

ALASKA BOARD OF GAME

**Statewide Meeting
Fairbanks, Alaska
March 18-28, 2016**

On Time Advisory Committee Comment Index

Anchorage (Multiple minutes).....	AC01
Bethel (03-03-16 minutes).....	AC02
Central (10-13-15 & 03-02-16 minutes).....	AC03
Central Bering Sea (10-05-15 minutes).....	AC04
Central Kuskokwim (12-08-15 minutes).....	AC05
Central Peninsula (Multiple minutes).....	AC06
Coastal Lower Yukon (11-18-15 minutes).....	AC07
Cooper Landing (12-05-15 & 01-17-16 minutes).....	AC08
Copper Basin (02-16-16 minutes).....	AC09
Copper River/Prince William Sound (01-28-16 minutes).....	AC10
Craig (01-28-16 minutes).....	AC11
Delta (1-20-16 & 02-17-16 minutes).....	AC12
Denali (01-28-2016 & 02-17-16 minutes).....	AC13
Eagle (02-16-16 minutes).....	AC14
Edna Bay (12-27-15 minutes).....	AC15
Fairbanks (01-13-16 & 02-10-16 minutes).....	AC16
Homer (Multiple minutes).....	AC17
Juneau-Douglas (12-14-15 minutes).....	AC18
Kenai-Soldotna (Multiple minutes).....	AC19
Kodiak (02-26-16 minutes).....	AC20
Kotzebue (11-02-15 minutes).....	AC21

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Koyukuk River (02-23-16 minutes).....	AC22
Lake Iliamna (01-27-16 minutes)	AC23
Lower Kobuk (12-08-15 minutes)	AC24
Lower Kuskokwim (11-12-15 minutes).....	AC25
Matanuska Valley (Multiple minutes)	AC26
Middle Yukon (03-02-16 minutes)	AC27
Mid-Lower Yukon (11-16-15 minutes)	AC28
Minto/Nenana (11-12-15 minutes)	AC29
Mt. Yenlo (01-15-16 minutes)	AC30
Naknek/Kvichak (02-10-16 minutes)	AC31
Noatak/Kivalina (10-30-15 minutes)	AC32
North Slope (02-29-16 minutes)	AC33
Northern Norton Sound (12-27-15 & 01-20-16 minutes).....	AC34
Northern Seward Peninsula (01-05-16 minutes).....	AC35
Nushagak (02-03-16 minutes).....	AC36
Petersburg (11-16-15 & 01-06-16 minutes).....	AC37
Ruby (12-17-15 minutes).....	AC38
Seward (02-05-16 minutes).....	AC39
Sitka (02-17-16 minutes)	AC40
Southern Norton Sound (10-28-15 & 02-08-16 minutes).....	AC41
Stony Holitna (12-10-15 minutes)	AC42

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Tyonek (12-08-15 minutes)AC43

Unalaska/Dutch Harbor (12-16-15 minutes)AC44

Upper Kobuk (12-11-15 minutes).....AC45

Upper Lynn Canal (02-12-16 minutes).....AC46

Upper Tanana/Fortymile (11-17-15 & 12-16-15 minutes)AC47

Wrangell (01-04-16 & 01-28-16 minutes).....AC48

Yukon Flats (12-14-15 minutes).....AC49



**Kotzebue Sound AC Meeting
11/2/15
Alaska Technical Center**

- I. Call to Order: 7:15 pm by Pete Schaeffer
- II. Roll Call:
Members Present: Pete Schaeffer (Chair), Alex Whiting (Vice Chair/Secretary), Cyrus Harris, Victor Karmun, *Atamuk Shiedt*
Members Absent: Michael Kramer, Karmen Monigold, Michael Kramer, Eugene Smith
Number Needed for Quorum on AC: 5
- III. Introduction of guests: NPS WEAR – (Ken Adkisson, Marci Johnson, Hillary Robinson), USFWS Selawik Refuge – (Bill Carter, Susan Georgette), ADF&G Staff (Jim Dau, Brandon Saito, Carmen Daggett, Jim Menard), NANA Lands – (Lance Kramer) Approval of Agenda:
- IV. Approval of Agenda: Motion to approve agenda with addition of awards presentation under Old Business - unanimous approved.
- V. Approval of previous Meeting Minutes: From meeting date 1/6/2015 – Motion to Approve minutes - unanimous approved.
- VI. Public comments or concerns: Lance Kramer detailed story of the NANA Lands Department working with the Red Dog Subsistence Committee and the community of Kivalina to implement a closed port road to allow first bunch of caribou to cross.

Old Business
 - a. Update on caribou herd – Jim Dau discussed the caribou photo census and the reasons why they are unable to use to count caribou and the fact they can still use the collaring and cow mortality information to say something about herd status. He also stated that they will try to do another photo census in 2016.
 - b. Presentation of awards – Carmen Daggett presented Alex Whiting and Cyrus Harris with Excellence in Service awards bestowed by the BOG and BOF at their meeting last spring.
- VII. Elections:
 - a. Three seats were open: Cyrus Harris, Karmun Monigold, and Enoch Sheidt were reelected to them through unanimous consent.
 - b. Elect member to sheep working group: Enoch Sheidt was elected and Mike Kramer was the alternate through unanimous consent.

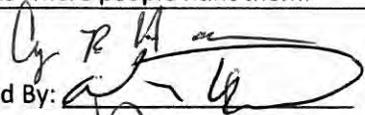


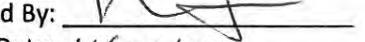
BOG or BOF	Proposal Number	Proposal Description	
		Number Support	Number Oppose
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal
BOF	141	Recognize rod and reel fishing as a legal means for subsistence fishing in all of the Kotzebue District.	
X Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input type="checkbox"/> No Action	5	0	The Kotzebue Sound AC submitted this proposal and continues to unanimously support its implementation. Allow people who infrequently use a rod and reel to catch subsistence fish, like herring in Kotzebue and trout in Kivalina to do so without needing a sport fish license.
BOG	57	Allow the sale of brown bear hides and/or skulls	
Supported	5	0	Wondered how this would conflict with the Lacey Act.
BOG	71	Clarify same day airborne prohibitions	
Supported	5	0	Do not support using aircraft to be used in any manner to hunt with.
BOG	72	Establish minimum caliber ammunition for moose hunts	
Opposed	0	5	Many local hunters use smaller centerfire calibers than .243 at times which are effective because they use head shots and not heart shots.
BOG	73	Establish minimum caliber ammunition for caribou hunts	
Opposed	0	5	The majority of the local hunters use smaller centerfire calibers than .243 at times which are effective because they use head shots and not heart shots.
BOG	74	Establish minimum caliber ammunition for black and brown bear hunts	
Opposed	0	5	Many local hunters use smaller centerfire calibers than .243 at times which are effective because they use head shots and not heart shots.
BOG	79	Require traps to be checked every 24 hours	
Opposed	0	5	It's not practical to check traps every 24 hours due to distances covered and weather conditions, in addition in many cases killer traps are used, or animals freeze to death shortly after being held in foot traps given the extreme temps.
BOG	80	Move trapping away from cities with a population of 1,000 or more	
Opposed	0	5	We have a lot of foxes in town which become a hazard in the spring.
BOG	81	Define the term underwater for the purposes of allowing furbearers to be harvested with underwater traps or snares	
Supported	5	0	I don't see a problem with this proposal. It is good to have clear regulations
BOG	85	Remove the exception for harvest tickets and reports for caribou	
Opposed	0	5	Community harvest census is working good in the region and implementing such a change would threaten the loss of hunting privileges to people that need to hunt, given the consequences set up for reporting compliance in other regulations that are in effect. The ADF&G Kotzebue staff are comfortable with the type of information there are getting on local caribou harvests under the current system.



BOG or BOF	Proposal Number	Proposal Description	
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal
BOG Opposed	104 0	5	Require Tier I subsistence permit holders to report harvest information There would be a lot of lost opportunity and confusion for people with this onerous set of reporting. Harvest census has been working in the region for all manner of species since at least the 1980's. This is unnecessary.
BOG Opposed	105 0	5	Modify the qualifications for Tier II subsistence Disagree with the premise put forth in proposal about how many days constitute a real subsistence hunter. 180 days is too many days to classify someone as a subsistence hunter. The current 70 days is sufficient.
BOG Support	127 5	0	Reauthorize the antlerless moose season in Unit 23 Very low numbers are taken and no reason to not reauthorize.
BOG Support	131 5	0	Reauthorize the current resident tag fee exemptions for brown bear in Units 18, 22, 23 and 26A Fully support the continuation of this exemption, encourage bear harvest.
BOG Support	132 5	0	Modify the hunting season for snowy owls People continue to hunt snowy owls on occasion and the seasons proposed will accommodate this.
BOG Support	133 5	0	Modify the hunting season for cormorants No reason not to allow for continuation of this where people hunt them.

Adjournment:

Minutes Recorded By: 

Minutes Approved By: 

Date: 11/20/15



Federal Regulation Change Proposals

WP16-48: Allows a snow machine to be used to position a hunter to select individual caribou for harvest provided that the animals are not shot from a moving machine on Federal Land

Support: 5 Oppose: 0

Need to make the regulations the same as State so people are not confused and can hunt in the same manner throughout Unit 23 that has a majority of federal lands in it.

WP16-49: Seeks to change federal caribou hunting regulations

Supported as amended: 5 Oppose: 0

Comments: There was a lot of discussion with reindeer herders and the people from Buckland who wanted to hunt later. We hashed this out last year and picked our dates. Bulls are rutting a lot later due to climate. It is good to support the RAC on merit. Motion to support the RAC, Seconded by Atamuk, Discussion: Would like to keep the state bag limit, and would like to make an exception for Buckland in the state dates, otherwise support making the federal and state dates the same.

WP16-50: seeks to increase the size of the pool of federally eligible hunters who could potentially participate in that Cape Krustenstern muskox hunt.

Support: 5 Oppose: 0

Comments:

WP16-51: Seeks to establish a federal season and hunt for muskox in the recently expanded hunt area of the Noatak River drainage

Support: 5 Oppose: 0

Comments:

WP16-52: Seeks to reduce caribou hunting on federal land to 7 caribou a day

Support: 0 Oppose: 5

Comments:

WP16-53: Seeks to close the federal sheep season in the Baird and Delong Mountains

Support: 0 Oppose: 5

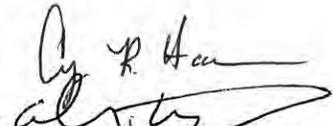
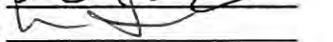
Comments: We should go through the motions every year to close this one down. Expresses concern over the potential future problem of opening the season if this were to go into effect, given the past history of difficulties encountered with the NPS on opening seasons in the past and the potential to have all new people working at the NPS during the time when it needs to be open and them being not clear or the history of the hunt. The NPS could not assure that difficulties would not arise in the future.

WP16-61: Seeks to change caribou hunting regulations North of the Singgoalik River

Support: 5 Oppose: 0

Comments:

Adjournment: 9:18 pm

Minutes Recorded By: 
Minutes Approved By: 
Date: 11/20/15

Koyukuk River Advisory Committee (KR-AC) Minuets,
Teleconference meeting February 23, 2016 at 12:00 PM
Called to address Board of Game State wide Proposals, for the
March 18-28, 2016 Fairbanks meeting

AC members on the call were, Jack Wholecheese, Darrel Vent, Shawn Huffman from Huslia,
Pollock and Andy Simon, Warner Burgman, from Allakaket,
Hugh Bifelt from Hughes,
Gary Hanchet from Bettles,
Jack Reakoff from Wiseman (Chair)
Quorum established

Others on the call:

AGF&G staff on the call, Glenn Stout AG, and Nissa Pilcher Boards Fairbanks
USFWS staff on the call, Jeremy Havner Koukuk/Nowitna/Inoko NWR-Galena,
Tina Moran, and Vince Mathews Kanuti NWR

Jack Reakoff Chair gave a report on progress of the BOG sub-committee Dall Sheep Work
Group(SWG). Lack of consensus after three meeting, Dec. 5&6 ANC, Jan. 30&31 FAI and Feb. 20&21 in
ANC, has not produced significant progress on a Dall Sheep Management Plan. Many participants in
the SWG expressed frustration at the lack of progress.

Glenn Stout gave current moose population status after intensive survey in Nov. 55calves:100cows,
good spring twin rates. Wolf Control 24B is in its last hunt in late March early April. Good yearling
recruitment of moose. Moose harvest was way up in GMU24 this past season. AC members have seen
several young moose killed by wolves.

Several AC members bring up the USFWS Proposed Rule to limit State regulation of Predator seasons
and means on Refuge lands. The KR-AC after discussing various concerns about continued enhanced
predator harvest as well as the proposed rules possible divergence from science, voted unanimously
to write a letter of comment. (Attached at the end) Jeremy Havener gave the phone number for the
Proposed Rule hearing in Galena on March 3, 2016.

The KR-AC took up some of the Statewide proposals for the BOG 3-18 through 28, 2016
Fairbanks meeting. With limited time members could remain on the call proposals were taken up by
importance to the KR-AC.

Proposals 22 through 26 were taken up as a block; Warner B. motioned to adopt, Darrel V. 2nd. All
five proposals were **unanimously opposed**. The sentiment of the AC was to support the current
sheep-spotting ban the BOG implemented under proposal 207. The AC members frown upon use of
aircraft to spot game in general and sheep in particular as resident hunter success rates decline.

Proposal 130 to reauthorized Brown bear tag fee exemption; Pollock S. motion to adopt, Shawn
Huffman 2nd. **Unanimously adopted**. Brown are under harvested in GMU 24, resident opportunity
to take Brown bears should not be limited.

Proposal 100; Gives Area Biologist flexibility to apply discretionary authority drawing permits in
GMU's 21B, C, D, and 24. Pollock S., motioned to adopt, Gary H. 2nd.
The AB Glenn Stout explained how this action would allow distribution of hunters to maintain the
Koyukuk moose plan bull: cow ratios. Proposal **unanimously adopted**.

Proposal 71; to clarify language regarding same day air-born hunting, to include a person may not be
assisted by a person who has been air-born in taking big game. Gary H. motioned to adopt, Darrel V.
2nd, Discussion about spotting and landing to tell a hunter, or pre-arranged circling of animals by air-
born individuals, to let ground hunter know where game is located. **Unanimously adopted**.



Proposal 72; to limit moose harvest to minimum caliber of .234, 6mm. Gary H. motioned to adopt, Warner B. 2nd. The .243, 6mm is considered absolute minimum caliber to take moose. Discussion about minimum calibers used which are typically .30 calibers or larger 30.30 etc. Also discussion about wound-loss using .223 for moose and the lost resource. Moose photos on Facebook that show moose in the water with semi-auto .223 and dead moose found that had been lost. It was a firm opinion that small calibers should not be used for moose. Moose have been killed with .22 long-rifle but it is not wise use to hunt with light arms. There was concern about not giving enough lead-time for hunters to get a .243> caliber by the fall hunt. An amendment to implement it after one year was attached to the motion. **Adopt with amendment unanimous.**

Proposal 85; to remove exception for harvest tickets for Western Arctic and Teshekpuk caribou for residents north of the Yukon. Motion to adopt Jack W., 2nd by Gary H. The AC discussed how registered hunters north of the Yukon have been sent a letter to account for caribou harvest. Larger bag limits for hunters are not accommodated for with the current harvest ticket/ report for hunters north of the Yukon. **Unanimously apposed.**

Proposals, 103& 104, taken as a block, Warner B. motion to adopt, Pollock S. 2nd, Proposed change to the current system would be onerous for many of the elders who speak their native language. There are also rural people that are not familiar with legal and burdensome language to comply with. The BOG in conjunction with the Subsistence Division can make the evaluation for determination of the communities or areas. Participants in any Tier I hunt should not be burdened with ensuring the 8 elements are observed. Elimination of qualified participants would be the result of this proposal if adopted. **Unanimously Apposed.**

Proposal 57, Allow the sale of Brown Bear hides or skulls. Motion to adopt with amendment to include GMU24 with one bear limit, Gary H. 2nd, by Huge B. The KR-AC discussed the desire to increase Brown bear harvest incentives in GMU24. The members of the Committee that are Koyukon stated they would not participate in sale of "Big Animal" parts, but felt that others should be able to. They have cultural reasons and taboos against such things with any bear. The Brown Bear population is growing larger in GMU24, and is under harvested at this time, especially in sub-units 24B,C, and D. **Adopted with amendment unanimously.**

The Area Biologist Glenn Stout covered for Department proposals that will be submitted to the BOG for Region III, that will affect GMU 24 in particular. The four proposal will affect access, Federal alignment, and registration hunt changes for specific Moose and Brown Bear hunts.

The KR-AC was asked by the chair for ideas for proposals for the Region III cycle. No ideas came forth as of yet.

A motion to adjourn was made by Darrel V. and 2nd, by Hugh B. **Unanimous adjournment.**

February 24, 2016

Koyukuk Advisory Committee to
Alaska Board of Game and Alaska
Board of Fish

Attn: FWS-R7-NWRS-2014-0005;
Division of Policy, Performance, and Management Programs
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service,
MS: BPHC; 5275 Leesburg Pike,
Falls Church, VA 22041-3803.

Comments on the Proposed Rule for Non-Subsistence Take of Wildlife, and Public Participation and Closure Procedures, on National Wildlife Refuges in Alaska

The Koyukuk River Advisory Committee is one of 84 advisory bodies that make recommendations to Alaska's Boards of Game and Fish. The Advisory Committees are recognized statutorily as also advisory to Federal Management regarding Federal Lands under Title VIII 805.(a)(2) of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act. The Koyukuk River Advisory Committee is comprised of rural residents of Alaska in Game Management Unit 24.

On February 23, 2016 the Koyukuk River Advisory Committee (KRAC) met by teleconference to review game proposals, and other issues. Many members of the Committee were concerned with aspects of the USFWS Proposed rule regarding non-subsistence take. The Committee voted to submit comments on the proposed rule, docket number FWS-R7-NWRS-2014-0005, and oppose the Proposed Rule as written, unanimously.

Moose, caribou and other pray species, as well as Black Bear are used as food by the people of the Koyukuk River.

During the meeting several of the KRAC members expressed concern that current State of Alaska predator harvest regulations would be precluded, arbitrarily without a scientific basis. Most members believe from personal experience, that predator harvest needs to be maintained for non-subsistence users under State of Alaska regulations, as well as rural subsistence uses.

A healthy balance of predator harvest of wolves and Brown Bears in the Koyukuk NWR and Kanuti NWR by rural subsistence, and non-subsistence is desired by the KRAC. Predator harvest is far below rural use amounts needed, and predator populations are at all time highs. Where as caribou and moose populations have declined dramatically over the past two decades.

