



**Kotzebue Sound AC Meeting  
4/27/2016  
Alaska Technical Center**

I. **Call to Order:** Time by Pete Schaeffer - 7:00 pm

II. **Roll Call:**

**Members Present:** Pete Schaeffer (Chair), Alex Whiting (Vice Chair/Secretary), Cyrus Harris, Victor Karmun, Eugene Smith, Michael Kramer, Pierre Lonewolf

**Members Absent:** Karmen Monigold

**Number Needed for Quorum on AC:** 5

**List of User Groups Present:**

Agency Staff, Subsistence Users, Commercial Fisherman,

III. **Approval of Agenda:**

Add Jim Dau's announcement

Add Noatak and Kivalina Proposals as well as Jim Bourquin's

Add Grizzly Bears and Furbearers to the snowmachine proposal

Agenda approved unanimous

IV. **Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:** From 11/2/15

Minutes approved unanimous

V. **Fish and Game Staff Present:**

Brandon Saito, Carmen Daggett

VI. **Guests Present:**

Marci Johnson NPS, Susan Georgette SNWR, Jim Dau, Justin McGinnis AST, Lance Kramer, Jim Bourquin

**Public Comments and Concerns:**

Brandon Saito: ADF&G agency report

Survey of moose 940 moose found in the Selawik area spring 2016 in the 2007 survey there were over 2,000. Between 2007 and 2011 a 7% decline was estimated, between 2011 and 2016 a 12% decline each year was estimated with an overall decline of 46% between 2007 and 2016. About 7% of the population is harvested annually at the moment, the population can sustain that for now but it is getting pretty close to exceeding acceptable harvest >10%. With low caribou numbers we need to watch that. We don't want our bull:cow ratios to decline. There are 40 bulls:100 cows, which is okay, although a drop from 2007- 54bulls: 100 cows. Calf production was about 10:100 now we are at 14:100 cows. This is not localized to the Selawik Area the NSP went from 900 to 700 the Upper Noatak has always been pretty low. These declines are region wide.



Eugene: Can you determine if this is happening with predation if the overall harvest has remained the same.

Brandon: We harvest 99% bulls and very few cows. You would see skewed bull: cow ratios if these problems were human induced. Predation is a probable option.

Mike: Inquires about the non-resident take versus local take.

Eugene: Inquires what sort of animal is creating this decline.

Brandon: Explains declines likely due to bears and wolves.

Mike: We need to take protective measures on the moose, we may need to go to drawing and only 20 permits per year to make.

Brandon: Explains we dropped the number of moose permits by 25% doing within house without board approval. The majority of the harvest is taken by local people. The federal and state agencies are both in on the harvest data.

Eugene: The bear population on the Noatak, the predator populations are not maintained we are going to start losing our game. We have to seriously consider what we are doing with predator control to liberalize regulations.

Atamuk: Inquires about the numbers of bears in the Selawik area.

Susan: Explains that only a few bear per year are taken in Selawik.

Atamuk: We need to start watching our resources. We need to do something to help our resources to stay in higher numbers.

Mike: What is the department's next step?

Brandon: Explains departments procedures to determine if we need to regulate people to help the population. Do we keep ratcheting back on the locals or non-local residents.

Mike: Where were most of the harvest taken with moose and you need to figure on which part of the river they are taken.

Brandon explains: Most of the moose are probably taken on the lower quarter of the Selawik closer to the village.

Atamuk: Is that the only place that we see declines on the Selawik.



Brandon: Explains that we have seen declines on the Seward Peninsula and on the Upper Noatak.

Pete: At what point will decide you are a different level of risk.

Brandon: Explains when we start taking more of the harvestable surplus at 7%.

Pete: Inquires about when do we take action? Do you have emergency authority?

Brandon: If we didn't have the numbers that we have had in bull:cow ratios that has been our saving grace. We would like to keep the moose season open as long as we can to compensate for the decline in caribou.

Jim Bourquin: I submitted a proposal for Unit 23 to increase the brown bear take up to two bears per year. I hunt caribou and moose subsistence basically. This year while dog teaming I have come across bear tracks that were taking moose and caribou. I have a close friend in Noatak who takes bears every year. He has seen decline in the moose and has seen the rise in the bear population. There is a two bear limit in other parts of the state and I am sure it is for a good reason. This can only help reduce the bears and help the moose and caribou population.

Alex Whiting: Explains we could sign on

Carmen Daggett: Explains the legalization of selling bear hides and skulls that accompanies 2 bear limits.

Jim Bourquin: Explains he would be in support of promoting increase in number of participants in the hunts.

Motion to support and cosponsor proposal to increase limit to 2 grizzly bears per year in GMU 23.

Discussion:

Pierre: I come from a place they managed to hide hunt 50 million animals (bison) to nothing. You don't need to have two bears per year and they are part of the ecosystem and they rise and fall. Moose and bears have been chasing forever. I am against a two year a bear limit. That is my opinion.

Alex: In order to sell these things they would have to be properly sealed by the state. How does the state feel about getting pretty accurate statistics on the bear harvests. If the state feels like it is getting pretty accurate numbers. I am pretty sure the board of the game would pass it as it seems like the board has been pretty supportive of increased bear harvests.



Brandon: We don't have good population numbers for bears so we would have a hard time monitoring their decline. The subsistence bears are taken with a permit. We only use 1-3 of these permits per year. Most of the harvest is taken through the regular hunting licensed.

Eugene: I used to be conservative on this committee in regards to bears, as we have gone through the years I have seen more bears. Last fall there were 14 bears on one stretch of the Noatak when I was fishing on the Eli we counted 28 bear incidences. If we don't do some predator control we are going to be in trouble we are seeing declines in caribou and moose we have to start doing some predator control.

Pierre: Explains bears are fishing where they know there are fish and the bears are concentrated on the river.

Brandon: Explains the state and the feds are going to be doing another bear survey this spring in the Noatak area. We have seen over double the number of bears in 1988.

