempt to hold the meeting to present information to the AC prior to the February 17th BOG comment deadline, it was decided to hold the meeting in Fairbanks.

AC Comments and public comments-

Glenn gave a Hunting Summery Update of biological data.

Proposal 161

Action: Deferred

Split the moose drawing permit hunt in Unit 21D (DM817) into two drawing permit hunts.

Discussion: Little discussion-

Vote to defer: 11

Vote no: 1

Proposal 162

Action: Not Supported

Allow 10% of the Koyukuk CUA permit winners to use aircraft; allow guided permit winners to choose either boat or aircraft.

Discussion: While the KRAC understands the need to get the hunting pressure off of the river corridor, we noted the following objections:

- Our elders say that the larger bulls are typically in the hills, and not in the river corridor.
- No support for this proposal in our villages- the author did not run this by the village councils.
- Potential to kill off all of the breeding stock, target one spot, wipe out all those moose, then move to the next spot.
- The people out here have enough trouble getting food without competing with airplanes.
- Potential for higher user conflict and lawbreaking when you allow planes into an area where they are not allowed.
- Passing of this proposal could jeopardize the CUA and the success of the Koyukuk Moose Management Plan. The current Koyukuk CUA is working as a management tool to sustain the moose population, and reduce user conflicts.

Unanimously not supported



Proposal 163**Action: Support****Authorizes a predator control program in a small portion of Unit 24B.**

Glenn Stout gave a detailed slide presentation of the Upper Koyukuk Village Moose Management Area, (MMA). The presentation showed maps, biological data for moose and wolves, and tracking of the moose population outside of the MMA. Methods that will be used to reduce wolf numbers in the MMA were displayed.

Discussion:

- Some interest in addressing bears, but tabled quickly
- The AC feels that the IM plan is scientifically and biologically sound. The IM plan as amended is acceptable, and will help provide up to an additional 40 moose for the village population that needs them.
- A member noted that the McGrath plan similar to this has been successful. Local hunters there have said that it was very beneficial to the moose population. Allowing more local harvest of moose and it has cut down on the time needed in the field to have a successful hunt.

Proposal 164**Action: Not supported****Eliminate the restriction on aircraft in the Kanuti Controlled Use Area**

Discussion:

- This will be a further erosion of a CUA that is helping to maintain a stable moose population.
- The moose population is about half of the early 1990's.
- Similar reasoning of why proposal 161 was apposed.
- This would conflict with the proposed IM program for 24B (MMA).
- Subsistence users are NOT likely to benefit.
- The author is jumping ahead in time a lot for when the IM plan will work.
- The bull cow ratio would go in the toilet with all of the access in the Kanuti flats- large lakes for landing that the moose utilize.
- There are 2 airtaxi operations in Bettles and there are 2 airtaxi operations working from the Dalton highway. Both are very close proximity to the Kanuti CUA. There would be a large increase in hunters using privet aircraft also.
- The Kanuti CUA is working to its original intent; sustaining the moose population in an area that is vulnerable to high air access use, and reduced user conflicts.

Unanimously not supported

Proposal 165**Action: Not supported****Close all hunting for the Galena Mountain Caribou Herd in Unit 24**

Discussion: The AC noted that due to the information presented by the Department- that the Galena Mountain Caribou do not move into Unit 24, and that this could impact the ability to hunt the large Western Arctic Caribou herd in Unit 24. It was noted that the author does not understand the biologic range of the GMH.

Unanimously not supported

Proposal 167**Action: Support****Lengthen the wolf-hunting season for residents and nonresidents in Unit 21.**

Discussion: As amended by the Department-

- This AC has been opposed to late hunting and trapping- bad fur quality. Someone who wants to shoot an animal just to hang it on the wall isn't traditional. Culturally, this is not



what we would we normally do- to hunt an animal when the fur isn't prime. AC expressed concern that this proposal would throw out our culture and tradition- to show appreciation for a smart animal like the wolf to take them when their fur isn't prime.

- May hunting is during breakup. That means that the majority of people out hunting would be bear guides. While being in favor of a higher wolf take, also bothered by the fact that most local trappers are being hemmed in by the high cost of fuel and this proposal would mostly benefit the non-local hunters and guides.
- This has the possibility to help the moose population, and since the AC is asking the Board to approve an IM program close to this area, it was noted that perhaps we should approve this proposal as well

11 support

1 abstain

Proposal 168

Action: Support

Allow brown bears to be harvested with bait in Unit 21D

Discussion:

- Elders taught us that if you bait bears, then you will get bears in town- but maybe that will work in their area.
- Comes back to the moose population- kill more bears, get more moose.
- If the AC down there is saying this is warranted, then we should support them.
- Don't think that we would choose to do this in our area.

10 support

2 abstain

Proposal 169

Action: Not support

Extend the Lynx trapping season in Unit 21

Discussion:

- Current season ends the end of February- their coat gets bad due to during coat and mating season. Fur buyers drop the price way down after this date. Don't have to take what you don't need.
- Stick to our culture. Martin season ends the end of Feb, so that is when you pick up your traps. Besides, it is time to trap beaver that time of year.
- Nothing against the proponents of this proposal, but....In the hills where it stays colder, the fur stays good until April or so, but the majority of the proposed area isn't a higher elevation.

Support 3

Not support 9

Proposal 140

Action: Support

Reauthorize resident grizzly bear tag fee exemptions throughout Interior and Eastern Arctic Alaska

Discussion: little- noted housekeeping

Unanimous support

Proposal 141

Action: No Support

Implement black bear trapping regulations



AC is not in favor of shooting free ranging black bears and selling their skins. Long time ago they use to trap bears, it was the only way they got them.

- April or May and through the summer, we don't hunt them- skinny; Late summer they eat fish, we don't hunt them. September we hunt them- they are good, we eat them. We don't hunt the bear for nothing, we hunt it for subsistence uses, not for money. When we take a bear, we skin it and take the hide back into the woods and hang it, we don't keep it.
- By classifying as a furbearer, it denies the main reason for hunting this animal- eating. Classifying a black bear as *merely* as a furbearer is not right.
- Higher possibility to accidentally taking brown bears, or cubs. If you catch a sow, who is going to have the stomach to take out the cubs, or to have to deal with her dead and lactating skin is poor.

Unanimous opposed

Proposal 151

Action: Not Support

Review the conditions of the Controlled Use Areas in Region III and repeal those that no longer meet the original intent

- This AC has the Kanuti CUA and Koyukuk CUA in our area (noted Dalton Corridor is a management area, and not on the table)
- The Koyukuk River AC would like to refer to our statements on Proposal 164. We would like to reiterate that we oppose any changes to the CUA's in our area.
- The Kanuti, and Koyukuk CUA's on the Koyukuk River, are still meeting the original objectives, and we want no changes to them in existence or diminished size. The Koyukuk moose management plan relies on the CUA's to achieve sustained yield.

Unanimously oppose

Proposal 184

Action: No Support

Allow the use of crossbows in the Dalton Highway Corridor Management Area

This proposal does not delineate any species- author hints that it is geared to caribou, but this could be very bad for Dall sheep. The Committee discussed management concerns with the sheep harvest of rams. Bows and Crossbows have a greater chance of wounding the animal and having it run off. There would be a greater number of hunter participants for all game in the DHCMA.

Unanimous not supported

Proposal 179

Action: Support

Convert the general season nonresident sheep hunt to drawing hunt in the Dalton Highway Corridor area

Proposal to attempt to limit the number of guides operating in this area- there is a lot of hunting pressure in this area. Current increase in guided hunters in the past few years, in combination with large numbers of resident walk in hunters has greatly reduced full curl and 7/8 rams. The primarily 1 enforcement officer is overwhelmed. The Koyukuk River AC has biological concerns regarding the Dall ram population associated to the DHCMA.

Unanimous support

Proposal 206 & 218

Action: Support

Reauthorize the antlerless moose hunting season in Unit 20A

&

Reauthorize the antlerless moose hunting season in Unit 20B



- If these hunts are not supported, then the hunters that are not filling their freezers in 20A and 20B, then they are going to go somewhere else, and we don't want it deflected to our area.
- The biology vastly supports the cow hunts in these areas. The moose population will crash dramatically during the next 4-foot snow year, like south central Alaska is experiencing in 2011-12. The habitat in GMU's 20A and 20B needs to have more moose harvest to reduce over utilization.

Unanimous Support

Kenton Moos gave an update on the Koyukuk NWR. March 1-5 no cow hunt due to biological concerns- cow numbers dropping. Leaning toward a mid-April bull hunt on Federal Land, but seeking additional information before approval. Only two hunts on our books- a March antlerless hunt, or an April hunt. Can not have an antlerless hunt at a time when the cow numbers might be declining. Noted that at this time, there are caribou near Hughes and Huslia and he will continue to work with Janet at the Tribal Council on this issue.

Concern from Huslia about the ability to move around in April due to thaws, but it was pointed out that it is maybe an April hunt or nothing.

Vince Mathews passed out a Kanuti update letter, and a thank you letter for the summer season of hardship.

ACTION ITEM:

Jack Wholecheese noted concern with pike fishery- need to be able to block off the lakes in order to harvest more of them. They are taking over and eating all of the ducks, muskrats, and whitefish. The AC would like Jack Wholecheese, and Orville to pen the proposal and put it in, and the AC will go over it in the fall.

ACTION ITEM:

First pulse fishing- Jack Reakoff noted that smaller mesh sizes, and pulse protection helped this year- noted that there were a lot more larger fish on the spawning beds. The AC expressed interest in penning a letter to the BOF expressing the desire to continue with the pulse protection. Committee was in agreement. Delaying summer chum openings for directed openings- if they could push the openings back, it would allow more kings to go up the river. The bycatch that happens in the open ocean is not something that the BOF can do anything about- that is the NPFMC

Hughes election- Committee welcomed Wilmer Beetus as Marcus Ambros' replacement;

BOG nomination- Stanley Ned; Darrel Vent is the alternate to attend the Board meeting in Fairbanks at the March meeting.



Mat Valley Fish & Game Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of October 26, 2011

MTA Building in Palmer

Meeting Called to order at 7:05 by Vice Chair Dan Montgomery

*Att: Scott BOG
Statewide AC
Comments*

Members present: Mark Chryson, Erik Beckman, Andy Couch, Max Sager, Tony Jones, Dan Montgomery, Ben Allen, Brian Campbell, Gerrit Dykstra, Bennet Durgeloh

Members Absent Excused: Bill Folsom, Mel Grove, Guiseepe Rossi, Keith Westfall, Kathy Thompson

ADF&G staff - Tim Pellitier

Representative Mark Neuman -- announced meeting concerning Mat-Su Valley Fisheries with ADF&G at 5p.m. - 9 p.m. at the Legislative Information Office on Nov. 1.

(The meeting minutes from October 19th (Prop 40 - 50) are included in these minutes to keep BOG Statewide discussions together).

Proposal 40 Opposed 0-7-2.

Proposal 41 It is our intent that requirements for these permits be tightened. According to local ADF&G biologist most permits he knows about are issued for harvest of either moose or caribou out of season -- some for use out of state. Permits may be turning into something besides use for educational purposes -- perhaps simply used as a means to expand certain groups harvest opportunities. Many AC members feel there are already enough opportunities to harvest moose or caribou without providing additional harvest permits with little guidelines.
Support 9-0-0.

Proposal 43 Opposed 0-9-0.

Proposal 44 Allow ADF&G discretionary authority for Governor's hunt permits.
Support 9-0-0.

Proposal 46 would allow personal sale of game trophies.
Support 9-0-0.

Proposal 47 Allow for the sale of trophies.
Failed 4 - 3 - 2.

Proposal 48 would create special regulations for park service lands -- members felt that such additional regulations were not needed.
Opposed 0-9-0.

Proposal 49 AC would like to see current regulations upheld.
Opposed 0-9-0.

Proposal 50. Discretionary hunt conditions applied by ADF&G can discriminate against individuals and certainly allocate state resources to certain user groups with very little input from

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Mat Valley Fish & Game Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of October 26, 2011

the public. Move to table to time certain -- for last meeting in November (30th). Support to Table 7-2-0.

Andy Couch mentioned that many of the proposed permit hunt provisions may be seen both positively and negatively by the same individuals depending upon how they were used by ADF&G. Bill Folsom said the AC could provide comment for support and opposition to each point.

Minutes from October 26th - going through game proposals 51 - 109

Proposal 51 would require hunters to report degrees and minutes of latitude and longitude for some permit hunts. AC and public was opposed to making this a requirement. One member said in area where many animals were killed in one area would only make a larger mess if animals taken by other hunters in the vicinity might be confused with whose were whose. Opposed 0-11-0.

52 would make discretionary authority for ADF&G to require locking tags on antlers of specific hunts. One AC member mentioned he was opposed to requiring trophy destruction in any hunts. Mark asked if nonresidents already had such a requirement -- ADF&G response yes. Support 7-4-0.

53. Would require standards for crossbow submitted by ADF&G. One member mentioned he was opposed to standard E which would not allow scopes or electrical sights with a crossbow. Members thought it was wrong to not have the good aiming devices which could allow better and cleaner kills. Motion was amended to eliminate option E. Amendment passed 10 - 1 -0. Motion Support as amended 11-0-0.

54. Would allow use of crossbows and would further expand the definition of a bow for all archery hunts. AC members felt this made archery hunts considerably more efficient. Opposed 1 - 10 -0.

55. N/A see proposal 53.

56, Would allow use of crossbow in archery hunts by disabled hunters. ADF&G opposed. There is already a permit process that allows such use. Motion Opposed 2-6-3.

57 and 58 would allow mechanical broadheads for all big game. Tony Jones mentioned that mechanical broadheads at one time had considerable more failure, but newer ones are more accurate and work better -- he mentioned his support for these proposals. ADF&G position do not adopt -- as that had been their position in the past. Some animals these are currently legal method of take. One member expressed his wanting to have efficient and clean kills. Tony mentioned that hunters can currently use mechanical broadheads or field points when becoming certified to hunt already. Support proposals 57 and 58 9-0-2.



Mat Valley Fish & Game Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of October 26, 2011

59. Would require lighted knocks for archery hunters hunting moose and bear.
Opposed 0-11-0.

60 & 61 would redefine legal bows on a more restrictive basis.
Opposed 0- 11-0.