The KRAC discussed the proposed rule allowing for future arbitrary regulation reductions by using primarily; biological integrity, diversity, and environmental health [BIDEH] criteria. The BIDEH language gives too much leeway to wildlife managers judgment and interpretation.

“sound professional judgment incorporates *field experience, knowledge of refuge resources*, refuge role within an ecosystem, applicable laws, and best available science including consultation with others both inside and outside the Service”.

The high turn over rate for several Alaskan Refuges of field managers and staff has been a concern for some time. Lack of field experience and familiarity with predator-prey relationships in Alaska may lead to arbitrary decisions. Reliance on BIDEH as the directive for management decisions diverges away from the statutory mandate for science-based decisions found in ANILCA.

The enabling legislation for Alaskan Refuges gives clear direction to management of fish and wildlife resources in Title VIII of ANILCA PUBLIC LAW 96-487

“POLICY: SEC 802. It is hereby declared to be the policy of Congress that—

(1) Consistent with sound management principles, and the conservation of healthy populations of fish and wildlife, the utilization of the public lands in Alaska is to cause the



least adverse impact possible on rural residents who depend upon subsistence uses of the resources of such lands; ***consistent with management of fish and wildlife in accordance with recognized scientific principles*** and the purposes for each unit established, designated, or expanded by or pursuant to titles II through VII of this Act, the purpose of this title is to provide the opportunity for rural residents engaged in a subsistence way of life to do so;”

We feel that there should science-based harvest of predators within sustainability, by non-subsistence, and subsistence users. Balanced harvest of both prey and predators to maintain healthy populations of wildlife on Refuge lands is statutory and should be the main concern. State of Alaska predator harvest seasons, methods and means should be of little concern if predator populations are harvested at or below thresholds for scientifically established sustained yield.

The Koyukuk River Advisory Committee appreciates the opportunity to comment on the Proposed Rule.

Jack Reakoff KR-AC Chair

Lake Iliamna Fish and Game Advisory Committee

Teleconference Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, January 27, 2016

I. Call to order, 9:06 AM

II. Roll call,, Randy Alvarez, Jim Tilly, Tim Anelon, Tinny Hedlund, Elijah Eknaty, George Alexie, Greg Anelon,,, absent Lyle Wilder, Joel Jocko, Bill Trefon

III. Approval of Agenda Tinny moves, Tim 2nds 7-0 approve

IV. ADF&G Staff Tim Sands,, Chris Peterson, Scott Quest, Taryn O'Connor-Brito, Dave Crowley

Guests Gayla Hosett, Molly Dishner, Chuck McCallum

V. Staff updates Due to cost cuts , Togiak tower, Nushagak Sonar, and Igushik counting will not be in operation for 2016.

The cost recovery system for enforcement is expected to be put out in March with estimated \$200-\$375 needed in 2016

VI. Newhalen seat election: Tim nominates Greg Anelon Tilly 2nd

Tinny moves to close Tim 2nd.

Greg Anelon seated with unanimous support

VII. New Business

I. Comments for Board of Fish *(Fisheries comments excerpted)*

2. Comments for Board of Game

prop 3 Tilly moves Randy 2nd opposed 0-6 the definition seems pretty straight forward as it is?

prop 5 Tilly moves to adopt Tim 2nd opposed 0-6 needless and not a very practical

prop 21-26 We blanketed these as 1 and support,,many reasons to support,,

prop 30 Tim moves Tilly 2nd,, support 6-0, long overdue,

prop 31 Tilly moves Tim 2nd,, support 6-0 similar to 30,, exclude goats discussed?

prop 50 Tilly moves Tim 2nd,, opposed 0-6 , this is a good rule and easy to do

prop 54 Tim moves, Greg 2nd,, opposed 6-0 There already is?

prop 57 Tim moves Tilly 2nd support 6-0 good idea, some people have village and predation hides stacking up, nice to be able to move them

prop 69 Tilly moves Tim 2nd , opposed 0-6 ,, doesn't make much sense!!

prop 70 Tilly moves Tim 2nd Opposed 0-6, caribou, sheep,, sometimes it's nice to know there is some game around

prop 72,73,74 Tim moves Greg 2nd opposed all, caliber restrictions,

prop 79 Tilly moves tim 2nd , opposed 0-6,, not realistic,

prop 129 Tim moves Tilly 2nd,, support 6-0 good idea,, about a zillion bears in Bristol Bay region,, big fish runs,, lots of 3 and 4 bear litters

prop 134 Tilly mones Greg 2nd , support 6-0,, 2 caribou either sex,, easier to deal with.

Minutes recorded by:

IAC,secretary J Tilly,PVY

1/31/2015

Minutes approve by: Randy Alvarez 2/8/16



Lower Kobuk AC Meeting
12/8/15
Kiana School
Teleconference 1-800-504-8071 Code: 442-1717

- I. Call to Order: 11:30 am by Raymond Stoney
- II. Roll Call:
Members Present: Raymond Stoney (Chair-Kiana), Glenn Miller (Kiana), Larry Westlake (Kiana), Lonnie Tebbits (Noorvik), Bill Zibell (Noorvik), and Wilbur Howarth Sr. (Noorvik)
Members Absent: Leonard Brown and Selawik Representative
Number Needed for Quorum on AC: 5
List of User Groups Present: Subsistence Users and Trappers
- III. Approval of Agenda:
Motion to approve the minutes pending the corrections from the Upper Kobuk AC
- IV. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: Minutes approved
- V. Fish and Game Staff Present: Brenden Scanlon (Sport Fish), Brandon Saito (Wildlife), Carmen Daggett (Boards), Beth Miklow (Subsistence)
- VI. Guests Present: Marci Johnson NPS, Brendan Scanlon (ADF&G), and Ken Adkisson (NPS)
- VII. Old Business: Caribou Herd Update:
Raymond Stoney: Explains the knowledge of the Western Arctic Caribou Herd.
Glenn Miller: Expresses concern over golden eagle predation on calves.
Larry Westlake: Expresses ideas for increases in technology.
William Zibell: Inquires about an impression of the herd.
Brandon Saito: Explains Jim Dau's opinion, based on cow and calf survival.
William Zibell: Explains that the caribou were healthy and fat.
Glenn Miller: It seemed like the caribou were in large numbers and in good conditions.
- VIII. New Business:

Elections: Added Janice Richards onto the advisory committee pending her accepting the position, and re-elected Larry Westlake, Glenn Miller and Raymond Stoney onto the Lower Kobuk AC and to re-elect Raymond Stoney as the Chairman.

Raymond Stoney: Attended the sheep working group meeting and outlines a summary of the sheep working group meeting. There are very few young sheep versus adults. They are looking for a way from the working permits.

Wilbur Howarth: I would like to hear from the North Slope Area.

Carmen Daggett: Expresses that he could participate in the North Slope RAC meeting and the North Slope AC meeting if he wanted to.



Larry Westlake: I would like to comment on the caribou herd. Most of the herd in the Buckland and Deering area.

Glenn Miller: Suggests to have volunteers help with the caribou.

Larry Westlake: I think this would be a good idea.

Wilbur Howarth: Explains there is one spot by Noorvik where all of the caribou go through. It is not as easy to do fish.

Glenn Miller: I want to help.

Larry Westlake: My concern is our leaders, the count is not working, we need to get better cameras we need to try to fix these problems.

Wilbur Howarth: Discussion has occurred about limiting our caribou to a number of caribou per year, instead of per day.

BOF	141	Recognize rod and reel fishing as a legal means for subsistence fishing in all of the Kotzebue District.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input type="checkbox"/> No Action	6	0	Proposal 141: Make rod and reel legal subsistence gear. Brendan Scanlon presents the proposal. Raymond Stoney: Explains about being glad to be using rod and reel. Larry Westlake: Our people used a hook and line all of our lives and didn't have a pole. We hooked fish using the hook and line. I would say that it is still a subsistence way of life. Lonnie Tebbits: Move to support proposal 141. Seconded by Larry Westlake. 6 Supported, 0 opposed

Minutes Recorded By: Carmen Daggett

Minutes Approved By: Walter Zuer Date: 12-18-15

Minutes Approved By: _____ Date: _____

Minutes Approved By: _____ Date: _____



Alaska Board of Game Statewide Meeting, March 8-18, 2016, Fairbanks			
BOG or BOF	Proposal Number	Proposal Description	
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal
BOG Support	55	Change the statewide brown bear bag limit to one bear every regulatory year	
	6	0	<p>Wilbur Howarth Sr.: Inquires about increasing the brown bear bag limit to two.</p> <p>Glenn Miller: Explains we have a lot of bears, and this bear problem becomes a moose problem. Explains wanting to allow proxy hunting for elders for brown bears.</p> <p>Larry Westlake: There has been a lack of berries, these past years and they have been a dangerous problem.</p> <p>Lonnie Tebbits: move to support</p> <p>Seconded by Wilbur.</p>
BOG Support	57	Allow the sale of brown bear hides and/or skulls	
	6	0	<p>Glenn Miller: Discusses wanting to increase bears to two a year.</p> <p>Bill Zibell: Explains the trophy statewide, here the black bear is good eating and prized and the brown bear is a nuisance and is a predator for caribou fawns.</p> <p>Wilbur Howarth Sr.: Doesn't want to see this sort of proposal passed, it is going to get out of hand.</p> <p>William Zibell: Most people don't like hunting bears and people don't know how to handle.</p> <p>Wilbur Howarth Sr: Explains you can eat and share black bear.</p> <p>Larry Westlake: The seasons for prime time hunting.</p> <p>William Zibell: I like the idea of allowing this.</p> <p>Glenn Miller: Explains underground illegal hunting.</p> <p>Glenn Miller: Motioned to support as amended: If it is tagged and handled right and with paperwork from a reputable furrier then maybe this is allowed.</p> <p>Proposal 57: un-amended:</p> <p>William Zibell: Explains that some of the amended information is already in the law. The furrier wants to handle it green, and won't commercial value.</p> <p>Glenn Miller: Explains home tanning. Glenn withdraws the amendment and motions to support proposal 57.</p>
BOG Support	71	Clarify same day airborne prohibitions	
	5	1	<p>Glenn Miller: I agree with this.</p> <p>Raymond Stoney: Inquires about dealing with a boat.</p> <p>Raymond Stoney: Explains seems like this scenario might happen.</p> <p>William Zibell: Inquires about getting information inadvertently. I had</p>



Alaska Board of Game Statewide Meeting, March 8-18, 2016, Fairbanks			
BOG or BOF	Proposal Number	Proposal Description	
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal
			<p>experience with hearing things from other people and someone getting in trouble. I am leery about it. I am going to oppose it myself.</p> <p>Lonnie Tebbits: I support this they have taken a lot of our game away from us because of this. The thing would be reporting.</p> <p>Bill Zibell: Explains his point on the side of the hunter with the information.</p> <p>Glenn Miller: Move to accept proposal 71 as written.</p> <p>Seconded by Bill Zibell</p>
BOG Opposed	72		<p>Establish minimum caliber ammunition for moose hunts</p> <p>Glenn Miller: I have seen people hunting with .2250. That is taking the hunter ability to make decisions on the ground. I don't want people telling me what decisions I should make. Different hunters have different ability, distance.</p> <p>Larry Westlake: We don't make long shots here so the distance is a big factor.</p> <p>Glenn Miller: Explains different regions have different conditions.</p> <p>Motion to oppose proposals 72, 73, 74.</p> <p>Bill Zibell: Ammo is hard to come by here. In the spring I carry a .2250 in the spring when I am trapping. Shot placement is the most important. That ammo is hard to get and it is expensive.</p> <p>Glenn Miller: I go for one shot and one kill. Caribou people use .223 because it is so cheap. The bigger caliber is going to ruin half of the meat.</p>
	0	6	
BOG Opposed	73		<p>Establish minimum caliber ammunition for caribou hunts</p> <p>See comments proposal 72</p>
	0	6	
BOG Opposed	74		<p>Establish minimum caliber ammunition for black and brown bear hunts</p> <p>See comments proposal 72.</p>
	0	6	
BOG Opposed	79		<p>Require traps to be checked every 24 hours</p> <p>Bill Zibell: CRAZY.</p> <p>Raymond Stoney: So if you have a set that is really far away.</p> <p>Bill Zibell: That is a lot of fuel every day, it would make trapping impossible. You are doing a 12-15 hour run in a day. You would have to keep doing the same thing over and over. Body grippers kill most of your animals are dead anyways.</p> <p>Bill Zibell: There is no way I could follow that.</p> <p>Glenn Miller: Explains there are different types of traps, and the different patterns. I check snares and leg holds every day, but for conibear traps, I don't check them every day and it would ruin the scent area.</p> <p>Larry Westlake: Motion to oppose</p> <p>Glenn Miller: Seconded</p>
	0	6	



BOG	80	Move trapping away from cities with a population of 1,000 or more
Support	6	0 I say we don't deal with this. This doesn't affect us. Wilbur: I thought about although we are at 700, I see people setting fox traps in town. Larry Westlake: They had a trapping class here in town a couple of years ago.
BOG	81	Define the term underwater for the purposes of allowing furbearers to be harvested with underwater traps or snares
Support	6	0 Glenn Miller: I have seen traps like this. We have a lot of beavers around here. Larry Westlake: Motion to support 81 Seconded by Bill Zibell.
BOG	85	Remove the exception for harvest tickets and reports for caribou
Opposed	6	0 Glenn Miller: We do enough paperwork in our lives. One of the reason we live out here because we are a freeman. Move to oppose 85. Seconded by Larry Westlake. Raymond Stoney: This is going to be difficult to go through
BOG	104	Require hunters to submit a subsistence hunt report
Opposed	0	6 State opposes Larry Westlake: Move to oppose Seconded by Wilbur
BOG	105	Modify the qualifications for Tier II subsistence hunting permit point system.
Opposed	0	6 Department opposes. William Zibell: Motions to oppose Larry Westlake: Seconds
BOG	127	Reauthorize the antlerless moose season in Unit 23
Support	6	0 Larry Westlake Moves to support Seconded by Glenn Miller
BOG	131	Reauthorize the current resident tag fee exemptions for brown bear in Units 18, 22, 23 and 26A
Support	6	0 Glenn Miller: motion to support 131 Lonnie: Seconded
BOG	132	Modify the hunting season for snowy owls
Support	6	0 Lonnie: Moved to support Seconded by Bill Zibell
BOG	133	Modify the hunting season for cormorants
Support	6	0 Bill Zibell: Moved to support Seconded by Wilbur

Adjournment: 15:18

Minutes Recorded By: Carmen Daggett
 Minutes Approved By: Bill Zibell, Date: 12-18-15
 Minutes Approved By: _____, Date: _____
 Minutes Approved By: _____, Date: _____

Federal Regulation Change Proposals

WP16-48: Allows a snow machine to be used to position a hunter to select individual caribou for harvest provided that the animals are not shot from a moving machine on Federal Land

Support: 5 Oppose: 0

Comments: It is important to know the law. I like this proposal. I think you should always push in a good position to have a better shot instead of doing crazy things. You can be in a bad position.

Larry Westlake: Moved to support

Seconded by Bill Zibell

WP16-49: Seeks to change federal caribou hunting regulations

Support: 6 Oppose: 0

Comments:

Brandon Saito: Explains the differences between the state and federal side.

Larry Westlake: It is good to keep the state and federal the same.

Glenn Miller: Explains we wanted to support people in the Upper Kobuk.

Bill Zibell: Move to support

Seconded by Glenn Miller.

WP16-50: seeks to increase the size of the pool of federally eligible hunters who could potentially participate in that Cape Krustenstern muskox hunt.

Support: 6 Oppose: 0

Comments:

Ken Adkisson: This hunt has been undersubscribed. Outlined the proposal.

Wilbur Howarth: Moved to support

Seconded by Lonnie.

WP16-51: Seeks to establish a federal season and hunt for muskox in the recently expanded hunt area of the Noatak River drainage

Support: 5 Oppose: 0

Comments:

Ken Adkisson: Presents the proposal and explains details.

This would throw us in the mix if we wanted to apply for the musk ox permits. You can't go wrong with that.

Larry Westlake: This is something we want to support

Wilbur: Motion to support

Seconded by Glenn.

WP16-52: Seeks to reduce caribou hunting on federal land to 7 caribou a day

Support as amended: 6 Oppose: 0

Comments:

Glenn Miller: The Lower Kobuk wants to amend with the State and Federal down to 5 caribou a day to show we are stewards of the country.

Seconded by Bill.



WP16-53: Seeks to close the federal sheep season in the Baird and Delong Mountains
Support: 6 Oppose: 0

Comments:

Larry Westlake: There has been a real decline in sheep we need to support the herd.

Glenn Miller: We are having better weather not that freeze thaw.

Raymond Stoney: Went to sheep working group meeting.

Ken Adkisson: Reviewed the proposal and the history behind the closing of the sheep hunts.

Wilbur Howarth: Motion to support

Seconded by Bill.

WP16-61: Seeks to change caribou hunting regulations North of the Singgoalik River

Support: 6 Oppose: 0

Comments:

Larry Westlake: I don't see any problem with this proposal.

Lonnie: Moved to support 16-61

Seconded by Larry

Adjournment: 15:18

Minutes Recorded By: Carmen Daggett

Minutes Approved By: Walter Stoney, Date: 12-18-15

Minutes Approved By: _____, Date: _____

Minutes Approved By: _____, Date: _____



Lower Kuskokwim Fish and Game Advisory Committee
November 12-13th, 2015
Bethel Long House

- I. Call to Order: Time: 10:45 am by James Charles
- II. Roll Call:
Members Present: Phillip Peter, Sr. (Akiachak), Willie Phillip (Tuluksak), Frank Berezkin (Oscarville), Jackson Williams Sr. (Akiak, Vice Chairman), James Charles (Tuntutuliak, Chairman), John Nicholas (Kasigluk), John Andrew (Kwethluk), Sandra Nicori (Kwethluk, Secretary), William "Charlie" Brown (Eek), Henry Tikiun Sr. (Atmautluak), Henry Parks (Nunapitchuk), Earl Samuelsen, Sr. (Napaskiak), Richard Larsen (Napasiak) Jacob Black (Napakiak)
Members Absent: Richard Larsen
Number Needed For Quorum on AC: 8, quorum established

List of User Groups Present: Subsistence users, commercial fisherman, trappers, and hunters.
- III. Approval of Agenda:
Add Proposal 222 by proposal 97 to the discussion around Proposal 27.
- IV. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: From meeting date: 12/8/2014
Minutes approved
- V. Fish and Game Staff Present:
Phil Perry (Wildlife Conservation), Aaron Poetter (Commercial Fisheries-telephonic), Patrick Jones (Wildlife Conservation), Carmen Daggett (Boards Support Section)
- VI. Guests Present:
Charles Enoch (KYUK), Jacob Black (Napakiak), Greg Rochizka, John Andrew (AVCP Bethel), Martin Nicolai (Kwethluk), Chariton Epchook (Kwethluk), Mark Cloward (Troopers), Brandon Forest (Troopers), Greg Roczika (ONC Bethel), Phillip Nicholas (Kasigluk)
- VII. Old Business:
- VIII. New Business:
 - a. Administrative
 - i. Election of Officers
 1. Unanimous Consent: Chair: James Charles, Vice Chair Elected Phillip Peter, Sandra Nicori (Secretary)
 - ii. Election of Representatives
 1. Arctic Yukon Kuskokwim Board of Fisheries meeting
 - a. Nominated Main: James Charles, nominated alternate for Phillip Peter Sr.
 2. Statewide Board of Game Meeting
 - a. Nominated Main: James Charles
 3. Discussion of AC terms: Wants to have half of AC two year term and three year terms.

