



Alaska Board of Game

P.O. Box 115526

Juneau, AK 99811-5526

(907) 465-4110

www.boardofgame.adfg.alaska.gov

ALASKA BOARD OF GAME Southcentral Region Meeting March 14-20, 2019 | Anchorage, Alaska

MEETING SUMMARY

The Board of Game (board) convened the Southcentral Region meeting on Thursday, March 14, 2019 at the Sheraton Anchorage Hotel. Seven board members were present: Chairman Ted Spraker, Vice-Chairman Nate Turner, Stanley Hoffman, Karen Linnell, Larry Van Daele, Tom Lamal, and Jerry Burnett.

The meeting opened with board member and staff introductions, ethics disclosure statements, and oral reports. Oral reports included state and federal agency updates; ADF&G Southcentral Region overview and research reports; Alaska sheep and goat disease workgroup report; and a presentation by students from Old Harbor School on a comprehensive Kodiak brown bear research project. The list of reports is provided on page ten and includes the presenters and audio log not information.

Public testimony began Friday, March 15 at 10:00 a.m., and concluded Sunday, March 17 at 11:00 a.m. The board heard from 71 testifiers, 13 of whom were advisory committee representatives (see RC 52, public testimony list).

Board deliberations began late Sunday morning, following public testimony. The board considered 96 proposals, adopting 47. Twelve of the adopted proposals were reauthorizations for antlerless moose hunts, and three were reauthorizations of brown bear tag fee exemptions. Board action for each proposal is provided below and is recorded as: C = carried; CA = carried as amended; F = Failed; and NA = no action.

The meeting material and audio are available on the meeting website at: <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=gameboard.meetinginfo>

Regionwide & Multiple Units (3 proposals)

The audio for board deliberations on this section begins March 17, at 11:19:57 AM.

C (7-0) PROPOSAL 54: Allow the use of crossbows in restricted-weapons hunts in the Southcentral Region.

F (1-6) PROPOSAL 55: Remove the restriction on the use of aircraft for spotting Dall sheep in Units 7 and 14.

F (3-4) PROPOSAL 56: Prohibit nonresident hunting of moose and caribou under intensive management in the Southcentral Region until harvest or population objectives are met.

Cordova Area – Unit 6 (2 proposals)

The audio for board deliberations on this section begins March 17, at 2:46:01 PM, following the area overview provided by ADF&G.

CA (7-0) PROPOSAL 57: Modify the Controlled Use Area in Unit 6B. *The board adopted the proposal with the August 25 – September season dates and amended it to restrict motorized vehicles within the CUA for moose hunting including the transportation of moose hunters and moose hunting gear*

C (7-0) PROPOSAL 58: Reauthorize the antlerless moose seasons in Unit 6C.

Kenai Peninsula Area – Units 7 & 15 (34 proposals)

*The audio for board deliberations on this section begins March 17 at 5:42:07 PM, following the area overview provided by ADF&G. *Note: Member Hoffman was absent from the deliberations beginning with this section throughout the remainder of the meeting.*

C (6-0-1*) PROPOSAL 59: Shorten the hunting season for Kenai Mountain caribou (DC001) in Unit 7.

F (0-6) PROPOSAL 60: Change the hunting seasons for goat in Units 7 and 15.

C (6-0) PROPOSAL 61: Establish a new drawing hunt for goats near Seldovia in Unit 15C.

C (6-0) PROPOSAL 62: Separate the early and late season registration goat hunts for the Seldovia and Port Graham hunt areas in Unit 15C.

C (6-0) PROPOSAL 65: Change the bag limit for moose in Units 7 and 15 from four to three brow tines. *The board clarified the change in bag limit does not apply to the Tier II or Kalgin Island hunts.*

NA PROPOSAL 66: Change the resident bag limit for moose in Unit 15 from four to three brow tines. *The board took no action due to their action on proposal 65.*

NA PROPOSAL 64: Change the resident bag limit for moose in Unit 15 to include spike-fork. *The board took no action due to their action on proposal 65.*

F (0-6) PROPOSAL 63: Change the resident bag limit for moose in Unit 15 and remove the road closure criteria in Unit 15C.

NA PROPOSAL 67: Change the resident bag limit for moose in Units 15A and 15B from spike-fork to four points on one palm or three brow tines. *The board took no action due to their action on proposal 65.*

F (0-6) PROPOSAL 68: Change the resident bag limit for moose in Units 15A and 15B from spike-fork to five or more points on one palm and shorten the seasons.