62. Proposal poorly written -- meaning unclear. Opposed 0-11-0.

63. Would allow hunters to apply for 6 rather than 3 drawing permits for each species. One member felt this would increase his chances of drawing a permit in the areas he wanted to hunt. Another member felt that if all hunters applied to 6 opportunities chances would remain the same -- but ADF&G might get more money to manage game. One member wondered why some people get multiple permits for different species of game -- while other hunters don't get any permits for any species. Dan Montgomery stated that ADF&G already has liberal opportunities for drawing. Andy Couch mentioned if the number of applicants increased for all hunts then an individuals chance of getting drawn for any specific hunt would only decrease. A member mentioned that in other states drawing fees return to those not drawn.
Opposed 2- 8 - 1.

64. Would allow hunters to win only two drawing hunts in one year but rank which permits they would prefer if two they were chosen for more than two opportunities. More specific than 65.
Support 9-0-2.

65. N/A see 64.

66, 67, 68 would allow a maximum of 10 percent of drawing permits to out of state hunters in all drawing hunts. Bennett's concern was that in area's where Alaskans may not want all the permits he would prefer that nonresidents not be restricted to only up to 10% of the permits. Erik Beckman mentioned that nonresident draws in some of the western states are much more restrictive than Alaska as far as allowing nonresident opportunity in drawings when residents want that opportunity. Bennett felt proposal was too broad for him to support. Mark Chryson made the point that in open to hunt non-drawing areas all nonresidents could still hunt.
Opposed 4-6-1.

Proposal 69 would establish a bonus point / preference system for obtaining permits. Andy Couch spoke in favor of a concept the AC has supported in the past.-- Stephen Bartelli wondered if such a system would increase attempts by anti - hunters to win permits. Dan Montgomery spoke in support -- ADF&G could farm out the project to someone with more computer smarts if ADF&G staff are not smart enough to figure it out.
Support 10-0-1.

Proposal 70 would all nonresident military to defer a drawing permit. ADF&G did not know if there was a method for deferring -- some AC members did not want additional permits not awarded -- but in fact a use of all permits by specific individuals.



Mat Valley Fish & Game Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of October 26, 2011

Support. 10-0-1.

71. would allow residents a one week early season priority over nonresidents in all intensive management areas. pros and cons were discussed. Some residents would want to hunt earlier and some would want to hunt later.

Support 6-5-0.

72, 73, 74. would require seasons for residents to open one week prior to specific hunt opportunities for nonresidents. Some AC members wanted to see this advantage. Others felt in some areas with abundance of game this was not an issue. According to Dan these are blanket proposals that do not consider specific opportunities.

Opposed 5-5-1.

75. Would open a youth hunt for all big game 10 days early.

Opposed 0-11-0.

76. Would open early youth hunts statewide for all game species.

Opposed 0-11-0.

77. Opposed 0-10-1.

78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85 Would allow resident sheep hunting in advance of the nonresident season. Support 6-4-1.

86. Opposed 0-11-0.

87. Opposed 0-11-0.

88. Converting all nonresidents to a draw would make business much

Opposed 0-11-0.

89. Opposed 0-11-0.

90. Opposed 0-11-0.

91. This would give some nonresidents a nonresident priority.

Opposed 1-10-0.

92. Opposed 0-11-0.

93. Opposed 0-11-0.

94. Opposed 0-11-0.

95. Support 9-0-2.



Mat Valley Fish & Game Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of October 26, 2011

96. Would allow use of archery hunting in areas where shotguns are allowed.
Support 11-0-0.

97. Opposed. 0-11-0.

98. Opposed 0-11-0.

99. Oppose 0-11-0.

100. Support 10-0-1.

101. Support 11-0-0.

102. Amendment to exclude the use of goats, sheep, llama, and alpacas only from sheep or goat hunting. proposal amended by author of proposal Amendment passed 11-0-0.
Amended proposal Supported 11-0-0.

103. Support 10-1-0.

104. Would prohibit the use of deer or elk urine for taking game. One AC member argued in favor of continued use. Chronic wasting has been experimentally introduced into moose.
Support 10-1-0.

Andy Couch is planning to miss the Nov. 2 meeting to coach a volleyball team -- Ben Allen or another member will need to take minutes -- come prepared.

NEXT MEETING NOV. 2 at downstairs Palmer MTA Building location

Meeting adjourned at 10 p.m.



Matanuska Valley Fish & Game Advisory Committee Minutes of November 9, 2011

Meeting began at 7:00 pm at the Matanuska Telephone Association Building in Palmer.

Members Present:

Ben Allen, Andy Couch, Bill Folsom, Mel Groves, Dan Montgomery, Bennett Durgeloh, Eric Beckman, Brian Campbell, Tony Jones, Jr. Member Daniel Warta

Members absent: Stephen Bartelli, Max Sager, Kathy Thompson, Jeff Tuttle, Keith Westfall, Gerrit Dykstra, Giuseppe Rossi, Mark Chryson

Tim Peltier and Lem Butler with ADF&G, Rod Arno - Alaska Outdoor Council, and Jennifer Ehmann.

Agenda motion to accept: Accepted with no objection.

Motion was made by Ben Allen with second by Dan Montgomery to accept all proposals on the agenda.

Board of Fisheries Proposals – PWS area

Proposal 51 Would reconsider the Copper River district subsistence fishery considering the phrase, "subsistence way of life." The AC supports the concept of all Alaskans should have an opportunity to participate in subsistence fisheries. Motion failed -- 0-8-0 with 1 junior member also in support.

Proposal 54 and 55 would return the Chitna dipnet fishery to a subsistence fishery -- same as the fishery upstream in the Glenallen area and the fishery down stream in the Copper River District. We would like to see all Alaskans have easy access to a subsistence fishery along the river. Subsistence priority applies to all Alaskans regardless of where they live. Motion passed 8-0-0 with 1 junior member also in favor.

Proposal 56 by ADF&G would create more restrictive regulations on the Chitna location of the Copper River dipnet fishery. The AC believes regulations should be consistent for subsistence users in the Glenallen, Chitna, and Copper River Districts. Motion failed 0-7-1 with 1 junior member also opposed.

Proposal 57- 67 -- No Action -- see 68.

Proposal 68 Seeks to reduce harvest of lake trout during the spawning season by providing a spawning time closure along with further reducing by catch of lake trout by closing net fishing in specific areas and requiring that lake trout be released when caught in the subsistence net fishery. The Matanuska Valley AC opposed the recent creation of a lake net fishery, for fear there would not be enough fish to biologically support such a fishery without impacting the resource. The number of Advisory Committee and public proposals addressing this issue show the public's concern with the impacts of harvesting slow growing lake trout with nets. Motion passed unanimously 8 -0-0. Jr. member was also in favor.



Matanuska Valley Fish & Game Advisory Committee Minutes of November 9, 2011

69 - 71. No Action - see 68

Considering proposals 72, 73, 74, 75 -- the AC prefers consistent bag limits for all Alaskans up and down the river -- we prefer the designation as a subsistence fishery as to proposal 55. Motion passed Unanimously 8-0-0 with 1 junior member as in favor.

Proposal 114 and 115 would reduce the hatchery production of chum salmon in Prince William Sound. The AC would like to support production of wild fish over hatchery salmon -- these proposals only seek to apply a past promised reduction. Motion passed 8-0-0 with 1 junior member also in support.

Proposal 116 would disallow home pack for commercial fishermen. Some members felt this would do little for reducing harvest or supporting conservation of fish. Other members felt that this might allow average Alaskans a better opportunity to harvest salmon. Motion passed 4-3-1.

Proposals 117 and 118. Motions passed 8-0-0 and with 1 jr member also in support.

Proposal 129 Would adjust the bag limit on lake trout to allow harvest of smaller fish so that the larger fish are not supporting all of the harvest. Motion passed 8-0-0 with one junior member also in favor.

1. No action see 129.

Andy Couch made a motion to support Proposal 138. 2nd by Ben Allen. Would reopen Tolsona Lake to burbot harvest. Motion passed 8-0-0 and 1 jr member in favor.

Break.

After Break considering GAME PROPOSALS – Statewide Cycle B

No Action on 105 and 106.

Proposal 107 would eliminate the statewide black bear limit -- so that larger harvests could be provided in areas that would support it. Motion passed 8-0-0 and 1 junior member in support.

Proposal 108 opposed 0-8-0 and 1 junior member opposed.

Proposal 109 is an effort for more consistent seasons and larger black bear limits statewide. Motion passed 5-2-1. Opposed felt there were areas of the state where No Closed season and a 3 bear limit would be to liberal.

Proposal 110 passed 5-0-3.

Proposal 111 ADF&G position do not adopt -- not necessary to regulation. Motion failed 0-8-0 with 1 junior member also in support.



Matanuska Valley Fish & Game Advisory Committee Minutes of November 9, 2011

Proposal 112 Would eliminate the requirement to leave evidence of sex attached. Motion failed 0-8-0 with 1 junior member also opposed.

Proposal 113 Would remove regulation that provides federal agents authority to enforce state game regulations. This could apply to endangered game species. One AC member felt he did not know what voting for or against the regulation would do -- so he was not comfortable voting on the issue. Motion passed 5-1-2 with 1 junior member abstaining.

Proposal 114 would allow same day airborne harvest of black bear within 1/4 mile of a bait station. ADF&G position do not adopt. Would be hard to distinguish between hunters possibly hunting other species same day. ADF&G would want to consider the issue on a area by area basis. One member felt there should be a specific area close to a bait station where same day airborne black bear hunting would be allowed. Motion passed 8-0-0 with 1 junior member also in support.

Proposal 115 Motion passed 5-1-2 with 1 junior member in support.

Proposal 116 would allow guides to have two personal black bear bait sites in addition to 10 guide site. Two ADF&G representatives at the meeting could not clarify what is currently legal because of the "murkiness of the baiting regulations." Motion passed 5 -1-2 with junior member abstaining.

Proposal 117 passed 5-0-3 with 1 junior member in support.

Proposal 118 Seeks to modify and clarify black bear baiting regulations. ADF&G has a position of amend and adopt. One member felt a guide would not be guiding if he dropped a hunter at a bait station he maintained so did not want to support. Motion passed 5-1-2 with 1 junior member in favor.

Board Comments -- Bennett announced he will be not running for election when his term expires.

Game proposal 50 to be heard at next meeting with Bill providing additional game proposal numbers for AC and public to review before the next meeting. Fishing proposal 43 also to be consider -- any person with request to consider additional proposals. Need assign member to attend BOF meeting for Copper River / Prince William Sound -- will also be on next week's agenda.

Next meeting will be Tuesday Nov. 15 7 p.m. at MTA Building.

Meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m.
Minutes recorded by Andy Couch



**Matanuska Valley Fish & Game Advisory Committee
Minutes of November 23, 2011**

Attn: Shannon
BOF PWS
AC comments

Members Present: Bill Folsom, Andy Couch, Bennett Durgeloh, Brian Campbell, Eric Beckman, Mark Chryson, Gerrit Dykstra, Tony Jones, Keith Westfall, Jeff Tuttle, Dan Campbell, Daniel Warta Jr. member, Stephen Warta former junior member talked about his junior term expiring as he turned 18 years old today.

Members Absent: Ben Allen, Stephen Bartelli - excused, Giuseppe Rossi, - excused Max Sager, Kathy Thompson - excused,

Motion to Accept agenda Mel Grove 2nd Dan Montgomery -- no objection

F 11-25-11

Motion to approve Nov. 10 minutes by Gerit Dykstra 2nd Dan Montgomery.

Changes were made to list Gerrit Dykstra on the list of those present -- evidently one of the other members listed as present was absent -- as our vote counts were off by one person. Mark Chryson also mentioned his absence was excused. Corrected minutes approved 11-0-0 and 1 junior in favor.

C-1 Rod Arno not present. ADF&G staff not present.

Andy Couch moved to accept proposals as listed on the Committee's agenda 2nd by Mel Grove - motion passed with no objection.

Fisheries Proposal 43 -- Mel Grove mentioned that the commercial restriction should be only for long line / bottom fished hooks -- and specifically should not restrict the commercial shrimp fishery. Mel mentioned that he rarely fishes within the sound on his sport halibut charters, because of low numbers of halibut available. Andy Couch mentioned that the proposal may be mainly aimed at restricting commercial halibut fishing within the entire sound -- which is not regulated by the state. Also the area that would be restricted is a very large area where a particular gear user would be cut out of the fishery entirely. Eric said that quite a bit of commercial effort could occur outside the sound -- but that he supported a regulation that would restrict commercial long lining within the sound that could harvest cod, rock fish, and halibut near shore -- an area where public anglers with smaller boats would primarily be fishing. Motion passed 9-2-0 1 junior member in favor.

Dec. 2 - 7 Representative to BOF -- Mel Groves agreed to go and was unanimously approved by AC Members to go to Valdez and represent the Committee at the Copper River / Upper Susitna River / Prince William Sound Board of Fisheries meeting.

The rest of the meeting the committee discussed game proposals.

Attn: Scott BO 6 AC comments - SW mty
p 2-5 (same text Reg)

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Matanuska Valley Fish & Game Advisory Committee
Minutes of November 23, 2011

Board of Game

Proposal 50 -- Tony suggested eliminating point 4, 6, 8 and 10. Eric suggested eliminating 3, 4, 6, 8, 10, 11, 13, 16, 18, 21, 24. Andy Couch mentioned not wanted to eliminate specific hunts simply because we do not like some of the possible permit restrictions. Dan Montgomery mentioned that he'd seen these discretionary conditions and procedures used -- but not all conditions for each hunt. Eric thought there was too much discretion for using the conditions or procedures. Mel wanted to go through conditions brought up by members point by point. Committee members agreed with a desire to see conditions and procedures kept to a minimum as much as possible, and also that such conditions and procedures be limited entirely to permit hunts and not general hunts. Bennett mentioned not liking the format of reviewing all permit hunt conditions at one times - without specific information. Motion failed 4 -7.

Proposal 119 seeks to structure bear baiting season to specific dates through out the state. Aaron Bloomquist mentioned that fall baiting seasons may not be allowed throughout all areas of the state, but that if they were approved they could follow the standard length requested in the proposal. Motion passed 11-0-0 and 1 junior member in favor.