*(Fisheries comments p. 2-4 excerpted)*

BOF	105	Modify gear specifications to reduce king salmon harvest in the Kanektok and Arolik rivers.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input type="checkbox"/> No Action	8	5	Reduce king harvest in Kanektok and Arolik rivers. Earl Samuelson's comment was that he was not comfortable voting where we don't (?) have sports fishing. Vote was 8 yeas, 5 nays, proposal passed.
BOF	106	Extend the Nelson Island herring fishing district from Atrnak Point toward Cape Vancouver.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input type="checkbox"/> No Action	8	5	Jackson Williams moved to adopt the proposal, seconded by Earl Samuelson. Question called, vote was 8 yeas, 5 nays, proposal passed.

Alaska Board of Game Statewide Meeting, March 8-18, 2016, Fairbanks

BOG	5	Modify the definition of edible meat for all game birds	
Support	13	0	John Andrew: 1 st Earl Samuelson: 2 nd This is similar to last year's proposal with the addition of bird legs and thighs. Present regulations is breast only but this one includes more parts. John W. Andrew moved to adopt this proposal and he was seconded by Earl Samuelson. Vote: 13 yeas, zero nays, proposal passed.
BOG	17	Provide an exemption for bowhunter education requirements	
Support	8	5	John Andrew: 1 st John Wasillie: 2 nd Discussion centered around trying to have an amendment to exempt Unit 18 from the bow hunter education requirements. Proposal is requiring certification for bow hunters, which, if passed, goes into effect next year for those born after January 1, 1986. There is one certified to teach classes in Bethel, if one passes the test, they will be required to carry the card on person by next fall. Vote: 8 yeas, 5 nays, proposal passed.
BOG	66	Allow the use of felt soles	
Oppose	1	12	Earl 1 st Phillip 2 nd Earl moved to adopt proposal and was seconded by Phillip Peter. Question called by Jackson Williams, vote: 1 yeas, 12 nays.
BOG	69	Prohibit hunting with domestic dog	
Oppose	4	9	People take dogs for safety reasons when they are out not just for hunting purposes. Prohibit hunting with a domestic dog. Jackson moved to adopt, seconded by Earl Samuelson, question called by Earl, vote: 4 yeas, 9 nays, did not pass.



BOG	72	Establish minimum caliber ammunition for moose hunts	
Oppose	2	11	<p>-Young men in this area are trained to shoot with a 222, you can kill an animal with one shot if you are a good shot. Those guns are expensive. Sport hunters can use 223 as a minimum caliber.</p> <p>-I have taught my young kids to use from a young age but the choice weapon is .2250 for hunting caribou. It would be better if this law was steered towards sports hunters only, it would be like discriminating.</p> <p>- John W. Andrew moved to adopt the proposal, seconded by Earl. John W. Andrew- since childhood one uses a small gun and eventually moves on to the bigger ones as one gets older. Some testified against this because large game has been caught using a smaller caliber with one shot and killed the animal. Earl made move to oppose proposals.</p>
BOG	73	Establish minimum caliber ammunition for caribou hunts	
Oppose	0	13	See comments on proposal 72
BOG	74	Establish minimum caliber ammunition for black and brown bear hunts	
Oppose	1	12	See comments on proposal 72
BOG	77	Allow the use of artificial light for taking furbearers	
Oppose	1	12	Earl Samuelson moved to adopt, seconded by John W. Andrew. Question called by Earl Samuelson – vote: 1 yea, 12 nays, did not pass.
BOG	79	Require traps to be checked every 24 hours	
Oppose	5	8	Jackson Williams moved to adopt, seconded by Earl Samuelson.. Question called by Charlie Brown. Vote: 5 yeas, 8 nays, did not pass.
BOG	80	Move trapping away from cities with a population of 1,000 or more	
Oppose	0	13	<p>Phil Perry: There are about 300 foxes taken every year in Bethel city limits, helps avoid rabies transfer, between dogs and kids.</p> <p>There has been some controversy within the community of Bethel. There are about 5 villages that exceed 1,000 people or more in the area.</p> <p>Willie moved to adopt, seconded by Earl Samuelson. Question called by Earl, vote : zero yeas, 13 nays, did not pass.</p>
BOG	126	Reauthorize the antlerless moose season in the Remainder of Unit 18	
Support as Amended	13	0	<p>Would like to move non-resident season to a different time of the year.</p> <p>Earl inquiries about increasing number of moose take to three. Would like to parallel to federal regulations and move the dates to March 30th.</p> <p>Willie: 2nd</p>
BOG	126	Reauthorize the antlerless moose season in the Remainder of Unit 18	
Support	13	0	<p>Would like to move non-resident season to a different time of the year.</p> <p>Earl inquiries about increasing number of moose take to three.</p> <p>Willie: 2nd</p> <p>Jackson moved to adopt P # 126, seconded by Earl. Comment: we can amend if we want more moose hunting time allocated. Earl moved to amend for proposal to read from December 1 – March 31st. Question called by Willie Phillip. Vote : 13 yeas, zero nays, proposal passed.</p>
BOG	131	Reauthorize the current resident tag fee exemptions for brown bear in Units 18, 22, 23 and 26A	
Support	13	0	John W. Andrew moved to adopt, seconded by Charlie Brown, Question called by Earl Samuelson, vote: 13 yeas, zero nays, proposal passed.



BOG	132	Modify the hunting season for snowy owls	
Support	13	0	John W. Andrew moved to adopt Proposal # 132, seconded by Earl Samuelson. John W. Andrew moved to amend to include Proposal # 133 with Proposal # 132, seconded by Earl Samuelson. .Question called by John Wassillie. Votes for 132 and 133 : # 132 13 yeas, zero nays, proposal passed, # 133 13 yeas, zero nays, proposal passed.
BOG	133	Modify the hunting season for cormorants	
Support	13	0	
BOG	134	Increase the bag limits for Mulchatna caribou in Units 17, 18, 19A & 19B, and 9A & 9C	
Support	13	0	I am in favor because it allows the take of caribou in the fall and spring time. Jackson Williams moved to adopt Proposal # 134, seconded by Earl Samuelson. Question was asked about when the antlers are shed: for older bulls around the 1st of November, and the 1 to 3 year olds shed in December and January, and pregnant cows will not shed antlers. Earl asked ADF&G how the herd is doing and he answered that about half are in the Kilbuck Mountains area and the other half is in the Dillingham area. Question called by John W. Andrew, vote was 13 yeas, and zero nays for Proposal # 134, proposal passed. Meeting adjourned at 12:00 P.M.

Comments and Concerns:

Phillip Peter, Akiachak On the subject of caribous – I heard when they want to cross a river , and ADFG says one cannot shoot or hunt from a moving boat , then why does ADFG use blasters and other things to scare the caribou away?

Phillip Perry, Bethel, ADFG has not done or heard about it.

Henry Parks, Nunapitchuk, I have heard rumors about aircraft scaring away the game during Unit 18 moose hunting season.

Phillip Peter, Bethel, Maybe caribou crossing we are not purposely scaring away animals. We are not doing things on purpose.

Earl Samuelson, Napaskiak, he said that Napaskiak hunters have said that aircraft were scaring away animals. He asked if they wrote down the aircraft number, they replied no but they said the aircraft was red and white.

James Charles, Tuntutuliak, commented that in this day and age we can utilize our cell phones to take photos of aircraft doing that.

Charlie Brown, Eek, He had a question, and he asked if the moose count limit is reached, the answer was that once it is reached no people can no longer continue hunting.

Henry Tikiun, Atmau, the hunters should document the date time, location, aircraft number, etc., when the hunters get home.

John W. Andrew, Kwethluk, commented that aircraft harassment has been around a long time, 1980's, 1990's One incident that happened at Heart Lake and the North Fork Lake, he saw an aircraft herding caribou toward a lake, all these incidents and nothing is ever done about it.

John Nicholas, Kasigiuk, Are we going to continue following RULES for Fish and Game? Pretty soon, we will not be able to do either(?) I am against following rules (regulations) It will come to a point where we will not be able to hunt or fish. I am saying this on behalf of our grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Jackson Williams, Aklak, I agree with our elder John Nicholas, elders back then said it will come to a point when we will not be able to freely subsist.

Earl Sameulsen: Explains would like to work on a proposal to get three moose on the Yukon. Would the AC be supportive on that item?

I would like to make a motion to add a proxy for the elder fishery in the Yukon management plan to be mentioned.

Jackson - we strive to hunt, gather and fish despite conservation methods especially for the chinooks.

John Wassille - ...learning as we get more information and in the process becoming visually aware of our subsistence needs.

Henry Tikiun - We were taught at an early age to subsist but the young people now will have a different type of hardship when they start subsisting.

Phillip - Thanks to all, being able to use our first language makes the process easier. If we work as one, it will be an easier process. The younger generation may read and write in English but they will be able to carry on the traditional uses of subsisting.

Charlie - Working together in all phases makes the process easier. We may face hardships or get discouraged but working together makes the process easier.

Frank - I am very thankful.

Willie - We are working for the future generation.

John Nicholas - Keep up your good work. We won't always be around. "Keep up the good work". If all our traditional sayings were written down - WOW! I find one thing confusing though. I was issued a PID for fishing, hunting, and trapping card. I wanted to go fishing, they said no. I can't understand that. They issued it!

Earl - (I was busy doing record keeping or something, sorry)

Closing prayer was said by Jackson Williams. Meeting was adjourned at 2:26 p.m. by Chairman James Charles. Adjournment: 2:27 pm Minutes Recorded By: Sandra Nicoli and Carmen Daggett

Minutes Approved By: *James Charles* Date: *12-22-15*

Minutes Approved By: *John Williams* Date: *12-18-15*

Minutes Approved By: *Earl Sameulsen* Date: *12-18-15*

Federal Proposals 13:02

a. WP16-43 Change hunt area description and closure for caribou (Unit 18, 22A)
Support 12 Oppose 1

Comments:

Earl Samuelson made a motion to adopt WP 16-43, seconded by Jackson Williams. Question called by Earl Samuelson, vote was 12 yeas, 1 nay, proposal passed.

b. WP16-33 Change customary and traditional use determination for caribou and moose (Unit 18)
Support 13 Oppose 0

Comments:

We support this we already worked on it.
Earl Samuelson made a motion to adopt WP16-33, seconded by John W. Andrew. Question called by Jackson Williams, vote was 13 yeas, zero nays, proposal passed.

c. WP16-34 Hunting closure for all big game to non-Federal users (Unit 18)
Support 10 Oppose 3

Comments: I don't want to support or take no action.

Jackson Williams made a motion to adopt WP16-34, seconded by Earl Samuelson. John W. Andrew stated that this proposal was introduced last year and was started because of out-of-state sports hunters started hunting there. Tim Andrew, AVCP Bethel, ...was closed to federally qualified subsistence users. He recommended going either way voting yes or no, or taking no action. Question called by John W. Andrew, vote was 10 yeas, 3 nays, proposal passed.

d. WP16-35 Change in methods and means for black and brown bear (Unit 18)
Support 13 Oppose 0

Comments:

Use of artificial light to be allowed to aid in the harvesting of a bear at a den site in Unit 18. Earl Samuelson made a motion to adopt WP16-35, seconded by John W. Andrew. Martin Nicolai, Ki Kwethiuk, explained that someone else wrote up the proposal and since they were unable to be here to present, he introduced the proposal, but it will be beneficial to all in Unit 18. Phillip Peter said that artificial light is used when denning, and he said he was in favor of the proposal. Question called by Earl Samuelson, vote was 13 yeas, zero nays, proposal passed.

Minutes Recorded By: Sandra Nicori and Carmen Daggett

Minutes Approved By: James A. Chelton Date: 12-22-15

Minutes Approved By: Sandra Nicori Date: 12-18-15

Minutes Approved By: John W. Andrew Date: 12-18-15

Matanuska Valley Fish & Game Advisory Committee Minutes for Jan. 6, 2016
at MTA building in Palmer 7 p.m. start time

Meeting called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Jehnifer Ehmann

AC Members Present (8 needed for quorum — quorum present): Andy Couch, Jehnifer Ehmann, Terry Nininger, Steve Bartelli, Birch Yuknis, Dave Young, Dan Montgomery, Israel Payton, Herman Griese, Hans Nordstrom, Mel Groves, Tom Deland,

AC Members Absent: All Excused Mike Buirge, Jeff Tuttle, Randi Talvi, Joe Cizek

Public Present : Trooper Mike Johnson, ADF&G Tim Peltier, ADF&G Gino Del Frate, Neil DeWitt — Anchorage AC, Pete Probasco BOG member, Bill Folsom, Frank Newman — Anchorage AC, ADF&G Kevin Colson, ADF&G Todd Rinaldi, Steven Merrit - Frontiersman Reporter— Nick Steen, a few others

Persons to be heard: Nick Steen — Former ADF&G game biologist— submitted proposal 55, which would switch brown bear regulations to allow the harvest of brown bear every regulatory year — most of state is already one brown bear every year. This would simplify regulation, and Nick does not think brown bear harvest would rise significantly with this change. Of course he would like to see the AC support this proposal.

Bill Folsom left a submitted newspaper editorial by Craig Medred on AK fisheries article for the AC.

Neil DeWitt: mentioned that the Arctic & Western Caribou could not be surveyed again in 2015 as conditions were not ideal when the effort was made. It is believed the population declined again this year. There was high mortality rate of calves again this year. It was discussed that some type of overall hunter harvests should be recorded. Bears, wolves, and eagles were identified as taking a significant number of calves.

Hans Nordstrom — mentioned after the last meeting he wrote a letter to Glenn Haight (Board Support) concerning mention that the ADF&G Commissioner may considered Fish and Game Advisory Committees no longer necessary as mentioned in the AC's December 16, 2015 minutes. After a phone call from Glenn Haight, Hans was agreeable to talking with Commissioner Sam Cotten, and received a phone call from Commissioner Cotten and they were able to talk about the Commissioner's views of the Advisory Committee system. Take home message was Mr. Cotten did not see so opposed to the Advisory Committee system as had been communicated at our December 16 meeting.

Jehnifer Ehmann — presented a plaque to former Matanuska Valley AC member and chairman, Bill Folsom, for his years of service on the Advisory Committee.

Motion to Approve the Advisory Committee's Dec. 16, 2015 minutes — Amend minutes so: Proposal 202 vote 5-3-2 should — be listed as Failed. on page 3: Dan Montgomery mentioned there was only one public complaint to the Alaska State Troopers concerning violation of the proposal 207 regulation passed last winter. The incident was determined to be sightseeing and not a sheep hunting violation. Minutes approved as amended with no objection.



Motion to Approve Agenda Amendments: In other business before AC — discussion of Unit 14 A Antlerless moose tags. Discussion of Proposal 55 — since proposer is present — also to be considered during the other business portion of the meeting. Amended motion approved with no objection.

Action on Board of Game Proposals:

Thoughts on Sheep proposals — Since ADF&G is neutral on sheep proposals until after the sheep working group comments Israel Payton was suggesting that perhaps the AC should withhold comment until a later time. Dave Young felt we should take action on sheep proposals. Israel is not optimistic that the working group will have a lot of advice on sheep proposals — particularly consensus advise. Jehnifer felt as an AC we should continue to provide input on proposals following our regular process — if the AC puts off comment — then the AC may not have a time to comment, later. Gino Del Frate mentioned that ADF&G is working on more in depth comments to the proposals — hopefully to be available 60 days prior to the Board meeting. As Gino remembers most of the proposals are social or allocative in nature so most ADF&G positions will need to be neutral — on at least these aspects. What would the public like to see in relation to social and allocative perspectives of the proposals?

Motion to approve Proposal 21: Israel supports proposals 21 — with option 1 as preferred and option 2 as a secondary choice that would be better than what is currently on the books. Steve Bartelli opposes all proposals putting limits on aircraft use. Dan Montgomery (long time sheep hunting guide on our committee) states that you can not fly an aircraft through the mountains without seeing sheep — so aircraft users should be able to see sheep — just not buzz them or actually judge them. ADF&G position is that most of these sheep proposals are allocative. Steve Bartelli believes the big problem identified by hunters is overcrowding AND NOT THE USE OF AIRCRAFT. Hans asked if Trooper Johnson would comment on enforcement of aircraft sheep spotting regulations — it is hard to prove intent of the hunter so enforcement is extremely difficult. Motion failed 3-9 -0.

Proposal 22 —problem with this proposal is it would limit the regulation to the intent to harvest a specific sheep making enforcement of the regulation even more difficult. This language makes the regulation more agreeable to some hunters who might feel more comfortable harvesting animals after seeing them while flying. According to Dan Montgomery, he believes with this language, it would likely be impossible to enforce the regulation — this would take away the problem of seeing sheep while flying through the mountains. Dan favors this change. Motion failed 2-10-0.

Proposal 23 This proposal was submitted by the Matanuska Valley AC and plenty of members mentioned their support to this option. This proposal is written correctly and would repeal the offensive regulation. Last winter our AC meeting after the BOG passed proposal 207 was the largest attended of the entire season with the public overwhelmingly asking for repeal. Motion passed 12-0-0.

Proposal 24 — See Comments on proposal 23. Motion passed 12-0-0.

Proposal 25 — 1 opposed felt this is not as well written as proposal 22 and 23. See other comments for proposal 23. Motion passed 11-1-0.

Proposal 26 — members mentioned opposition to the 12 inch number requirement specifically for sheep hunting. It increases cost and its an FAA authority. Motion opposed 0-12-0.