CA (6-0) PROPOSAL 69: Open a general season hunt for moose in Unit 15B and eliminate the drawing hunt. *The board amended the proposal to exclude Kalgin Island.*

NA PROPOSAL 70: Open a general season hunt for moose in Unit 15B and eliminate the drawing hunt. *The board took no action due to their action on proposal #69.*

NA PROPOSAL 71: Establish a general season moose hunt for Unit 15B east and eliminate the drawing hunt. *The board took no action due to their action on proposal #69.*

C (6-0) PROPOSAL 78: Establish resident drawing hunts for “any bull” moose in Units 15 and 7.

NA PROPOSAL 74: Open a resident drawing hunt for moose in Unit 15C. *The board took no action due to their action on proposal #78.*

NA PROPOSAL 76: Establish an “any bull” drawing hunt in Unit 15C. *The board took no action due to their action on proposal #78.*

F (0-6) PROPOSAL 75: Open an archery and muzzleloader permit hunt for moose Unit 15C.

F (0-6) PROPOSAL 80: Change the Hope/Palmer Creek Valley area general season moose hunt in Unit 7 to an archery-only permit hunt.

NA PROPOSAL 72: Change the resident moose hunt structure in Unit 15C. *The board took no action due to their action on proposals #65 and #78.*

NA PROPOSAL 73: Change the resident moose hunt structure in Unit 15C. *The board took no action due to their action on proposals #65 and #78.*

F (0-6) PROPOSAL 77: Establish a drawing hunt for antlerless moose in Unit 15C north of the south fork of the Anchor River.

F (0-6) PROPOSAL 79: Require hunter education for all hunters participating in Unit 15C drawing hunts.

F (0-6) PROPOSAL 81: Require blaze orange be worn by moose hunters on Kalgin Island in Unit 15B.

C (6-0) PROPOSAL 82: Reauthorize the antlerless moose season on Kalgin Island in Unit 15B.

C (6-0) PROPOSAL 83: Reauthorize the antlerless moose seasons in Unit 15C.

F (0-6) PROPOSAL 84: Open a resident, archery-only season for Dall sheep in Unit 15.

F (0-6) PROPOSAL 85: Reduce the resident bag limit for black bear in Units 7 and 15.

F (1-5) PROPOSAL 86: Reduce the bag limit for spruce grouse in Units 7 and 15.

F (0-6) PROPOSAL 87: Close the ptarmigan season in Unit 15C.

F (2-4) PROPOSAL 88: Move the boundary of the Skilak Loop Wildlife Management Area in Unit 15.

F (3-3) PROPOSAL 89: Close the trapping season for beaver in an area of Units 7 and 15C.

C (5-1) PROPOSAL 90: Remove the date restrictions and expand the hunt area for the small game youth hunt in the Skilak Loop Wildlife Management Area in Unit 15.

F (0-6) PROPOSAL 91: Prohibit the discharge of certain weapons used for hunting and trapping within 1/2 mile of any residence in Unit 15C.

F (0-6) PROPOSAL 92: Open a hunting season for tundra swan in Units 7 and 15.

Kodiak Area – Unit 8 (18 proposals)

The audio for board deliberations on this section begins March 18, at 05:43:00 PM, following the area overview provided by ADF&G.

F (0-6) PROPOSAL 93: Increase the bag limit for deer in Unit 8.

C (6-0) PROPOSAL 94: Lengthen the hunting season for goat in Unit 8 Remainder.

CA (6-0) PROPOSAL 95: Change the bag limit, lengthen the season, and implement reporting requirements for goat in Unit 8 Remainder. *The board amended the reporting requirement; hunters are to report within five days of completion of the hunt; photos are not required.*

F (0-6) PROPOSAL 96: Establish a new registration hunt for goat in Unit 8.

CA (6-0) PROPOSAL 97: Allow the use of muzzleloaders for goat hunting in Unit 8. *The board amended the proposal to provide archery hunting only 11/1-12/15, and hunting with muzzleloaders, crossbows, and archery is allowed 12/16-1/31.*

F (0-6) PROPOSAL 98: Lengthen the fall hunting season for brown bear in Unit 8.

F (1-5) PROPOSAL 99: Allocate at least 90% of the Unit 8 brown bear drawing permits to residents.

F (1-5) PROPOSAL 130: In drawing hunts with a separate allocation for residents and nonresidents, all nonresident permits will be issued from the nonresident allocation.