Proposal 120 seeks to allow normal black bear bait hunting with only a black bear baiting permit in black bear predator control areas. This would allow a normal hunt under normal baiting permit conditions and also a predator control hunt under a control permit. Specifically only one permit would be needed to participate in one type of hunt -- this should provide some clarity and a reduction in paper work in what has been a confusing issue for hunters. Motion passed 10 - 1-0 and 1 junior member in favor.

Proposal 121. Just because lands are managed by the National ParkService does not mean that bear baiting should not be allowed. The Parks service manages lots of land where black bear baiting has minimal impact on other users. Several members mentioned the huge amounts of land managed by the Parks Service, and objections to closing such a large are to black bear baiting. Proposal addresses too large of an area. Motion failed 0-11-0 1 with 1 junior member opposed.

Proposal 122 and 123. Andy Couch mentioned that he did not see the effectiveness of floating along with bait in a boat -- by the time bears detected the bait the hunters would likely be floating further downstream and away from the bears. Motion failed 5-4-2.

Proposal 124 Motion failed 0-11-0 with 1 junior opposed See comments concerning amount and remoteness of lands managed by National Park Service in committee's comments on Proposal 121.

Proposal 125 and 126 The Committee wants to see Alaska lands managed consistently with most areas open to hunting and trapping. Motion failed 0-11-0 and 1 junior member opposed.

Proposal 127 would prohibit hunting or trapping black bear under a trapping license. One member questioned allowing black bear trapping or snaring under general provisions. Motion failed 0-11-0 and 1 junior member opposed.



Matanuska Valley Fish & Game Advisory Committee
Minutes of November 23, 2011

Proposal 128. One AC member as a representative of a trapping association was opposed to this proposal and thought it could give trappers a black eye and have negative repercussions. Trappers do not need to trap animals out of season for profit -- incidental illegal harvests should be turned into state. Motion failed 0-11-0 with 1 junior member opposed.

Proposal 129. Defines and clarifies ADF&G Commissioner's role in predator control. Motion passed 10 - 0-1 with 1 junior member in favor.

Proposal 130 Would allow predator control in order to reduce predation on declining musk ox population-- musk ox population has been going down continually and significantly in recent history. Motion passed 11 - 0 - 0 and 1 junior member in favor.

Proposal 131 Motion passed 10-0-1 with 1 junior member in favor.

Committee took a break to return by 8:30 p.m.

Proposal 132 Would apply more criteria to agenda change requests submitted to the Board of Game, and would more precisely specify when agenda changes could be accepted. Specifically agenda change requests would need to be submitted earlier, and allocation could not be the primary purpose to accept an agenda change request. Motion passed 10- 0 -1 and 1 junior in favor.

Proposal 133 would open resident season one week earlier than nonresident seasons in all intensive management areas of Region III. Some members felt the proposal was too broad covering too much area and too many species. This proposal could reduce some resident hunting opportunities. Motion failed 0-11-0 with 1 junior opposed.

Proposal 134 Dan Montgomery mentioned that nonresidents opportunity may already be less than 10 percent for most Region III permit hunts. Motion failed 0- 8-3 with 1 junior member in favor.

Proposal 135 Dan Montgomery mentioned that nonresident opportunity is already less than 10%. Motion failed 0-8-3 with 1 junior member opposed.

Proposal 136 would start all Region III sheep hunts 7 days earlier for residents than nonresidents. Andy Couch spoke that this would allow residents an opportunity to harvest -- in a situation where nonresident hunters already harvest sheep at a higher rate. Dan mentioned that this would provide a week longer hunting season. Andy mentioned that horn restrictions were the primary means of controlling sheep harvests rather than season length. Motion failed 5-4-2 with 1 junior opposed.

Proposal 137 -- Difficult language which could increase rather than reduce nonresident harvest. Poorly written -- would create difficult situations to manage. Motion failed 0-11-0 with 1 junior member opposed.



Matanuska Valley Fish & Game Advisory Committee
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Proposal 138 -- Do not agree with requiring all Dall sheep hunting in region by drawing permit. Motion failed 0-10-1 with 1 junior opposed.

Proposal 139 -- would limit sheep permits for nonresidents to 5%. Poorly written in some areas the nonresidents would be the only ones required to have a permit so how could they be limited to 5% of permits. Motion opposed 0-11-0 with 1 junior member opposed.

Proposal 140 -- Committee supports brown bear tag exemptions in areas with surplus brown bears to harvest -- and especially in areas where predation may be limiting ungulate production. Motion passed 11-0-0 with 1 junior in favor.

Proposal 141 Would provide an opportunity to trap black bears. One member felt nonresidents did not need to be provided an opportunity to trap black bears. Another member felt that having a resident companion only 16 year old in order for a nonresident to participate was not appropriate either. Another member supported providing a nonresident who met the requirements to participate.

Dan moved to *amend the motion to exclude nonresident participation.*

Amendment passed 7-3-1 with 1 junior opposed.

Motion passed as amended 7-2-2 with 1 junior abstaining.

Proposal 142 would prohibit black bear trapping in the interior. Committee is in favor of providing black bear trapping /snaring opportunity. Motion passed 11-0-0 with 1 junior in favor.

Proposal 143 and 144 Committee liked the idea of allow same day airborne hunting of black bear over bait. Motion passed 11-0-0 and 1 junior in favor.

Proposal 145 This would create an unneeded regulation. This proposal would cover even nonsubsistence areas. Where ANS are established or review for wolves we suggests minimal number levels that reflect the actual subsistence use. Motion failed 0-11-0 and 1 junior member opposed.

Proposal 146 One AC member trapper mentioned that he viewed this opportunity to deal with problem coyotes as a positive. Two trappers agreed that they did not necessarily want an opportunity to trap coyotes for hides in the middle of summer. It was mentioned that salvage requirement of hides should not be required if this regulation is enacted. One member mentioned opposition to summer hunting / trapping and preferred only harvesting coyotes at times when pelts were in better condition.

Motion to *amend proposal to not require salvage of coyote hides during the season currently closed to trapping* made by Jeff and 2nd by Tony Jones.

Amendment passed 10 - 1-0 with 1 junior member passed.

Amended motion passed 9-1-1 with 1 junior member in favor.

Proposal 245 -- AC approval of Unit 13 antlerless moose hunt. Mark Chryson wanted to know how many hunters were successful on a cow hunt. Dan mentioned that there has not been an antlerless hunt in Unit 13 for many years, but that in general success may be about 50% as some permit winner will not even hunt. It was mentioned that ADF&G had listed an opportunity for



Matanuska Valley Fish & Game Advisory Committee
Minutes of November 23, 2011

10 permits in the 2012 permit supplement -- so even though the permit condition listed in the regulation book would allow up to 200 permits, ADF&G would only be giving out 10 antlerless permits for Unit 13A. Committee supported allowing this limited antlerless moose hunting opportunity. Motion passed 9- 2- 0 1 junior member also in favor.

Board Comments --

Eric spoke to using common sense -- and felt that committee sometimes had gone beyond that measurement.

Tony Jones -- Happy Thanksgiving.

Bill Folsom announced Next Meeting Wednesday November 30 7 p.m. at MTA Building in Palmer. game proposals 147 - 207 to be on agenda. December meetings currently scheduled for Dec. 14 and 21.

Minutes taken by Andy Couch



**Matanuska Valley Fish and Game Advisory Committee Minutes Dec. 14, 2011
at Palmer MTA Building**

Meeting Called to order at 7 p.m. by Bill Folsom.

Members Present: Bill Folsom, Andy Couch, Brian Campbell, Eric Beckman, Mark Chryson, Gerrit Dykstra, Tony Jones, Keith Westfall, Dan Montgomery, Stephen Bartelli, Max Sager, Ben Allen, Daniel Warta, Jr Member

Members Absent: Giuseppe Rossi, - excused, Kathy Thompson , Bennett Durgeloh - excused, Jeff Tuttle, Mel Grove

ADF&G staff: Tim Peltier, Chris Brockman

Member of the Public present -- Peter Zalenski

Motion made to Accept the Agenda by Eric Beckman 2nd by Tony Jones
-- accepted with no objection.

Eric Beckman motion to approve minute 2nd by Tony Jones.

Game Proposal #78 - 85 Request for reconsideration at Dec. 21 meeting
-- will be part of agenda.

Motion to accept letter concerning 2012 management suggestions to ADF&G concerning Mat-Su Valley king stocks -- and specifically prioritized management of Little Susitna River king salmon to both obtain the escapement goal while also attempting to provide a longer season of opportunity through time and area restrictions along the river. Eric Beckman mentioned that there would still be a significant illegal harvest that occurs above the Parks Highway Bridge in the area closed to salmon fishing. Eric said he would conservatively estimate that at least 200 king salmon are either caught or even shot in this portion of the river. Eric also mentioned that the flood of 2006 had greatly disturbed spawning beds in the upper portion of the river, and that possibly something should be done to improve that habitat once again. Andy Couch agree with Eric that this is a poaching problem both on the portion of the river currently open to king salmon fishing and on the portion closed to all salmon fishing above the highway bridge. Such actions are already illegal -- and the letter the advisory committee is considering sending would only be encompassing emergency regulations that may be used next year to increase escapement and hopefully provided a longer legal fishery with limited harvest at the same time.
Motion support unanimously 12 -0-0 and 1 jr. member in favor.

Considering Game Proposals 192 - 255

Proposal 192 support 9-0-3 the Committee wants to support the changes proposed for 40 mile caribou.

Proposal 193 Take No Action -- see preferred proposal 192.

Proposal 194 would open a youth only caribou hunt on the Fortymile caribou herd before the general public could hunt. This is already a limited resource with limited harvest opportunity. The Committee did not support limiting harvest for the general public further -- which would likely be the result of an expanded opportunity for youth hunters. Motion opposed 0-10-1.

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*Attn: Scott BOG
Interior
AC Comments*

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**Matanuska Valley Fish and Game Advisory Committee Minutes Dec. 14, 2011
at Palmer MTA Building**

Proposal 195 -- Tabled until next meeting Dec 21, 2011 -- hoping to get information from AC member Mel Grove.

Proposal 196 would allow harvest of brown bears in Units 12 and 20E over bait. No position by ADF&G. Motion support 11-0-1 and 1 jr member in favor.

Proposal 197 would re-implement a grizzly bear control program in Unit 20E. AC supports predator management in order to provide moose objective numbers in specific areas.

Proposal 198 would open fox trapping earlier and extend it later in Units 12 and 20E. Committee members feel people would not be specifically harvesting fox at these times, however, an extended season would allow animals incidentally caught to be kept. Motion support 8-2-1. with 1 jr member in favor.

Proposal 199 Allow fox and lynx hunting through the entire month of April. Motion support 7 - 3 - 1 with 1 jr vote in favor. Opposed felt hide would be better quality before late April.

Proposal 200 Motion opposed 0-11-0 with 1 jr. member opposed.

Proposal 201 would reauthorize antlerless moose hunting in Unit 20D. Motion support unanimously 12-0-0 and 1 jr. member in favor.

Proposal 202 would allow same day airborne hunting of Delta bison. Members did not feel it was necessary to use same day airborne. The Committee felt if a higher harvest of Delta bison was wanted -- then more permits could be issued instead of changing the same day airborne regulation. Opposed 0-12-0 with 1 jr. member opposed

Proposal 203 Would restrict use of motor vehicles during the hunting season in a portion of Unit 20D. Opposed 0-12-0 with 1 jr. member also opposed.

Proposal 204 would change the population objective for moose in Unit 20A. Motion opposed 0-6-5. Abstained votes felt like they did not have enough information to make an informed decision.

Proposal 205 would allow the harvest of calf moose under an antlerless moose permit. Motion opposed 0-9-2 with 1 jr member opposed.

Proposal 206 would reauthorize antlerless moose hunt in Unit 20A . Motion support 12-0-0 and 1 jr member in favor.

Proposal 207 motion opposed 0-2-9 with 1 jr. member opposed.

Proposal 208 would create a new muzzleloader hunt for moose in Unit 20A. One AC member mentioned his belief that the moose population is already in decline in this area and more hunting pressure would not be beneficial. Motion opposed 0-12-0 with 1 jr member opposed.

Proposal 209 opposed 0-12-0 and 1 jr member opposed. Members did not see value of an additional regulation that might cause someone to inadvertently make a mistake.

Proposal 210 Motion support 12-0-0 with 1 jr. member in favor. This would allow more access with ATVs.

12085



**Matanuska Valley Fish and Game Advisory Committee Minutes Dec. 14, 2011
at Palmer MTA Building**

Proposal 211 Motion opposed 0-12-0 with 1 jr member opposed. Committee favors allowing motorized use.

Proposal 212 Motion opposed 0-12-0 with 1 jr member opposed. Committee favors allowing motorized use.

Proposal 213 Motion support 11-1-0 with jr member opposed. Most members supported allowing motorized use. One member voiced opposition, because this is an area where plenty of effort already exists and the area provides a valuable resource for people hunting without motor vehicles.

Proposal 214 would create an any ram drawing hunt. Motion failed 4 -3 - 4 . some liked the ability to harvest any ram. One mentioned a preference for hunting larger rams. The committee vote does not reflect a majority of those present, so that is why the motion failed.

Proposal 215 Motion opposed 0-12-0 with 1 jr. member opposed. Committee was opposed to providing a community harvest hunt -- especially considering that as written the hunt might only be available to people who lived in a specific village location.

Committee took a break at 8:30 p.m.

Proposal 216 would allow moose hunting on the Minto Flats Management Area to all who wanted to participate -- with an unlimited number of antlerless permits. Motion support 10--0-2 with 1 jr member in favor. Members liked the fact that all Alaska residents would be allowed to participate in the hunt if they so desired.

Proposal 217 Motion opposed 0-12-0 with 1 jr member opposed. The Committee favored allowing other hunters to participate in harvest within this area as well. Committee members were opposed to permits which may only allow some people / households to participate.

Proposal 218 Motion support 12-0-0 with 1 jr member in favor.
Committee supports antlerless moose hunting opportunities.