Proposal 27 — this is not a conservation issue, but only makes harvest more difficult. It would likely reduce legal harvest of sheep that would not reach the age of 9 years. This regulation would increase the portion of the population that produces less than average horns. Motion opposed 0-12-0.

Andy Couch made a motion to identify repeal of the proposal 207 rule as the Matanuska Valley AC highest sheep regulation priority. 2nd by Steve Bartelli. Motion passed 12-0-0. Mel Groves mentioned that flying is traditional access that should not be taken away. He also mentioned legislation that will likely be introduced by Representative Tilton.

Proposal 28 would make sheep hunting too complex and difficult. Some hunters like to hunt sheep every year. Harvesting legal rams is difficult already. Motion failed 0-12-0.

Proposal 29 — only lists the current definition of full curl and does not propose to change anything. There is no suggestion as to how the regulation would change. What would the committee be voting on if it approved this proposal? motion to table until time certain. when a clear proposal come forth. motion to table passed 10-2-0. opposed want to oppose a proposal that identifies no clear regulation change.

Proposal 30 would establish a nonresident sheep limit of one sheep every 4 years. Would restrict opportunity for nonresidents. Would take away financial impact of these hunters participating. If you are only giving out so many permits this does not reduce number of participants. Would likely reduce revenue to the state — from draw tag applications, sheep tags, license fees, and could also reduce revenue to guides and other businesses. Motion failed 4-8-0.

Proposal 31 would allow only the opportunity to draw a sheep or goat permit once every 3 years. Dan believes this might be an incentive to use a permit when drawn. If more people hunted would the number of permits need to be reduced. Hans opposed — if a person wins a drawing it is their business whether they go or not. Dave believes the department already knows how many animals are being taken for the number of permits given — so ADF&G issues an appropriate number of permits taking this factor into account. Weather can prevent a person from going sheep hunting or a work schedule that does not allow participation would prevent them from getting another opportunity. This proposal would reduce revenue from license and permit application sales. Motion failed 2-10-0.

Proposal 32 Birch believes if all Alaska sheep hunting was limited by permit then all Alaska sheep hunting could possibly end up as a limited subsistence opportunity. Hans opposes. Dan opposes. Motion opposed 0-12-0.

Proposal 33 Too complex. Difficult regulations. Would at times give preferential opportunity to nonresidents. Would extend sheep season. Israel opposes the concept of paying more and then getting more opportunity. Motion failed 0-12-0.

Proposal 34 Motion failed 0-11-0 (one member stepped out). See Comments for proposal 33.



Proposal 35 Too complex and confusing for not much gain. Some people will not be able to hunt together early in the season simply because of their last names if this were adopted. The proposal attempts to get rid of crowding during the early portion of the season. The only way this works is if opportunity is reduced. Some people do not want to see opportunity reduced. Most of the harvest will still occur early in the season. Some drawing hunts are already restricted by season dates so this would need to apply only to general season hunt. Amendment to apply only to general hunts and not draw hunts . amendment fails 6-5-1 . Proposal as written failed 3-9-0.

Proposal 36 would create an exclusive resident hunting opportunity early in the season. Terry not a big fan of giving any priority to nonresidents over residents, but does not want to limit revenue at a time when state is hurting budget wise. Israel feels opposite he does not want to trade opportunity for cash. Steve does not like the flying regulation portion of this proposal. Mel feels this is primarily a whining proposal and will not vote in favor. Amendment to take out wording that “ The flying regulations required by the Board of Game’s proposal 207 will start for all parties on August 10.” Amendment passed 11-0-1. Dan opposes because the Brooks Range is really only a 20 day season because of weather restrictions. Dan says biological there is no reason to do this. Also if sheep guides are not allowed to guide during a portion of the season they very likely will hunt sheep instead — so the reduction in effort may not occur. Dave agrees with Dan’s position. Herman wonders how attorney’s and Federal subsistence boards might react to this proposal — specifically as it concerns subsistence priority. Dan does not see anything in the participant numbers that really show there is a crowding problem. Yes, he agrees some people would like to have the resource to themselves. Birch believes there may already be a conservation issue in the Brooks Range. Mel is not supporting. Amended motion passed 8- 3-1.

Proposal 37 Would create a 10 day early start sheep hunting opportunity for residents. The current draw hunts scheduled would not work very well for this. Some drawing hunts don’t allow a long enough season to do this. Hans likes 38 better. Motion failed 4-7-1.

Proposal 38 see comments for 36. Motion failed 6 - 5- 1.

Proposal 39 — Israel feels since AC supports 36 this would take away too much nonresident opportunity. Motion opposed 1-11-0.

Proposal 40 — No action due to lack of authority.

Proposal 41 — according to Israel if this proposal passed it would likely decrease nonresident sheep hunting by approximately 50%. Hans believes he spends plenty of money hunting— although as others mentioned not as much goes into the fish & Game Fund as nonresident hunters. Motion failed 0-11-1.

Proposal 42 — Not clear. In some permit hunts this could be an increased allocation for non residents rather than a reduction. Motion failed 0-12-0.

Proposal 43 — no Action lack of authority.

Other Business:



Andy Couch mentioned ADF&G might want to consider adjusting the numbers of 14 A antlerless moose permits back up to historic levels for those hunt areas located between the lower Little Susitna and Susitna Rivers. A few years ago, at the AC's request the Department had reduced the number of 14A antler less moose permits in this area in order to allow moose numbers to increase across the Susitna River in Unit 16B. Moose numbers, general season hunting, and any bull permit hunting have all increased in Unit 16B — therefore it may be a good time to return antler less moose permit hunting opportunity to former levels in the portion of Unit 14A between the lower Little Susitna and Susitna Rivers.

At 10:10 Jehnifer Ehmann made the decision to consider discussion of Proposal 55 at the next AC meeting on January 13

Member comments :

Dan will miss Jan 13 & 27 meetings.

Andy will be absent on Jan 13 & 27.

Birch will be gone on Jan 13

Terry Nininger will miss the Jan 27 meeting

Tom Deland wanted to once more thank Bill Folsom for his service on the AC.

Next Matanuska Valley AC meeting scheduled for January 13, 2016 at MTA in Palmer.

Meeting adjourned at 10:15

Minutes taken by Andy Couch

Mat Su Valley Fish & Game Advisory Committee
January 13, 2016
MTA Building, Palmer, Alaska

- I. Call to Order by Jehnifer Ehmann, Chairperson: 7:10 PM
- II. Roll Call: *Members Present*: (8 needed for quorum-quorum present): Jehnifer Ehmann, Terry Nininger, Steve Bartelli, Dave Young, Israel Payton, Hans Nordstrom, Mel Grove, Tom Deland, Mike Buirge, Joe Cizek, (Dave Young left at 8:45)

Members Absent and excused: Andy Couch, Dan Montgomery, Birch Yuknis, Randi Talvi, Jeff Tuttle, Herman Griese

Public Present: Todd Rinaldi (ADFG), Kevin Olson (ADFG), Howard Delo (Proposal 14), Tim Pettier (ADFG), Frank Neumann (anchorage AC), Nick Steen (proposal 55), Eugene Carl Haberman, Joanie Nininger

- III. Approval of Agenda: Move to approve agenda by Dave, seconded Mel. Agenda is approved.
- IV. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: From 1/6/2016 Motion to Approve-Mel-seconded Terry.To approve as amended-motion by Steve, seconded by Mel. Approved as amended.
- V. Persons To Be Heard:
Eugene Carl Haberman: There should be copies of the agenda and the proposals available at the meeting for anyone attending. At the Borough assembly meetings you have packets available; and they are also available on the website. Dave Young responds that the proposal books are available at the Palmer ADFG office. Most people come prepared to speak to the proposals. Jehn Ehmann notes she will address his concerns with Sherry Wright. The State does not provide us with copies of agendas, we have to provide them ourselves at our own cost. There are public notices of the AC meetings in the newspaper and it is also available online. Your feed back is appreciated but our meetings will remain status quo until we are directed otherwise by the Department of F&G or Sherry Wright.

V. New Business:

Israel Payton: He would like to confirm the AC's positions on the sheep proposals that he can take forward to the sheep working group. The most important sheep issue is to repeal of 207. It seems to be AC's priority. The AC voted down all proposals that were overly complicated. The AC voted in favor of giving residents a 7-day head start on hunts. This would create a problem in the Brooks Range. The AC also is opposed to extending the season. Start season on the regular day; non residents 7 days later. Voted down going to a 90-10 allocation on hunts but supported going to a 90-10 for existing draw hunts. Israel doesn't feel there is actually overcrowding for hunting, although he has been displaced by others which he didn't like. Dave-there is limited access. Todd Rinaldi: nonresidents spend between \$ 10- 20,000 for a hunt. Joe doesn't have a problem with not paying 20 grand but they should be contained to 10%. Mel is against the whole head start program to begin with. It will also restrict Dept. revenues. Why not have residents pay \$ 400 to get a head start. Israel believes that the

majority of resident sheep hunters would like to see some type of offset to the perceived advantage that non-resident guided sheep hunters have, ie. head start, etc... Steve- there might be pilots available to fly sheep surveys.

Alaska Board of Game Statewide Meeting, March 8-18, 2016, Fairbanks			
BOG	Proposal #	Proposal Description	
Support Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal
BOG	1	Remove hovercraft and airboats from the definition of motorized land vehicles	
	3	2 OPP/ 4 Abstentions	Steve likes this proposal: it simplifies things. Hans: does this prohibit these vehicles on land? Mel is all for access at all times as long as it not in a controlled (restricted) use area. Mel supports.
BOG	2	Modify the definition of ATV	
	9	0-0	Mel asks if 5AAC 92 is under authority of ADFG? Todd Rinaldi: yes it is. Mel-weight is not an accurate criteria regarding what tears up trails. Joe-it appears that they just wanted to include new side by sides. Steve feels the Board should come up with a better method, i. e. lbs. per per square inch.
BOG	3	Establish a definition for general hunt	
	TNA		Take no action.
BOG	4	Amend the definition of bag limit	
	TNA		Members of the committee discussed this proposal at length. Some members wondered if it would be more appropriate for the BOG, Dept of Law, and Dept of safety to flush out appropriate terminology. Members opted to TNA
BOG	5	Modify the definition of edible meat for all game birds	
	0	9-0	
BOG	6	Modify the definition of a moose antler	
	9	0-0	Steve-it accounts for very small tines that can't be seen from a distance. Todd: this wouldn't be an issue on a large moose but would be on a spike fork.
BOG	7	Clarify the definition of antler point	



Alaska Board of Game Statewide Meeting, March 8-18, 2016, Fairbanks			
BOG	Proposal #	Proposal Description	
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal
	TNA		Hans-this is similar to #6 above. Todd: the reg is based on Boone and Crocket. Take no action.
BOG	14	Allow the use of crossbows in restricted-weapons hunts	
	7	0 OPP/ 2 Abstentions	Howard-this proposal has some significance to crossbows for some older folks and women who can't draw a regular vertical bow. The disadvantage: it is very large, (3'X3') to drag through the brush. Now you can get a disability permit to use a cross bow. It is another type of hunting tool that is not currently available to use in some hunts-it is merely adding the crossbow. There is no real difference in the practicality in the vertical bow and a crossbow. Hans: is there a difference in range? Howard: not really-the maximum range is about 40 yards on both the compound bow and the crossbow. One distinct disadvantage: it takes 7 times longer to reload. Steve thinks it is a great idea. Israel: it doesn't address hunter education (i.e. card certification). Todd: he personally feels OK with it. Other biologists want to look over the proposal.
BOG	44	Allocate ten percent or less of sheep permits to nonresidents	
	7	3-0	Israel:-Dept. already has special percent provisions for Dall sheep in most areas. Joe: he doesn't have a problem with it. Mel: doesn't think this is specific enough. Mel will not take it by hearsay-he would like to see the data. Todd: 14c NE gets 6 tags; in Eagle River residents have 7, nonresidents 1. Eklutna is 24 & 1. Mel: he will not support. Steve: over the last several years when dealing with sheep issues that are allocative this 90-10 ratio is what has happened. Israel: 90-10 seems more than fair, and is only specific to the draw tags, not the general season. Todd: they usually issue more permits than animals harvested. Mel: what is the Department's opinion. Todd: it is allocative so no opinion. Mel: how would this proposal change anything? Todd: it would only effect 13D as far as he knows.
BOG	45	Establish nonresident sheep permit allocation of ten percent	
	0	9-1	Israel: he feels this is a mirror of the proposal 44. Hans likes 44 better.
BOG	46	Establish a statewide archery season for sheep, August 1-9	



Alaska Board of Game Statewide Meeting, March 8-18, 2016, Fairbanks			
BOG	Proposal #	Proposal Description	
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal
	0	9-1	Mike is opposed. Hans: there is opportunity for bow hunters later in the season-he is not in favor of it either. Mel: it does spread out the hunting pressure. Between 2010-2014 3700 sheep hunted, only 2% were taken by bow hunters. Jehn is not in support, this may provide an incentive for those who are not practiced or interested in archery hunting to take it up because of the early season advantage. Especially given the contentious nature sheep hunting is subject too currently.
BOG	47	Establish a statewide youth hunting season for Dall sheep, August 1-5	
	2	7 OPP / 1 Abstention	Israel supports this proposal. The Board is directed that they shall support youth hunts "encouraging adults to take kids hunting". Joe is in favor of it if only for Alaskan residents. Mike: they are adding days to the season so he is in opposition. Steve will not support; way too many opportunities for abuse. It could run sheep completely out of the Valley prior to the main hunt. Israel: the actual crowding and pressure is actually going down in Unit 14. Dave would like to see but doesn't it extend the season? Jehn will not be in support of this proposal. She does support children being provided with opportunities to fish and hunt. However some hunts and game species may provide a more appropriate introduction to hunting and more enjoyable experience. She gave examples such as small game hunting, or a less rigorous/contentious hunt like certain moose or caribou hunts may provide. This might be an incentive for adults to abuse this opportunity given the current contentious nature of sheep hunting. Adults wishing to provide children this opportunity can still do so during regular time periods.
BOG	48	Review and potentially modify sheep hunting opportunities statewide	
	0	10-0	Israel will not support this proposal because of way too many options. Mel agrees, it should have been broken up, and also because it comes directly from the Board so he can't support it.
BOG	49	Restrict the bag limit for Dall sheep in certain areas	

Alaska Board of Game Statewide Meeting, March 8-18, 2016, Fairbanks			
BOG	Proposal #	Proposal Description	
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal
	10	0-0	Steve: he would like to hear from the Dept. Todd: he doesn't see any of these areas as a conservation issue. In light of that Steve will be opposed. Steve also notes that it paints with too wide a swath of the brush. Mel: the Dept. needs to show a decrease in the trend. When will the survey be done? Does Dept. have the leeway to respond to trends? Todd: Most sheep & goat managers would not shut down a hunt based on just one survey. Todd's 7 crews operate on a 3-year average. Most areas in the Chugach are surveyed yearly. They will go back to 14A next year. Hans won't have a problem with it because these are primarily winter hunts. Israel supports 49. Joe will support this-he has lived in villages where he has seen abuse.
BOG	55	Change the statewide brown bear bag limit to one bear every regulatory year	
	5	2-2	Nick Steen: when he was working for ADFG this was a big problem: when could a person take a second brown bear? It seems foolish to have a rule that has more exemptions than the regular rule. It would make things a lot clearer and there wouldn't be any shortage of brown bears in the State of Alaska. Israel is not in support-there is a reason that we have so many management units in the state. He thinks the area managers are doing a good job. Steve: is there any biological or conservation issues? Todd: maybe. Israel would not want to see the Alaskan Peninsula go to the Kodiak model. Joe: is the quality of trophy for bears going downhill? Israel doesn't believe it is going down in quality. Nick: the Susan Miller hunter survey says less than 10% of hunters would come for a second bear after taking one. Mel agrees-keep it a simple regulation. It is not going to increase the hunt numbers and the guides can only take in so many hunters. Israel: outfitters will definitely push clients to hunt every year. Nick: a guide can only hire so many assistant guides. Steve supports, he would like to see it simplified and he doesn't think it has a conservation issue. Todd: the Dept. will be opposed to this. Tim Pettier: he doesn't see there is a conservation issue. Todd: if there was a conservation issue the Dept. would just override it.
BOG	138	Change nonresident, general sheep hunts on state and BLM lands to drawing permit hunts	

Alaska Board of Game Statewide Meeting, March 8-18, 2016, Fairbanks			
BOG	Proposal #	Proposal Description	
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal
	0	7-3	<p>Proposal 138: Israel will be opposed. Steve: what is the down side (specific to non residents)? Would it cap nonresident hunters? Per Israel, Mark Richards wrote this proposal because the guide concession program failed. Guides are opposed because they can't make a living on a draw. Steve: from a resource management perspective it would be easier to manage. Hans: it might work on some of the crowding- a person would be forced to pick the area they are going to hunt. Total sheep taken by residents: 55%, 45% nonresidents statewide. Mike feels it is very ambiguous-not clearly written. Israel: Mark Richards is on the working group.</p>

Other business for the AC:

Jehn: We will *table time certain*, for the next meeting, those agenda proposals that we didn't get to this meeting.

Member Comments:

Mel: he is going to the oral arguments on the John Sturgeon case at the U.S. Supreme Court next week.

Todd: they had the 1st targeted hunt this week-about 11 hunters went out. Todd is considering a targeted hunt in 14 B and will likely be for any moose. Moose vehicle collisions are up this year-about 35 % above the typical average. Moose vehicle collisions have been up since July. We have had mild winters, so moose are not restricted by snow: they are just moving around everywhere.

Steve: in a prior meeting he abstained from a vote and afterward was chastised for not voting. He would encourage AC members to try to have an opinion and vote.

Joe: Wednesday is a hard day of the week for a meeting. Jehn notes that meeting day selection have always been what the majority has wanted.

Mike will be gone on the 27th.

Terry will be gone the 27th.

Next meeting is on 1/27/16 at the Palmer MTA Building at 7 PM.

Adjournment: 9:53 PM

Minutes taken by Terry Nininger

Mat Valley Fish and Game Advisory Committee
1/27/16
MTA Palmer

- I. Call to Order: Jehnifer Ehmann 7:04 pm
- II. Roll Call:
Members Present: Jehnifer Ehmann, Mel Grove, Steve Bartelli, Hans Nordstrom, David Young, Tom DeLand, Herman Griese, Birch Yuknis, Joe Cizek.

Members Absent Excused: Dan Montgomery, Andy Couch, Mike Buirge, Israel Payton, Terry Nininger, Jeff Tuttle, Randy Talvi.