Atamuk: I would support this if we don't allow the hide and the skull for sale. There were over 200 nests destroyed by bears in the last three years. Over 30 bears in 1.5 miles. Not even crossing the river they were going down to catch spawning salmon. I don't like the idea of hides and skulls being sold. That will be something the youngsters may abuse. We could make this not to be true for Unit 23.

Alex: Explains how the two proposals go together, how many times can you get two bears year after year.

Mike: We need to support this proposal. We have control over how many hides and skulls can be sold by each person. If the moose the population comes back then we know that we are doing the right thing. We have control over the sales through sealing. Otherwise we could shut it down.

Question:

1 opposed 6 support motion carries to co-sponsor the proposal.

## **VII. New Business:**

### **a. New Board of Game Proposals**

- i. Motion to support the Noatak Kivalina AC Proposal to extend the CUA upstream to Cutler River.

Discussion:

Lance: my views that I will share are my personal view. I like what they are doing to extending the CUA to try reduce the user conflict between the subsistence hunters and the transporters that really pile into that area. I am glad that they put that proposal in and I hope the AC would support them in that.



Pete: Wants to co-sponsor the proposal

Atamuk: All of the way to Cutler, there are hunters way up there and I have seen them up there too.

Question called:

Unanimously supported and co-sponsoring the proposal

- ii. Motion to support the Noatak Kivalina AC proposal to spacing of big game hunting camps

Discussion:

Eugene: I think that this would protect Noatak.

Alex: Not sure about jurisdiction of BOG to address this issue, seems like a NPS permit issue.

Cyrus: Explains this is meant break up the condensed hunting camps on the river.

Question called:

Unanimous Support

- iii. Motion for the Kotzebue Sound AC to submit proposal to add Grizzly Bears and Furbearers to the pursuit with snow machine allowance.

Question called:

Unanimous Support

## **VIII. Old Business:**

### **Federal Regulation Review**

Susan Georgette: Explains the federal proposal to temporarily close federal lands for one year. Discussed the many questions that arose concerning implications of the proposal on field situations, like non-locals in boat that was hunting caribou on federal lands and similar circumstances where it was not clear how to enforce or what the rules would be. Brought up the GMU 23 user conflict working group meeting next week in Kotzebue where many of these issues could be discussed and that Tim Towarak the FSB Chair would be attending the meeting, that it would be broadcast on the radio and have public comment opportunities. The federal agencies would be working on the questions surrounding the temporary closure of non-locals on federal lands for caribou hunting.

Lance Kramer: it is isn't just about food security and it is about our spirituality and culture which are part of the 801 and 804 of the ANILCA which is what made the federal subsistence board sway on this item. Non-local effort may concentrate in the Kivalina area on State lands, this should help out some in law enforcement. It should be interesting to see how the lack of airplane hunters in the Bairds and Delongs will impact caribou migration next season. The Northern Seward Peninsula RAC opposed it and the vice chairman is a big game hunting guide. It passed by FSB 5-3 the three were opposed were USFWS, NPS and BLM.

Susan: Discussed the snowmachine proposal to align federal regulations with the recently passed state regulations in regards to the use of snowmachines to hunt caribou, wolves, and wolverines and that they passed it only for BLM lands, as the NPS and USFWS had agency specific regulations opposing the use of snowmachines to herd or harass animals. In order to have this implemented in those area changes would be needed in their agency regulations.



**State BOG actions on proposals**

Carmen Daggett discussed that the BOF passed the KS AC proposal to do away with licenses for subsistence fishing with rod and reel, but the sport bag limits would apply. She then went over the BOG decisions regarding the state management proposals that were reviewed last fall by the Kotzebue Sound AC and voted on by the BOG this spring. The majority of which were decided in line with the support and opposition decisions made by the Kotzebue Sound AC.

**Adjournment: 8:50 pm**

**Minutes Recorded By:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Minutes Approved By:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_



**Kotzebue Sound Advisory Committee Meeting & Elections**  
**11/3/2016**  
**Northwest Arctic Borough**

- I. Call to Order: 7:10 pm by Alex Whiting**
- II. Roll Call:**  
**Members Present:** Alex Whiting (Secretary), Enoch Shiedt, Michael Kramer, Pierre Lonewolf, Cyrus Harris  
**Members Absent:** Pete Schaeffer, Victor Karmun, Karmen Monigold, Eugene Smith  
**Number Needed for Quorum on AC: 5**  
**List of User Groups Present:**
- III. Approval of Agenda:**  
Cyrus: motioned to approve the agenda  
Seconded: Pierre
- IV. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: 4/27/16**
- V. Fish and Game Staff Present:** Brandon Saito (Wildlife Conservation), Carmen Daggett (Boards)
- VI. Guests Present:** Lew Pagel, Trooper Justin McGinnis, Paul Atkins, Chris Bryant,
- VII. Old Business:**  
Elections:  
  
Cyrus: Motioned to open nominations  
  
Mike Kramer: Nominated to keep at status  
  
Pierre: Nominated Lance Kraemer, Seconded: Enoch Sheidt  
  
Pete Schaeffer, Alex Whiting, and Mike Kramer (3 years)  
  
Victor Karmun, Lance Kramer, Eugene Smith (2 year terms)  
  
Motioned by: Cyrus Harris  
  
Seconded by: Mike Kramer  
  
Pete Schaeffer: Chair  
  
Alex Whiting: Secretary and Vice Chair



### VIII. New Business:

Brandon Saito: Western Arctic Caribou Herd Update, caribou population count 201,000 – any harvest reduction recommendations.

Mike Kramer: Mentioned he wants to do five per day both federal and state, the RAC voted to go for five per day. Accommodates most people, except maybe super hunters that harvest a large number of caribou and hand them out to elders, then hunt for themselves. As for returning harvest tickets, one recommendation I made at the RAC meeting, I suggested have a reward for turning in your harvest ticket to increase reporting rate, then get \$5 off their hunting license. It benefits everyone including the caribou. Might encourage people to get their hunting licenses too.

Enoch Sheidt: Suggest a lottery per village, stipulate with needing a hunting license in order to be entered for stove oil/other prize. We averaged 14 caribou per year while our herd is healthy. On the decline questioned where are all of the bodies of the animals of the number of animals have been lost? Maybe parts of the herd moved to other places like the Koyukon country.