Proposal 219 Motion support 10-0-2 with 1 jr member in favor.

Proposal 220 Motion opposed 1 - 6 - 5 with 1 jr. member opposed.

Proposal 221 Motion support 11-0-1 with 1 jr member in favor.

Proposal 222 Motion support 9-0-2 with 1 jr member in favor.

Proposal 223 Motion support 8-0-3 with 1 jr member in favor.

Proposal 224 Would scheduled a review of the Fairbanks Management Area boundary. Motion support 11-0-1 and 1 jr member in favor. Our committee members support the efforts of people in the local Fairbanks area reviewing this area.

Proposal 225 Motion support 12-0-0 with 1 jr member in favor.

1385



**Matanuska Valley Fish and Game Advisory Committee Minutes Dec. 14, 2011
at Palmer MTA Building**

Proposal 226 Motion opposed 0-11-1 with 1 jr member opposed. One member mentioned not wanting to have more competition from nonresidents to the local Alaskans hunting this area.

Proposals 227, 228, 229 and 230. Would allow intensive management of wolves and brown bear in Unit 20C -- where moose population and harvests seem to be below objective levels. Allowing snaring and /or hunting over bait may allow people to deal with problem bears in an efficient manner. One member supported the concept of hunting brown bears with bait for both residents and nonresidents in this area. Motion support 12-0-0 with 1 jr member in support.

Proposal 231 would allow black bear trapping in a portion of Unit 20C. Motion support 12-0-0 with 1 jr member in support.

Proposal 232 would allow harvest of brown bear on a black bear baiting site in Unit 20 C with salvage of meat and hide required. Motion to Amend by Dan Montgomery *to eliminate requirement for meat salvage of brown bear*. 2nd by Tony. Amendment support 12-0-0 with 1 jr member in favor. Brown bear meat salvage is not required elsewhere in Alaska - so Committee members believed further restrictions was not needed. Support as Amended 12-0-0 with 1 jr member in favor.

Proposal 233 would create a new controlled use area. Motion opposed 0-12-0 with 1 jr member opposed.

Proposal 234 would require salvage of moose meat on the bone in Unit 25C. AC members felt that all hunters should take the necessary steps to care for their meat -- but that such a requirement as in this proposal was not needed. Motion opposed 0-12-0 with 1 jr member opposed.

Proposal 235 which would increase black bear limit to 5. Motion support 12-0-0 with 1 jr member in favor.

***Proposal 179 was taken off the table for input by ADF&G. from 2007 - 2011 27 nonresidents took 8 sheep in the area. Committee members felt there was little effort by hunters -- area is open to bow hunting only. Little need for hunt to go to drawing opportunity. Motion opposed 0- 12-0 with 1 jr member opposed.

Proposal 236 would allow harvest of grizzly bear over black bear bait stations on a one every 4 years basis. Dan amended proposal to be *one brown bear limit per year* 2nd by Tony. Amendment support 12-0-0 with 1 jr member in favor. Support as amended 12-0-0 with 1 jr member in favor.

Proposal 237. proposal Support 12-0-0 with 1 jr member in favor.

Member Comments: Game proposals 78 -85 to be reconsidered at Dec. 21 meeting Request to reconsider made by Andy Couch 2nd by Tony. Motion support 11-0-1 with 1 jr. member in favor.

Stephen Bartelli requested that the Fairbanks letter concerning sel- reporting of moose violations and legislated punishments be consider part of the agenda for the Dec 21 meeting.

Ben Allen mentioned he would be unable to attend the Dec. 21 AC meeting.

Proposal 195 was tabled earlier this meeting to be added on next meeting 's agenda.

1485



**Matanuska Valley Fish and Game Advisory Committee Minutes Dec. 14, 2011
at Palmer MTA Building**

Proposals 238 - end of Game book also on agenda.

Next meeting Dec 21 7 p.m. at MTA Building in Palmer.

Meeting adjourned at 9:35.

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**Matanuska Valley Fish and Game Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes of December 21, 2011**

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Meeting Called to order at MTA building in Palmer at 7 p.m. by Bill Folsom.

Members Present: Bill Folsom, Andy Couch, Brian Campbell, Eric Beckman, Mark Chryson, Gerrit Dykstra, Keith Westfall, Dan Montgomery, Stephen Bartelli

Members Absent: Giuseppe Rossi, - excused, Kathy Thompson, Bennett Durgeloh - excused, Jeff Tuttle, Mel Grove, Tony Jones - excused, Max Sager, Ben Allen- excused, , Daniel Warta, Jr Member

ADF&G staff: Tim Peltier,

Member of the Public present -- Peter Zalenski, Israel Payton

Attn: Scott BOG
SW-p 2
Int p 2-3

Motion to approve agenda and 2nd. Andy mentioned he wanted to talk to the committee about the opportunity to submit game proposals, Approved with no objection.

Former-

Andy Couch made a motion to approve / support the position of the Fairbanks AC letter concerning self - reported illegal moose harvest. 2nd by Eric Beckman. Andy Couch mentioned that the Fairbanks AC letter position would allow self-reported hunters who killed an illegal moose to only be issued a violation -- with no fine and no restitution. Andy said he would like to see a stipulation that the violation go away as well. Eric Beckman said in his research of illegal moose kills there was no provision for the state to take the hunter's animal. Eric also passed around a policy from Colorado where the state makes a determination and then may allow hunters to keep the accidentally taken illegal animal. Bill Folsom mentioned that he would like to see a change made, so that hunters would not leave illegal moose in the field for fear of being prosecuted -- even if they did the right thing and turned themselves in. Stephen Bartelli mentioned that he had heard of many people being prosecuted very severely for accidental illegal harvest. Brian said judging illegal moose is easier with brow tine moose or spike / fork moose, but more difficult with 50 inch moose. Dan mentioned that there would need to be some way to track the situation -- if not a fine, some other deal. Dan talked about a situation that happened to him while hunting where he had a video of an accidental kill. Cliff Judkins said he agreed with seeing some type situation where self-reported accidentally taken illegal animals could be dealt with in a softer fashion. Bill suggested going before the Game Board and seeing if they would support this effort.

Andy Couch, Dan Montgomery, and Eric Beckman, Stephen Bartelli, Bill Folsom will work on a Matanuska Valley letter on self - reported illegal moose kills stating our position of the issue.

Motion made to approve the minutes from Dec. 14 meeting by Mark Chryson 2nd by Stephen Bartelli. Approved with no objection.

Final Changes to the Committee's letter to ADF&G concerning emergency regulations for Northern Cook Inlet king salmon -- approved with one objection.



Matanuska Valley Fish and Game Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of December 21, 2011

Andy moved to reconsider sheep proposals #78-85 2nd by Brian Campbell Motion to reconsider approved 5 -4-0.

Dan mentioned that many hunting guides would be out competing with the public for any sheep earlier in the season. So resident non guides would gain very little opportunity to increase harvest. Dan also mentioned that many legal rams are not taken every year based on the fact that all rams become legal at the age of 8 years and many rams are not harvested until they are older than 8 years. Andy Couch mentioned that he believed guides would take advantage of an earlier opportunity to hunt themselves -- so others residents might not gain much from this proposal. Eric asked how many guides actually hunt for sheep themselves. Dan did not know, but mentioned some individual guides who had not harvested sheep, who would be hunting if they had an opportunity when they could not guide. Stephen mentioned that he understood the idea that more sheep may be legal. Israel Payton mentioned that he did not believe all guides would go sheep hunting and he saw no reason not to provide this extra opportunity for others. Mark Chryson mentioned being out in the field and having trouble with guides hunting other species.

Motion opposed 4-5-0.

Proposal 195 -- Andy mentioned that Mel Grove was not present to talk to the issue like the committee was hoping -- in addition he did not know much about the area -- so he would not be hunting in the area. Stephen Bartelli asked if the Board of Game could eliminate a proxy hunt. No reason the Board could not take such action according to Dan. Motion passed 8-0-1.

Proposal 238 --Intensive management for moose in Unit 9B. Motion supported 9-0-0.

239 - 254 Reauthorizing antlerless moose hunts. Andy mentioned that in Unit 14A an antlerless hunt running Jan. 1- Feb 25 would defeat the opportunity to hunt cows only during the winter -- as even the bulls would be antlerless and get harvested at that time. In addition for the late hunt he mentioned wanting to cut the area size down so that all the hunters would not be allowed hunt in the entire area -- and potentially over harvesting moose from a couple small areas.

Stephen Bartelli made an *amendment to remove the Jan. 1 - Feb 25 hunt in proposal 246.* 2nd by Dan. Amendment passed 7-2-0. Amended motion supported for all proposals 9-0-0. Note Committee had also previously approved #245

Committee took a brief break.

Proposal 255 Mark asked why this needed to happen. Tim said it allows hunters to harvest a brown bear without having to purchase an additional tag beforehand. Would reauthorize brown bear fee exemptions. Motion support 9-0-0.

Bill Folsom asked who would be willing to represent the Committee before the Board of Game in Anchorage. He said he would also send an e-mail out asking committee members who were not at this meeting if they would like to represent the committee.



Matanuska Valley Fish and Game Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of December 21, 2011

Cliff mentioned the Board would like to see specific comments from the AC about proposals instead of an AC report on up or down votes. Dan mentioned the AC member representing the committee should focus on some specific proposals rather than going for all of them.

Dan mentioned wanting to consider what the Committee wants to support for the next proposal process which has a deadline of April 15.

Andy Couch mentioned that the intensive management plan for Unit 15B on the Kenai Peninsula was based on one year of not achieving the moose harvest and bull to cow ratio objectives -- but in Unit 14B even though the Board had requested ADF&G develop an intensive management implementation plan several years ago.

Cliff mentioned the Committee might want to bring the issue up again. Bill mentioned working with ADF&G on the issue.

Bill Folsom mentioned a possible proposal to outlawing full metal jacket bullets for hunting big game.

Dan asked if the Committee would be supportive of a proposal to charge fees for big game harvest tickets.

Cliff said the Board of Game would be attending a meeting with the park service and requesting their attendance at the BOG meetings if they would like to participate in the Game regulatory process.

Andy talked about offering new moose proposals

Mark mentioned wanting to do something other than spike / fork / 50 moose -- and that in ranching a rancher doesn't go out and kill every prime breeding bull.

Committee Elections are scheduled for our next meeting: 7 p.m. at Wasilla High School Theater on January 4, 2012. Following Committee member elections will be elections of Committee officers.

Meeting adjourned at 9:35.



**Matanuska Valley Fish and Game Advisory Committee Minutes Dec. 14, 2011
at Palmer MTA Building**

Meeting Called to order at 7 p.m. by Bill Folsom.

Members Present: Bill Folsom, Andy Couch, Brian Campbell, Eric Beckman, Mark Chryson, Gerrit Dykstra, Tony Jones, Keith Westfall, Dan Montgomery, Stephen Bartelli, Max Sager, Ben Allen, Daniel Warta, Jr Member

Members Absent: Giuseppe Rossi, - excused, Kathy Thompson , Bennett Durgeloh - excused, Jeff Tuttle, Mel Grove

ADF&G staff: Tim Peltier, Chris Brockman

Member of the Public present -- Peter Zalenski

Motion made to Accept the Agenda by Eric Beckman 2nd by Tony Jones
-- accepted with no objection.

Eric Beckman motion to approve minute 2nd by Tony Jones.

Game Proposal #78 - 85 Request for reconsideration at Dec. 21 meeting
-- will be part of agenda.

Motion to accept letter concerning 2012 management suggestions to ADF&G concerning Mat-Su Valley king stocks -- and specifically prioritized management of Little Susitna River king salmon to both obtain the escapement goal while also attempting to provide a longer season of opportunity through time and area restrictions along the river. Eric Beckman mentioned that there would still be a significant illegal harvest that occurs above the Parks Highway Bridge in the area closed to salmon fishing. Eric said he would conservatively estimate that at least 200 king salmon are either caught or even shot in this portion of the river. Eric also mentioned that the flood of 2006 had greatly disturbed spawning beds in the upper portion of the river, and that possibly something should be done to improve that habitat once again. Andy Couch agree with Eric that this is a poaching problem both on the portion of the river currently open to king salmon fishing and on the portion closed to all salmon fishing above the highway bridge. Such actions are already illegal -- and the letter the advisory committee is considering sending would only be encompassing emergency regulations that may be used next year to increase escapement and hopefully provided a longer legal fishery with limited harvest at the same time.
Motion support unanimously 12 -0-0 and 1 jr. member in favor.

Considering Game Proposals 192 - 255

Proposal 192 support 9-0-3 the Committee wants to support the changes proposed for 40 mile caribou.

Proposal 193 Take No Action -- see preferred proposal 192.

Proposal 194 would open a youth only caribou hunt on the Fortymile caribou herd before the general public could hunt. This is already a limited resource with limited harvest opportunity. The Committee did not support limiting harvest for the general public further -- which would likely be the result of an expanded opportunity for youth hunters. Motion opposed 0-10-1.

RECEIVED

DEC 28 2011

**BOARDS
ANCHORAGE**

*Attn: Scott BOG
Interior
AC Comments*

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**Matanuska Valley Fish and Game Advisory Committee Minutes Dec. 14, 2011
at Palmer MTA Building**

Proposal 195 -- Tabled until next meeting Dec 21, 2011 -- hoping to get information from AC member Mel Grove.

Proposal 196 would allow harvest of brown bears in Units 12 and 20E over bait. No position by ADF&G. Motion support 11-0-1 and 1 jr member in favor.

Proposal 197 would re-implement a grizzly bear control program in Unit 20E. AC supports predator management in order to provide moose objective numbers in specific areas.

Proposal 198 would open fox trapping earlier and extend it later in Units 12 and 20E. Committee members feel people would not be specifically harvesting fox at these times, however, an extended season would allow animals incidentally caught to be kept. Motion support 8-2-1. with 1 jr member in favor.

Proposal 199 Allow fox and lynx hunting through the entire month of April. Motion support 7 - 3 - 1 with 1 jr vote in favor. Opposed felt hide would be better quality before late April.

Proposal 200 Motion opposed 0-11-0 with 1 jr. member opposed.

Proposal 201 would reauthorize antlerless moose hunting in Unit 20D. Motion support unanimously 12-0-0 and 1 jr. member in favor.