Number Needed for Quorum on AC: 8 Quorum Met with 9 Members present.
- III. Approval of Agenda: Motion Dave, 2nd Mel. No Objections.
- IV. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: 1/13/16 Meeting Minutes Approved. Herman Motion, Mel 2nd. No objections.
- V. Fish and Game Staff Present: Tim Peltier, Todd Rinaldi, ATW John Cyr.
- VI. Guests Present: Neil DeWitt, Jason Perrego, Jack Frost - Alaska Bowhunters Association
- VII. Persons to be heard: Jason Perrego - A lot of the public lake access around the Matsu are like goat trails they are not developed ramps. Interested in ramp upgrades. States only Finger Lake, Big Lake, Nancy Lake have suitable paved ramps . More people may fish in valley if ramps are improved. 50% people may support this idea / 50% would not support. West beaver lake 1/4 back up to get into lake. Conflicts with users and land owners. Memory, cottonwood lake gate operation is not consistent. Access is restricted. If state funds are used to stock the lake then access should be guaranteed.
- VII. Old Business:
- VIII. New Business: Motion to approve the agenda. 2nd. No objections. No amendments. The agenda is approved.

Alaska Board of Game Statewide Meeting, March 8-18, 2016, Fairbanks			
BOG	#	Proposal Description	
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal
BOG	8 **	Allow the use of lighted sight pins in restricted weapons hunts	
Support as Amended	9	0	<p>Mel agrees with proposal, make it all the same either one or the other whether you are in a restricted or nonrestricted area. Improves a guys accuracy less chance of wounding an animal. Dave and dept staff clarified you cannot use lighted sites. Herman concern in some states that it may promote taking a shot in lower light when you cannot see kill zone. Especially hunting black bears at night might benefit shooter to be more accurate does not have feeling one way or another. Steve would like to support has archery hunted. Most of game is spotted first or last light and supports if it improves accuracy to where you are not wounding animals. Not projecting light not magnifying image still primitive. Mel supports it being general and restricted weapons. Dave would make enforcement easier Dave supports this proposal. Joe makes a motion to amend this proposal to apply to general season and weapons restricted as the Department recommended in their comments. Mel 2nd. Amendment is supported vote 9-0-0. Will vote on Amended Proposal.</p>
BOG	9	Update the definition of barbed arrows to take into account improvements in technology	
Support	7	2	<p>Guest - Jack introduced himself and states he is Legislative VP of Alaska Bowhunter Association. Brought list of Alaska Bow Hunter Proposals to be distributed. Will be available for questions throughout meeting.</p> <p>Dave broad heads have changed and this proposal is an attempt to keep up with that advance in technology. Supports.</p> <p>Steve concurs with dave and supports liberalization especially when the department supports it.</p> <p>Jack - knows which broad head is being referred too in this proposal. Is concerned that the department has been sucked in by manufacturer.</p> <p>Herman- Shares the opinion multitude of broad heads available. They should be able to design something that meets larger standard. Doesn't see any reason to change regulation.</p> <p>Steve- Sees this as a mistake that a novice archer could easily make when purchasing at a store.</p> <p>Joe - Technology has improved understands why this was written. Thinks we need to allow. Supports.</p>

Alaska Board of Game Statewide Meeting, March 8-18, 2016, Fairbanks

BOG	#	Proposal Description	
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal
BOG	10	Modify the requirements for crossbow	
Oppose	0	9	<p>Steve is wondering if AC should TNA and see 12. Birch supports taking no action.</p> <p>Herman: concerned thinks 150 is a big jump. Could impact a number of individuals who bought bows under old rule. Does not see any reason to change it.</p> <p>Dave: does not support 10 with proposal 12 available. Thinks 150 lbs is a lot for a weight.</p> <p>Birch: does not like anything that makes 150 the requirement.</p>
BOG	11	Allow the use of crossbows in restricted-weapons hunts	
Oppose	1	8	<p>Steve: originally supported but has a concern about cross bows if they are added to the definition of archery equipment. Approves of using C.B in weapons restricted but not as archery equipment.</p> <p>Dave: Also wants to included in certification process.</p> <p>Todd: Dept has been looking into C.B education courses because there is a lot of demand to expand the use of C.B.</p> <p>Herman: Opposed to changing the definition of archery to include C.B; crossbows as a weapon should stand alone.</p> <p>Birch: Concurs with Herman. Keep things simple.</p> <p>Mel: Doesn't think intent of proposal to have C.B defined as archery equipment. In support of proposal.</p> <p>Herman: Committee did vote on approving C.B in weapon restricted hunts.</p> <p>Hans: AC voted on weapon restricted proposal #55 not archery only hunts.</p> <p>Herman: While working on base allowed C.B for disabilities. For Dept management easier to keep it separate. Should be specified by hunt.</p> <p>Dave: States he wants CB to be considered for use in archery only hunts.</p> <p>Jehn: Believes C.B have the potential to be more effective/efficient/accurate than current archery equipment and could have an adverse effect on the number of archery only permits given out if success rate increases with the use of C.B.</p> <p>Mel: Does Dept have data for how accurate c.b are.</p> <p>Todd: No.</p> <p>Joe: Doesn't think they should be included in archery.</p>

Alaska Board of Game Statewide Meeting, March 8-18, 2016, Fairbanks			
BOG	#	Proposal Description	
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal
BOG	12	Modify the current definition of a legal crossbow for taking big game	
Support	9	0	Steve: Supports. Liberalized the current regs and takes into account newer technology. Joe: Concur with Steve. Dave: Thumbs up.
BOG	13	Allow the use of crossbows in restricted-weapons hunts for hunters 65 years of age or older	
Oppose	4	5	Joe: Think it should be allowed. Most archery only hunts are difficult at best. Steve: Concur Herman: Saw frequently on installation. Some individuals can get proxy to hunt for them. Individuals had disability he believes primarily because of age. Didn't apply to that many individuals. Dave: Give them the ability to use it. Doesn't think it is going to be huge number. leaning towards supporting. Herman: Turning 65 next year. Doesn't think its necessary. Not going to support individuals have other opportunities. Birch: Concur with Herman. Keep it simple.
BOG	15	Require certification for all big game hunters in Alaska using crossbows	
Oppose	3	5 oppose 1 abstention	Birch: Asked if there is currently a national course? Todd: Discussed certification options. Dave: Asks to here from Jack author. Jack: All about education. There is "Todays Crossbow" course available. Introduced in all sub units but BOG moved to statewide meeting. If there is CB hunting allowed they should mandate education. Mel: If we pass and non resident wants to come hunt Alaska then he wouldn't be able to hunt because there is no national cert and getting into class in Alaska that is timed with a hunt would be difficult. Opposed until there is a national course. Has a friend who hunted with CB and he wouldn't be able to use. If someone completes archery cert then they should be covered. Shouldn't be mandatory until there is national. Herman: Asked Department how soon could a course be developed and offered. Todd: Unsure. Tim: Discussed at valley hunter ed meeting. If it were to pass

Alaska Board of Game Statewide Meeting, March 8-18, 2016, Fairbanks

BOG	#	Proposal Description	
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal
			<p>recommendation would be made to delay implementation.</p> <p>Herman: Opposed feels education using a separate tool should be offered. Prefers proposal #16 because it is not time certain.</p> <p>Steve: Concurs with Herman prefers proposal 16. Thinks there should be some weapon specific class and users should have to demonstrate proficiency. Supports 16 overall.</p>
BOG	16	Require successful completion of a crossbow education course for those hunting with crossbows	
Support	8	1	<p>Dave: Supports the education part of it - hates making it a requirement because it takes awhile to get into class. The requirement needs to be pushed out for quite awhile.</p> <p>Steve: Always been a requirement for archery specific hunts. Approves of course and supports this proposal.</p> <p>Mel: Agrees with having course but doesn't think it should be a requirement. At a minimum have them take bow hunting course.</p>
BOG	17	Provide an exemption for bowhunter education requirements	
Oppose	0	9	<p>Steve: Opposed. Date reflects a 30 year old. Experience is not relative to age.</p> <p>Hans: Concurs with Steve. Under this he would be exempt and doesn't have experience should not pick and choose.</p> <p>Birch: Concurs with Hans.</p> <p>Jack: A lot of people who are older have hunted for a long time and cannot hunt in Alaska without certification. Cites Kurt Wells editorial. Date was choose because its an exemption with other hunt ed requirements.</p> <p>Trooper Cyr: AWT does not support proposal. Basic hunter ed is required for all hunters in several areas (that he listed). This would ease enforcement for IBEP card to be carried on a person.</p> <p>Herman: Not going to support proposal. Read Kurt wells editorial himself. During time as manager he fielded calls from hunters from out of state concerned about hunter ed requirements and believes there is always a way to get certified. Example online courses.</p>
BOG	18	Prohibit the use of slingbows	
Support	9	0	<p>Steve: Isn't there a list of approved weapons? Isn't a slingbow included on list.</p> <p>Birch: Whether its listed or not we should vote.</p> <p>Todd: Not a listed weapon 5AAC92085.</p>

Alaska Board of Game Statewide Meeting, March 8-18, 2016, Fairbanks			
BOG	#	Proposal Description	
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal
BOG	19	Establish a regulation for board-generated proposals	
Oppose	3	5 oppose 1 abstention	<p>Hans: In favor and would like it to go further.</p> <p>Steve: Opposed - doesn't think there should be any board generated proposals. Should be able to bring proposals up through public process that exists now. Referenced opposition to BOG generated proposal 207.</p> <p>Hans: Can we amend to say no board generated proposals.</p> <p>Jehn: Recommends if AC is opposed to vote it down rather than amending it.</p> <p>Mel: Asked if there would be a time other than 207 that the board feels they need the ability to generate a proposal. not for or against this proposal.</p> <p>Herman: There has been board generated proposals in the past that may have addressed something time sensitive.</p> <p>Steve: Does not believe an objective review by BOF or BOG if they are the ones that generated a proposal. Could author it as individuals or work with an individual to submit. States it would be a conflict of interest to vote on a board generated proposal since they generated it.</p>
BOG	20	Clarify the meaning of "specific location" of wildlife	

Alaska Board of Game Statewide Meeting, March 8-18, 2016, Fairbanks

BOG	#	Proposal Description	
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal
Support	7	2	<p>Todd: One of the things thats difficult to define. Addresses mostly item e and d. Constant requests for locations of game. Does it interfere, harasses, or give favor to taking animal. Is it species specific or location specific. Potential legal battles if its not defined. Can get a lot of data of freedom of information requests through the state. Dept has been interpreting it for a long time and they would like further direction.</p> <p>Herman: Question to dept - are they requesting aerial counts or radio tags?</p> <p>Todd: Addressing mainly item e. Lists specifics of what information they don't release. Has huge, timely data set requests. Some data comes back every 15 minutes.</p> <p>Birch: Makes point regarding fish weirs and how he's used that information in the past without issue and also general herd location information.</p> <p>Tim: Define "Specific" because that can be defined very different.</p> <p>Dave: Doesn't like vagueness of proposal would like proposal to include specific options.</p> <p>Joe: Fish and game dept staff hunts and fishes and has access to this information and believes it could be used as personal advantage to them. States that when you harvest something the dept has the right to the specific location.</p> <p>Todd: Dept- held to a higher ethical standard.</p> <p>Tim: If they have permits they do not survey that area. Staff does not use data for personal use.</p> <p>Steve: Supports this proposal the dept is asking for the board to define specific for a lot of reasons. Believes hunters should adhere to fair chase. They are asking for more information we should support that.</p> <p>Hans: Can appreciate what Dept has said however he has a friend who shot a ram in brooks range and the dept wanted specific coordinates. Whats to say staff could not use information for own advantage.</p> <p>Herman: Not against concept of restricting 'specific location' information, but would like to know how 'specific location' is being defined to include area size and timeframe. Public expects some biological data of some degree.</p>

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BOG	#	Proposal Description	
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal
BOG	50	Remove the requirement for evidence of sex for hunts with bag limits of only one sex	
Oppose	0	9	<p>AWT: Opposed to this proposal on the grounds it would remove a valuable tool to determine an unlawful take of an animal. \$150 fine if you remove the sex of an animal. State crime lab cannot qualify game tissue. Would have to send sample outside for testing. 3 year waiting list in Ashland OR. Have run across people who use antlers multiple years.</p> <p>Steve: Opposed for all the same reasons as AWT. In favor of this proposal if it were to apply to either sex hunts.</p>
BOG	51	Modify bag limits for nonresidents accompanied by a resident relative	
Oppose	0	9	<p>Hans: Not in favor of this. unless guides want to give up there tag as well.</p> <p>Mel: Opposed.</p> <p>Steve: Concur with both.</p> <p>Joe: Concur with both. What happens in party hunts.</p>
BOG	52	Clarify the requirements regarding retrieval and salvage of wounded game	
Support	6	3	<p>AWT: Author of proposal. Gave review of history behind proposal and specific scenarios which would apply. Reasonable vs Reasonable Lawful means. If you use plane to find an animal you cannot shoot until 3am the next day.</p> <p>Steve: A guy should be able to do the right thing and not be in danger of being arrested. Example flying to find wounded moose and landing and dispatching him.</p> <p>Mel: Supports proposal. Have to define reasonable and reasonable lawful.</p> <p>Did you just dispatch a moose that wasn't wounded as another example.</p> <p>Herman: Supports proposal. "Reasonable" can be too lenient.</p> <p>Dave: Blurring lines between fair chase and wounded. If you go to court the jury is going to interpret what "reasonable" is. Doesn't see problem with recovery with helicopter rather than let it go to waste. Have to define legal and lawful.</p> <p>Birch: Concur with Herman and Mel.</p> <p>Jehn: States AWT has a hard enough time deciphering regulations that are vague. Which she believes this one is. "Reasonable" could mean 50 different things to 50 different people. Supports this proposal and states that only lawful means should be used in recovering wounded game. If</p>

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BOG	#	Proposal Description	
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal
			someone thinks helicopters should be used then go make a case for it and have the regulation changed but don't use it through a loophole.
BOG	53	Remove the restriction that wounded game counts against the annual bag limit	
Support	5	4	<p>Steve: Supports this proposal.</p> <p>Herman: Supports. A lot of the animals wounded do survive. Opposed to the idea as counting a wounded animal against you, however, a dead but unretrievable animal, such as a shot goat falling off a cliff into a crevasse, should be.”</p> <p>Jehn: Opposed. If you wound an animal it should count towards your bag limit. Could encourage guided clients to want to continue hunting. Could encourage hunters to take risky shots knowing they can continue hunting.</p> <p>Joe: Opposed. Wouldn't be opposed to expanding this rule past two subunits.</p>
BOG	54	Establish an additional statewide bag limit for big game species	
Oppose	3	6	<p>Dave: Could support some and not others too many changes.</p> <p>Steve: Supports on principle alone 3-4 years ago someone got dinged for taking a sub legal moose. Self reported and still got in significant trouble. As a result multiple proposals addressing this issue arose and hunters are asking for some discretion. No distinction between an honest mistake and poaching. Sees this proposal as attempt to do something.</p> <p>Birch: Someone he knows shot a sub legal sheep. Received a verbal warning. Details of consequence were vague. Thinks there should be some clarity.</p> <p>Steve: Punishment shouldn't be at the direction of one persons discretion too much variance. Gives an example: One of his buddy's shot moose at edge of lake. Trooper made contact and visited whole time while buddy cleaned. After he finished the Trooper wrote a ticket for no evidence of sex attached because friend removed unintentionally while visiting with trooper.</p> <p>Mel: Should depend on whether a person is self reporting or was busted. If self reporting loses meat money invested in hunt should have some leniency.</p> <p>AWT: Judge has final say after AWT makes recommendations.</p>

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BOG	#	Proposal Description	
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal
BOG	56	Prohibit the transport of hide and skull of black or brown bear from the field until edible meat has been salvaged	
Support	9	0	<p>AWT: This would align the salvage of bear hide and skull along with the meat of all other trophy animals.</p> <p>Steve: In Support of the proposal.</p> <p>Hans: Concurs with Steve.</p> <p>Dave: Concurs. Echoes AWT comments.</p>
BOG	57	Allow the sale of brown bear hides and/or skulls	
Oppose	3	6	<p>Steve: Opposed. Written for specific location and not appropriate for statewide application.</p> <p>Birch: 16B is two brown bears a year so this would effect several areas.</p> <p>Todd: Clarifies for Member - Predator control hunting can be sealed and sold.</p>
BOG	58	Prohibit the use of chocolate at bear bait stations	
Oppose	0	9	<p>Todd: Only evidence is case stated in proposal.</p> <p>Hans: Opposes seems silly.</p> <p>Birch: Concur with Hans. Chocolate in small amount can be found in several things used in bear baiting.</p>
BOG	59	Clarify and restrict the use of liquids at bear bait stations	
Oppose	0	9	<p>Dave: Opposed. Hard to understand compared to what we already have. Likes status quo.</p> <p>Steve: Agrees with Dave.</p> <p>Herman: Issue in past has been when baiting season is over everything needs to be removed but at some bait sites where they dump oil close to close of season means it may not be cleaned up. Opposed.</p>
BOG	60	Allow use of Northern Pike designated as invasive species as bait	
Support	8	0 1 abstention	<p>Steve: Believes its okay to use pike.</p> <p>Joe: Support.</p> <p>Mel: Supports. States where its considered invasive they should be able to use them.</p> <p>Dave: Supports. Someone could "take" them from an invasive area and move it to another area where they are not considered invasive.</p> <p>Herman: Abstains because it would need to be amended in order for him</p>

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BOG	#	Proposal Description	
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal
			to support.
BOG	61	Allow the use of game as bait	
Support	9	0	<p>Joe: Supports on same principle as pike. If it is going to go to waste anyway it should be used.</p> <p>Dave: Doesn't support if there is salvageable parts used. Proposal is not clear. Discussion among members regarding Dave's concern.</p> <p>Herman: Will support.</p>
BOG	62	Remove the requirement to remove all contaminated soil from bear bait stations	
Support	5	3 1 abstention	AWT: Opposed.
BOG	63	Amend bear baiting regulations to require specific locations to be given at the time of registration and to update the nomenclature of the signs required	
Oppose	2	5 2 abstention	<p>Dave: Opposed. When you are getting permit you would need exact location. A lot of times you know general location but not specific GPS coordinates. Can report back once set but a lot of people won't know ahead of time. What if two people at different offices put down same location?</p> <p>Herman: Supports requires individual to get in field and make sure there is not a conflict.</p> <p>Dave: "Specific location" isn't defined. Would support if specific location is defined as 5 mile area.</p>
BOG	64	Allow harvest of brown/grizzly bear at black bear bait stations	
Oppose	3	6	<p>Dept Opposed. Changes should be considered at regular regional meetings so public information and biological data can be considered.</p> <p>Dave: Supports would change harvest limits in some areas. Easier to bring bears to bait rather than go find. In some areas it would help could hurt in others.</p> <p>Herman: Intention was originally to focus brown bear hunting over bait in areas that really need a reduction in population. This may not be appropriate statewide.</p> <p>Steve: Concurs with Herman.</p>

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BOG	#	Proposal Description	
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal
BOG	65	Remove the requirement to salvage brown bear meat at bait stations	
Support	9	0	Dave: hates wasting anything at all. Will not support. Mel: Supports. Could provide opportunity to hunt over meat. Hans: Agrees with Mel. If a Brown Bear is taken over meat you must salvage. This proposal would eliminate that. Except for predator control. Members asked: If you leave it is it considered being used as bait. Herman: Would like more information on the requirement of salvage of brown bear meat.