F (1-5) PROPOSAL 100: Create a separate drawing for second degree of kindred brown bear permits in Unit 8.

CA (6-0) PROPOSAL 101: Create a resident tag for Kodiak brown bear from the nonresident permit allocation. *The board amended the proposal with substitute language, RC 55, which eliminated the May application period for guide nonresident hunters and combined it with the November-December application period.*

F (1-5) PROPOSAL 102: Eliminate nonresident opportunity for the RB230 and RB260 registration permit brown bear hunts in Unit 8.

F (0-6) PROPOSAL 103: Transfer under-subscribed nonresident Kodiak brown bear drawing permits to the resident drawing permit allocation.

F (0-6) PROPOSAL 104: Allow residents to return Kodiak brown bear drawing permits in advance of the hunting season to be reissued to residents.

F (0-6) PROPOSAL 105: Adjust the boundaries of the Kodiak brown bear drawing hunt areas for Kiliuda Bay and Ugak Bay.

F (0-6) PROPOSAL 106: Provide educational material to encourage Kodiak brown bear hunters to harvest boars and penalize hunters for taking sows.

F (0-6) PROPOSAL 107: Prohibit shooting from a boat while hunting in the Ugak Bay area in Unit 8.

F (0-6) PROPOSAL 108: Create a controlled use area on the Ayakulic River in Unit 8.

F (3-3) PROPOSAL 109: Require all snares on the Kodiak road system to have a breakaway mechanism.

Anchorage Area – Unit 14C (16 proposals)

The audio for board deliberations on this section begins March 19, at 02:52:20 PM, following the area overview provided by ADF&G.

C (6-0) PROPOSAL 110: Modify the nonresident bow and arrow goat hunt structure in the Lake George area in Unit 14C from a drawing hunt to a registration hunt.

CA (6-0) PROPOSAL 111: Lengthen the hunting season for moose in the Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson Management Area in Unit 14C. *The board amended the proposal to change the start date for all current hunting seasons in Unit 14C (black bear, brown bear, goat, sheep, moose, and small game) to 9/1.*

C (6-0) PROPOSAL 112: Reauthorize the antlerless moose seasons in Unit 14C.

C (6-0) PROPOSAL 113: Reauthorize the antlerless moose season in the Twentymile/Portage/Placer hunt area in Units 7 and 14C.

F (0-6) PROPOSAL 114: Open a youth drawing hunt for Dall sheep in Unit 14C.

F (0-6) PROPOSAL 115: Establish a separate Dall sheep drawing for second degree of kindred hunters in Unit 14C.

CA (6-0) PROPOSAL 116: Change the brown bear hunt in Unit 14C Remainder to a registration hunt with a bag limit of one bear every year. *The board amended the proposal to retain the general hunt instead of having a registration hunt.*

C (6-0) PROPOSAL 117: Extend the hunting season for black bear in the Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson Management Area in Unit 14C.

CA (6-0) PROPOSAL 118: Open a registration black bear hunt for shotgun and muzzleloader only in the McHugh Creek hunt area in the Anchorage Management Area. *The board amended the proposal to open a draw hunt with up to 20 permits; the season opening date will be 9/1; crossbows are prohibited.*

CA (6-0) PROPOSAL 119: Open a registration black bear hunt for shotgun and muzzleloader only in the Upper Campbell Creek hunt area in the Anchorage Management Area. *The board amended the proposal to open a draw hunt with up to 20 permits; the season opening date will be 9/1; crossbows are prohibited.*

F (0-6) PROPOSAL 120: Open a black bear baiting registration hunt for shot gun or muzzleloader only within the Anchorage Management Area.

CA (5-1) PROPOSAL 121: Allow the harvest of bear with the use of bait in Unit 14C Remainder. *The board amended the proposal to exclude the Glacier Creek Drainage area from bear baiting per the map shown on RC 46.*

C (6-0) PROPOSAL 122: Require hunter education for small game hunting in the Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson Management Area in Unit 14C.

C (6-0) PROPOSAL 123: Open a year-round season with no bag limit for unclassified game in the Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson Management Area in Unit 14C.

CA (6-0) PROPOSAL 124: Extend the trapping season for beaver in Unit 14C. *The board amended the season opening date to November 10.*

C (6-0) PROPOSAL 125: Modify the Birchwood Management Area boundary in Unit 14C.