Proposal 202 would allow same day airborne hunting of Delta bison. Members did not feel it was necessary to use same day airborne. The Committee felt if a higher harvest of Delta bison was wanted -- then more permits could be issued instead of changing the same day airborne regulation. Opposed 0-12-0 with 1 jr. member opposed

Proposal 203 Would restrict use of motor vehicles during the hunting season in a portion of Unit 20D. Opposed 0-12-0 with 1 jr. member also opposed.

Proposal 204 would change the population objective for moose in Unit 20A. Motion opposed 0-6-5. Abstained votes felt like they did not have enough information to make an informed decision.

Proposal 205 would allow the harvest of calf moose under an antlerless moose permit. Motion opposed 0-9-2 with 1 jr member opposed.

Proposal 206 would reauthorize antlerless moose hunt in Unit 20A . Motion support 12-0-0 and 1 jr member in favor.

Proposal 207 motion opposed 0-2-9 with 1 jr. member opposed.

Proposal 208 would create a new muzzleloader hunt for moose in Unit 20A. One AC member mentioned his belief that the moose population is already in decline in this area and more hunting pressure would not be beneficial. Motion opposed 0-12-0 with 1 jr member opposed.

Proposal 209 opposed 0-12-0 and 1 jr member opposed. Members did not see value of an additional regulation that might cause someone to inadvertently make a mistake.

Proposal 210 Motion support 12-0-0 with 1 jr. member in favor. This would allow more access with ATVs.

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**Matanuska Valley Fish and Game Advisory Committee Minutes Dec. 14, 2011
at Palmer MTA Building**

Proposal 211 Motion opposed 0-12-0 with 1 jr member opposed. Committee favors allowing motorized use.

Proposal 212 Motion opposed 0-12-0 with 1 jr member opposed. Committee favors allowing motorized use.

Proposal 213 Motion support 11-1-0 with jr member opposed. Most members supported allowing motorized use. One member voiced opposition, because this is an area where plenty of effort already exists and the area provides a valuable resource for people hunting without motor vehicles.

Proposal 214 would create an any ram drawing hunt. Motion failed 4 -3 - 4 . some liked the ability to harvest any ram. One mentioned a preference for hunting larger rams. The committee vote does not reflect a majority of those present, so that is why the motion failed.

Proposal 215 Motion opposed 0-12-0 with 1 jr. member opposed. Committee was opposed to providing a community harvest hunt -- especially considering that as written the hunt might only be available to people who lived in a specific village location.

Committee took a break at 8:30 p.m.

Proposal 216 would allow moose hunting on the Minto Flats Management Area to all who wanted to participate -- with an unlimited number of antlerless permits. Motion support 10--0-2 with 1 jr member in favor. Members liked the fact that all Alaska residents would be allowed to participate in the hunt if they so desired.

Proposal 217 Motion opposed 0-12-0 with 1 jr member opposed. The Committee favored allowing other hunters to participate in harvest within this area as well. Committee members were opposed to permits which may only allow some people / households to participate.

Proposal 218 Motion support 12-0-0 with 1 jr member in favor.
Committee supports antlerless moose hunting opportunities.

Proposal 219 Motion support 10-0-2 with 1 jr member in favor.

Proposal 220 Motion opposed 1 - 6 - 5 with 1 jr. member opposed.

Proposal 221 Motion support 11-0-1 with 1 jr member in favor.

Proposal 222 Motion support 9-0-2 with 1 jr member in favor.

Proposal 223 Motion support 8-0-3 with 1 jr member in favor.

Proposal 224 Would scheduled a review of the Fairbanks Management Area boundary. Motion support 11-0-1 and 1 jr member in favor. Our committee members support the efforts of people in the local Fairbanks area reviewing this area.

Proposal 225 Motion support 12-0-0 with 1 jr member in favor.

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**Matanuska Valley Fish and Game Advisory Committee Minutes Dec. 14, 2011
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Proposal 226 Motion opposed 0-11-1 with 1 jr member opposed. One member mentioned not wanting to have more competition from nonresidents to the local Alaskans hunting this area.

Proposals 227, 228, 229 and 230. Would allow intensive management of wolves and brown bear in Unit 20C -- where moose population and harvests seem to be below objective levels. Allowing snaring and /or hunting over bait may allow people to deal with problem bears in an efficient manner. One member supported the concept of hunting brown bears with bait for both residents and nonresidents in this area. Motion support 12-0-0 with 1 jr member in support.

Proposal 231 would allow black bear trapping in a portion of Unit 20C. Motion support 12-0-0 with 1 jr member in support.

Proposal 232 would allow harvest of brown bear on a black bear baiting site in Unit 20 C with salvage of meat and hide required. Motion to Amend by Dan Montgomery *to eliminate requirement for meat salvage of brown bear*. 2nd by Tony. Amendment support 12-0-0 with 1 jr member in favor. Brown bear meat salvage is not required elsewhere in Alaska - so Committee members believed further restrictions was not needed. Support as Amended 12-0-0 with 1 jr member in favor.

Proposal 233 would create a new controlled use area. Motion opposed 0-12-0 with 1 jr member opposed.

Proposal 234 would require salvage of moose meat on the bone in Unit 25C. AC members felt that all hunters should take the necessary steps to care for their meat -- but that such a requirement as in this proposal was not needed. Motion opposed 0-12-0 with 1 jr member opposed.

Proposal 235 which would increase black bear limit to 5. Motion support 12-0-0 with 1 jr member in favor.

***Proposal 179 was taken off the table for input by ADF&G. from 2007 - 2011 27 nonresidents took 8 sheep in the area. Committee members felt there was little effort by hunters -- area is open to bow hunting only. Little need for hunt to go to drawing opportunity. Motion opposed 0- 12-0 with 1 jr member opposed.

Proposal 236 would allow harvest of grizzly bear over black bear bait stations on a one every 4 years basis. Dan amended proposal to be *one brown bear limit per year* 2nd by Tony. Amendment support 12-0-0 with 1 jr member in favor. Support as amended 12-0-0 with 1 jr member in favor.

Proposal 237. proposal Support 12-0-0 with 1 jr member in favor.

Member Comments: Game proposals 78 -85 to be reconsidered at Dec. 21 meeting Request to reconsider made by Andy Couch 2nd by Tony. Motion support 11-0-1 with 1 jr. member in favor.

Stephen Bartelli requested that the Fairbanks letter concerning sel- reporting of moose violations and legislated punishments be consider part of the agenda for the Dec 21 meeting.

Ben Allen mentioned he would be unable to attend the Dec. 21 AC meeting.

Proposal 195 was tabled earlier this meeting to be added on next meeting 's agenda.

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**Matanuska Valley Fish and Game Advisory Committee Minutes Dec. 14, 2011
at Palmer MTA Building**

Proposals 238 - end of Game book also on agenda.

Next meeting Dec 21 7 p.m. at MTA Building in Palmer.

Meeting adjourned at 9:35.

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Craig F&G Advisory council meeting Dec. 5, 2011

Quorum in attendance

Doug Rhoades, Ellen Hannan, Steve Stumpf, William Farmer, Fred Hamilton, Charles Haydu, Bill Russell, Corky Timpe, Mike Douville

Public in attendance: No one

7pm Meeting called to order

Minutes discussed and accepted from last meeting held 3-29-2011

Discussed the following proposals:

Shellfish Proposals Dec. 5, 2011				
Proposal #	Support	Oppose	Abstain	Comments
140	0	9	0	
145	9	0	0	
165	9	0	0	
174	0	9	0	<i>"Support as amended"</i> Keep the season as it currently is 8 am - 4pm.
179	0	9	0	We feel it's wrong to kill one species to save another.
180	9	0	0	
182	9	0	0	We feel this will stop illegal divers from stockpiling product prior to the openings.
193	9	0	0	This will close o loophole for noncompliant divers.
195	9	0	0	<i>"Support as amended"</i> We feel 50 is too many while 10 is too few. We support a limit of 25 daily.
Board of Game Proposals Dec. 5, 2011				
67	8	1		Steve Stumpf opposed this proposal feeling there was not enough information to allow or deny a specific percentage of tags to non-residents.
89	0	9	0	
92	0	9	0	
104	9	0	0	

Following votes on the above proposals we briefly talked on a couple of Finfish issues.

Set the next meeting for elections and discussing Finfish proposals for January 9, 2012 @ 6pm. City Hall.

Ended meeting at 8:45pm



McGrath Fish & Game Advisory Committee
Feb 13, 20012

Meeting Called to order at 12noon at Capt. Snow Center in McGrath

Roll Call

Ray Collins, Chair	Present
Mark Cox	Present
Kevin Whitworth	Present
Stephen Strick	Arrived 12:20 (Present for all voting)
Lewis Egrass	Absent
Robert Magnuson Jr.	Absent
George Gregory	Present
Nick Petruska	Present
Nick Dennis	Present (filling vacant Nikolai seat)
Steve Eluska	Absent
Dan Esai	Present
Peter Snow Jr.	Present (12:15) (present for all voting)
Phillip Esai	filling in for John Runkle (vacant at large seat)
Clinton Goods	Present
Dick Newton	Absent

Elections need to be held in Nikolai, Takotna and Telida to bring seats up to date.

Others present:

Roger Savoy Dept Fish and Game
Bo Sloane Innoko Wildlife Refuge Manager
Brent Gibbons F&G Protection
Terry Egelston Dept Fish and Game
Chris Egelston Innoko Wildlife refuge
Josh Pierce AKF&G
Andrew Brewer F&G Subsistance Division

Approval of Minutes

Nick Petruska moved to approve minutes of April 25, 2011
Daniel Esai 2nd.
Approved with unanimous vote of 12 members present

Nick Petruska moved to approve the minutes of the October 11, 2011
Audioconference. Mark Cox 2nd.
Approved. Unanimous vote of 12 members present

Agenda Approval.



Dan Esai moved to approve as presented.

Nick Dennis 2nd

Approved by unanimous vote of 12 members present.

Chair Report

Chair announced a meeting of the Federal Western Interior Regional Advisory Council in McGrath on February 28 & 29.

There were no other activity by the chair related to the McGrath Advisory Committee since the Audio conference minutes of the October 27, 2011 meeting of the Advisory Committee were submitted to the State Board.

Correspondence.

The chair reported an email from the Middle Kuskokwim Advisory Committee sent by Doug Carney requesting support for bear predation control proposals and letting the commissioner know we support such proposals.

Mark Cox moved that we approve the Proposals which concern control of black bears in unit 19 and the a letter of support be sent to the commissioner. (such as proposal 129) Keven Whitworth 2nd. Vote unanimous Yes for 12 members present.

Old Business. None

New Business

Innoko Update

Bo Sloan gave a report of recent activities on the Innoko Wildlife refuge including and update on current staff status and changes. He reported that they have now identified the moose counting blocks by GPS which should result in more accurate and consistant counts of populations in the blocks. He also reported they are currently developing a Fire Management Plan and that copies will be available for public revue and comment.

Roger Savoy Gave a power point presentation on Wildlife populations and issues and then went through the proposals that effect this area. After each proposal was presented and background information given, the AC was given the opportunity to discuss and make motions concerning the proposals. The following were acted on.

131. Adding black and brown bear to the intensive management plan for 19A.

Moved by Mark Cox. 2nd by Stephen Strick.

Vote unanimous yes for 12 members present.

It was noted that the moose hunting season has been closed in this area since 2006 and the moose population is still in trouble. Bears are one of the reasons for high mortality of calves and are one of the major factors slowing population growth.

141. Black Bear Trapping.



Moved by Peter Snow to support. 2nd by Stephen Strick.
Vote. Unanimous yes for 12 members present.

It was noted that trapping was one method of reasonably harvesting a number of bears and that bear populations must be controlled to insure continued growth of the moose populations. Population objectives have not yet been reached in 19D. Snaring has been implemented locally and the harvest is low and the number of people involved is limited.

151. Control use areas.

Moved by Mark Cox. 2nd by Kevin Whitworth

Vote: No. unanimous vote by 12 members present.

The committee is apposed to the Board dealing with all these areas in one proposal. It was felt that they should be dealt with one at a time with a proposal and reasons given for any reduction or elimination of these areas. The Upper Kuskokwim Control area was already shrunk to a small corridor along the river..

It was moved by Peter Snow and 2nd by Mark Cox to Maintain the current Upper Kuskokwim Control Area as it is now.

Vote 11yes 1no.

The original reason for establishing the control area has not changed. It was to prevent conflict between arial hunters and boat hunters. This equalizes the opportunity. The north Fork of the Kuskokwim is the most important subsistence hunting area utilized by residents of Nikolai and Telida. With some also traveling from McGrath. It takes a lot of effort and gas at \$7.00 plus a gallon to reach this area. To arrive and find a plane that has scouted the area and is sitting on the best hunting site would be very discouraging.. Airborne hunters have lots of other options. Local hunters do not. Any state resident can also hunt in the area if they start from a local airport and hunt the area by boat. Non Resident hunting is not allowed in 19D due to current moose population.

153. Eliminate Requirement to pick up Permit to hunt in the Small moose magagement area around McGrath in 19D.

Moved by Stephen Strick 2nd by Nick Dennis.

Vote apposed. Unanimous no vote by 12 members present.

The permit hunt was recommended by the MCG Advisory Committee in 2003 In Preference to a Tier II hunt When the EMMA was created and closed to all hunting for five years. Registration was left open to all state residents but required register before the hunt with no limit on the number of permits. We achieved the desired results with predator control in the EMMA which increased calf survival and allowed the moose population to begin growing. The harvest has gone from a low of 70 to around 100. The moose population goal has not been met nor the targeted subsistence harvest of 125 to 150. Two years ago the control use are was shrunk. It now amounts to a little over 10 percent of 19D which is the only area requiring a registration permit. Thus 80 to 90% of 19D remains open to all. There are around 300 permits issued which is all the area can



support at this time if we are to continue growing the moose population. We are currently facing a deep snow winter which will greatly reduce calf survival. If the permit requirement to register before the season is removed we would be forced to go to a tier II hunt which is much more restricted. Roger presented more detailed statistical information in his Power Point.