Member Comments:

Herman: Will be able to attend AC meeting on 2/10.

Dave: List proposals for 10 & 24 on agenda so they can be taken up if we move through quickly.

Mel: Update on Sturgeon case which he was able to attend. House bill 231.

Joe: Unable to attend 10, 24, 2nd.

Adjournment: Motion Herman, Dave 2nd 10:17pm

Minutes Recorded By: Jehn Ehmann

Minutes Approved By: MVAC

Date: 2/10/16

Matanuska Valley Fish & Game Advisory Committee Minutes
February 10, 2016 at MTA Building in Palmer

Meeting called to order at 7:02 Number needed for Quorum 8 — Quorum Met

Members Present: Andy Couch, Israel Payton, Herman Griese, Jehnifer Ehmann, Steve Bartelli, Hans Nordstrom, Birch Yuknis, Dan Montgomery, Mel Grove

Members Excused: Randy Talvi, Joe Cizek, Terry Nininger, Tom DeLand, Jeff Tuttle, Mike Buirge

Members Absent: Mike Buirge, Dave Young, Terry Nininger, Tom DeLand, Jeff Tuttle, Randy Talvi, Herman Griese, Joe Cizek

ADF&G Staff: Lem Butler, Tim Peltier

Public: Alaska State Trooper Johnson, Nick Steen, Howard Delo, Neil DeWitt, Mike Peryam

Motion to adopt minutes by Dan Montgomery — adopted with no objection.

Motion to adopt agenda — approved without objection.

Proposal 66 — Would eliminate the regulation that prohibits felt soles when hunting. Proposal opposed by ADF&G. Tim Peltier explained that felt soles do collect material and plant matter and that they are often in the water when wading. Tim mentioned that wader uppers collect less organic material than felt soles. Motion opposed 0-9-0.

Proposal 67 — Seeks to prohibit hunting / trapping in highway right of ways. Trooper Johnson mentioned that a problem protection sees is that domestic animals sometimes get caught in traps / snares close to transportation right of ways. Mike Peryam expressed his thought that this proposal is somewhat of a land grab to prohibit a large portion of the public from hunting trapping. Stephen Bartelli said the group proposing this proposals to his knowledge was actively attempting to eliminate other people from hunting trapping in Unit 13 so he was going to oppose. Proposal opposed 0-9-0.

Proposal 68 — Would list any forward looking infrared device as a prohibited method of hunting. Israel felt it was tightening a loophole and would support. Dan would support as a better definition. Motion passed 9-0-0.

Proposal 69 — Would prohibit hunting while accompanied by a domestic dog. ADF&G opposes. Would prohibit dogs for duck hunting or just having dogs along when an animal was harvested. Motion opposed 0-9-0.

Proposal 70 — Would prohibit spotting any big game species from an airplane during a open hunting season. Mel mentioned that while he is hunting, he sees people are out flying and looking everyday in the area where he hunts — he feels that people may be breaking the current regulation. Israel questioned why some proposals single out sheep as the only animal where such a regulation would apply. Dan supports the opportunity to fly around and look as currently provided in regulations — he feels this practice is not unethical and it should not be illegal. Steve will not vote for the proposal. Hans mentioned there could be a restriction on all forms of transportation and not just aircraft. Motion opposed 0-9-0.

Proposal 71 — Would prohibit assistance in taking game by a person who has been airborne that day. Dan, Israel, Stephen, Hans, Birch all agree with proposal. Herman believes this should be approved from the fact that if everyone now learns it is legal for an airborne person to assist it could be could become a more widespread practice. Motion approved 9-0-0.

Proposal 72 — Would require .243 or larger caliber for hunting moose. ADF&G neutral. Stephen will be opposed to Proposal 72, 73, and 74. Dan will be opposed — in some areas it is legal to harvest caribou with a .22 currently. Andy Couch mentioned that Kenny Hughes had been harvesting large numbers of bear in the Unit 16 B predator control effort with a .223 . Proposal opposed 0-9-0.

Proposal 73 — Would establish .243 as minimum caliber for caribou. see comments to proposal 72. Howard Delo related how some believe smaller calibers were idea for caribou. Neil DeWitt mentioned another group opposing this proposal motions opposed 0-9-0.

Proposal 74 Would create .243 as minimum caliber for harvesting black and brown bear. Motion opposed 0-9-0. See Comments for 72 and 73.

Proposal 75 — Would allow use of black powder and crossbow in bison hunts. Howard Delo who wrote the proposal spoke in favor. Stephen has a concern that primitive arms don't get any special seasons compared to anyone else — and would support in that point. Israel will likely oppose proposal. Mel supports proposal — getting a bison permit is often a once in a lifetime hunt — if someone wants to limit their chance by hunting with a less lethal weapon he does not object. Birch agrees — people should take an ethical shot for their skill and experience. Dan will support — in his experience big heavy black powder bullets penetrate and kill very well. According to Lem Butler with ADF&G permit conditions can be stipulated by the BOG. Motion passed 8-1-0.

Proposal 76 — Would allow the use of high powered air rifles for big game hunting. Herman might be willing to support if there were specifics provided within the proposal as to what would be legal. Motion opposed 0-8-1.

Proposal 77 — Would allow the use of artificial light for taking forbearers. Israel mentioned that while trapping — light levels are low and people are harvesting animals in the dark or have opportunities to harvest animals after daylight hours, because so many hours have low light levels. Mel mentioned it is already illegal to harvest deer at night — but this proposal could increase some one's chances of killing a deer at night. Stephen will not support. Herman will oppose. Motion failed 1-7-1.

Proposal 78 would remove all requirements for identifying traps. Dan mentioned that on the Kenai enforcement goes out and digs up traps to check for identification to check for i.d which kills. Alaska Frontier Trappers Association opposes the proposal. ADF&G suggests this should only be done on an area by area basis. Motion passed 9-0-0.

Proposal 79 would require traps / snares to be checked every 24 hours. ADF&G opposes on statewide basis. Birch mentioned how difficult it can be to get out and check every 24 hours because of weather. Herman mentioned that interior trappers might have great difficulty with this requirement. Dan mentioned in southeast Alaska this could also be a problem. Motion failed 0-9-0.

Proposal 80 — Seeks to set minimum distances away from roads, publicly maintained trails, cabin, business, school, or developed campground or recreational facility. Motion opposed 0-9-0. Too restrictive, too broad. Agreed with ADF&G that this should not be adopted on state - wide basis.

Proposal 81 — Seeks to define underwater traps and snares. Dan agrees with better definitions. ADF&G mentioned there are some extended seasons for underwater trapping that require better knowledge of what is allowed. Motion failed 2-2-5. Unclear what would be accomplished by this proposal.

Proposal 82 — Would allow attachment of big game locking tag before leaving the kill site. ADF&G neutral on proposal. Dan believes standard practice is not to attach immediately because of difficulty. Herman said it is very difficult to attach a locking tag to some animals immediately — especially in the case of an animal that has trophy value — sheep specifically. Motion 9-0-0

Proposal 83 would eliminate harvest tags for hunts where a metal locking tag is required. ADF&G prefers to continue with requirement of a report card in addition to the locking tag. Motion opposed 0-9-0.

Proposal 84 — Would limit peace officers ability to request licenses and search gear when people were not actually fishing or hunting. Would also limit somewhat what could be searched. Committee members had difficulty with understanding this proposal. Motion failed 4-5-0.

Proposal 85 — Would require harvest tickets and reports for declining caribou populations north of the Yukon River. ADF&G wants better reporting — perhaps with registration permits. Former ADF&G employees Nick and Herman both felt reporting was very lax in this part of the state. Dan who lived up there for 8 years agreed. Why is state requiring less of people in a certain part of the state. Motion passed 9-0-0.

Proposal 86 — Would require harvest tickets and reports for sheep taken in Gates of the Arctic National Park — this is a declining population. Motion passed 9-0-0.

Proposal 87 — would prohibit the BOG from restriction of off-road vehicles based on a personal perception of a perceived decline in the quality of outdoor experience.

Motion passed 9-0-0.

Proposal 88 — Not high on many committee member list. Some opposed. Stephen felt no action was appropriate. Motion failed 4-5-0.

Proposal 89 — Take No Action — see proposal 88.

Proposal 90 — BOG has no authority to require according to ADF&G. ADF&G has heard a lot of opposition to this proposal. BOG does not regulate domestic animals. ADF&G suggests take no action. Dan feels like this is a good idea and that this might be an issue for declining sheep population in portions of Alaska. No action taken due to lack of authority — no objection from any AC member. Take No Action

Proposal 91 — Seeks to allow “cows” to be considered feral animals and hunts allowed for. ADF&G mentioned problems as occurred on Kodiak with “feral” bison. Also that some of the feral animals in the Hatcher Pass / Baldy area are actually domestic animals by definition. Take No Action

Proposal 92 — Would allow nonresident permits for falcons to harvest at same levels as Alaska residents. Jehnifer opposed — Middle East market could take more birds than what is allowed. Herman mentioned that it could be a way for Alaska to generate money for the state during a time of declining oil revenues, but Herman opposes. ADF&G neutral on allocative issue. This would have impact on local Alaskan Falconers. Motion opposed 0-9-0.

Proposal 93 Similar to 92 — see 92 comments. Motion opposed 0-9-0.

Proposal 94 — Would create a state permit requirement for telemetry tagging of Alaska wildlife. In some ways Herman supports, but believes federal entities will likely not follow state wildlife regulations. Motion passed 9-0-0.

Proposal 95 — requires reporting on targeted permits in order to participate the following year. ADF&G proposal and support. Motion passed 9-0-0.

Proposal 96 — Would create a weighted drawing system. Has been passed by the BOG in the past. Was never implemented. The Mat-Valley AC has a history of supporting a weighted drawing permit system. Dan in favor. Hans mentioned that it can turn out to where it takes too many points to get a permit in the future. Israel did not want to support a system that was not clearly identified as to how it would work. Birch opposed — not specific enough — with declining budgets we need to raise more money. Andy would support Herman would support if it were more specific — he wants ADF&G to be able to get as much Pittman Robinson money as possible. ADF&G feels that it would discourage people from applying — in particular first time applicants. Program would be much more costly than a random draw. Motion failed 2-7-0.

Proposal 97 — Take no action — See comments from proposal 96.

Terry Nininger will be AC representative at statewide BOF Meeting — Tom Deland and Andy Couch will be alternates to represent the AC if for some reason Terry can not represent the AC — no objection from any AC members.

Dan Montgomery will represent AC at statewide BOG meeting and focus his comments on the AC's opposition to the proposal 207 regulation. No objection from any AC members.

Israel was congratulated on his appointment to the Board of Fisheries. Legislative Confirmation hearings will be coming up for him. Israel will resign from AC following conclusion of his work on the sheep working group. The sheep working group has agreed there is not 100% consensus. Some member of the group want to disband the group or change to majority rule rather than 100% consensus. Israel will likely be off committee by or before mid-March.

Mel made motion that the Advisory Committee write a letter of support for Israel in his appointment to the Board of Fisheries and the legislative confirmation process. Second by Stephen. Passed with No objection.

Mel showed AC members draft wording for House bill 213 — and wanted AC members to provide comment.

Israel mentioned the Anchorage AOC banquet will be Saturday.



Birch wanted to congratulate Israel and Jehnifer for Israel's appointment and Jehnifer's recent award for her service on the Matanuska Valley AC.

Howard Delo mentioned that confirmation hearings for appointment to the BOF should come before the House Resources and Senate Resources Committees.

Meeting adjourned.

Minutes taken by Andy Couch

Matanuska Valley Fish & Game Advisory Committee Minutes
February 24, 2016 at MTA Building in Palmer

Meeting called to order at 7:05 Number needed for Quorum 8 — Quorum Met

Members Present: Andy Couch, Israel Payton, Herman Griese, Jehnifer Ehmann, Steve Bartelli, Birch Yuknis, Dan Montgomery, Hans Nordstrom, Mike Buirge, Dave Young arrived at 7:35

Members Excused: Randy Talvi, Joe Cizek, Terry Nininger, Tom DeLand, Jeff Tuttle, Mel Grove

Public Present: Rod Arno — Alaska Outdoor Council, Nick Steen Neil DeWitt, Max Sager, ADF&G Sam Ivey Fisheries and Dave Battle — Anchorage game, Cory Santel - Anchorage Assistant Game, Gino Del Frate — game regional supervisor (Region 2)

Public Comment:

Neil DeWitt — Western Arctic Caribou — Was 16-01 plan number — will be another meeting March 10 in Anchorage with a teleconference call in number. This covers hunting on federal lands by people from the Northwest Arctic Area — but not by other people outside the area. This covers 21 D and several other Units. No guides / transporters wanted on federal lands.

March 1 is the the deadline for submitting comments.

Sabrita Holland veterinarian Proposals 90 and 91 — wanted to point out that there are already good animal controls already in Alaska and also in the Mat-Su. Animal control does not do anything about some animals unless there are complaints from the public. Would like to have a meeting between animal control and Fish & Wildlife protection — Sabrita would also like to participate. Would like to find a better way to deal with this issue of wild “feral” type animals. If there is something already in place then lets make use of it. —Jehnifer Ehmann suggested making comment to the Board of Game. Israel Payton mentioned that Sabrita might want to contact the Alaska Chapter of the Wild Sheep Federation — Kevin Keho.

Rod Arno (Alaska Outdoor Council) — provided handout of USFWS comment period on refuge purpose changes. The changes would eliminate management of predators. If other animals declined so would hunting opportunities for those other species. March 8 is the comment deadline. Rule RIN 1018-BA31. Commented that Israel has been doing a good job on the sheep working group. Proposal 103 would apply subsistence regulations developed for the Nelchina basis to go statewide on subsistence hunts.

Legislation HB 137 license tag bill — creates an intensive management surcharge — \$10 to \$15 per person. HB266 Would require BOF or BOG to go through the same process of developing a proposal as everyone else. SB 164 creates 2 classes of violation misdemeanor or citation — in some areas of the state regulations are already not dealt with as far as game permits and reporting this would maybe allow that to be legal.

Tiana — hunter, truck driver, and eater who loves sheep meat. Proposal 90 would make a drastic impact economically. Would like to see domestic sheep and goats remain on the clean list. Would ask that the sheep working group provide supplements for wild sheep. Would also like to see crossbow proposal passed — as she can not shoot a regular bow. If sheep and goats were to be delisted then all other animals on the clean list would also be up for delisting.

Janet Otto — Proposal 90 believes Board of Game may do something with this proposal — she has a large goat herd that is clean and disease free. Sheep and goats are a valuable source of meat in Alaska. Would like to see sheep and goat remain on the clean list.

Hans told Janet she might want to contact legislators about this issue. She already has. Israel mentioned Janet may want to comment to the the Alaska Wild Sheep Federation about this issue as well (writer of the proposal). Andy Couch mentioned that the Matanuska Valley AC had already looked at proposal 90 and did not support delisting sheep and goats.

Suzu — talking about proposal 90 — owns sheep and opposes this proposal. This would put a great many people out of business. slaughterhouses would no longer be able to deal with sheep or goats. 4-h kids and there projects would go away. This would restrict private residents from raising their private animals on their private property.

Becky Oviatt — person who owns sheep and goats on 3 acres. You take that away you take away her complete livelihood. Opposes proposal 90. Has brought animals up from the lower 48 to raise quality animals. She comes from a group of hunters and wants to hunt, but also wants the opportunity to raise her sheep and goats.

Briana Pritchard has interest in protecting wild sheep — but also want to maintain her rights to raise her own animals. Opposes proposal 90 and fears that the Board of Game may pass it anyway. Would rather have regulations that protect both wild and domestic animals. If new regulations are to be passed then they should not be so vague and not so far reaching to affect people and animals that are not part of the problem.

Scott Oviatt — asked AC members to explain how disease affecting sheep and goats is transmitted. Jehnifer replied that the AC would not explain details of Prop 90 as they are not authors of this proposal but that members of the public could make comment. Scott commented that he does not see a threat between domestic and wild animals — they are not in area of the Butte where he resides.

Jehnifer mentioned that the decision on Proposal 90 is not made by the Matanuska Valley AC, but will be made by the Board of Game. The AC does not believe that the Board of Game has authority to pass proposal 90.

Sam Ivey with ADF&G covered emergency regulations for king salmon in the Mat-Su Valley for 2016. Over time we've seen that we can fish at a lower level and put more king salmon on the spawning grounds. Preseason actions started taking affect in 2012, with more preseason emergency action in 2013, 2014, 2015, and now 2016. Sam looked at escapement data post 2012 — and the department has decided to allow the use multiple hooks starting May 15 and bait starting June 1 on the Doshka River and ADF&G hopes to manage for about the mid-point of the run goal. This year harvest will be allowed on the Little Susitna River on Friday, Saturday, Sunday, and Mondays. Seasonal limits remains restricted at by emergency order at 2 king salmon from the Susitna Drainage and Little Susitna River combined. ADF&G hopes to maximize king salmon harvest at the Eklutha Tailrace fishery. Israel wanted to know criteria for reopening the Talachulitna. Sam said we've made the goal the past couple years but not by much. With in season data ADF&G may be able to reopen the Tal. Israel wanted to know what criteria. Sam mentioned that if numbers looked good in the Little Susitna, Eklutha, Doshka and Eastside Susitna then possibly the Tal could be opened — but otherwise it might not be until next year. He mentioned that they may do some aerial king salmon counting starting sometime in June.

Motion to accept the agenda by Dan Montgomery. Amend to allow Israel to give a sheep working group update. Amendment to reconsider proposal 97 motion failed 2 in favor. Agenda approved as amended with no objection.

