

NOTICE OF PROPOSED CHANGES IN THE REGULATIONS OF THE ALASKA BOARD OF GAME

Notice is given that the Alaska Board of Game, under the authority of Title 16, Alaska Statutes, proposes to adopt, amend, or repeal regulations in Title 5 of the Alaska Administrative Code which implement, interpret or make specific the provisions of Title 16.

The Board of Game may adopt, amend, repeal, or take no action on the subject matters listed below. Regulations to be the subject of board action concern the use or taking of game and include, but are not limited to the following:

- A. **HUNTING AND TRAPPING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS**, including: Statewide seasons and bag limits for Dall sheep including youth hunts; statewide bag limit for brown bear; caribou in Units 9, 17, 18, 19, and 22; moose in Unit 16; goat in Unit 14; wolves in Unit 20; and all seasons for snowy owl and cormorants.
- B. **METHODS AND MEANS FOR TAKING BIG GAME, GAME, FUR ANIMALS, AND FURBEARERS**, including: Unlawful methods of taking big game and game including restrictions on archery, blackpowder, slingbow, and crossbow weapons; artificial or enhanced light; infrared devices; certain sizes of caliber including calibers for high-power air rifles; use of felt soles; hunting with dogs; use of aircraft including same-day-airborne requirements; and taking big game and game within highway/road right-of-ways. Also in the section, unlawful methods of taking furbearers including trap check requirements; taking within highway/road right-of-ways; taking with underwater traps; and restrictions on trapping near communities, public places, and residences.
- C. **POSSESSION, TRANSPORTATION, AND USE OF GAME** including: Evidence of sex and identity; salvage and retrieval of wounded game; salvage of game meat, furs, and hides including bear hide and skull; sale of brown bear parts; and restrictions to bag limit including wounded game and bag limits for nonresident hunters hunting with resident relatives.
- D. **PERMITS, PERMIT HUNT CONDITIONS, AND PROCEDURES** including: Discretionary and required hunting permit conditions and procedures; special provisions for drawing hunts for sheep, goat, brown bear, and moose; permit allocation for residents and nonresidents; permits for possessing live game, including sugar gliders, and feral game; permits for falconry including the capture of raptors by nonresidents; permits for scientific, education, propagative, or public safety purposes; permits for using radio telemetry equipment; permit point system for drawing hunts; permits for hunting bear with the use of bait including types of bait allowed, and requirements for salvage, cleanup, and location reporting. Also in this section, Tier I subsistence permits; Tier II subsistence hunting permit point system; and provisions for subsistence hunting priority.
- E. **LICENSES, HARVEST TICKETS, HARVEST REPORTS, TAGS, and FEES** including: Harvest ticket requirements including sheep and caribou in northern Alaska; inspection requirements for licenses, harvest tickets, and permits; and brown bear tag fee exemptions statewide.
- F. **INTENSIVE MANAGEMENT AND PREDATOR CONTROL IMPLEMENTATION PLANS** including: Intensive management plans for Units 20 and 13.
- G. **GAME MANAGEMENT UNITS** including: Boundary descriptions for Units 2, 15, and 16.

- H. ANTLERLESS MOOSE SEASON AUTHORIZATIONS including: Areas of jurisdiction for the Seward and Matanuska Valley Advisory Committees, and reauthorization of antlerless moose seasons and bag limits statewide.
- I REGULATORY DEFINITIONS including: “Unclassified game”, “feral game”, “specific location” of wildlife, “ATV (all-terrain vehicle)”, “general hunts”, “bag limit”, “full curl ram”, “arrow”, “bolt”, “legal ram”, “edible meat”, “barbed”, “spike-fork antlers”, “underwater traps and snares”, “antler point”, “deleterious exotic wildlife”, and “motorized land vehicle.”
- J. CUSTOMARY AND TRADITIONAL USES OF GAME POPULATIONS including but not limited to: adding Unit 18 to the Mulchatna caribou herd in 99.025(a)(4).
- K. GENERAL AND MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS including: Hunter education and orientation requirements including certification for bowhunters; process for generating board regulatory proposals; and policy for off-road vehicle use for hunting and transporting game.

The board will also take action on non-regulatory items during this meeting such as findings, letters, and delegations, typically at the end of the meeting under miscellaneous business but occasionally it occurs earlier in the meeting if necessary.

The proposed regulation changes are available on the Board of Game website at www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=gameboard.meetinginfo&date=03-18-2016&meeting=fairbanks or from the ADF&G Boards Support Section Office at (907) 465-4110. Additional meeting information will be added to the website as it becomes available.

You may comment on the proposed regulations including the potential costs to private persons of complying with the proposed changes by submitting written comments, limited to no more than 100 single sided or 50 double sided pages, to the Alaska Board of Game, Boards Support Section at P.O. Box 115526, Juneau, AK 99811-5526. Comments can also be submitted online at www.boardofgame.adfg.alaska.gov, by fax to (907) 465-6094, or emailed to dfg.bog.comments@alaska.gov (PDF format only). **Comments must be received by 5:00 p.m. Friday, March 4, 2016 to be included in the board workbook.**

Submission of written comments after the March 4, 2016 deadline are limited to ten single-sided or five double-sided pages in length from any one individual or group and will be provided to the board members at the beginning of the meeting. During the meeting, written comments from any one individual or group may be submitted by hand delivery if 20 copies are provided. Written comments that are submitted are public record and are subject to public inspection.

The public hearing portion of the meeting is scheduled for the beginning of the meeting after staff reports, and will continue until everyone who has signed up and is present when called has been given the opportunity to be heard. However, state advisory committee representatives may elect to provide testimony at a later portion of the meetings. Additional public hearings may be held throughout the meeting just before consideration and adoption of proposed changes in the regulations. The board will take oral testimony only from those who register before the cut-off time announced by the board chair at the meeting. The length of oral statements may be limited to three to five minutes, or less. Anyone interested in, or affected by, the subject matter contained in this legal notice should make written or oral comments if they wish to have their views considered by the board.