154 Reauthorization of a cow moose hunt.

Moved by Stephen Strick, 2nd by Mark Cox.

Vote: Yes. Approved by unanimous vote of 12 members present.

Discussion noted that cow moose should be made available for harvest when the population allows and additional harvest is needed to control the population. Roger showed how twinning rates can be used as one measure of the health of the herd. A low percentage rate can indicate the the carrying capacity of the winter brouse is being reached and the population growth needs to be slowed. It was understood that this hunt would not be implemented until needed.

155. Close Caribou hunt.

Moved by Peter Snow. 2nd by Keven wit worth.

Vote: No The proposal was apposed unanimously by the 12 members present.

The caribou numbers are low but growing slowly. Hunting pressure is light and harvest is very low. Continued hunting is not a limiting factor and closing the hunt would have little effect on growth of the herd. Predation and other factors such as weather are more likely the cause for low numbers.

157 Modify Intensive management plans in Unit 19 A & B.

Moved by Mark Cox. 2nd by Stephen Strick

Vote : Yes. Approved by unanimous vote of the 12 members present.

It was proven by the research program in 19D that bear predation as well as wolf predation are the limiting factors in calf survival and population growth. Adding bears to the plan is required if this population is to recover. Hunting has been closed for several years so people done their part and paid the prayed the price. If predation is controlled and the herd is brought back all will benefit from a higher population of moose.

160-169 Extending Lynx season to align with other trapping seasons.

Moved by Mark Cox and 2nd by Peter Snow.

Vote. YES Approved by unanimous vote of the 12 members present.

This simplifies the trapping regulation allows for some increase in harvest. It also avoids the trapper having to deal with incidental lynx taken when after wolf or wolverine.



No biological reason was given for not extending the season.

Bison

A report was made on the status of the bison herd near Farewell. It showed some growth and appears to be healthy.

Sheep hunting was discussed. It was noted there are several proposal dealing with allocation of trophy sheep with a significant number going to non residents.

Two years ago there was a request for a C and T finding on sheep for 19D. And this request for a limited winter hunt for 6 non trophy sheep. The C and T was recognized with a positive finding. The season was denied. We would like to have this proposal revisited. If subsistence is supposed to have a priority and this limited hunt would have no detrimental effect on the sheep population or the number of trophy rams available it should be considered.

Peter Snow moved and Dan Esai 2nd to have the chair or member attending the board meeting to bring this to the boards attention.

Vote: Yes. Approved by unanimous vote of the 12 members present.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:50 PM

Raymond Collins, Chair

Raymond Collins





McGrath
Fish and Game Advisory Committee

Ray Collins
Chairman
PO Box 75
McGrath, AK 99627

February 17, 2012

Members of the Board of Game,

The McGrath AC would like to request that the Board of Game take no action on any sheep proposals involving 19C.

Our reasoning is detailed here. There is that there is a documented history of Dall sheep harvest and use by residents of Upper Kuskokwim River communities including the community of Nikolai. The Alaska Board of Game has recognized this use with a positive customary and traditional use finding for Dall sheep in 19C.

At the Spring 2010 Interior BOG, Proposal 82 requested a winter Dall sheep hunting season in this subunit. It was submitted because the current fall season for hunting Dall sheep does not allow for customary and traditional sheep hunting patterns. Specifically, Dall sheep habitat in 19C is virtually inaccessible from Nikolai during open water months without use of expensive, specially equipped boats or aircraft, and these modes of access are not currently feasible for Nikolai residents.

The McGrath AC plans to resubmit a similar proposal for the 2013-2014 BOG cycle after new quantitative and qualitative data collected by the ADF&G Division of Subsistence in Nikolai in January 2012 is available. At that time, the McGrath AC will be able to better address issues with the proposal raised by the BOG at the 2010 meeting.

The McGrath AC requests that the BOG take no action on any Dall sheep proposals involving 19C until this new information is available, due to concerns about the Board of Game providing Upper Kuskokwim area residents with a reasonable opportunity for subsistence in the future.

Thank you for your time and consideration on this matter.

Ray Collins

Ray Collins



Juneau Douglas F&G Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Board of Game Proposals 2011/2012 Cycle

October 26, 2011 Glacier view Room UAS Campus

Attending: Thatcher Brower, Greg Brown, Chris Conder, Barry Brokken, Mike Peterson (chair), Bill Bahleda, Jenny Pursell, Eric Clark, Jason Kohlase

Guests: **National Park Service**

Albert Faria (907)-697-2621 Albert_Faria@nps.gov

Gus Martinex (907)- 697- 2628 gus_martinez@nps.gov

Fish and Game

Ryan Scott- SE Regional biologist

Alaska Wildlife Troopers

Lt. Steve Hall

Two High School Students auditing the AC meeting for Sara Hannan's "My Government" Class

Katie Strehler & Anna Gregovich

Quorum established- 6:30

Proposal 240-Existing antlerless moose hunts in Gustavus

Proposal 239- Existing antlerless moose hunts in Berners Bay

239 -Looking for re-authorization- no hunt since 2006- currently closed

Promising signs in Berners Bay- 2010 calf crop very good- 50% survival throughout the year- twinning rate fairly high- Dec 3, 2010 - last survey done - 72 moose counted: estimate around 90

Greg Brown: move to pass proposal 239 and 240 by unanimous vote

Seconded

Proposal passes (Yes: 9 No: 0)

Proposal 38- Falconry- Ron Clark wants AC to be aware of upcoming changes

State has proposal 39- differences: number and diversity of species that can be kept by falconry and the annual report that must be submitted- falconry association and state have similar positions

Mike: committee is not compelled to take action- move to vote



Unanimous vote for no action (Yes: 9 No: 0)

Proposal 43- Review and modify nuisance beaver permits to allow beaver flow devices.

Recommend change in management in beavers and change in permit for taking beavers out of season

BofG don't have a way to approach policy issues

Juvenile sockeye salmon rearing above beaver dams were larger than those rearing in open water systems.

USFS- want to make beavers a focal species

BofG would request FofG to update knowledge base- come up with a stronger management policy

Mike to Ryan (ADFG): a little early for state to look over proposals- personally agree with proposal

Chuck Caldwell (Public): Trout Unlimited board- supports the relationship of beaver dams and fish health

Brown: Current regulation since 1989- is the proposal asking to modify management?

Ryan: Yes-this would supplement the regulation- we would regulate trapping beavers outside of season

Barry: Concerned with the cost of implementing different beaver management options on personal property- not comfortable to require this of private property owners

Chris: Call to question, seconded

Yes: 6 No: 3

Proposal passes

Greg: Why is the National park service interested in State proposals?

Gus: Different through ANILCA- rather than create new laws for wildlife, work together with state

Proposal 92- Free-roaming dual management species- big game and fur bearer- wolverine and wolf- prohibit a trapper's use of a firearm in taking free-roaming game.

Author concerned about liberal taking of game- restricting harvest of wolverine and wolf by firearm and only by permit holders would promote wildlife sustainability

Ryan: BofG agree that few wolverine taken by firearm, majority are taken by trapper- fur animal falls under trapping management- traps, snares-

Bill: Is it likely that someone would be in possession of a trapping permit without a hunting license?

Ryan: The seasons overlap (trapping and hunting)



Barry: With a trapping license you can use a firearm

Ryan: No limit bag limit for harvesting a wolf/wolverine under a trapping license- would undermine our sustain yield principle- This would limit a person if you were checking a trap line without a hunting license you would not be able to take an animal restrained in a trap.

Mike: If this were to pass- if a trapper chose not to have a hunting license you would not have a rifle with you?

Ryan: No. Except for dispatching trapped animals

Barry: Fur-bearers- harvested under trapping license, fur animal- under the hunting license.

Jenny: Author of proposal is concerned with the accumulative effect of hunting free roaming wolves and wolverines while trapping statewide.

Greg: Motion to call the question , Jenny 2nd

Yes: 6 No: 3

Proposal Passes

Proposal 94- Prohibit the taking of wolf, fox, wolverine, or coyote during May, June and July on National Park Service lands.

Restricting harvest to months when pelts are highest quality- allows trappers to harvest- trappers can continue to trap during May, June and July but not in park service lands

Ryan: With park service lands – the state supports recommendation for different species as if there were not different land owners- we are working on a general management scheme for populations- if different entities have different concerns they have the ability to be more restrictive- state has regulation in place for state-wide wildlife.

Greg: Should State be involved with the proposals with park service lands?

Ryan: No.

Jenny: is it true that state and federal entities try to work together on policies of land management that are quite different- these two entities should take positions in order to be able to collaborate on issues?

Ryan: Yes.

Greg: How should the AC put these proposals on the table?

Park Service: We will bring the proposals to our annual meeting- meet with state to collaborate on various regulations that are currently being regulated or proposed to be regulated.



Greg: Is that a public meeting?

PS: no- but if any proposal is considered- we are required to open up for public meetings about an issue.

Mike: Should we remove PS proposals and move on to state proposals?

PS: Each park has federal regulations, ANLCA regulations and specific park regulations

Greg: how would the BoG deal with these issues when it falls under the Park Service?

Mike: If the BofG chooses to pass the proposal it will go to each preserve, will have the opportunity to look at the proposal and choose to support/not support

PS: 94 applies to all park lands- each NP unit has their own compendium- if this is passed it will apply to all preserves in Alaska.

Jenny: does it apply to national wildlife refuges in Alaska?

PS (Gus): two separate agencies

PS: if any specific question- can take questions in to present

Chris: form subcommittees to review certain proposals

Greg: What the BofG will do with these proposals- are they going to pass them themselves?

Barry: BofG will have many more resources and time to look at proposals

Mike: Suggests removing PS proposals

Ryan: Suggests that you use the resource here (two members from Park Service)

Mike: We are going to suspend those proposals that have to do with NPS- move on to 98, 99, 114 and 127- after meeting if we have time we will review NPS proposals and ask questions to park service

Proposal 98- Prohibit the use of hand held electronics in taking game.

Ryan: Very vague proposal- doesn't identify the focus of concern- communications and safety measures would be included in this proposal. There are legitimate uses of electronics for hunting.

Yes: 0 No: 9 unanimous vote

Proposal fails

Chair's notes: after vote of Proposal # 98, committee member Jenny Pursell made a motion to reconsider their vote. She stated that her hand was up before the initial vote but the chair did not see it. Had she been noticed it was her intent to request that the committee consider a "No Action". The motion to reconsider was seconded, the motion for reconsideration failed: Yes: 2 No: 7



Proposal 99 - Hunters using a licensed transporter cannot harvest an animal on the same day being transported.

Issue: illegal pursuit by clients of transporters- this would be much easier for protection to enforce

Illegal harvest levels of black bear would be decreased

Ryan: Been before bofg before- failed before b/c if you are a transporter you can't help the hunter with the hunt- if everybody would follow the rules it would work. Rules are already in place- it really is an enforcement issue.

Jason: How many animals are taken on initial fly in day during guided trip?

Lt. Hall: most of transporters operate by boat

Ryan: If you charter a flight on a beaver to Admiralty you can't hunt big game (deer not included in Southeast) the same day, however if you are on a boat you can hunt the same day.

Jason: if a guide uses own transportation- this proposal will not affect that operation

Lt. Hall: this would only apply to a license transporter who can accommodate clients. There are two different licenses for big game guide and transporting- if you operate under a transporter license. If you have a guide license you won't be affected by this proposal.

Jenny: Do you believe this proposal would be helpful for enforcement?

Lt. Hall: The regulations for transporters already restrict a transporter from providing assistance to a hunter- limited to transportation. Pretty extreme change on the business side- it would be easier to enforce.

Greg: Can I possess a transporter license and a guiding license at the same time?

Lt. Hall: Yes

In favor of proposal

Yes: 2 No: 6 Abstain: 1

Proposal fails

Proposal 114- Allow black bear to be taken same day airborne within 1/4 mile of bait station.

Ryan: SE Ak very few people use airplanes to get to bait site- no baiting in Juneau – in Haines and Yakutat. The concept is that you are delaying the fact that they are going to be able to hunt at their bait station.

Bill: Will this be implemented in areas of bear protection?



Ryan: This is already allowed in places that there is bear protection.

Jenny: Relevant to discuss and take vote

Greg: I don't like bait stations- not an ethical chase.

Bill: I support hunters who bait- particularly archers- baiting has been shown to be ethical and a useful hunting tool.

Jenny: It would be difficult to enforce and would likely lead to abuse of the airborne hunting.

Move to vote in favor of proposal

Yes: 0 No: 7 Abstain: 2

Proposal fails

Proposal 127- Prohibit the taking of a black bear by trap or snare.

Ryan: To use traps or snares the animal has to be classified as fur-bearers. Black bear have been re-classified as fur-bearers.

Jenny: This proposal is one that is pro-active- it is possible at some point in time that there could be methods and means in game management units in which snares and traps could be used. Concerned that in Southeast there is a decreasing black bear population, specifically in southern Southeast. Concerned with public safety risk.

Greg: Safety issues- idea of snaring ¼ mile of residences is of concern.

Barry: Where would I find these regulations for fur bearing trapping.

Ryan: There are no seasons or bag limits as of yet. Because there is no seasons or bag limits you cannot take black bears with this method. This will be discussed and possibly implemented March 2012. Bears are managed differently dependent on where you are state- in SE we manage of them as a big game species to be hunted and harvested. We have conservation concerns here in SE- trapping is probably not needed here.

Barry: Statewide proposal- being managed pretty intensively for population reduction- I don't think that the bofg would blanket this proposal over all areas of the state.

Chris: A tool to control black bear populations in certain areas- however certain holes- indiscriminate in trapping- ask for no action.

Bill: Likes no action- entrusting a group of people to make policy changes- don't support it.

Greg: Could we accomplish the same thing by having more aggressive hunting (areas of bear control)?



Ryan: Not comfortable answering that. In the areas that these are implemented in – big areas, it is hard to get enough hunters out there- use tools to regulate populations. Also, not sure of what kind of qualification program, however people would have to be trained and qualified to be able to trap/snare.

Bill: related situation to Maine's trapping season for bear- it is a tool.