Proposals for Other Regions and Additional proposals (9 proposals)

The audio for board deliberations on this section (excluding #127 and #128) begins March 20, at 08:35:03 AM. Member Burnette was absent for the deliberations on 3/20/10.

CA (7-0) PROPOSAL 127: Open a registration hunt for moose in Unit 19A. *The board adopted the proposal with the following changes recommended by the Stony-Holtna AC, found in AC 27, page 4: Up to 75 permits for one antlered bull to be issued; only 30 permits will be issued the first year. Permits are available within the hunt area only, during the month of July. Permit holders cannot apply for or hold other moose permits in the Kuskokwim River drainage. Only one permit is allowed per household, and successful hunters must report within 15 days of harvest. Proxy hunting is not allowed. If the 2-year average bull: cow ratio drops below 35 bulls: 100 cows the hunt area will close; and if the harvestable portion drops below the lower range of the ANS - the area will return to a closure rather than go to a Tier II hunt. Note: deliberation of this proposal occurred 3/17 at 4:13:15 PM.*

CA (5-0-2*) PROPOSAL 126: Allow additional moose harvest opportunity in Unit 16A by providing an antlerless hunt and/or an “any bull” hunt. *The board amended the proposal to allow up to 200 antlerless moose permits and 50 any bull permits; 8/20 – 9/25. The winter hunt was eliminated.*

F (2-3) PROPOSAL 146: Change the bag limit for Tier II moose hunts to any moose and establish a resident antlerless moose drawing hunt in Unit 16B.

CA (6-0) PROPOSAL 128: Modify the Clearwater Creek Controlled Use Area description. *The board amended the proposal to prohibit motorized access on the trail and clarified the eastern boundary as the Susitna River. Note: deliberation on this proposal occurred 3/19 at 05:44:03 PM.*

CA (5-0) PROPOSAL 147: Change the hunting season dates for brown bear in Unit 9B. *The board amended the proposal to include Unit 9A with season dates as 10/1-21; and 5/10-31.*

NA PROPOSAL 148: Change the hunting season dates for brown bear in Unit 9B. *The board took no action due to their action on proposal 147.*

CA (5-0) PROPOSAL 129: Clarify the ability for trappers to transport furbearers or lawful parts of game as trapping bait within the Dalton Highway Corridor Management Area. *The board amended the proposal to clarify that transportation within the corridor is allowed unless prohibited by statute.*

C (5-0) PROPOSAL 150: Establish a September registration hunt for one bull moose in Unit 18 South of the Eek River drainage and north of the Goodnews River drainage.

CA (5-0) PROPOSAL 149: Establish seasons and bag limits for mule deer statewide, excluding Sitka black-tailed deer. *The board amended the proposal to eliminate the registration permit requirement; to clarify that carcass includes the hide; and to specify the hunts are for “Rocky Mountain Mule deer”.*

Antlerless Moose & Brown Bear Tag Fee Reauthorizations for Other Regions (11 Proposals)

The audio for board deliberations on this section begins March 20, at 1:33:48 PM.

- C (5-0) PROPOSAL 131: Reauthorize the antlerless moose seasons in Unit 13.
- C (5-0) PROPOSAL 132: Reauthorize the antlerless moose seasons in Units 14A and 14B.
- C (5-0) PROPOSAL 133: Reauthorize the antlerless moose seasons in Unit 18.
- C (5-0) PROPOSAL 134: Reauthorize the antlerless moose season in Unit 17A.
- C (5-0) PROPOSAL 135: Reauthorize the antlerless moose seasons in Unit 20A.
- C (5-0) PROPOSAL 136: Reauthorize the antlerless moose seasons in Unit 20B.
- C (5-0) PROPOSAL 137: Reauthorize the antlerless moose seasons in Unit 20D.
- C (5-0) PROPOSAL 138: Reauthorize the antlerless moose season in the western portion of Unit 26A.
- C (5-0) PROPOSAL 139: Reauthorize the resident brown bear tag fee exemptions in Units 18, 22, 23, and 26A.
- C (5-0) PROPOSAL 140: Reauthorize the resident brown bear tag fee exemptions for the Central/Southwest Region.
- C (5-0) PROPOSAL 141: Reauthorize the resident grizzly/brown bear tag fee exemptions for the Interior and Eastern Arctic Region.

Proposed Changes Outside of the Board of Game's Authority

The audio for board discussion on this section occurs begins March 20, at 3:09:21.