Alex Whiting: We should understand if the caribou regulation adjustments that were implemented this year made any differences. The population parameters indicate the herd might still be decreasing, but we just made regulation changes. The State claims while the decline continues that there are a lot of good signs of calf survival, weight, health and similar indicators of a healthy herd. The WACH WG everyone with the state are going to have a big discussion, along with the management plans. It is not really necessary for us to think about reducing harvests at this time until we have the benefit of the WACH WG proposals and the harvest reports and other data from this fall.

Cyrus: We reduced our federal take from 15 to five and reduced the bull season.

Alex Whiting: We need to spend more time to evaluate the situation, it seems premature to make recommendations today.

Atamuk: Cyrus is on the WG, we need to do something, so we have enough for the future.

Alex Whiting: We are going to see some changes, due to changes we have already made. We have some time to consider further regulations after we get some data and the WACH WG meeting and when we make decisions. I am not against doing more, but it seems premature.

Atamuk: I know what you are saying, but we need to conserve for the future. Noatak had caribou last fall. Something needs to be done to preserve for the future.

Alex: I still have a lot of confidence on the WACH WG in making decision, that is the only reason that group exists, and including additional the data from harvest data. Would like to offer changing things at the next AC meeting.

Brandon Saito: Gives moose update, 2011-2016, 12% decline per year in the Selawik and Tag Rivers and Kobuk Delta and 8% decline in Noatak. Going to survey the Selawik.





Lance Kramer: Would like to review predator control. It would help with the calving situation for both species. Predators should take a hit not just human take. We should be out there increasing take of predators. The State might as well do predator control since they are going to be rich from the new license fee increase.

Mike Kramer: The RAC motioned to close all federal lands to non-federally qualified subsistence users for moose hunting and it is going to be considered by the FSB. Predators need to be reduced. There were a lot of bears this year were shot along the Kobuk River that were stealing caribou from hunters boats and camps. I really encourage the sale of hides and skulls. There are some villages that are really out hammering the wolves. I know I will be up on the Kobuk this year. Predators need to be hammered first, before we need to be reducing take and put non-residents on the lottery.

Alex: If we going to move on further resident restrictions, we definitely need to take out non-resident harvest. Inquires about the number of moose that non-residents take.

Brandon: Explains residents are taking the majority of moose that are being harvested.

Alex: The first thing that should go is non-resident harvest, then shortening the season, and/or other adjustments to residents since bag limit is only 1 per year.

Atamuk: We saw over sixty wolves in Kiana the predators are still in big numbers.

Alex: Explains state versus federal approach to predator control, in that the Feds do not allow it and the majority of lands are federal in the region.

Carmen Daggett: Presented information on the MOU, Alex Whiting offered to spearhead comments on the MOU – need more time to review.

Alaska Board of Game Arctic/Western Meeting  
January 6-9, 2017, Bethel

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal
1	Evaluate a separate amount reasonably necessary for subsistence for the Teshekpuk caribou herd		
Support	5	0	Believe the BOG should re-evaluate combing the WACH and the TCH for the purpose of an ANS finding.
2	Modify the hunt structure of the Western Arctic and Teshekpuk caribou herds		
No Action			Having a caribou registration hunt would allow for collection of more data which would be helpful to monitor the herd during this period of decline and increased regulations, as long as it was not implemented



**Alaska Board of Game Arctic/Western Meeting  
January 6-9, 2017, Bethel**

<b>Proposal Number</b>	<b>Proposal Description</b>		
<b>Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action</b>	<b>Number Support</b>	<b>Number Oppose</b>	<b>Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal</b>
			with any specific time frame, like the RM880 for example, but was available year round.
<b>3</b>	<b>Remove the exception to harvest tickets and reports for caribou</b>		
<b>Opposed</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>	This would be addressed if proposal 2 is adopted.
<b>4</b>	<b>Institute no-fly zones for caribou hunting in Units 21D, 22, 23, 24, &amp; 26A</b>		
<b>Opposed</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>	This proposal makes no sense and would be impossible to implement in any event, given all the non-caribou hunting related flying that occurs and the majority of federal land in the region on which flying (landing) activities occur.
<b>5</b>	<b>Change "general season" to "subsistence" for Arctic/Western Region black bear hunts having positive customary and traditional use findings</b>		
<b>Opposed</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>	Not clear why it was needed or who would benefit, have no problem with the way hunts are defined now.
<b>6</b>	<b>Clarify the resident general and subsistence hunting seasons and the nonresident general hunting seasons for caribou in Interior/Northeast Arctic and the Arctic/Western Regions</b>		
<b>Opposed</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>	Not clear why it was needed or who would benefit, have no problem with the way hunts are defined now.
<b>8</b>	<b>Prohibit nonresident hunting of any prey species under intensive management in the Arctic/Western Region until harvest and population objectives are met</b>		
<b>Opposed</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>	Specific regulations will be developed on a case by case basis when populations are in decline.
<b>9</b>	<b>Establish a ten percent nonresident sheep permit allocation for the Arctic/Western Region</b>		
<b>Neutral</b>			Non-resident sheep hunting opportunities have been almost nonexistent in the past couple of decades in GMU 23 and with the latest sheep crash will not be available for many years to come.
<b>10</b>	<b>Establish a ten percent nonresident sheep permit allocation for the Arctic/Western Region</b>		
<b>Neutral</b>			Non-resident sheep hunting opportunities have been almost nonexistent in the past couple of decades in GMU 23 and with the latest sheep crash will not be available for many years to come.
<b>11</b>	<b>Remove the exception to harvest tickets and reports for sheep</b>		
<b>Opposed</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>	
<b>12</b>	<b>Establish a ten percent nonresident sheep harvest allocation cap and change all nonresident sheep hunts to draw permit hunts in the Arctic/Western Region</b>		
<b>Neutral</b>			