TENTATIVE MEETING SCHEDULE

**Statewide Regulations Meeting
March 18–28, 2016
Pikes Waterfront Lodge
1850 Hoselton Drive
Fairbanks, AK 99709**

Any changes to meeting location, dates or times, or rescheduling of topics or subject matter will be announced by news release and posted on the board's website. Please watch for these announcements or call (907) 465-4110. Please carefully review the **PROPOSAL INDEX and the additional proposal listing on the above-mentioned website** for all specific proposal issues to be addressed by the board.

Anyone interested in or affected by subsistence and general hunting or trapping regulations is hereby informed that, by publishing this legal notice the Board of Game may consider any or all of the subject areas covered by this notice. **THE BOARD IS NOT LIMITED BY THE SPECIFIC LANGUAGE OR CONFINES OF THE ACTUAL PROPOSALS THAT HAVE BEEN SUBMITTED BY THE PUBLIC OR STAFF.** Pursuant to AS 44.62.200, the board may review the full range of activities appropriate to any of the subjects listed in this notice. The board may make changes to the hunting and trapping regulations as may be required to ensure the subsistence priority in AS 16.05.258 including reexamining customary and traditional use findings and determinations for amounts reasonably necessary for subsistence use. After the public hearing, the Board of Game may adopt these or other provisions dealing with the same subject, without further notice, or amend, reject, supplement, or decide to take no action on them. The language of the final regulations may be different from that of the proposed regulations. **YOU ARE ENCOURAGED TO COMMENT DURING THE TIME ALLOWED IF YOUR INTERESTS COULD BE AFFECTED.**

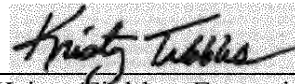
If you are a person with a disability who may need special accommodations in order to participate in this process, please contact ADF&G, Boards Support Section at (907) 465-4110 no later than two weeks prior to the beginning of each meeting to ensure that any necessary accommodations can be provided.

Statutory Authority: AS 16.05, AS 16.30.

Statutes Being Implemented, Interpreted, or Made Specific: AS 16.05.255; AS 16.05.256; AS 16.05.258; AS 16.05.405; AS 16.05.407; AS 16.05.346; AS 16.05.340; AS 16.30.010 – .030; AS 16.05.330; AS 16.05.780; and AS 16.05.783.

Fiscal Information: The proposed regulation changes are not expected to require an increased appropriation.

DATE: February 11, 2016



Kristy Tibbles, Executive Director
Alaska Board of Game
465-4110

ADDITIONAL REGULATIONS NOTICE INFORMATION
(AS 44.62.190(d))

1. Adopting agency: Alaska Board of Game
2. General subject of regulation: Statewide hunting and trapping regulations and other miscellaneous provisions.
3. Citation of regulations: 5 AAC 85, 92, 98, and 99
4. Department of Law file numbers: JU2015200518
5. Reason for the proposed action:
 - compliance with federal law
 - compliance with new or changed state statute
 - compliance with court order
 - development of program standards
 - other: Regularly scheduled topics and other miscellaneous provisions for the Board of Game Statewide Regulations Meeting. Implement, interpret, or make specific the provisions of AS 16.05-16.30.
6. Appropriation/Allocation: Natural Resources and all RDUs
7. Cost of implementation to the state agency and available funding: It is not possible to estimate costs. However, this action is not expected to require an increased appropriation.
8. The name of the contact person for the regulations:

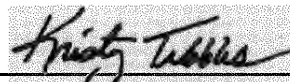
Name: Kristy Tibbles
Title: Executive Director, Board Game
Address: Boards Support Section
Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game
PO Box 115526
Juneau, AK 99811-5526
Telephone: (907) 465-4110
E-mail: kristy.tibbles@alaska.gov

9. The origin of the proposed action:

staff of state agency
 federal government
 general public

10. Date: February 11, 2015

Prepared by:



Kristy Tibbles, Executive Director Alaska
Board of Game
(907) 465-4110

Additional Proposals for the March 2016, Statewide Regulations Board Meeting

The following proposals are in addition to those published in the Statewide Regulations Proposal Book. The full text of the proposals is available on the Board of Game meeting information website at: www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=gameboard.proposalbook .

Proposal 138 – Change the nonresident, general sheep hunts on state and BLM lands to drawing permit hunts; submitted by Alaska Chapter Backcountry Hunters & Anglers. This proposal was inadvertently excluded from the proposal book but was submitted prior to the proposal deadline.

Proposal 139 - Change the nonresident registration goat hunts in Unit 14C, Lake George area, to drawing hunts; submitted by the Department of Fish and Game. This proposal was accepted by the Board of Game as an Agenda Change Request (ACR 17) for consideration at the Statewide Regulations meeting in March 2016.

Proposal 140 - Change the hunting seasons and bag limits in Unit 22; submitted by Charles Lean. This proposal was accepted by the Board of Game as an Agenda Change Request (ACR 19) for consideration at the Statewide Regulations meeting in March 2016.

Proposal 141 – Change the wolf hunting season near Denali National Park; submitted by Denali National Park and Preserve. This proposal was accepted by the Board of Game as an Agenda Change Request (ACR 20) for consideration at the Statewide Regulations meeting in March 2016.

Proposal 142 - Review and modify the Unit 13 predation control plan; submitted by the Department of Fish and Game. This proposal was accepted by the Board of Game as an Agenda Change Request (ACR 16) for consideration at the Statewide Regulations meeting in March 2016.