- NA PROPOSAL 143: Require antler destruction for moose harvested in Unit 15 under the federal subsistence regulations.
- NA PROPOSAL 144: Require GPS coordinates for the location of moose harvest under the federal hunting regulations for Unit 15.
- NA PROPOSAL 145: Establish a community subsistence harvest permit hunt for moose in Unit 15C.

Miscellaneous Actions:

The audio for the board's discussion on these topics begins March 20, at 03:31:20 unless otherwise specified.

The board chose Fairbanks for the location for the March 2020 Interior/Northeast Region meeting. *The discussion begins March 14, at 04:30:15. (Vote: 7-0)*

The board adopted a positive finding for customary and traditional use for black bear in a portion of Unit 15C, and an ANS (amount reasonably necessary for subsistence) of 20-60 black bear. *The presentation and deliberation for this action begins March 18, at 02:23:40. (Votes: 7-0)*

The board found a negative finding for moose in the portion of Unit 15C outside the nonsubsistence area. *The presentation and deliberation for this action occurs on March 18, at 09:21:14 AM. (Vote: 2-4-1)*

The board adopted findings (RC 19) delegating authority to the commissioner to adopt regulations to allow and regulate electronic licenses, permits or documentation for hunting and trapping. *(Vote: 5-0-2)*

The board adopted findings (RC 64) recommending ADF&G implement conditions for the subsistence moose hunt in Unit 19A remainder that were specified during the deliberations on proposal 127. *(Vote: 5-0-2)*

The board received an update from member Karen Linnell providing proposed modifications to ADF&G's application procedures and policy for cultural permits to preserve traditional Alaskan cultural practices. The suggested changes are provided in RC 65. Member Linnell will work with Division of Subsistence Director, Lisa Olson on the proposed changes.

The board agreed with sending the following letters:

1. Letter of concern to the legislature regarding Senate Bill 87 which would limit nonresident take of big game;
2. Letter of concern to the legislature regarding complexities in Alaska Statutes for the Departments of Transportation and Fish and Game restricting access within the Dalton Highway Corridor which was discussed during the deliberation on proposal 129.
3. Letter thanking the Old Harbor School students for the presentation to the board regarding their Kodiak Island brown bear research project.
4. Letter to the Department of Interior and any other agency as appropriate, identifying concerns with access to cabins on public lands and the affect it has on resource uses and subsistence needs.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 4:20 pm.

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March 14-20, 2019 | Anchorage, Alaska

List of Oral Reports

Thursday, March 14, 2019

1. State and Federal Agency Updates/Reports:
 - Ryan Scott, Assistant Director, Division of Wildlife Conservation (Audio log: 09:42:41 AM)
 - Lisa Olson, Director, Division of Subsistence (Audio Log: 09:59:10 AM)
 - Cheryl Booking, Department of Law (Audio log: 10:02:44 AM)
 - Major Bernard Chastain, Alaska Wildlife Troopers (Audio Log: 10:05:44 AM)
 - Ricky Gease, Director, Department of Natural Resources, State Parks & Outdoor Rec Division (Audio Log: 10:30:24)
 - Greg Siekaniec, Regional Director, US Fish & Wildlife Service (Audio Log: 10:48:56 AM)
 - Bert Frost, Regional Director, National Park Service (Audio Log: 11:39:07 AM)
 - Ted Murphy, Acting State Director, Bureau of Land Management (Audio Log: 1:50:25 PM)
2. Big Game Commercial Services Board Update, Board Member Larry Van Daele (Audio Log: 02:14:49 PM)
3. Southcentral Region Overview for the Division of Wildlife Conservation - Howard Golden, ADF&G (Audio Log: 02:21:28 PM)
4. Southcentral Region Overview for the Division of Subsistence - Robin Dublin, ADF&G (Audio Log: 02:57:52 PM)
5. Anchorage Moose Biopsy Project - Dave Battle and Cory Stantorf, ADF&G (Audio Log: 03:43:47 PM)

Friday, March 15, 2019

1. Alaska Sheep and Goat Disease Workgroup Report - Heather Bergman, Workgroup Facilitator, & Tony Kavalok, ADF&G (Audio log: 08:34:56 AM)
2. Doug Vincent-Lang, ADF&G Commissioner's report (Audio log: 09:22:50 AM)

Tuesday, March 19, 2019

3. Comprehensive Kodiak Brown Bear Research Project—Old Harbor School (grades 6-12) Kodiak Island Borough School District (Audio log: 08:38:53 AM)