**Alaska Board of Game Arctic/Western Meeting  
January 6-9, 2017, Bethel**

<b>Proposal Number</b>	<b>Proposal Description</b>		
<b>Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action</b>	<b>Number Support</b>	<b>Number Oppose</b>	<b>Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal</b>
13	Establish a 25% cap on nonresident harvest of Dall sheep and make all general hunts for nonresidents draw hunts in the Arctic/Western Region		
Opposed	0	5	Not in favor of non-resident opportunity above 10%
14	Establish a nonresident sheep harvest cap of 12% for the Arctic/Western Region		
Opposed	0	5	Not in favor of non-resident opportunity above 10%
15	Restrict the harvest of Dall sheep in the Arctic/Western Region to one every five years		
Opposed	0	5	There are already penalties for illegal harvests do not need more.
16	Establish a 90/10 percent permit allocation for resident and nonresident drawing permits for sheep, moose, caribou, and brown bear		
Opposed	0	5	Do not want to arbitrarily limit brown bear harvest and other species can be dealt with on case by case basis.
17	Change the definition of "edible meat" for game birds		
Support	5	0	Agree that these parts should be used for human consumption.
18	Reauthorize resident tag fee exemptions for brown bear in Units 18, 22, 23 and 26A		
Support	5	0	Need to encourage and make it easy to harvest bears in the region.
19	Remove the bag limit restriction for resident relatives accompanying nonresident second degree of kindred		
No Action			Not sure about implications
36	Reauthorize the antlerless moose hunting seasons in Unit 23		
Support	5	0	Still relatively low harvest - helps people who need the meat and did not harvest bulls.
37	Lengthen the nonresident fall hunting season for brown bear in Unit 23		
Support	5	0	Encourage bear hunting in the region is needed to reduce numbers and help moose.
38	Lengthen the nonresident fall hunting season for brown bear in Unit 23		
Support	5	0	Encourage bear hunting in the region is needed to reduce numbers and help moose.
39	Lengthen the nonresident fall hunting season for brown bear in Unit 23		
Support	5	0	Encourage bear hunting in the region is needed to reduce numbers and help moose.
40	Increase the resident bag limit for brown bear in Unit 23		
Support	5	0	Encourage bear hunting in the region is needed to reduce numbers and help moose.
41	Require a guide-client agreement to apply for a nonresident brown bear drawing permit in Unit 23		



Alaska Board of Game Arctic/Western Meeting  
January 6-9, 2017, Bethel

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal
	Number Support	Number Oppose	
42	Allow the use of bait for black and brown bear hunting in Unit 23		
Support	4	1	One member expressed it was not fair method of harvest, the rest agreed if some people wanted to hunt this way then okay since it would encourage bear hunting in the region which is needed to reduce numbers and help moose. Also agreed it would need rules in place like signage and other similar parameters to do it safely and in a structured manner.
43	Allow the use of snowmachines to position and harvest brown bears and furbearers in Unit 23		
Support	5	0	This is needed for the same reasons the original proposal was put in place for caribou, wolves and wolverines, which has shown to have had no noticeable impact on conservation as was predicted by proposers during the discussion over caribou, wolves and wolverines.
44	Modify the area of the Noatak Controlled Use Area in Unit 23		
Support	5	0	We support the community of Noatak in controlling the impact to their hunting grounds
45	Require big game hunting camps to be three miles apart within and near the Noatak Controlled Use Area		
Support	5	0	We support the community of Noatak in controlling the impact to their hunting grounds

Lance Kramer nominated to attend the Board of Game meeting.

Adjournment:

Minutes Recorded By: Alex Whiting

Minutes Approved By: *Lance Kramer*

Date: 11/10/16

Lower Kuskokwim Fish and Game Advisory Committee  
10/27/16  
Fish and Game Office Bethel Alaska



AC12  
1 of 14

- I. Call to Order: [Time] by James Charles
- II. Roll Call: Willie Phillip, James Charles, James Nicholai, John Twitchell Sr., Earl Samuelson Sr., Nick Henry, Henry Parks, George Berry, John Andrew, Phillip Peter Sr.,  
Members Present:  
Members Absent: Sandra Nicori, Jackson Williams, William Brown  
Number Needed for Quorum on AC:8  
List of User Groups Present:
- III. Approval of Agenda:  
Earl Samuelson wants to add proposals 17, 34, 74, 75, 76, 80, 81, 82, 83  
Seconded by James Nicholai
- IV. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: 11/12/15 minutes have been pre-approved  
Earl Samuelson: Moved to approve minutes  
Henry Parks: Seconded  
Minutes approved
- V. Fish and Game Staff Present:  
Carmen Daggett (Boards)  
Patrick Jones (DWC)  
Lisa Olsen (Subsistence)  
Aaron Poetter (Fisheries)
- VI. Guests Present:
- VII. Public Comments/Concerns  
James Charles: Expressed concern over elections
- VIII. Old Business:
- IX. New Business:  
Board of Game Meeting: Earl Samuelson: Nominates: James Charles, and Phillip Peter Sr.  
  
Board of Fish Meeting: Motioned to nominate main James Charles, seconded James N.  
  
Alternate nominated by Henry Parks: Earl Samuelson to be the alternate, seconded  
  
James Charles: Explains people are alarmed at seeing wood bison.  
  
Tom Seaton: Bison is a meat resource for people, you can harvest a lot larger portion, they evolved with moose also benefit each other, moose eat willows and brush and bison eat a lot of sedge, bison fur is good birds and increases survival of birds and small mammals, the feces supports the life of small mammals. Small mammals

economic benefit, the people are trying develop economy based on photography and viewi and the Canada border. They were sighted in 1915. We let go 130 animals population has we are hoping to open the hunt in about 5 years. Explains the exploration of a bison cow on the KUSKOKWIM, SITE is teaching us where good wood bison habitat is.



James Charles: Inquires about how to tell the difference between bulls and cows.

Tom Seaton: Explains males have L shaped horns and a penis sheath, and females have a C-shaped horns, we are working with school curriculum so young people will be trained how to tell the difference. Explains

ADD MORE DISCUSSION HERE

I saw that bison it was scary and it reminded me of buffalo.

Tom Seaton: A lot of the reason to bring bison back is to establish a food source.

Earl Samuelson: Looking at migration patterns, are there are any migratory pattern.

