Submitted by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game
March 3, 2014

Copper Basin community subsistence hunt (CSH) annual report Detailed explanation of draft questions, and proposed scoring criteria

During the December 2013 meeting of the Alaska Board of Game (board) Copper Basin Area Subsistence Hunting Regulations Committee, the department was asked to investigate potential solutions to increased participation in the CSH. One potential solution is to review the annual report template that is required as part of the hunt conditions to ensure it is objectively assessing a group's observation of the customary and traditional use pattern the board wrote into its findings at 2006-170-BOG.

One way to more objectively assess whether a group is following or attempting to follow the pattern described at 2006-170-BOG is to require each participating household to complete a report by following a questionnaire in which questions elicit numeric or other objective data. The board would then have a dataset by which to determine the threshold a group would need to meet in order to truly be said to be following, or attempting to follow, the customary and traditional use pattern for the community subsistence hunt.

This guide explains the draft questionnaire, and provides proposed scoring criteria for each question.

Explanation of draft questions, and proposed scoring criteria

Prepared March 3, 2014 by Alaska Department of Fish and Game

All points would be weighted according to the direction provided from the Board of Game to the department. The proposed scoring system currently categorizes each question into 1 of the 8 elements described in 2006-170-BOG and scores for each question have been adjusted to provide equal weights to each of the findings. Each category or question could be additionally weighted under the direction of the Board of Game to accurately reflect the intent of the board in determining adherence to the customary and traditional use pattern as well as continued eligibility for groups or communities.

To enhance consistency in scoring, and prevent group or community size from inappropriately affecting scores, proportions and percentages would be used as often as possible. Four categories could be defined:

- None – 0% of measurement.
- Minimal – 1% - 25% of measurement, rounded up.
- Marginal – 26% - 49% of measurement, rounded up.
- Significant – 50% or more of measurement, rounded up.

Under this recommendation, two types of reports would be required from each group or community. Each of these report types are described below.

Part 1 – Group / community coordinator report

The group or community coordinator report would provide a supplementary scoring opportunity for overall community patterns, to address the establishment of new groups or communities. This section of the report would also assist in providing accurate reporting of all moose harvested under the CSH program for each group or community. It is also intended to ensure a minimum level of reporting for assessment of the CSH program and community.

Question 1

The intent of question 1 is to validate household responses, and ensure accurate reporting from household reports. This question would not be scored directly and does not factor into the 8 elements.

Question 2

The intent of question 2 is to address, in part, element #3. Processing of game using commercial game processors can be costly, typically running $3.00/lb. Commercial processing can also be time consuming, when during the hunting season it can take many weeks to have game processed. One

strategy for reducing costs and improving efficiency is for community members to process meat together.

Scoring 2:

0 Points would be awarded if a significant proportion (> 50%) of meat was processed commercially

1 Point would be awarded if a marginal proportion (26%-49%) of total moose processed commercially.

2 Points would be awarded if a minimal proportion (<= 25%) or none of total moose was processed commercially.

Question 3a

The intent of this question is to identify that the community is establishing **or** continuing a pattern of use that relies on the CSH area. This, in part, addresses elements #1, #7, and #8 in 2006-170-BOG. The pattern this question attempts to identify is the replacement of some portion of unavailable subsistence resources with other subsistence resources available in the area and the expected sharing of resources from successful households.

Scoring 3a:

0 points would be awarded to communities where the full response involves the purchase of commercial foods and/or the harvest of foods outside of the CSH area.

1 point would be awarded if the response includes the increase of harvest of other resources in the area OR expectation of additional sharing from others, and may include some harvest of subsistence foods outside of the CSH area.

2 points would be awarded if the response includes the increase of harvest of other resources in the area OR expectation of additional sharing from others, AND there is no mention of uses of subsistence foods harvested outside of the CSH area.

3 points would be awarded if the response includes the increase of harvest of other resources in the area AND expectation of additional sharing from others, AND there is no mention of uses of subsistence foods harvested outside of the CSH area.