Chris: motion- Take no action on 127

Yes: 8 No: 1

Motion to take no action on 127 passed

Board of Fish Meetings

SE/Yak shell/crab-59 proposals by Dec. 30

SE/Yak finfish- Jan (Feb is comment period)

Statewide Dungeness crab- March

Elections for new committee meetings in January (Chair Notes: Elections are scheduled for December 16th).

Questions for Gus and Albert about NPS land and trapping

Proposal 94 revisited- Prohibit the taking of wolf, fox, wolverine, or coyote during May, June and July on National Park Service lands

Barry: 2 units statewide open- 10 Aleutian chain, 9 southern end of Alaska peninsula through June 30th for wolves

Mike: Have to have a permit to trap on a permit?

Gus: Yes- does it have to meet certain criteria to trap on a preserve- follow state regulation and may be more restrictive

Mike: Author states that the taking of animals in may june and july is contrary to park service policy. Is that true?

Albert: I can't answer that. The policy that the park service has for the preserve in terms of hunting- is the state

Greg: This is contrary to the policies that the Park Service would apply to any other place other than Alaska- policies different in Alaska.

Bill: This about wolves out on the peninsula right?

Ryan: I thought this too- focused on various predator programs- the majority of our trapping regulations and seasons don't allow in may, june and july.



Albert: If there are any specific questions which we cannot answer- you can send it via email.

Greg: How do we address something to specific to NPS in Alaska?

Albert: Can always address the specific park- it would be addressed to regional director in Anchorage

Not yet set date for next meeting- sometime in December to go over selected shellfish proposals.

Minutes submitted by Michael Kohan

Approved by AC December 16th 2011

Mike Peterson - Chair



Middle Nenana River Advisory Committee
12 Dec 2011

Proposal 93

Motion: Nan Eagleson

Second: Brent Keith

Action: **Oppose** (Adopt: 1 Opposed: 8 Abstain: 1)

Description: Allow only the use of traps and snares for taking wolf and wolverine on National Park Service lands and prohibit the use of firearms except for dispatching trapped animals.

Amendment:

Discussion:

Paul Van Dyke – No distinction between state and fed
Nan Eagleson – Federal lands set aside for different reason

Proposal 101

Motion: John Basile

Second: Paul Van Dyke

Action: **Adopt** (Adopt: 12 Opposed: 0 Abstain: 0)

Description: Allow same day airborne taking of coyotes statewide.

Amendment:

Discussion:



Proposal 102

Motion Nan Eagleson

Second Paul Van Dyke

Action: **Adopt** (Adopt: 11 Opposed: 0 Abstain: 1)

Description: Prohibit the use of pack animals other than horses while hunting goat or sheep.

Amendment:

Discussion:

Proposal 104

Motion: Nan Eagleson

Second: Brent Keith

Action: **Adopt** (Adopt: 12 Opposed: 0 Abstain: 0)

Description: Prohibit the use of deer or elk urine for use in taking game.

Amendment:

Discussion:

Proposal 107

Motion: Joe

Second: Wayne Walters

Action: **Oppose** (Adopt: 1 oppose: 8 Abstain: 1)

Description: Eliminate the statewide bag limit for black bear.

Amendment:

Discussion:

Nan Eagleson – Who makes the decision?

Joe – Decision needs to be made for each unit

Don Young- Few people are taking more than one bear



Proposal 109

Action: **Oppose** (Adopt: 0 oppose: 12 Abstain: 0)

Description: Clarify and remove complicated and restrictive regulations and ADF&G discretionary provisions pertaining to black bear hunting.

Amendment:

Discussion:

107 takes care of 109

Proposal 124

Motion: Wayne Walters

Second: John Basile

Action: **Oppose** (Adopt: 1 oppose: 8 Abstain: 2)

Description: Require trap identification for all Units on lands managed by the National Park Service.

Amendment:

Discussion:



Proposal 125

Motion: Wayne Walters

Second: Brent Keith

Action: **Oppose** (Adopt: 1 oppose: 8 Abstain: 2)

Description: Require a 72 hour trap check for all traps and snares set on National Park Service lands.

Amendment:

Discussion:

John Basile – What about incimate weather

Wayne Walters – does this mean trappers need snogos to trap?

Nan Eagleson – Park Lands

Proposal 128

Motion Wayne Walters

Second: Joe

Action: **Adopt** (Adopt: 10 oppose: 0 Abstain: 1)

Description: Establish a tag and fee to allow trappers to retain incidental catch.

Amendment:

Discussion:

Wayne Walters – Eliminate the Burden on trapper

Joe – Eliminate paperwork



Middle Nenana River Advisory Committee
9 Jan 2012

Proposal 136

Motion: John Basile Second: Leroy Sutton

Action: **Adopt** (Adopt: 12 oppose: 0 Abstain: 1)

Description: Begin the hunting season for Dall sheep seven days earlier than nonresidents in Region III Units.

Amendment:

Discussion:

John Basile – AK residents should have first chance

Brent Keith – When the resource suffers non-residents are the first one cut out

Proposal 139

Motion: Leroy Sutton Second: Brent Keith

Action: **Adopt** (Adopt: 8 oppose: 3 Abstain: 2)

Description: Convert all nonresident sheep seasons to drawing permit hunts and limit to 5 percent of total permits.

Amendment:

Discussion:

Unidentified person from local community: gives more permits to the residents



Proposal 140

Motion: Wayne Walters

Second: Leroy Sutton

Action: **Adopt** (Adopt: 8 oppose: 4 Abstain: 1)

Description: Reauthorize resident grizzly bear tag fee exemptions throughout Interior and Eastern Arctic Alaska.

Amendment:

Discussion:

Wayen Walters – Current regulation is good, should not have to pay for it

Brent Keith – 25 dollars is cheap

John Basile – Facillitates taking of more bears

Nan Eagleson – Should have a fee

Proposal 146

Motion: John Basile

Second: Brent Keith

Action: **Adopt** (Adopt: 12 oppose: 0 Abstain: 1)

Description: Open year-round coyote seasons in Region III.

Amendment:

Discussion:



Proposal 147

Motion: Nan Eagleson

Second: Tyler Dynes

Action: **Oppose** (Adopt: 0 oppose: 10 Abstain: 3)

Description: Allow the use of helicopters for access to trapping in Region III.

Amendment:

Discussion:

Nan Eagleson – Using a helicopter to trap doesn't make any sense

Paul Van Dyke – Money should limit this from happening

Proposal 148

Motion: Paul Van Dyke

Second: John Basile

Action: **Oppose** (Adopt: 1 oppose: 10 Abstain: 2)

Description: Close certain nonresident trapping seasons in the Interior Region.

Amendment:

Discussion:

Same as 150

Proposal 150

Action: **Oppose** (Adopt: 1 oppose: 10 Abstain: 2-)

Description: Close certain nonresident furbearer hunting seasons in the Interior Region.

Amendment:

Discussion:



Proposal 151

Motion: Nan Eagleson

Second: Leroy Sutton

Action: **Adopt** (Adopt: 13 oppose: 0 Abstain: 0-)

Description: Review the conditions of the Controlled Use Areas in Region III and repeal those that are no longer meet the original intent.

Amendment:

Review the conditions of the Controlled Use Areas in Region III

Discussion:

Nan Eagleson – Would like to see a review of the Conditions of the Controlled Use Areas in Region III

Leroy Sutton: People need to walk

Proposal 153

Motion: Leroy Sutton

Second: Jacob Mattila

Action: **Oppose** (Adopt: 1 oppose: 10 Abstain: 2-)

Description: Eliminate the requirement to pick up moose registration permits weeks or months prior to the season in remote villages in Regions III. Make all registration permits available in season from designated vendors.

Amendment:

Discussion:

Leroy Sutton – Helps out local residents

Proposal 190



Motion: John Basile

Second: Leroy Sutton

Action: **Adopt** (Adopt: 8 oppose: 4 Abstain: 1-)

Description: Close nonresident sheep season in the Tok and Delta drawing hunts.

Amendment:

Discussion:

John Basile – Enough residents to fill these permits

Proposal 205

Motion: Wayne Walters

Second: Brent Keith

Action: **Oppose** (Adopt: 5 oppose: 7 Abstain: 1-)

Description: Change the legal animal for the Unit 20A & 20B antlerless hunts.

Amendment:

Discussion:

Brent Keith – Why shoot a calf?

Proposal 209

Motion: Brent Keith

Second: Pat Owen

Action: **Adopt** (Adopt: 13 oppose: 0 Abstain: 0-)

Description: Require hunters to use a locking tag if hunting any bull drawing permit in Unit 20A.

Amendment:

Discussion:



Proposal 210

Motion: Brent Keith

Second: Leroy Sutton

Action: **Oppose** (Adopt: 13 oppose: 0 Abstain: 0-)

Description: Move the northern boundary of the Wood River Controlled Use Area.

Amendment:

Discussion:

Wayne Walters – Hard to define the line, current boundary easy to find

Brent Keith - Hard to define the line, current boundary easy to find

Proposal 212

Motion: Nan Eagleson

Second: Jacob Mattila

Action: **Adopt** (Adopt: 7 oppose: 3 Abstain: 3-)

Description: Prohibit the use of ATVs in a portion of Unit 20.

Amendment:

Discussion:

Proposal 213

Motion: Nan Eagleson

Second: Leroy Sutton

Action: **Oppose** (Adopt: 0 oppose: 13 Abstain: 0-)

Description: Allow motorized vehicle access in the Yanert Controlled Use Area in Unit 20.

Amendment:

Discussion:

Nan Eagleson – No local support

Tyler Williams – Keeps people respectful of the local area hunting



Proposal 214

Motion: Brent Keith

Second: Jacob Mattila

Action: **Adopt** (Adopt: 12 oppose: 0 Abstain: 1-)

Description: Create an "any ram" drawing permit hunt in Unit 20.

Amendment:

Discussion:

Unidentified person from local community: Doesn't make any sense

Brent Keith – Trying to manage the herd and creates an opportunity to harvest a few more rams

John Basile - Trying to manage the herd and creates an opportunity to harvest a few more rams

Proposal 226



Motion: Brent Keith

Second: Paul Van Dyke

Action: **Adopt** (Adopt: 9 oppose: 2 Abstain: 2-)

Description: Align the resident and nonresident moose seasons in Unit 20C.

Amendment:

Discussion:

Brent Keith – relieves pressure of 20A

Proposal 227

Motion: Nan Eaglson

Second: Leroy Sutton

Action: **Oppose** (Adopt: 0 oppose: 13 Abstain: 0-)

Description: Establish an intensive management area for Unit 20C.

Amendment:

Discussion:

Nan Eagleson – Wants some science to back it up

Proposal 228

Motion: Paul Van Dyke

Second: Brent Keith

Action: **Oppose** (Adopt: 0 oppose: 13 Abstain: 0-)

Description: Adopt a wolf control program for Unit 20C.

Amendment:

Discussion:

Proposal 229



Motion Nan Eaglson

Second: Paul Van Dyke

Action: **Oppose** (Adopt: 0 oppose: 12 Abstain: 1-)

Description: Adopt an Intensive Management plan for Unit 20C.

Amendment:

Discussion:

Brent Keith – Trying to change Intensive Management

Proposal 230

Motion: Brent Keith

Second: Pat Owen

Action: **Oppose** (Adopt: 0 oppose: 13 Abstain: 0-)

Description: Adopt a bear control program for Unit 20C.

Amendment:

Discussion:

Proposal 231

Motion: Nan Eagleson

Second: Jason Reppert

Action: **Oppose** (Adopt: 1 Oppose: 11 Abstain: 1)

Description: Establish a black bear trapping season in parts of Unit 20C.

Amendment:

Discussion:

Proposal 232



Motion: Nan Eagleson

Second: Brent Keith

Action: **Oppose** (Adopt: 0 Oppose: 12 Abstain: 1)

Description: Allow harvest of grizzly bear over a black bear bait site; require salvage of meat and hide

Amendment:

Discussion:

Proposal 233

Motion: Wayne Walters

Second: Brent Keith

Action: **Oppose** (Adopt: 0 Oppose: 11 Abstain: 2)

Description: Establish a new controlled use area near Denali.

Amendment:

Discussion:

Dave: Goes against the local government



MINTO NENANA FISH AND GAME ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING- *excerpt from minutes*

MINTO

12.28.11

Quorum Established

Victor Lord, Doug Bowers, Tim McManus, Rondell Jimmie (Nenana); Philip Titus, Wayne Charlie, Nolan Titus, Luke Titus, Fred Titus (Minto)

Guests

Frank Silas, Richard Peter, other Minto residents came and went

Department Staff

Tony Holis (ADFG), Caroline Brown (ADFG) Nissa Pilcher (ADFG), Trooper Bump (DPS)

Minutes approved

Minto Elections held at Minto General Elections, so they will not be held at this meeting

New Business

Victor noted that Nenana Elections held- and they were pretty wild- but AC elections were not held at that time, so the Nenana roster was still out of date.

Victor thanked Ray Heuer and Al Barrette (for the Fairbanks AC) for heading out, and mentioned regional meetings- how the AC use to carry more clout with the Boards because of regional meeting, we could throw a big stick at the Board with all our weight. Their being here is a good argument for Boards to get more funding so in the future these guys could have their trip paid for.

Regional

Proposal 140

Action: Support

Description: Reauthorize resident grizzly bear tag fee exemptions throughout Interior and Eastern Arctic Alaska.

Little discussion

Proposal 141

Action: Support as Amended

Description: Implement black bear trapping regulations.

Amendment: We would like to say that if this does pass, the distance of a set must be no less than one mile away from any residence

Like to keep the bear population down, but not thrilled with black bear trapping- have to do it right. It can take place very close to populations, and for an example, a wounded bear can get out of the trap and run across a child going to school, or simply in their backyard....in general, the Minto Nenana AC has been against bear trapping due to the fact that bear trapping is hard, difficult, and you have to be really good at it to be effective so as to not hurt the bear, yourself or someone else.

Unanimous support as amended

Proposal 143

Action: No Action

Description: Allow the taking of black bear at bait stations the same day you have been airborne.
&

Proposal 144 Action:



Description: Allow for same day airborne hunting or black bear over bait.

No problem with same day airborne for bear baiting for those who would like to do it, but Minto Nenana has traditionally been against black bear baiting
No Action

Proposal 145 Action: Support

Description: Develop a Unit specific Amount Needed for Subsistence (ANS) finding for the Interior Region.