Tom Seaton: They are spending their winter in the Holy Cross, they migrate about 30 miles to Shageluk. These bison occupy the opening in the forests, and marshlands.

Earl Samuelson: Inquires about competition between musk ox and bison.

Tom Seaton: Musk ox and bison don't compete very much, musk ox like tussocks and small tundra plants, bison eat more sedges and forbs.

Earl Samuelson: Inquires about education in the YK Delta.

Tom Seaton: Put flyers up, and am working more on education.

Earl Samuelson: Inquires about the dangers of bison

Tom Seaton: We have done some work and research who have been injured or killed and the incidents are minimal to one person has been killed in the last 30 years. They are generally pretty safe allow them space to get away from you.

Phillip Perry: Explain prices of licenses and where that money goes.

Earl Samuelson: Inquires about income levels and the value of the dollar.

Pat Samson: It is already determined and calculated.

Chariton Epchook: Inquires about boundaries and differences in regulations.

Phillip Perry: Explains regulations on land versus water.

John Twitchell Sr: All of the permit fees I do have a lot respect for our ancestors and they were were regulated through permits regulations. We will have to pay for subsistence activities. We cannot go anywhere without having money in our pocket. The cost of living is going to go up higher.

Phillip Peter: Explains for getting fined for not reporting. They gave me \$100. It is really tough to follow these regulations. It has consequences on the ticket. This kind of regulations we have, explain them carefully with

disadvantages and advantages and explain it to our tribal members. Some of our hunters it James talking on the radio explain needing to have hunting licenses and harvest tickets.



Nicholai Alexie: Inquires about price increases.

**STATEWIDE (EXCEPT SOUTHEAST AND YAKUTAT) KING AND TANNER CRAB AND SUPPLEMENTAL ISSUES  
MARCH 20–24, 2017  
ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES**

<b>BOF</b>	<b>244</b>	Align sport crab fishery regulations and repeal methods and means and general provisions for shellfish for the North Slope, Kuskokwim–Goodnews, and Yukon areas.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input type="checkbox"/> No Action	7	2	James Charles: Not a lot of us go fishing for crabs. Adolf: I am subsistence user if I wanted it to become a subsistence use the crab.



BOF	275	Create a Tier II subsistence king salmon fishery in the Kuskokwim River.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input type="checkbox"/> No Action	0	12	<p>James Charles: it was proposal</p> <p>Chariton Epchook: Last year salmon escapement met their goals.</p> <p>John Andrew: I agree with Mr. Epchook if we go into the Tier II system, they will only give this to indigenous people who have been here forever, it will only give fish to those people. We will be wasting our time, we will not be able to share our catch with other families.</p> <p>Jackson: We did not go along with this proposal, we do not want to go into the Tier II permit system, it is not good for villages this permit system.</p> <p>Nicholai: I oppose this proposal, last year it was under a different number and I opposed it then.</p> <p>Willie Phillip: The other thing we experienced last year and this year Tuluksak didn't participate in designating the permit system. I noticed with my extended family were complaining that appointed fisherman were not sharing their fish as they normally would. It is going to take awhile for this to come into place.</p> <p>Phillip Peter: There was no action on this at the board of fish. They didn't want to talk about it. We need to work on this so it doesn't come up again.</p> <p>The customary and traditional use from our ancestors there is no permit or tier II permit. I opposed this last year. We make a compromise with the state the way I understand it, we compromise and we pay for it. I asked the lawyers if we take allocation with the king salmon I asked them and remove these two permits, without using those two permits we could fish in the river. In ANILCA we are the first priority, in the ANILCA regulation and that little word 'rural preference' all could fish down in the river. If those fish got really low, hunger has no law when we are hungry. We could go there and we are really hungry and we forget to use this tier II permit. Hunger has no law, I would really oppose 275.</p> <p>Henry Parks: The people from the tundra villages, the villages are a distance from the Kuskokwim river and use a lot of gas to get to the Kuskokwim river, last year was a good year for us. When there was fishing this year, there were not any complaints from our fishing. If we adopt proposal 275, it will affect our subsistence way of life. So it will be fair to some families of the disadvantaged. This is not a very good proposal at all.</p> <p>James Charles: Explains there was another proposal on the RAC meeting</p> <p>Lamont: The intertribal fisheries would like the state and the federal sides to get all parties to the table to be part of the discussion to get everyone at the table to discuss these issues.</p> <p>Adolf: Asks Lisa Olson about Tier II practiced in fisheries in Nome, now they are going over this, my district, we most vehemently oppose that. There was no investigation of the effects. My opportunity will be unreasonable, I will not be able to fish. This state method to distinguish between users, it is not method under state subsistence law and constitution it is against the law. Talks about filling out application, permits will be selective, in Nome area there were only 10-20 people who got permits if 100 applied or more. I can see other people looking at someone else's fish rack. Someone said do not accept Tier II, I will be supporting the RAC and the intertribal commission. Thank you so much for language in Yupik. I am thankful for you listening to comments and the concerns we have.</p> <p>If it is repealed the Tier II system will be a moot point.</p> <p>Earl Samuelson: I talked with people in Napaskiak, we are over regulated said an elder, this is not going to benefit our region. I will speak opposing the resolution. If this passes and we look into the future, how can anyone pass the customary and traditional ways to the future generations, you wouldn't be able to pass on the values to the younger generation. This is something that has come during times of low fish I do believe in co-management.</p> <p>Phillip Peter: The issue brought up by Lamont is a very good idea we should not only focus on the fish issue we should also do all of the other game. We are under a lot of regulations for everything, it is not our way of life. Need a comprehensive review of the reaguioations. all of thisese</p>