These points will be weighted according to the direction of the Board of Game.

Question 3b

The intent of this question is to identify that the community is establishing **or** continuing a pattern of use that relies on the CSH area. This, in part, addresses elements #1, #7, and 8 of 2006-170-BOG. The pattern this question attempts to identify is the replacement of some portion of unavailable subsistence resources with other subsistence resources available in the area and the expected sharing of resources from successful households.

Scoring 3b:

0 points would be awarded to communities where the full response involves the purchase of commercial foods and/or the harvest of foods outside of the CSH area.

1 point would be awarded if the response includes the increase of harvest of other resources in the area OR expectation of additional sharing from others, and also does not include subsistence resources from outside the CSH area.

Questions 4-8

The intent of these questions is to establish the group or community member's long term pattern of use, and close ties to and familiarity with the moose CSH area. These correspond to elements #1 and #4 erns described in 2006-170-BOG.

Scoring 4:

0 points would be awarded to communities where a significant proportion of community members (> 50%) did not travel to the moose CSH area for the described activities

1 point would be awarded to communities where a marginal proportion of community members (26-49%) did not travel to the moose CSH area for the described activities

2 points would be awarded to communities where a minimal proportion (<= 25%) or none of the community members did not travel to the moose CSH area for the described activities

Scoring 5:

0 points would be awarded to communities where a significant proportion of community members (> 50%) did not travel to the moose CSH area prior to 2007 for the described activities

1 point would be awarded to communities where a marginal proportion of community members (26-49%) did not travel to the moose CSH area prior to 2007 for the described activities

2 points would be awarded to communities where a minimal proportion (<= 25% or none of the community members did not travel to the moose CSH area prior to 2007 for the described activities

Scoring 6:

0 points would be awarded to communities where a significant proportion of community members (> 50%) did not travel to the moose CSH area prior to registering for this hunt for the described activities

1 point would be awarded to communities where a marginal proportion of community members (26-49%) did not travel to the moose CSH area prior to registering for this hunt for the described activities

2 points would be awarded to communities where a minimal proportion (<= 25%) or none of the community members did not travel to the moose CSH area prior to registering for this hunt for the described activities

Scoring 7:

0 points would be awarded to communities where a significant proportion of community members (> 50%) have never been to the moose CSH area to participate in described activities

1 point would be awarded to communities where a marginal proportion of community members (26-49%) have never been to the moose CSH area to participate in the described activities

2 points would be awarded to communities where a minimal proportion (<= 25%) or none of the community members have never been to the moose CSH area to participate in the described activities

Scoring 8:

0 points would be awarded to communities where a significant proportion of community members (> 50%) have no historical ties, as described, to the CSH area

1 point would be awarded to communities where a marginal proportion of community members (26-49%) have no historical ties, as described, to the CSH area

2 points would be awarded to communities where a minimal proportion (<= 25%) or none of the community members have no historical ties, as described, to the CSH area

Question 9

The intent of this question is to identify that the community is establishing **or** continuing a pattern of generational involvement in subsistence activities in the CSH area. This, in part, addresses element #6 described in 2006-170-BOG. This set of questions would be scored and weighted as a whole. These scores, unlike previous descriptions would be additive.

Scoring 12:

0 points would be awarded to communities where no response has been provided. This score would also be awarded to communities only describing efforts to involve adults in hunting activities in the area.

1 point would be added to the score for question 12 when the response includes involvement of more than 1 elder in hunting, processing, gathering or sharing activities. Current and historical involvement are both valid for this point.

1 point would be added to the score for question 12 when the response includes education of children, involving participation in hunting, processing or gathering activities.

1 point would be added to the score for question 12 when the response includes formalized education efforts for children, including camps, classes, or events that are intended to teach hunting, fishing, trapping or gathering. Also includes knowledge of land and geography in the CSH area.