Israel said consensus issues on the sheep working group were as follows. ADF&G should have some standard way to judge the legality of sheep between the different ADF&G offices. Raise draw fee for sheep to \$10 per permit hunt. Double the cost of nonresident sheep tags. Resident should purchase a \$50 sheep stamp. Allow people to put in for 6 sheep drawing hunts rather than just 3. Does the AC agree with some type of allocation between resident / nonresident allocation of sheep tags? Steve and Birch want resident / nonresident participation to be more on the level of 90 / 10. Dan made a motion that the AC seek a 80 / 20 resident / nonresident participation allocation for sheep hunting opportunity. Allocation would likely be unit wide to accommodate current use levels. — Jehnifer made a ruling that there is not enough time to work through this issue.

Minutes to be considered later as they were not provided early enough for members to review.

AC meeting March 2nd will be the time that the Feb. 10 and Feb 24 minutes will both be approved.

Proposal 98 Dan made an amendment that this should only apply for sheep and goat permits with 50% of permits available to all applicants — 50% of permits would be available to preference point holders. With 1 preference point awarded per year applied and those points would be squared for the application. Points could be bought for a year in which the hunter decided not to participate in the drawing. No second on the amendment. Proposal 98 as written. Birch wanted to know ADF&G's position on this proposal. ADF&G neutral on allocation — but say a preference system will cost money. Israel will not support this proposal — Dan feels this is too complicated and does not like allowing to put in for all the permit hunts for a species. motion failed 0 in favor 10 opposed.

Proposal 99 After a hunter signs an agreement to hunt with a guide if drawn — a guide would put their verification number on the permit application and send it in. Israel wanted to know how next of kin works. Dan said those hunting with next of kin must put in the name and relationship of the person to be hunted with. Birch wanted to know what happened if the guide for some reason could not participate. Dan said the drawing winner then would be unable to participate. Steve Bartelli asked what if the person who won the permit decided not to participate with the guide.

Gino Del Frate said ADF&G required a number to be on the application previously— but did not check those numbers for validity until after hunters were drawn. Herman does not see the point for supporting if ADF&G is not going to verify numbers. Israel said ADF&G comments are neutral on this proposal. Code would be verified by computer. motion failed 4 - 5- 1. Abstain did not understand what the proposal would do if passed.

Proposal 100 No action taken.

Proposal 101 would allow only a maximum of 10% of the available permits to be awarded to nonresidents. Dan mentioned that not all residents participate but that nearly all nonresidents do participate. Andy opposes as this would apply statewide — including permits that may be undersubscribed if nonresidents could only win a maximum of 10% of the permits. Gino mentioned there is the question of how the maximum of 10% of permits would be issued. Would it be on a per unit basis? per hunt basis? statewide basis? Some of these permit hunts are already nonresident only — so how would it apply to these hunts? motion failed 3 - 7-0.

Dave with ADF&G talked about Agenda Change Request — 20 mile hunts (unit 14 C and Unit 7 border area) and all of 14C hunts. ADF&G has managed toward the lower end of the moose population objective. Herman said with no surveys for the last few years what is the number of permits based on. Dave mentioned indirect numbers — roadkills, other indications. JBER hunt success rates are partially determined by when the training areas are open for hunting — rather than being used by the military. With mild winter and training area closures harvest numbers have been down. Ship Creek registration hunt success has remained good. Managing for the lower end of the moose objective may result in less winter kill and less car collisions. Bull to cow ratio is approximately in the 30's but may be into the 60% range in some areas. Dave mentioned they are ramping up some of the bull permits for this reason.

Moose antlerless reauthorizations —

Proposal 116 for Unit 14 C and 7. motion passed 10-0-0.

Proposal 117 for Unit 14c. motion passed 10-0-0.

Proposal 119 — Lots of hunters from the Mat-Su Valley participate in Unit 13 and we have had jurisdiction in that area in the past and would like to remain with jurisdiction. Motion passed 9-0-0.

Proposal 120 Andy has problems with the late winter hunt and feels that fall hunts provide better opportunities for taking prime shape animals. Herman said it was sold to the AC as a means to harvesting problem animals in targeted areas, but this does not seem to be the case anymore. Todd Rinaldi would like to continue the permit hunting regime. Israel wanted to know why the harvest objective is so low in Unit 14A , since we have harvested more than the objective for the past 3 years. Gino's comment was that ADF&G is attempting to bring the moose population back down to the population objective level. Steve wants to support the proposal. Herman wanted the population data to be kept up to date. Herman said a 14B hunt along the highway is impacting Andy amends to reduce the winter permits by reallocating 50% of of the winter permits to fall hunts. Steve wanted to know the percentage of bulls taking in the winter. Gino says perhaps lower than the bull to cow ratio — but did not have solid numbers at the meeting. Dave plans to support the proposal as is. Mike says that we may not be hitting moose to such an extent in some areas perhaps because the strategy may be working.

Amendment fails 3-7-0. proposal 120 as written passes 10-0-0.

Proposal 121 reauthorize Kalgan Island hunt passed 10-0-0.

Jehnfifer wants to know if we will have a quorum on March 2 — so members please let her know if you will not be able to attend.

Israel heard confirmation hearings on the Board of Game and said the newest member may be quite interesting.

Herman thanked ADF&G for showing up.

Meeting adjourned at 10:02.

Matanuska Valley Fish & Game Advisory Committee Minutes
March 2, 2015 at MTA Building in Palmer

Meeting called to order at 7:07

Members Present: Andy Couch, Israel Payton, Terry Nininger, Herman Griese, Jehnifer Ehmann — arrived at 7:15, Steve Bartelli, Birch Yuknis, David Young, Mike Buirge, Dan Montgomery, Randy Talvi

Absent Members: Mel Grove, Joe Cizek, Tom DeLand, Hans Nordstrom, Jeff Tuttle

Public Present: Todd Rinaldi ADF&G (Acting Management Coordinator Region 4) area game biologist, Gino Del Frate Regional 2 Supervisor, ADF&G game biologist for Anchorage Dave Battle, Joan Nininger, Neil DeWitt, Fish & Wildlife Trooper Jimmy Lindberg, Corey Stantorf ADF&G assistant game biologist for Anchorage.

Person to be heard: None

Motion to Approve minutes Feb.10 passed unanimously 10-0-0.

Motion to Approve Feb. 24 Minutes 10-0-0.

Motion to accept the Agenda: approved without amendments or objection.

Statewide Board of Game Proposals:

Proposal 102: Seeking to put all nonresident hunters in the same pool for Kodiak Bear brown bear permits. 45 -55% of resident tags for Kodiak brown bear usually do not hunt. Herman in support of putting all nonresident tags into the nonresident draw pool. Randi Talvi supports. Motion passed 10-0-1.

Proposal 103: Would require Tier 1 subsistence permit holders to report harvest information. This would load up subsistence hunters with burdensome reporting requirements according to Andy and Israel. Israel does not plan to support. ADF&G neutral on allocation — but opposed to other aspects. Jehnifer supports effort of proposal. Stephen Bartelli fails to see what this proposal does for Tier 1 Subsistence caribou hunters in Unit 13. It would require them to fill out the same criteria report as the community harvest subsistence hunters. Herman mentioned that the board for a long time was attempting to create a non tier II hunt for caribou in Unit 13. Motion failed 3- in favor, 7 opposed, 1 abstain.

Proposal 104: Take No Action — see action on proposal 103.

Proposal 105: Would change subsistence points to be awarded only to those who hunted or gathered for more than 180 days per year. Herman says it would discriminate against efficient hunters. Alaska wildlife troopers do not support. Motion opposed 0-11-0.

Proposal 106: Would delay implementation of changes from Tier I to Tier II or the other way around until the next regular Board of Game meeting for that area. With the 3 year board cycle ADF&G could still use agenda change request when there is two year until the next Board of Game meeting. Motion passed 11-0-0.

Proposal 107: Would limit nonresident draw allocation to a maximum of 10% statewide. One member felt that Kodiak Brown Bear should be closer to a 90 — 10% allocation for drawings. Some permit hunts are undersubscribed so in this case nonresidents should not be

Matanuska Valley Fish & Game Advisory Committee Minutes
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limited to a maximum of 10%. ADF&G gets significant money from nonresident fees along with PR matching funds and should provide opportunity for them. Motion passed 7-4-0.

Proposal 108: Would remove the nonresident guide requirement of species not required by Statute. Would allow nonresidents to hunt with or without a guide in some situations. Nonresidents have a higher harvest success rate with guides. Requirement would still exist for brown bear, sheep, and goats. Steve believes guide requirements for moose hunters in interior were enacted to reduce competition with locals. Randi plans to support the proposal. Motion passed 10-1-0.

Proposal 139: Make Lake George registration nonresident goat hunt a drawing hunt. ADF&G Dave Battle discussed history of hunt — past two years nonresidents have exceeded their quota, and ADF&G is having trouble stopping the registration hunt in time to stop over harvest. This could lead to a potential conservation concern. Israel asked for clarification. ADF&G request is for only the nonresident hunt to go to a draw. Resident would remain as a registration hunt under this proposal. Israel will support. Dan asked what ADF&G has been harvesting percentage wise in Lake George — ADF&G's target is 5%. Dan says ADF&G figures are 5% allows for population growth — a 6% harvest maintains population — and 7% can create a declining population. Dave explained that whatever number of nonresident harvest is allowed he does not feel ADF&G can react soon enough to keep the harvest allocation intact. Dan maintains there is no over harvest of the Lake George goat population at present. Israel said the concern then is that ADF&G can not keep the allocation intact — not that there is a problem with declining population. Correct according to Dave. In recent past the hunt had also been managed with residents on registration and nonresidents in a draw and that had worked — Corey with ADF&G. Randi suggested that perhaps residents should have an earlier and or longer hunting opportunity to maintain allocation level. Andy asked if residents had been getting cut off from hunting and / or harvest opportunity because of nonresident take. Answer from ADF&G is No. Since this is done as an ACR Stephen wanted to know if ADF&G would submit proposal during regular cycle. Dan asked if ADF&G ever achieved the harvest goal under drawing system. Dave not sure that it ever occurred. Dan guides in area and said that ADF&G has never achieved harvest objective under the drawing permits. Dave Battle said one year the draw goal seemed to be achieved. Dan strongly opposed — should at least be brought up in cycle if there is no conservation concern. Motion opposed 4-7-0. Andy felt without a conservation concern this item should be brought up in cycle — not out. ADF&G comment was that allocation is a criteria for bringing issue up out of cycle.

Proposal 136: Would establish a winter draw and registration hunt for one bull moose in Unit 16B. Herman asked if current harvest is inadequate for meeting the harvest objective during the fall season. YES — according to ADF&G. ADF&G said that part of the discussion is whether 16B should even be in a Tier hunt status as it currently is. With SF 50 3-brow tine hunt under present regulations harvest object will not be met without some type of supplemental hunt opportunity according to Todd Rinaldi with ADF&G. ADF&G wants segments of the population that are not available in the fall to be available for harvest. Israel is all for allowing more moose harvest, as long time resident of the area, he believes the Department should liberalize hunting opportunity in the fall. Israel believes the middle portion of the unit would continue to be harvested heavily in the winter — and believes the south portion of the unit may not really be as unaccessible as ADF&G believes. Local residents like the opportunity to harvest

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moose late in the season because of the opportunity to freeze meat. Late hunt could cause problems with take of bulls in a late season after bulls have dropped their antlers. Tier hunt is generally an antler less hunt as presently administered according to Todd Rinaldi. Steve feels same as Israel in many aspects. DM540 could be used to further hunting harvest opportunity and that if the fall hunt were simply extended harvest would also expand. Steve would rather hunt in the fall for a variety of reasons. There is already plenty of winter permits issued so that portion of the season already has potential of being crowded. Asked if there is any compelling reason for ADF&G not to expand drawing 540. Randi agree that winter hunts still harvest resident moose in the middle of the unit and does not favor winter hunts. Dan does not support winter hunt — harassing the moose in the winter range. There is already plenty of snow machine traffic in this area without more winter hunting. Dan still feels the unit is underpopulated even though.

Andy made a motion to amend proposal 136 to expand drawing hunt 540 numbers and season length in the fall to expand moose harvest opportunity in Unit 16 through September 30 in lieu of winter hunt as proposed. Current hunt dates Israel likes the option of giving the board direction on how the advisory committee would like this hunt to be managed — he wonders how effective an amendment would be in getting noticed by the Board of Game. Birch would like to see less days at end of winter hunt and more days in November Amendment passed 10-0-1. Proposal 136 as amended passed unanimously 11-0-0.

Proposal 109: Would expand Seward AC jurisdiction for antler less moose to Units 7, 15, and 14C. We have temporarily lost two members. This would expand them to include Units 14C and 15. Dave supports at least in 15 and wonder about 14C. Gino mentioned one hunt in the head of Turnagain Arm crosses GMU lines and clarification may be needed here. Andy will support unless he hears compelling reason to do otherwise. Stephen was concerned that Seward might not support antler less hunts in Unit 14C. Dave moved to amend to include Units 7 and 15, but not 14C. Andy says Seward already has jurisdiction over a portion of the hunt in 14 C. Amendment passes 9-2-0. Proposal as amended passed 10-1-0.

Proposal 110: Herman wanted to know why AC members were amending proposal 109 to not include Seward AC, but wanted jurisdiction for MatValley in Units 13 and 16. Concerned how Seward might vote. Motion passed unanimously. 11-0-0.

Proposal 111: Would move Kalgan Island from unit 16B to Unit 15. Herman stated that for ease of surveying from Soldotna and primary hunting population coming from the Kenai it makes sense to have it managed in Unit 15. Motion approved 11-0-0.

Proposal 112: Take No Action — out of area.

Proposals 122- 128: Take No Action

Proposal 129: Would reauthorize brown bear tag fee exemptions. Motion approved unanimously 11-0-0.

Proposal 130: Brown bear exemptions for Interior and Eastern Alaska. Passed 11-0-0.

Proposal 131: passed 11-0-0.

Proposal 132: Take No Action

Proposal 133: Take No Action.

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Proposal 134: passed 11-0-0.

Proposal 135: ADF&G proposal to increase opportunity for brown bear . Motion approved 11-0-0.

Proposal 137: Take No Action.

Proposal 140 / ACR 19: Take No Action.

Proposal 141 / ACR 20: change wolf season dates. Motion opposed 0-11-0.

Proposal 142 / ACR 16: From ADF&G makes an adaptive intensive management plan for predator control. Dan will support continuation of the management as previously supported. Stephen will support. Motion approved 11-0-0.

Proposal 143 / ACR 14: Herman supports taking advantage of rapidly expanding invasive species. Motion approved 11-0-0.

Board nominations:

Birch made a motion and Stephen seconded that the AC is opposed to reappointment of Nate Turner to the Board of Game. AC is concerned that Nate opposed position of broad Advisory Committee consensus on proposal 207 from last winter.

Next AC meeting wrap up on Board of Game and consideration of fisheries proposals — get potential fisheries proposals to Jehnifer before meeting for distribution to members. Meeting still needs to be scheduled.

This is Israel Payton's last meeting as he is moving on toward working on the Board of Fisheries. He encourages AC members to keep plugging along, be involved, work with ADF&G but don't necessarily agree with ADF&G all the time. A good Board member needs to be impartial and consider all positions and information available before making decisions.

Jehnifer thanks Israel for his service and expects he will be a very good board member because of how hard he has work on issues.

Terry Nininger glad to be healthy and back.

Herman thanked ADF&G and Trooper Lindberg for attending meeting.

Stephen thanked Israel for the opportunity to work with him and the extra work he has put in while representing the AC and also thanks to Dan Montgomery.

Mike mentioned to ADF&G and Todd Rinaldi that he is one member that does like winter moose hunts.

Meeting adjourned at 9:53

Minutes taken by Andy Couch
Approved by Advisory Committee
3/3/2016

Middle Yukon Fish and Game Advisory Committee Meeting
3/2/2016
Teleconference

- I. Call to Order: Time by Benedict Jones, Chair @ 12:10
- II. Roll Call: Richard Burnham [vicechair], Justin Esmailka, Earl Esmailka (Kaltag); Arnold Demoski, Michael Stickman (Nulato), Benedict Jones [chair], Percy Lolnitz, Leo Lolnitz (Koyukuk) Fred Huntington (Galena)
Members Absent: Paddy Nollner, Charlie Green & Dick Evens (Galena); Douglas Patsy (Nulato); Kevin Sanders, Tommy Negalska (Kaltag)
Number Needed for Quorum on AC: 7
- III. Approval of Agenda: Yes, with one exception; see below
- IV. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: Waved till next face to face meeting
- V. Fish and Game Staff Present: Caroline Brown, SUBS; Sabrina Garcia, Stephanie Schmidt, Christy Gleason, DCF; Glenn Stout, DWC; Nissa Pilcher, BDS
- VI. Guests Present: Ed Sarten and John Stam, both members of the Ruby AC, Jeremy Havener (FWS)
- VII. Old Business: N/A
- VIII. New Business:

FISHERIES

Update given on results of AYK BOF Meeting that took place in Fairbanks in January by Richard Burnham as well as DCF staff in attendance. The committee was most concerned about the restrictive drift net fishing proposals that were submitted and relieved to hear that they did not pass.

GAME

Update given on last seasons hunting season as well as the survey results for moose in the area. An update on the Upper Koyukuk Predator Control Project was also given. Members had questions on potential changes if FWS Proposed Rule was to occur. Benedict noted that he had seen little moose and moose sign between Koyukuk and Galena and no black bears; brown bear population is increasing and is taking moose and all the black bears. Benedict also mentioned that this was a bad year for berries as well, so the brown bears might have been taking more other animals because of that. Members questioned the size of the brown bears being taken in the area- answer was that while there were a couple nice ones most were average.



Alaska Board of Game Statewide Meeting, March 18-28, 2016, Fairbanks			
BOG or BOF	Proposal Number	Proposal Description	
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal
BOG	79	Require traps to be checked every 24 hours	
Oppose	0	8	If you had two separate lines you would never be able to rest! This would be expensive (fuel) and it would cause many trappers to stop trapping.
BOG	85	Remove the exception for harvest tickets and reports for caribou	
Support w/am	8	0	The AC supports the Departments amendment that was made in the Department comments as they pertain to GMU 21 and 24.
BOG	100	Modify the provision of surplus permits	
Support	8	0	support the flexibility it will give the department

Western Arctic Caribou Herd Working Group Update

Benedict Jones is the committees representative on the working group. He noted that at their last meeting the group learned that the population is continuing to fall, and that other then a low calf survival the department is not sure why. Currently there are no changes to subsistence hunting but that could change.

Board of Game Proposals

Committee discussed submitting a proposal to eliminate the nonresident wolf tag fee in GMU 21 in order to encourage incidental take of wolves by nonresident hunters. The proposal was unanimously supported.