<b>BOF</b>	<b>276</b>	Establish a permit system for regulating the king salmon subsistence fishery during salmon runs.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input type="checkbox"/> No Action	0	12	<p>Phil Peter: Motion to adopt          Willie Phillip: Seconded          John Andrew: Everyone in the village want to oppose the permit system. A lot of people will not be able to go fish and will not be able to share. When the king salmon numbers are low and we brought up the permit system. Even the people on the Yukon opposed the permit system.          Henry Parks: Right now what have I determined from my observations during the king salmon season I know in 2012 and 2010 there was a real low number of king salmon, the years that have gone by that the king salmon are slowly repopulating and we can keep fishing schedule like we did this last summer, it is hardship to go down to the Kuskokwim river to get gas, when this first came the tundra villages did not like the permits and there is differences between families and we don't want to go to permit system and it would be detrimental to the way we relate to each other. I do not want to accept this proposal at all.          Chariton: In January, from Kwethluk, we went to Fairbanks for board meeting, we did not like the proposal for the fishing permits. Fish and Wildlife when they first come up with the permit system people were against each other negatively, they really were against people who were fishing and that they were keeping the good fish and giving the bad fish away, it made a division in the families and the young people here are not like they use to be.          Jackson William: The upper villages where I am from, last year when we had a Unit 4 meeting, the fish are not that low, that is just my opinion. This guy from Tuluksak and he was working at AVCP, this guy from Kalskag said a guy from Stony River his smoke house was already have full of chinook. The net would sink over night, I don't like people coming here to tell us there are not enough chinook in our river that is not right, there are lots. Subsistence- we were limited to 300, 6 inch mesh 29 kings, that is a record. That is a mismanagement of the kings. Like Lamont said when we work together it is better.          James Nicholai: I do not like this proposal at all, our ancestors used to tell us that when the salmon come when we need to take our salmon and get ready for the winter time and they didn't tell us how much to catch and to gather enough for families and our extended families and we give them what we catch too. When any of my families come and want something from my freezer I give them what they want. In the lower 48 people kick their kids out after age 18, we don't do that. I do not like the permit system. Our children and grandchildren need enough game from them, the need to provide for our families is never going to end. It is not good for our way of life to have all of these regulations. There was a Japanese officer talking about how their permit system works and it was the same way and they listen to their ancestors and that they were following their ancestral law, it is the same way with us. They are oral laws not written, we should write down our laws it would give a credence to our law. My ancestors said do not waste or throw away anything. The Japanese don't follow outside regulations they follow their own regulations. They didn't speak English they spoke their own language to their way of life. I do not like permit at all and I want to keep my way of life.          Phillip Peter: We are concentrating Chinook, let them increase. Right now we are concentrating on the king salmon coming up here, there are other fish and game out there that will go down in numbers. I want to talk about chum and reds that follow the chinooks, we eat reds, chums and king salmon for food. A year ago I got a call from Fish and Game chums are really low, we will not be concentrating on chums. We are only concentrating on kings but chums are getting low. Reds are increasing. We had record number of years we caught almost 300 million chums commercial fishing. Some day when we accept this permit. It is not free, we have to pay for it like commercial fishing. I talked with my tribal members they do not want this.          permit. ..</p>



BOF	RC 38	Kuskokwim River Salmon Management Plan
<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support as Amended <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oppose <input type="checkbox"/> No Action	<p>3</p> <p>9</p>	<p>Henry: Motioned          Seconded: John Andrew          Discussion:          Chariton: I was at the work session, I would maybe suggest an amendment to make it 6". We always talk about how 4" is not good for us. They want to catch sheefish, all we know that whitefish regardless if they are broad head or cisco, they can be caught in 6" mesh as well. We also talk about when we set out our 4" nets, those are killers, that one time I check my net, and I caught one king salmon and it rolled off the net I was heart broken, that was food for my family at least for a day.          James Charles: The smaller mesh, catches lots of salmon, I do not like the 4" mesh, the smaller mesh you have the more fish you will catch, I think 6" and smaller and I caught more fish than when I used to use king salmon net.          Jackson: How many years ago, I was really surprised, to hear people in Anchorage I heard that the BOF approved the 4" mesh I was shocked. From my area, Akiak, the only time I use 4" is early spring and late August before kings come around, if we want more whitefish, in between when the Chinooks are swimming and have past the area, I noticed a lot of seagulls.          6" is better than 4".          Phillip Peter: We don't have an opportunity to use our king net, we call 4" mesh net a killer it kills all kinds of species. If we make an amendment 6" or more, we need to start testing these nets for subsistence fishing. I want to know the accurate number if we use a king net for subsistence, we are using 6" or less 5.5" now in the Kuskokwim, the subsistence and commercial fisherman they only use 5.5 and 6" that is the only net we have right now. I really appreciate this last summer this is no one set net of river using the whitefish net in the river. If we are going use it for consumption it is going to be no good. We are trying to conserve kings salmon. I will oppose 4", if no one is making any amendments.          Henry Parks: Maybe I will be wrong here, the 6" if we amend it, it will not be good. If we could used it this past summer, if we amend the 6", it will negatively affect the good season we had this summer. If we amend this to 6" it will negatively affect fishing. The four inch catches all of the species and they do they all catch the big ones, but if they change it to change six mesh, if this is going to be a set net here we should not set our nets 100 feet from the water line. If we change it to six mesh, it will affect. Fish and Game, it will affect us negatively. If we changed it to six mesh, it would change the success like we had last year.          John Andrew: I know they brought this up in Fairbanks, it says here that during the closure, that only the commissioner has power to open. If you want fresh salmon for whatever you need. If you use 4" mesh, it would give you opportunity when there is a closure.          Earl Samuelson: I know that Aaron said the nets would be 100 feet from shore and 60 feet long. This would be a problem because of crowding. There isn't anything wrong with the current regulation. There was no place 6", 45 mesh deep, when this was opened and you couldn't purchase this size of net. It doesn't say where you would have to tie your net. When we were restricted with the 4", people fish harder to get their quota. It will be more burdensome with the users. You will still work hard to fill your freezer. I would have to oppose this proposal, it is not satisfactory for us.          Phillip Peter: The rivers, like the Johnson, some of the villages at good river, those that are using the salmon nets, they catching chum and red salmon even though they are way up river. When there is a set net near a cut river bank, there was a young boy went to check the set net along the river bank. We have a little harbor in Akiachak, and people set the nets in the harbor area, and the nets were confiscated that were placed in that area.          James Nicholai: I used to put my 4" mesh away from Napakiak and I caught a lot of young jack salmon from the chinooks, I never used to catch little king salmon before that.</p>



We are catching

Nicholai Alexie: This summer we had high water, late summer and late fall too, so if we have extent is no snow that is probably affecting our fish too, I do not support proposal. I do not support the 100 feet from the high water mark.