Questions 10a-10c

The intent of these questions is to identify that the community is establishing **or** continuing a pattern of generational involvement, where children are being taught methods of hunting, fishing and processing. This, in part, addresses element #6 described in 2006-170-BOG.

Scoring 15a-15c:

1 point would be awarded for each of the 3 scenarios provided, if the scenario meets the following criteria:

- The scenario described is not exclusive to 1 household **AND**
- The scenario described involves children from multiple families **OR**
- The scenario described involves meaningful participation in hunting or fishing, to include making the kill, cutting meat, preparation of the meat for storage. **OR**
- Picking berries **OR**
- Actively searching for animals

0 points would be awarded for each question 15a-15c for situations not meeting the criteria described above.

Questions 11a-11d

The intent of these questions is to identify that the community is establishing **or** continuing a pattern of community sharing that involves a community sharing event. This, in part, addresses element #7 described in 2006-170-BOG. This set of questions would be scored and weighted as a whole. These scores, unlike previous descriptions would be additive.

Scoring 11a-11d:

0 points would be awarded to communities where no sharing event has occurred.

1 point would be added to the question 11 score for communities for which at least a marginal proportion of the community is present (26%-49%)

1 point would be added to the question 11 score for communities where the sharing event included more than 0 individuals from other communities

1 point would be added to the question 11 score for communities where the described sharing event clearly establishes an event where: a marginal proportion of the attendees were related in no closer degree than first cousin, or some portion of meat was given away uncooked. This point seeks to identify the community event as stretching beyond immediate family, and also that meaningful sharing has occurred.

Question 12

The intent of this question is to identify that the community is establishing **or** continuing a pattern of community sharing and generational involvement. This, in part, addresses elements #1 and #7 described in 2006-170-BOG.

Scoring 12

0 points would be awarded less than a significant proportion (<= 49%) of elder households (the head of household is 65 or older) have not been given meat **–or–** this community has no elder households.

1 point would be awarded if a significant proportion (> 50%) of elder households (the head of household is 65 or older) has been given meat.

Question 13

The intent of this question is to identify that the community is establishing **or** continuing a pattern of community sharing and generational involvement. This, in part, addresses element #7 described in 2006-170-BOG.

Scoring 13

0 points would be awarded if 1 or fewer households have no hunters and have not been given meat. This also applies in cases where 100% of all households have 1 hunter.

1 point would be awarded if more than 1 household without hunters has been given meat.

Question 16

The intent of this question is to identify that the community is establishing **or** is continuing a pattern of hunting that involves strategies to reduce cost, and increase efficiency. This question has been framed around fuel costs given described hunting patterns in the area involve extensive use of roadways as hunting corridors. This, in part, addresses element #3 described in 2006-170-BOG.

Scoring 16:

1 point would be awarded to communities where defined strategies involve at least one of the following characteristics:

- Households or individuals were asked to take additional moose for sharing with those that couldn't afford gas/equipment to hunt.
- Hunters travelled to hunting locations in a single vehicle
- Hunters shared the cost of fuel
- Hunters focused searches within walking distance along roadways to reduce use of fuel for ATVs
- Other strategies that would result in direct reduction of cost to fuel consumption or involved pooling of resources to directly reduce fuel costs.

0 points would be awarded to communities where strategies do not clearly identify actions taken that would directly result in the use of less fuel OR the pooling of resources to make the fuel less costly to individual households.

Question 17

The intent of this question is to identify that the community is establishing **or** is continuing a pattern of hunting that involves strategies to reduce cost, and increase efficiency. This question has

been framed around pooling of equipment and supplies so that costs are reduced for individual households. This, in part, addresses element #3 described in 2006-170-BOG.