Discussion on what exactly this would mean for Minto and Nenana. The Minto Nenana AC supports this concept. We would like to be involved in developing this number when the time comes
Support

Proposal 215-218

The Department presented the history of moose hunting/application period for the last several years spanning tier II to the current way they are done for the MFMA, as well as a brief synopsis of the community hunt idea.

Proposal 215 Action: Support

Description: Establish a community harvest hunt area for the Village of Minto in Unit 20.

This is the proposal that our council wanted us to support, so this is ultimately what we want to happen.
Unanimous Support

Proposal 216 Action: Support- with caveats below

Description: Open a general season bull hunt 10 days earlier in the Minto Flats Management Area; convert the winter any moose hunt to antlerless and issue unlimited permits.

Discussion of amendment put in by the Department-

- Increased competition in the fall from anyone who wants to come into Minto Flats
- People from Nenana aren't in the Management area, and wouldn't get the benefits the Minto people get on the Winter hunt
- Like the earlier start time- moose are real fat in August, meat is still good
- This seems like the most logical proposal that this AC has seen before
- This will make people hunt in compliance, instead of losing their tempers and hunt without a license
 - it was also established that the ANS that is established now was set before the salmon numbers crashed, but the Department can't consider replacement resources unless those resources are restricted to a tier II
- The AC is concerned that the rest of the community needs to learn about this amendment before they can support this proposal

Caveat: Unanimous support if Proposal 215 will not work

Testimony given by a member of the public-
Luke Titus

I have hunted here before there were rules and regulations. Initially it cost 25cents to get a permit in Nenana. It cost more to get to Nenana than it did to get to the permit. The permit process how it is



handled now is not good. I didn't get a moose this year. They should give the permits to the people of Minto and do away with the waiting in line. It is ridiculous to have to wait in line to get something to eat, and they should make the permits available in Minto and Nenana, and leave Fairbanks out of it. We should regulate how the permits are handed out- the people of Nenana and Minto. Let Minto Management area is overrun with people in the fall. Many white folks came out with moose. We are living the subsistence lifestyle. We can't block the road- the state has right of way all the way to the river. I am scared to go out there when the moose season opens, so many people. The river and parking lot is getting very crowded. I saw 6 four wheelers go after one moose last fall- that is ridiculous. Very concerned with the permit and hunting season. Now they are going to give me a winter permit. I don't want to hunt a moose in January- moose meat isn't good, they are skinny.

Proposal 206

Action: Support

Description: Reauthorize the antlerless moose hunting season in Unit 20A.

Would like to see the total number of permits reduced, the noted the number of antlerless moose harvested is still pretty low.

Unanimous Support

Proposal 218

Action: Support

Description: Reauthorize the antlerless moose hunting season in Unit 20B

Little Discussion- it was brought up that if this proposal does not pass, there is a good chance that the Department's amendment to proposal 216 would fail.

Unanimous Support

Proposal 219 Action: Not Supported

Description: Eliminate the Minto Flats Management Area restrictions on airboats.

There was no support for this proposal, and no discussion. The people of this AC do not want to see airboats in the MFMA.

Adjourn 311

Luke Titus questioned the availability of mortuary moose, and asked for the records



Minutes of the Ruby Advisory Committee 1/11/12

The RAC was called to order at 4:45 pm in the Ruby Tribal Office. Members physically present were Don Honea Jr., John Stam and Billy McCarty. Members present by teleconference were Ed Sarten and Tim Gervais. A quorum was established

The agenda was approved and the minutes from the 12/14/10 meeting were read and approved.

Guests at the meeting were Jeremy Havner from USFWS, Daryl Hildebrand from Public Safety, Glenn Stoudt from ADF&G, Phillip Plessinger and Scott Star from Ruby village. Myra Harris and Keith Ramos from USFWS were also present via teleconference.

Glenn Stout next gave his report. The following are a few of the highlights from Glenn's report. The moose harvest in 21D was approximately 220 moose. There were many large bulls. In 2001 the ratio of moose harvested to the local village population was 1/12. Now the ratio is 1/6 due to an increase in harvest and a decrease in village population. In the 3 day Slough and the Kaiyuh the twinning ratio was 30-40 %. In the KCUA there was a slight reduction in both the calf/cow and bull/cow ratios which will mean a reduction in the number of drawing permits from 136 to 118. In the Novi, a 36 moose harvest was observed at the check station for a success rate of 41%. The survey of the Novi showed a bull/cow ratio of over 30%. However the cow population was dropping slightly which contributed to the good bull/cow ratio.

Next, Glenn gave summaries of the BOG proposals and they were discussed and voted on. Proposal 161 to split the DM 817 hunt (Kaiyuh) into two seasons was rejected unanimously. It was felt a split season was not necessary as most of the moose are taken in the last ten days anyway and it would just mean more work for managers and enforcement. It was felt that it was important for the hunters to have the freedom of when they wanted to hunt.

Proposal 162 which would allow 10% of KCUA permits to use aircraft was supported unanimously as amended. The amendments were (1) no motorized watercraft could be used (2) a 5 mile no hunting corridor on both sides of navigable waterways would be established and (3) hunters would need to check into a check station as is the current regulation. This proposal was supported because the KCUA is already on a drawing permit system so harvest is controlled and it would spread out the hunting pressure resulting in a better quality hunt for all hunters.

Proposal 163 which authorizes a predator control program in a portion of Unit 24B was supported unanimously. The moose population in this area is very low and the people from Allakaket and Hughes have a need for more moose.

Proposal 164 which would allow aircraft in the Kanuti Controlled Use Area was rejected unanimously because the people from this area have consistently been against it.

Proposal 165 which would close hunting for the Galena Mountain Caribou herd in Unit 24 was rejected because the herd does not use Unit 24 and it would disallow hunting of the Western Arctic Herd.



Proposals 166 and 167 which would lengthen wolf hunting season to May 31 were supported unanimously because it would open an opportunity for spring bear hunters to take a wolf. Also wolf numbers are high and there is no biological reason not to lengthen the season.

Proposal 168 which would allow brown bears to be harvested over bait in Unit 21D was supported unanimously because the harvest of brown bears is low and this would give hunters a new method for harvesting brown bears which would also benefit moose.

Proposal 169 which would extend the lynx trapping season in Unit 21 until March 31 was supported unanimously. Lynx are incidentally caught in wolf, fox and wolverine sets and this would allow trappers to keep these pelts. It was felt the quality of the pelts was still generally good in March.

Proposal 52 which would require a locking tag to be attached at the kill site for certain permit hunts was supported unanimously because the procedure is already being used and should be adopted into regulation.

Next Jeremy Havner discussed WP 12-56 (Federal Proposal) which would extend the Federal hunt on the Novik from October 1 to October 8. He asked for the RAC support in rejecting this proposal. A vote was taken and the proposal was rejected unanimously. It was felt that to keep the check station open to such a late date was a hardship on personnel and generally that such an extension of the moose hunting season would not be used. Jeremy also asked for the RAC opinion on eliminating the permit system for drifting in Federal waters in the Galena area because lack of participation. A vote was taken and the proposal was supported unanimously.

The meeting was next opened for proposals to be submitted to the next BOF meeting. Three proposals were discussed. One was to protect the first pulse of (primarily) Canadian origin chinook salmon. Second was a cap of 2000 chinook salmon as bycatch in the summer chum commercial season. Third was a proposal to extend the drift net season upriver to Ruby. It was decided that the proposals needed more discussion and there would be a meeting in March to do this.

Phillip Plessinger and Scott Star expressed interest in being on the RAC and they were approved as alternates until elections could be held.

John Stam volunteered to attend the BOG meeting in March and the motion was approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm.



MIDDLE YUKON FISH & GAME ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

NULATO COMMUNITY SCHOOL

NULATO, AK

DECEMBER 12, 2012

Quorum Established

Members Present: Paddy Nollner of Galena, Benedict Jones and Patrick Madros of Koyukuk, Michael Stickman and Robin George of Nulato, and Kevin Saunders, Richard Burnham, Thomas Negalska and Justin Esmailka from Kaltag.

John Stam from Galena representing the Ruby AC was also in attendance and sat at the table with the Middle Yukon AC members

Quite a few members of the Nulato Public

Department Staff

Glenn Stout & Nissa Pilcher (ADFG)

Darrel Hildebrand (DPS)

Glenn Stout gave the 2011 Moose Survey and Harvest Data

GMU 24 Moose

PowerPoint given by the Department-Glenn Stout

Questions were asked about warmer seasons and moon phases influencing moose estrus. The Department noted that studies are showing that the peak calving date has stayed the same, and that the day length does influence estrus.

GMU 21D Moose

Presentation from the Department- Glenn Stout

AC members noted observing a lot of younger bulls that will mature in the coming years, and the benefits of the 2005 burn. Other topics discussed were brown bear predation on black bears, as well as bear and wolf predation on moose in the area, and transient moose movements in the Nulato Hills.

DPS answered a question from the audience on local and non-local trespass onto native allotments.

ACTION ITEMS:

Alaska Board of Game Wildlife Proposals-Interior

Proposal 161

Action: Support

Description: Split the moose drawing permit hunt in Unit 21D (DM817) into two drawing permit hunts.



Proposal 162	Action: Not Support
Description: Allow 10% of the Koyukuk CUA permit winners to use aircraft; allow guided permit winners to choose either boat or aircraft.	
This proposal has been brought up several times by guides and we have never supported it.	
Unanimously Oppose	

Proposal 163	Action: Support
Description: Authorizes a predator control program in a small portion of Unit 24B.	
The AC took this proposal up to show support for the Koyukuk River AC.	
The AC questioned how the IM program worked in McGrath. It was noted that the people there are spending a lot less time and money getting the moose that they are putting in their freezer. The McGrath plan involved black bears, but there is a cultural issue with the Department handling bears so we removed them from the table.	

Proposal 164 **Action: Not supported**
Description: Eliminate the aircraft restriction in the Kanuti Controlled Use Area.
The AC noted that if they had a proposal in our area like this, they would like the support of the Koyukuk River AC at that time to turn it down, so we should show our support of them by voting on this.
Unanimous- Not Support

Proposal 165	Action: Support
Description: Close all hunting for the Galena Mountain Caribou Herd in Unit 24.	
Do not think that this proposal will change anything. Paddy noted antidotal information about some different caribou herd movement. The Department noted that the collars deployed show that calves are being born, but that recruitment in the summer appears to be the issue, which typically means brown and black bears. The AC noted that the Galena herd eats different things than the WA caribou herd.	
Unanimous- Support	

Proposal 166 & 167 **Action: Support**
Description: Lengthen the wolf hunting season for residents and nonresidents in Unit 21 (166).
Description: Lengthen wolf hunting season to the end of May for Units 21, 22, and 24 (167).
The Department noted that there was no conservation concern at this time. Amended it to align it with other areas so it is easy to understand and follow the law
Unanimous support

Proposal 168	Action: Support
Description: Allow brown bears to be harvested with bait in Unit 21D.	
The AC noted that in Kaltag, seeing sows with 2 cubs are very common, 3 cubs common, and have even seen 4. This area has a lot of brown bears, and they are difficult to hunt.	
Unanimous support	

By march 31st the fur isn't good anymore, and can be full of lice. The price of lynx is \$200-25, and the early and late lynx has brown sides and the fur dealers will dock you for it. Discussion on amending the proposal to the 15th of March to at least give some trappers more time since it was frequently still cold enough until then, but the AC noted that the best course of action would be to let the Department align all the dates to make it easier.

Unanimous not supported

Alaska Board of Game Wildlife Proposals-Statewide

Proposal 52

Action: Not Supported

Clarify ADF&G discretionary authority to require antler locking tags for certain permit hunts.

The Department noted that this needs to be specifically in regulation- it was noted that the Department is already doing this, but that passing this proposal will just make it easier to enforce.

Unanimous support

Ben nominated to the BOG meeting, Tom alternated

No RAC members Present, nor any FWS reps here either to give an update

DISCUSSION POINT

FISHING ISSUES FROM LAST SEASON

ACTION ITEM:

Middle Yukon AC will put in a proposal to the 2012-2013 AYK BOF meeting to increase the state water upriver 20 miles similar to the one that they put in for the 2009-2010 season. Will work with coordinator to get a copy of the last one.

Reasoning:

When you have to go upriver to fish, with the cost of fuel each fish is 8 to 10 dollars per fish. That is too much. We need to gain the support of the Galena fishermen to pass this proposal. We need to catch a lot of fish in a smaller fishing period. Instead of 24 hour fishing, we have to fish within the 12 hour window, which means that we have to fish the 12 hours straight.

Motion to submit the proposal that was put in three years ago- unanimous support

- It was noted that the smaller mesh size has had a good impact, even though our fish are smaller and we have to work harder, we can still get as many fish as we have in the past.
- Congestion around Koyukuk with all the drift netters there. We need to do what Emmonak does- they pressure the biologists to not close the fishery on them so they catch their fish. 4A they forgot to open us this last summer- above us and below us they were fishing. We need to do something.
- Allocation isn't the issue, it is how the opening and shutting the areas is done.
- The people from Galena had to bring fish into this community (Nulato) or some of these people wouldn't have gotten any fish. ADF&G needs to see what the needs are in the community and understand that there is a huge discrepancy in what the people are getting to what they need.
- Benedict noted that it was very hard to put set nets near Koyukuk- the banks are changing



Richard Burnham gave a season summery to his fish project.

5-10 lbs	10%
11-15 lbs	42%
16-20 lbs	29.50%
21-25 lbs	16.80%
26-30 lbs	5.60%

Outliers

1 fish at 35 lbs

1 fish at 44 lbs

Richard noted that while the quality of escapement may have improved- 60% were in the 6 year old class, but only 13% were found in that range

ACTION ITEM:

Next meeting in Koyukuk- earlier the better for the AC

NULATO ELECTIONS:

Michael Stickman, Robin George, and Douglas Patsy were nominated by the Tribal Council to serve Nulato on the AC for the next three years.

YRDFA going to have a meeting in Galena in February, and they want an elder from each village at that meeting.

Meeting adjourned 3:00 pm