Glenn Stout outlined the 4 proposals that the Department is planning on submitting to the board that would affect GMU 21. No comments were made to the proposals other then they would further discuss them when they were before them again in the winter.

FEDERAL

FWS

The committee discussed the implications of the FWS Proposed Rule and were concerned with both proposed limitation of seasons and bag limits for nonfederally qualified people as they had drafted many of the proposals in GMU 21 that the FWS was seeking to limit (such as longer furbearer seasons as well as brown bear baiting), as well as the repercussions of allowing future managers to regulate based on biological integrity, diversity, and environmental health (BIDEH) criteria as it gives managers far too much leeway. Member Richard Burnham had submitted personal comments that were read to the committee and the committee voted unanimously to draft comments similar to his for submittal to the FWS. It was encouraged that members attend or call in to the FWS meeting held in Galena the next day (March 3, 2016), as well as get other members of the community as well as council offices, to do the same.



BLM

Alternate Member Earl Esmailka received a notice in the mail from BLM that was troubling to him; he recalled it stating that BLM was considering closing all predator hunting within 25 miles of all villages. Coordinator will follow up with department channels and get back to him on this issue as no BLM representatives were on the conference and no one was familiar with this issue.

NEXT MEETING

The AC will meet as soon as possible in the late fall so as they can get a face to face meeting in before funding is potentially cut as it was this year; after hunting season and when AB Glenn Stout is available since his survey season takes place in November. Member Benedict Jones noted that the WACH working group will be meeting the first week of December and would be a conflict for him.

Adjournment: 1:45 pm



Middle Yukon Fish and Game Advisory Committee

Interior Region Fish and Game Advisory Committees

Benedict Jones
Chairman
PO Box 47
Koyukuk, AK 99754

Central	Middle Nenana River
Delta Junction	Middle Yukon River
Eagle	Minto-Nenana
Fairbanks	Ruby
GASH	Tanana-Rampart-Manley
Koyukuk River	Upper Tanana/Fortymile
McGrath	Yukon Flats

March 3, 2016

The Middle Yukon Advisory Committee is one of 84 advisory bodies that make recommendations to Alaska’s Boards of Game and Fish. The Advisory Committees are recognized statutorily as also advisory to Federal Management regarding Federal Lands under Title VIII 805.(a)(2)of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act. The Middle Yukon Advisory Committee is comprised of rural residents of Alaska in Game Management Unit (GMU) 21.

On March 2, 2016 the Middle Yukon Advisory Committee (MYAC) met by teleconference, and one item on the agenda was to discuss the USFWS Proposed Rule (PR), docket number FWS-R7-NWRS-2014-0005. After discussing the proposed rule, the MYAC voted unanimously to oppose the PR as written.

The rural residents that comprise the MYAC drafted and submitted several proposals to the Board of Game that subsequently passed that changed regulations in GMU 21 to what the USFWS is terming ‘sport hunting’ and we are a bit confused why the same practices are considered ‘sport’ and ‘subsistence’ depending on who is participating in the hunt. Regulations such as brown bear baiting and increased furbearer seasons were some of those such proposals, and were drafted with the expectation that they were to be utilized by all, not just the residents of GMU 21, and we are against any attempts to change policies that might go against sound biological management which is what allowing managers to arbitrarily regulate on the very loose definition of the biological integrity, diversity, and environmental health (BIDEH) criteria.

Furthermore, we are concerned with how our comments will be weighed against those people/entities who do not live in our area, much less Alaska. The public process which now seems to be in place will provide a forum as we see it for individuals and organized groups in the Lower 48 and elsewhere to effect changes that go against the wants and needs of our villages. This brings us to our final concern about the public process. What weight is going to be given to our voice when it comes to stand up to our customary and traditional uses on this land that is and has been so important to us? **Ultimately our villages are the ones who will bear the brunt of policy changes that are made.**

Benedict Jones
Chairman, Middle Yukon Fish and Game Advisory Committee

Mid Lower Yukon Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
Monday, November 16 – Tuesday November 17, 2015 at 12 noon
St Mary's Community Hall

Call to Order at 1:30 pm

Invocation led by Evan Polty, Sr

Roll Call: Evan Polty, Sr, Stan Sheppard, William Alstrom, Vassily Sergie, Sr, Paul Beans, June Yupanik, Peter Tyson

Member Absent: Stan Peters

Public Present: Eric Weingarth, Mel Paukan, Martin Alexie, Matt Thompson, Martin Polty

Staff Present: Christie Gleason ADF&G CF, Phil Perry ADF&G WC, Sherry Wright ADF&G Boards

Establish quorum – 7 members present constitutes a quorum.

Chair's Comments

Concerns/Comments of Public – none at this time.

Concerns/Comments of AC members – Would like to submit a proposal that would deal with moose antlers; purchase of antlers and harvest of moose just for the antlers was another issue to discuss (that is wanton waste, but sometimes putting in the proposals raises awareness of issues going on.

Committee discussed the proposal process.

Moose are being found with a bunch of bullet holes and pushed up. They try to find a legal moose to take and then when they get it find it is not good meat – maybe too small caliber bullets. Minimum caliber was a thought

Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting – Discussion about approval of minutes by chair/secretary. It was unanimously approved. William Alstrom moved to approve minutes of Dec 18, 2014. Peter Tyson 2nd. Motion carried.

Approval of Agenda – added BOG proposals to submit William Alstrom moved to approve with additions. 2nd by Evan Polty, Sr.

Old Business - none

New Business

- ADF&G Staff Updates – Christie Gleason went over the 2015 preliminary season summary.
- Roster Update; Term dates – Sherry Wright was able to secure the old files for Lower Yukon AC and sent out a roster of committee membership since the early 80s and provided information on terms that are expiring and the efforts put forth to remedy those. Motion that the alternate terms coincide with the regular member terms was made by
- Officer elections: Motion to retain Stan Sheppard as chair. 2nd by Paul Beans. Motion carried. Motion for William Alstrom as Vice Chair. Evan Polty, Sr 2nd. Motion carried. Motion to retain June Yupanik for Secretary. 2nd by Peter Tyson. Motion carried.

- **Fisheries Issues - Comments on Arctic Yukon Kuskokwim BOF Proposals**

ARCTIC / YUKON / KUSKOKWIM FINFISH

JANUARY 12-17, 2016

ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES

Mandatory- Please Summarize Your Proposal Comments in this Form

BOF comments p 2-4 (not included)

**Mid Lower Yukon Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
Monday, November 16 – Tuesday November 17, 2015 at 12 noon
St Mary's Community Hall**

TABLED.	7	0	Concern of the size of a vessel that may be needed to purse seine, which may only allow those able to afford a larger boat to participate. There was a question if there have been any purse seines used on an in-river fishery. Kwikpak is the only buyer on the lower river. Committee believes they are trying to enhance the opportunity for lower river fishers, perhaps in the future. Bristol Bay herring fishery was discussed that it is mostly outside interests, and would hate to see that happen here. Coastal Lower Yukon AC will meet and perhaps they will have more information. The committee talked about tabling this until they can get more information. Seine gear is more expensive, which may cut down on more of the fishermen. Concern of the length of the gear also was discussed. The proposal would be a financial burden because of the cost of the gear to get into the fishery. Local boats wouldn't even qualify. This would also restrict areas that have already been reduced to fishing. The committee wants to have more information before voting on this. Moved to table till next teleconference. Motion carried to table 7 - 0.
BOF	127	Expand the commercial fishing area of Yukon Area District 1.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Action	7	0	This seems to allow more opportunity in the lower river area. This is quite a large expansion and may encourage others to begin fishing in this area. Prefer status quo. Moved to take no action as this is more a proposal for Coastal Lower Yukon AC.
BOF	128	Extend commercial fishing three miles offshore and north to Point Romanof in District 1 of the Yukon Area.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oppose	0	7	Same comments as last proposal. If the king salmon fishery ever rebounds, this fishery being expanded may impact fishers further upstream. There is concern of large vessels coming into the area. Fish prices are already effected.
BOF	140	Repeal Yukon River Area rainbow trout regulations.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support	7	0	We don't have any rainbow trout. This is housekeeping and will clean up the regulations.

o Comments due December 28, 2015

o

- **Member to attend? Stan Sheppard was approved by the committee to represent them at the BOF AYK meeting.**

Wildlife Issues Comment on Statewide BOG Proposals

BOG	5	Modify the definition of edible meat for all game birds	
Support	7	0	Breast/Thighs/Back/Legs/Wings/Gizzard & Heart. Make State wide for everyone to take all
BOG	17	Provide an exemption for bowhunter education requirements	
Support	5	2	Bow Hunters to take class before next fall
BOG	72	Establish minimum caliber ammunition for moose hunts	
Support	7	0	.243 or larger

**Mid Lower Yukon Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
Monday, November 16 – Tuesday November 17, 2015 at 12 noon
St Mary's Community Hall**

BOG	73	Establish minimum caliber ammunition for caribou hunts	
Support	7	0	Same comments as Prop 72
BOG	74	Establish minimum caliber ammunition for black and brown bear hunts	
Support	7	0	Same comments as Prop 72
BOG	79	Require traps to be checked every 24 hours	
Oppose	0	7	Due to remoteness of area, documentation is required and date; time; and the Severe weather at times would not allow
BOG	126	Reauthorize the antlerless moose season in the Remainder of Unit 18	
Support	7	0	Keep as is.
BOG	131	Reauthorize the current resident tag fee exemptions for brown bear in Units 18, 22, 23 and 26A	
Support	7	0	Support the reauthorization for exemptions

Member to attend BOG meeting - *Paul Beans*

Comments on Federal Subsistence Proposals - none

Discuss date and location of next meeting. *Fall 2016*

Old Business: None

Adjournment: Evan Polty makes a motion to Adjourn @ 1:34PM, Vassily Sergie Sr seconds,

Meeting Adjourned

Minutes Recorded By: June Yupanik
Minutes Approved By: Stan Sheppard

Date:
1-28-16

Minto Nenana Fish and Game Advisory Committee
November 12, 2015
Nenana

- I. Call to Order: Time by Tim McManus, Nenana Co-Chair @ 12:00 pm
- II. Roll Call:
Members Present:
Minto Members
Philip Titus, Freddy Titus, Knowland Silas
Nenana Members
Victor Lord, Rondell Jimmy, Timothy McManus, Steve Ketzler

Members Absent: Minto- Ron Silas & Roy Charlie; Nenana- Ray Stevens

Number Needed for Quorum on AC: 6

List of User Groups Present: N/A
- III. Approval of Agenda: Yes
- IV. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: From meeting date 2/2/2015 Approved
- V. Fish and Game Staff Present: Jeff Estesén & Christy Gleason, DCF, Tony Hollis, DWC, Nissa Pilcher, BDS, (Caroline Brown, SUBS via teleconference)
- VI. Guests Present: Donald Charlie; Nenana Chief, Mike Carson, Orville Huntington, Reed Morisky, Tim Abbot (DPS)
- VII. Old Business: N/A
- VIII. New Business:
Stephanie Schmidt(DCF) gave Summer Season Update
Members Commented:
Chinook seemed to come back, didn't drop a net due to concerns but a couple guys did and glad; deaths and eating fish
Always approach season conservatively is my thought
Ways current laws are written, it fish # are in river mandated to provide opportunity
Current year escapement for parent year; 2009 2010 Canada 65000 32000 only
For next year, 2010 and 2011, for 2011 escapement 46000
Tim fished; caught a king salmon when fishing for whitefish June 17th a week or two later started catching more. First fish big fish. Did pretty good, got enough for family and potlatch; 160 kings and 40 chums thought it was a good season
Steve Fished early too, way different run then we used to have, seemed to be steady, longer quality good. Don't know what to expect next year but this was a good year. Downriver fishing was well.

(pages 2-4 Fisheries discussions excerpted)

Steve wants to put in a proposal next AYK Cycle to increase the bag limit for Grayling around Nenana to 10 per day to make it worthwhile to go fishing.

Tony Hollis (DWC) gave an update on Surveys being/to be conducted, as well as current known hunting numbers, and an update on the ongoing Minto Flats Moose Registration Hunt. The Youth Drawing hunt in GMU 20 was discussed. Members stated they like the youth hunt idea. Members noted that they had seen a lot of cows with calves this summer.

Alaska Board of Game Statewide Meeting, March 8-18, 2016, Fairbanks			
BOG or BOF	Proposal Number	Proposal Description	
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal
BOG	123		Reauthorize the antlerless moose seasons in Unit 20A
NA			Did not take action on this proposal
BOG	124		Reauthorize the antlerless moose seasons in Unit 20B
Oppose	0	7	Don't like standing in lines, which is how it was done previously. Fall hunt is too busy, winter hunt it can be too cold.
BOG	137		Modify the Intensive Management population and harvest objectives for moose in Unit 20A
NA	7	0	This will happen
BOG	130		Reauthorize resident grizzly bear tag fee exemptions throughout Interior and Eastern Arctic Alaska
Support	7	0	

Minutes Discussion; Tim is charged with reviewing the minutes for finalization to submit to the boards.

Old Business: None
Adjournment: 3:30 pm

Minutes Recorded By:
Minutes Approved By:
Date:

Name of Advisory Committee Mt. Yenlo F & G A/C

Date 1-15-2016

Location of Meeting Bentalit Lodge, / Skwentna AK

11:15 am 1-15-2016

- I. Call to Order: Time by [name of chair/acting chair] Eric Johnson, Acting Chair (Vice Chair)
Eric Johnson-Vice Chair-Alt Tom Brion-Undes, Roger Phillips-Skwentna,
- II. Roll Call: Bonnie Childs-Skwentna, James Ivey-Skwentna, Barry Stanley-Undes
Members Present: [include role here by name ie: officer; designated seat; at large member?]
Members Absent: Mark Torkelson-Skwentna, Thomas Payton-Chair-Skwentna
Number Needed for Quorum on AC:
List of User Groups Present:
- III. Approval of Agenda: Review of BOG proposals pertinent to our A/C
- IV. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: From [meeting date] Done Unanimus
- V. Fish and Game Staff Present: Todd Rinaldi, Tim Peltier
- VI. Guests Present: Julie McMullin, Daniel McMullen, Mike Thomas, John Thomas, Alfred Goszak
Andy Frank, Ken Hughes, John Little, David Payne
- VII. Old Business: Nothing Pending to review
- VIII. New Business: Specific review and discussion of proposal#136 and listen to F&G
representatives input on the proposal, plus vote on other pertinent
proposals -
[record minutes]
Renew existing and expired members, Tom Brion-approved-unanimus, James Ivey-approved-Unan
Eric Johnson-approved-unan, Thomas Payton-approved-unan, Roger Phillips-approved-unan
Vote on new member: Alfred Goszak, approved-unanimus, David McHoes-approved-unan
Removal of Sara King as Sec and as member of A/C - moved from district -approved Unanimus
Election of Officers: Eric Johnson, Chairman - Unanimus
Thomas Payton, Vice Chairman - Unanimus
Roger Phillips, Secretary - Unanimus
Proposal #110 Review, open discussion, vote, Opposed - Unanimus - NO SUPPORT
Proposal #111 Review, open discussion, Vote, Approved - Unanimus - YES Support
Proposal #121 Review, open discussion, Vote, Approved - Unanimus - YES Support
Proposal #136 Review, open discussion ---- SEE ATTACHED Discussion Notes and Ammendments
very lengthy discussion, and approved ONLY AS AMMENDED.....

Mt. Yenlo - Area Committee Meeting 1-15-2016

Regarding Proposal 136 – Amendment

Per committee meeting:

Proposal 136 should ONLY be Approved with the following Amendment.

AMENDMENT: Mt Yenlo Area Committee ONLY Approves PROPOSAL #136 WITH THE FOLLOWING

AMENDMENT: – Extend the general season “resident” Hunting period by 10 days toward the end of September- General Season RESIDENT Hunting Aug. 20 – Sept. 30 AND remove the spike fork, brow tine and over 50” limitations. The general season resident hunt shall allow ANY BULL. No change to non-resident requirements. No Winter registration hunt or drawing hunt to be added to existing season structure. Tier 2 permit system shall remain as is.

Reasoning for proposal #136: As explained by Todd Rinaldi

The reasoning BOG wants the winter hunt is better accessibility to the region via snowmachine so there would be a higher success rate for hunting, thus maintaining the desired Moose population. Currently 16b is not experiencing enough hunter success to maintain the desired population.

Committee Concerns: The north and south sections of 16b would not be any more accessible via snowmachine and actually will have less airplane access, because of distance, difficulty of travel and amounts of snow in the mountainous regions during the winter months. Only the middle section would have any increase in access and this access is still confined to rivers, creeks and swamps, which are accessible with a boat also. The moose population in general tend to stay far from or move quickly from the accessible area’s of 16b once hunting pressure begins. Especially the bigger bulls which are older, wiser and more cautious.

Additional concerns are:

#1 Todd explained better control of hunting by using a registration and or draw hunt.... He was un-able to explain how there would be “better” control. No additional reporting was expected, so HOW can there be better control?

#2 As we (the committee) understand statute law, The Tier 2 hunt cannot take place at the same time as a public winter hunt of any other type. This would greatly impair the local remote population from a successful subsistence hunt AND there is no F&G office in the remote region to go in-person to register for a hunt. This may be a great disadvantage to the local “remote” population. The existing proposal suggest Tier 2 from 12-15 to 3-31 BUT also a registration hunt from 12-15 to the last day of February. This is a conflict of statute as we understand.

#3 A drawing hunt 11-15 / 12-15 is NOT Feasible. This area is not accessible during this period by boat or snowmachine due to river water level and ice conditions. There is No Way to hunt.

#4 The general public, is quite typically under a time constraint while hunting, adding pressure to their hunt success. Inexperienced in antlerless moose hunting (winter hunt), there will be a much higher rate of cow moose kill with a general public, winter moose hunt.

Mt Yenlo Area Committee 1-15-16

Justification for proposed amendment:

History proves that back when there was no Antler requirements the numbers of moose taken in area 16b reached the goal of 200 to 400 moose (goal as suggested by Todd Rinaldi) but DID NOT exceed the goal of 600 -700 moose at any time. There are actually fewer or nearly the same number of hunters in this region today as there was years ago, when there was no antler size requirements. This suggest the goal could be reached without limiting or removing Tier 2 hunting or adding a winter registration or draw hunt.

By removing the antler size requirements during regular season, it will invite more hunters to the area which should bring us closer to goal of 600 moose per year. Again, history (per F&G records) suggest we will not exceed the goal.

By allowing Any Bull during regular season and Not having an Antlerless public winter hunt, there will be less "cow accidents".

By NOT increasing winter hunting pressure, pushing moose around, the already "weather stressed" Cows and Calves will have a better chance of survival throughout the winter.