Earl Samuelson: Last season if you set one week, you catch lots of fish, and the next week you catch nothing. That is how I saw it last year. Even with one window open, I fished for two days and I waited for the next opening no fish. The fish go by fast. If we oppose this, let's go back to our villages we should draft a proposal. It can go either way. I would encourage it if you are opposing and go to the big board and speak up when this comes up.

Lamont Albertson:

When we worked on this proposal we knew it wasn't going to be perfect. There were members of the Intertribal Kuskokwim Management council that would allow people to get some fresh fish.

Willie Phillip: When we use this mesh up river we don't have high and low tide and when the water is high we don't have a good place to set our set net, 4.5" nets are white fish net, there was a big hole in the middle of my net, we know as subsistence users we know how strong the big salmon. This proposal is not fair for natives trying to put food on their table. You would have to purchase a new net every year \$200-\$250 a net. We have a lot of low income people in our villages. These proposals are creating more hatred to each other. Instead of trying to help each other. Fish and Game is trying to do the best we can. These laws are made to create hardship that also break these laws. I oppose it because I cannot afford.

Earl Samuelson: Explains I would support a 6" net, most of the people on the river have a net to do so, if it is going to be limited what is the big deal. The 4" is what is the issue.

Lamont: Explains the Intertribal Fisheries Commission, some of the people would think that the department would support 4" and not 6". It is something of a compromise is what we are saying.

Phillip Peter: It is really confusing this proposal, we need to understand it clearly, if we are going to make it work, why not amend it to six inches to 10 fathoms, 60 feet is how much. I understand this proposal will be 60 feet, 45 mesh, 4 inches

Adolf: When there are fish swimming, I support the days when to open and when not to open. I appreciate the idea of getting a craving of fish during the conservation period. It is up to the Upriver down river and middle river to discuss the mesh size.

Earl Samuelson: It doesn't say anything about how long and how deep, it should be amended to add that information. We want to stay at 6" gear and we would have to go to paragraph C and come up with how long and the depth.

James Charles: I was for the 4" mesh, we have lakes we could fish at too. I didn't have any problems with using 4", only one person was using 4" net, I fished 5.75" fish all last summer and I was catching kings, reds and chums.

John Andrew: The board of fish aren't going to ratify this, a lot of people try to go catch for a fresh taste of fish.

James Charles: A couple of years ago we said it was ok, this would allow people to catch fish during the time of the king salmon closure.

Earl Samuelson: If do you do up to 6" mesh that opens the door, rather than 4" or less.

At the time of conservation they have the authority to go up to 6" mesh.

Aaron Poetter: Explains that 6" is considered king salmon gear.

Earl Samuelson: Explains this proposal is coming from our people and we are trying to put a net size, I like the 6" gear, and it lets the little guys go through, we are not targeting king salmon. We caught the big whitefish. All of us have to



come up with a good conclusion. We will have to butt heads for some conclusions, if we all work together we can be happy.

Chariton Epchook: there are two parts in my opposition, in low abundance 4" would kick in if the number of fish is restricted to 4" maybe that who you be restricted. It should be amended to six inches or less. In the subsistence regulation book for gillnets a gill net set net size maybe not exceed 6", it says that a set net may not exceed 4", it would be appropriate up to six inches.

Earl Samuelson: Explains using 6" mesh the intent is not to catch kings, but to catch other fish even though that is what you're saying.

Aaron Poetter: this closure would be enacted every year during this closure.

John Twitchell: Going back to the issue of the working group, I am not really against the 4", the 4" even if we try to amend to 6", the working group says what they want our voice will be diluted.

Earl is really pushing changing.

Sandra Nicori: I think the key word is before June 12. It is not talking about the end of the summer it is just talking about before June 12 when there are fish in the river.

Phillip Peter: There are kings in the river in May. If there is a way to fix this one, it is just a proposal. We are trying to amend it to six inches and they didn't mention length, mesh size and depth size.

Pat Samson: Noted it is for all of the salmon.

Nicholai: If it is amended I will support it.

Samuelson: The current regulations says that it is six inches already. We should use the current existing regulation that says six inch or less.

John Twichell: The season is too late, there is a lot of heat, humidity and insects, it would be better if it the date was earlier.

Earl Samuelson: Motioned to amend RC 38 to replace 4" mesh, up to 6" mesh

Jackson Williams: seconded

Motions carried as amended

RC38 proposal as amended carries 8 yes, 4 no

Comments: I brought this up because it is going to come up again, it brings attention to other groups and to the main group and we want to see change, it might not go anywhere hey we aren't happy, at least we voiced that concern.

Ornie: This is a good example of people sitting down and talking about issues and it is exciting and sometimes boring.

Willie Phillip: We see bison hair.

Phillip Peter: I thank the working group and the hard work they have done. I thank fish and game and fish and wildlife for being given the opportunity to catch fish this summer. I really wish we would proceed in this manner from now on. Speaks in support on the Intertribal Fisheries Commission.

Lamont: Explains the purpose and goals of the Intertribal Fisheries Commission

Jackson: We had a Unit 4 meeting, they mentioned in our meetings, it can be a rolling opening not a one side deal. Some others, like me, they used to close it in May, to me all of these years all of the time the Chinook swim mainly the first part of June, they are the fastest swimmers in the river. We want our voices to be heard and we know this river upside down.

Willie Phillip: Explains we have too many regulations and we shouldn't tie ourselves up. We have a creator that gives and takes abundantly and have given much to our ancestors once he sees His children wasting His creation, He takes it away.

275

We need to work together to come to a concensus, a lot regulations come up, we need to get rid of this, we cannot be fighting native against native, let's come to a round table and we can discuss proposal 275.