Scoring 17:

1 point would be awarded to communities where defined strategies involve at least one of the following characteristics:

- Equipment and supplies, such as guns, ammunition, ATVs, vehicles, trailers, or camping gear shared amongst hunting and non-hunting households to reduce costs of purchasing the equipment
- Pooling of cash resources amongst households in the community to purchase a single piece of equipment such as an ATV
- Hunters asked to harvest more moose or caribou to share with those that do not have the economic resources or equipment to go out themselves
- Other strategies involving any kind of gear, equipment or supplies that would result in a direct reduction of cost or time in the field to households within the community as a whole.
  NOTE: In all cases, there must be an explanation as to HOW the described strategy actually saved money or reduced time in the field order to receive the point.

0 points would be awarded to communities where a clear strategy was not described OR where the strategy described did not explain how money or time in the field was saved.

Part 2 – Household report

The household report would provide the greatest detail in community participation, and provide the department a mechanism for using quantitative measures for assessing adherence to the 8 elements described in board findings. Individual households would not be scored, and, unless additional board decisions are put into place, household reports would not be used to disqualify any single household from the moose CSH hunt.

Question 1

The intent of this question is to identify the total number of individuals living in a household, regardless of age or whether or not that individual has been registered as part of the CSH group/community. This question would not be scored; it would be used as a tool to assist in validation of reporting.

Question 2

The intent of this question is to identify that the community is establishing **or** is continuing a pattern of use in the moose CSH area consistent in part with elements #1, #2, #4, #6, and #8 described in 2006-170-BOG. Due to the complexity of the questions asked and the breadth of criteria covered, points would be applied selectively according to the findings applicable to the scoring criteria. The scoring would be carried out as follows. Points for this question would be additive, and apply to the community as a whole and scores would be assessed by looking at all responses from all households in the group or community.

Scores would be split according to

2-1: points apply to element #1 of the 8 elements
2-2: points apply to element #2
2-4: points apply to element #4
2-6: points apply to element #6
2-8: points apply to element #8

Scoring 2:

1 Point would be added to 2-1, and 2-6, if at least a minimal proportion of community members, younger than 16 years old, participated in each of the following:

Hunting, and
fishing, and
berry picking, and
processing of any game, and
processing of any fish, and
processing of any berries.

1 point would be added to 2-2, 2-4, and 2-8 if at least a minimal proportion of community members of any age, participated in each of the activities listed.

1 point would be added to 2-2, 2-4, and 2-8 if at least a marginal proportion of community members of any age, participated in each of the activities listed, except trapping, and moose hunting. These points are in addition to any points already awarded for participation.

1 point would be added to 2-1, and 2-4 if a minimal proportion of elders (65 and older) participated in any of activities indicated

1 point would be added to 2-2, 2-4, and 2-8 if a **significant proportion** of group/community members participated in any **processing** activity.

Question 3a-3d

The intent of this question is to identify that the community is establishing **or** is continuing a pattern of use in the moose CSH area consistent in part with elements #2, #4, and #8 described in 2006-170-BOG. The scoring would be carried out as follows, and assigned to the factors as described. Points for this question are additive, and apply to the community as a whole; scores would be assessed by looking at all responses from all households in the group or community.

Scoring 3a – 3c:

1 point would be awarded for each of 3a – 3c if at least a marginal proportion of households made more than 1 trip in each of 3 different months for each question.

Scoring 3d:

1 point would be awarded for 3d if at least a marginal proportion of households made more than 1 trip in each of 2 different months.

Question 4

The intent of this question is to identify that the community is establishing **or** is continuing a pattern of use in the moose CSH area consistent in part with element #7 described in 2006-170-BOG. The scoring would be carried out as follows.

Scoring 4:

1 point would be awarded if a minimal proportion of households received moose from a member of the CSH community.

2 points would be awarded if a marginal proportion of households received moose from another member of the CSH community

0 points would be awarded in all other circumstances.

Question 5-5d

The intent of this question is to identify that the community is establishing **or** is continuing a pattern of use in the moose CSH area consistent in part with element #7 described in 2006-170-BOG. The scoring would be carried out as follows.

Scoring 5:

1 point would be awarded if at least a marginal proportion of households attended a community sharing event.

