

RC 19

March 1, 2011

Dear State of Alaska Board of Game members,

Regarding Statewide proposal 215:

5AAC 92.050 Required permit hunting conditions and procedures. Re-adopt regulations establishing a bonus point system for some drawing hunts.

I am OPPOSED to 215: I am vigorously opposed to any effort to create a bonus point system for any drawing hunt in Alaska.

The current system is fair and simple and should remain in effect. New and young hunters will have a fair and reasonable chance to be drawn for an opportunity to hunt.

The current system is a very modest cost and the administrative burden easily handled by ADFG – I understand that would NOT be the case for any bonus point system.

I have this position even after applying for a bison permits, intermittently for over 20 years, and recently very regularly, and intermittently for muskox for probably 15 years. I got drawn for bison in 2010 and got an animal Feb 17. I have not yet been drawn for muskox.

It was through my Delta bison permit that I became aware of the bonus point system proposal. I looked into it. I have been told by those with experience in other states, that bonus point systems are **Expensive, Difficult to administer**, nearly impossible to escape once adopted, and worst of all, are designed to benefit a few extremely zealous hunters while **essentially disenfranchising many many other hunters**, especially new young hunters.

In the 9 months I prepared for my bison hunt, I met many folks who have applied, and quite a few who succeeded. Several people mentioned they had applied for anywhere from 10 to 30 years without success. And I met a few who had drawn a permit on their first application or within a few years of first applying. NONE of the people I talked to wished for a bonus point system. They all seemed to accept the current system as fair and reasonable.

I'm 56 years old, born and raised in Alaska. I'm extremely proud that to the extent possible, Alaska has one of the most fair and best systems for providing the public with opportunities to hunt and fish. This bonus point system if adopted, would benefit a very small selfish few to the detriment of the broader hunting public at great expense to the State of Alaska.

PLEASE DO NOT ADOPT 215.

Thank you,

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