0 points would be awarded in all other circumstances.

Scoring 5a-5d:

1 point would be awarded for each community sharing event, if more than 1 sharing event has been indicated by household members, and at least a marginal proportion of community members and at least 1 non-community member attended. Only up to 2 points would be awarded this way.

Question 6

The intent of this question is to identify that the community is establishing **or** is continuing a pattern of use in the moose CSH area consistent in part with element #4 described in 2006-170-BOG. Multiple trips indicate a high reliance on and familiarity with the area.

Scoring 6:

1 point would be awarded if a marginal proportion of **hunting households** made more than 3 trips to hunt for moose in the moose CSH area. “Hunting households” could be defined as any household having 1 or more members that indicated moose hunting activities in question 2.

0 points would be awarded in all other cases.

Question 7

The intent of this question is to identify that the community is establishing **or** is continuing a pattern of use in the moose CSH area consistent in part with element #3 described in 2006-170-BOG. Working closely with other hunters, and combining resources, such as equipment and transportation, is an effective way to reduce costs and improve hunting efficiency.

Scoring 7:

1 point would be awarded if a significant proportion of hunting households hunted with at least 2 other community members, who were also not part of the same household.

0 points would be awarded in all other circumstances.

Question 8

The intent of this question is to identify that the community is establishing **or** is continuing a pattern of use in the moose CSH area consistent in part with elements #3 and #8 described in 2006-170-BOG. Harvesting multiple resources while searching for moose is an effective way to combine trips to reduce costs

Scoring 8:

1 point would be awarded for each of the 3 other activities indicated as a combined trip.

0 points would be awarded in all other circumstances

Question 9

This question would not be scored, but would be used to ensure accurate reporting by households and group or community coordinators. It may also be used in the future as an indicator of success and effort metrics to determine the performance of this hunt.

Question 10

The intent of this question is to identify that the community is establishing **or** is continuing a pattern of use in the moose CSH area consistent in part with element #6 described in 2006-170-BOG. Harvest of moose by youth indicates transfer of knowledge to subsequent generations, in order to maintain community harvest and use patterns.

Scoring 10:

1 point would be awarded if any moose have been harvested by a youth (age 16 or younger) by the community during 2013.

0 points would be awarded in all other circumstances.

Question 11

The intent of this question is to identify that the community is establishing **or** is continuing a pattern of use in the moose CSH area consistent in part with element #7 described in 2006-170-BOG. If, on average, hunting households give away significant proportions of meat, this indicates a highly developed and meaningful sharing pattern, consistent with 2006-170-BOG.

Scoring 11:

2 points would be awarded if (on average) a significant proportion (50% or more) of meat was shared by a significant proportion (50% or more) of harvesting households,

1 point would be awarded if (on average) a marginal proportion (26-49%) of meat was shared by a significant proportion (50% or more) of harvesting households.

1 point would be awarded if (on average) a significant proportion of meat (50% or more) was shared by a marginal proportion (25%-49%) of harvesting households.

0 points would be awarded in all other circumstances.

Question 12

The intent of this question is to identify that the community is establishing **or** is continuing a pattern of use in the moose CSH area consistent in part with element #3 described in 2006-170-BOG. Processing of game meat can be expensive ($3.00/lb and more) and take a significant amount of time. By processing the bulk of meat with community members or individually, communities can significantly reduce the costs of processing moose.

Scoring 12:

2 points would be awarded if a significant proportion (50% or more) of harvesting households did not indicate any use of commercial wild game meat processors.

1 point would be awarded if a significant proportion (50% or more) of harvesting households processed the moose using any other method than commercial processors.

0 points would be awarded in all other circumstances.

Questions 13a-13g

The intent of this question is to identify that the community is establishing **or** continuing a pattern of use that includes the use of all parts of the moose required to be taken from the field. This, in part, addresses elements #3 and #5 described in 2006-170-BOG. These questions seek to clearly establish the specific uses each part of the animal is subject to. Additionally, these questions attempt to establish additional efficiency in effort by using as much of the animal as possible. In any case other than the stated examples, 0 points would be awarded.

Scoring 13a:

1 point would be awarded for consumptive uses, such as cooking down for stock, or use in crafts

Scoring 13b:

1 point would be awarded for uses involving tanning for clothing, blankets, or other crafts.

Scoring 13c:

1 point would be awarded for any human consumption use.

Scoring 13d:

1 point would be awarded for uses involving human consumption of fats or tissues, or uses of the brain for activities such as tanning.

Scoring 13e:

1 point would be awarded for uses involving human consumption.

Scoring 13f:

1 point would be awarded for uses involving human consumption.

Scoring 13g:

1 point would be awarded for uses involving human consumption.

Questions 14 – 14b

The intent of these questions is to identify that the community is establishing **or** continuing a long term pattern of use, close ties to and familiarity with the area. This, in part, addresses elements #1 and #4 described in 2006-170-BOG. These questions would be scored as a single question. A maximum of 1 point would be available for this question. These questions are intended to establish communities where most of the households have either already established a historical pattern of use, or are working toward establishing a historical pattern of use.

2 points would be awarded if a significant proportion (50% or more) of households indicated their family has always used the area for subsistence activities.

-OR-

2 points would be awarded if a significant proportion of households indicated their family started using the area more than 25 years prior (1 generation) to the current hunting year, and use the area every year or most years

-OR-

1 point would be awarded if a marginal proportion (26-49%) of households indicated their family has always used the area for subsistence activities

-OR-

1 point would be awarded if a marginal proportion (26-49%) of households indicated their family started using the area more than 25 years prior (1 generation) to the current hunting year, and use the area some years, most years or every year.

-OR-

1 point would be awarded if at least a marginal proportion (26-49%) of households indicated their family started using the area more than 12 years prior (1/2 generation) to the current hunting year, and use the area most years or every year

-OR-

1 point would be awarded if at least a marginal proportion (26-49%) of households indicated their family has only started using the area within the past 10 years, and use the area every year.

Questions 15

The intent of these questions is to identify that the community is establishing **or** continuing a pattern of close ties to and familiarity with the area. This, in part, addresses element #4 described in 2006-170-BOG. Owning or renting any type of property in the area, regardless of residency indicates a strong and continuing connection to the area.

Scoring 15:

1 point would be awarded if a minimal proportion of households owns or rents some type of property in the CSH moose area.

0 points would be awarded in all other cases.

Questions 16a-17d

The intent of these questions is to identify that the community is establishing **or** continuing a pattern of reliance of the CSH area for hunting a wide variety of species. This, in part, addresses element #8 described in 2006-170-BOG. Extensive use of areas outside of the moose CSH area does not suggest a high-level of reliance on the moose CSH area, which is not consistent with the patterns described in 2006-170-BOG. These questions would be scored and weighted in several parts. Unless otherwise specified, each question would receive 0 points.

Scoring questions 16a, and 16b:

0 points would be awarded if there is any indicated use of other areas; this is prohibited under the terms of the CSH, and under the direction of the Board of Game may result in automatic community disqualification.

1 point would be awarded to both 20a and 20b in all other cases.

Scoring questions 16c-17d:

A reliance score would be calculated for each line using the following formula: #of Other GMUs used * (Individuals using / total community members) * (1.5 if frequent, 1 if occasional, 0.5 if rare). A reliance score of 1 or less (equivalent to a significant proportion (50%) of members occasionally using 1 other GMU), would receive **1 point**. Any reliance score above 1 would receive 0 points. To get the appropriate information to compute a community score, the following steps would be taken: Fishing areas would be translated into the closest applicable GMU for the fishery or water-body indicated. Household reports would be combined so that all GMUs listed would be counted 1 time, all people indicated would be counted 1 time, and frequency would be averaged, using the weight factors indicated above.