Earl motioned



276

Nicholai Alexie: We opposed the permit system. It did not work in our communities, the permit holders got most of the fish and the rest didn't get much. I am not in favor of this permit system

Earl Samuelson: We tried a permit system under the federal system, I took people out every day and there were other fisherman they were not delivering the fish to the people like they were supposed to. It is another regulation upon us. Until we get more educated we should leave the table open until we are all knowledgeable about this issue. We should table this issue.

Willie Phillip: We need to focus on what is happening worldwide, I have read so many articles there are a lot of animals and fish dying. We should when we make laws, these fish swim half way around the world they may be swimming in contaminated waters, if we can't eat them or they die off it is really going to affect our people. We make laws that will give each people white, native, black any culture if we make laws that will cooperate with all of them, we all have to eat something to be happy. Nowadays our government to government are talking about war, if they use the ugly bombs it will become contaminated. To be on the safe side I recommend opposing a permit system for now and the future, whether we go hungry or not. We have been here over 10,000 years and we are still here because of our ancestral laws.

Jackson Williams: I like what this guy said, first he said I don't like the moose hunting permit, permit or no permit I am going to feed my family, just the way I used to. If there are some people who have permits and some don't- they fight each other, it is not our custom. We are guardians of our own food in our area, we were here first, we do share a lot within our villages.

Adolf: As a user I don't want to change from one use to another, traditional use and customary use. I don't want to get into any new purpose. I just want to practice my way of life. The state law says that, I am speaking to the fish and game right now. They are conserving the species right now. They collect data, through subsistence surveys. What is the difference between threshold and amount necessary for subsistence? Fish and Wildlife uses threshold and State uses Amount necessary for subsistence.

Lisa Olsen: It is one way the amount necessary for subsistence is for the board, it is for the board to determine of the amount available



## Alaska Board of Game Arctic/Western Meeting

January 6-9, 2017, Bethel

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal
8	Prohibit nonresident hunting of any prey species under intensive management in the Arctic/Western Region until harvest and population objectives are met		
Opposed	4	5	<p>Phillip Perry: Explains intensive management. Earl Samuelson: Inquires if Fish and Game supports or opposes this proposal. This may affect our region, at some point. I would like the board to consider remaining neutral on this proposal. Member of the public: If there isn't enough for the residents why should there be enough for non-residents. James Nicholai: Do sport hunters come to this region?</p> <p>Phillip Perry: Explains salvage requirements. James Nicholai: Motions to accept proposal 8 as written. Earl: Clarifies the intent of the proposal. George: Seconded</p>
17	Change the definition of "edible meat" for game birds		
Supported	9	0	<p>Earl: Motioned James Nicolai Seconded Earl Samuelson: We talked about this last year, we talked about just the breasts being taken out and this proposal was written by our brothers and sisters up river to include the whole bird. We were in support of this last year. Henry Parks: Explains we talked about this last year and didn't make any action regarding this proposal, the language is good language and we do understand the intent. Earl Samuelson: I like the wording it is in the context, there was some slight modifications. I can sense we like the proposal the way it is.</p>
18	Reauthorize resident tag fee exemptions for brown bear in Units 18, 22, 23 and 26A		
Support	9	0	<p>Earl: Motion to adopt as written John Twitchell: Seconded Phil Perry: Explains proposal 18. Fish and Game is supporting reauthorizing this.</p>
21	Open a winter hunting season for moose in Unit 18		
Opposed	4	5	<p>Earl: Motioned to adopt Henry Parks: Seconded Earl: Inquires about the quota should it be 30? Phil: Explains quota determination it could be as high as 30, it is currently 20. Earl: Inquires why Tuntutuliak was opposed to this proposal. James: inquires if the Good News Bay and Good news River in this too? Phil Perry: Explains the availability of permits for the winter hunt. It is only good for the Good News Bay drainage, could be from Good News Bay and Platinum. James Charles: Wanted to know if Platinum is included in the Good News Bay drainage. Earl: Is 20 bulls enough to accommodate for the Platinum and Good News Bay needs.</p>



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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>Phil: All I can do is say how many permits were available. I think the desire is probably higher than 20, but this is how many permits there are.</p> <p>Henry Parks: What is the moose population in Goodnews Bay Area.</p> <p>Phil: The Good News Bay count was four years ago there were around 200, there is probably more than that. There are more people seeing moose. Without a good hard population count number, that is why keep the quota at 20.</p> <p>Earl Samuelson: Explains this will be the only winter hunt area in the area.</p> <p>Phil Perry: Explains there is a winter hunt on the Yukon Unit 18 remainder.</p> <p>Kwethluk: would like to oppose 21</p>
22	Open a winter nonresident hunting season for moose in Unit 18 remainder		
Opposed	0	9	<p>Phil Perry: Requests this to be open as an antlerless moose season, there are a lot of moose up on the Yukon this year. There has been high harvest ~600 moose. Explains the nonresident intent as someone who is living in the region but is not a resident that could take a cow during the winter.</p> <p>Earl Samuelson: Explains concerns about non-residents going out and a lot of waste and their meat was in sad shape. I would not mind if they want to come up and hunt during the winter. I am not in favor of this proposal till the current law is made to benefit Alaskans. You go out to the airport it is sad. Until the system is fixed I am not in support of this.</p> <p>John Twitchell: This is very important to our region, there are a lot of non-resident hunters and they do leave a lot of edible meat in the field. We do need a good understanding on this matter.</p> <p>Kwethluk: We are not in favor of this proposal, people here have sacrificed for five years to be able to have moose we are not in support of this proposal.</p>
23	Reauthorize the antlerless moose hunting seasons in the Remainder of Unit 18		
Supported as amended	10	0	<p>Earl: Motion to adopt</p> <p>Henry Parks: Seconded</p> <p>Discussion:</p> <p>Philip Perry: Explains antlerless moose reauthorization</p> <p>Population is doing really well. Population is 12,000 moose, harvest rates are good and we could harvest more.</p> <p>Earl Samuelson: I am not too happy with 30 day hunt for non-residents, it is hard for us to go way up to the Yukon to hunt. I would like to make the non-resident hunt 20 days. 30 days is too long for me. Asks if the AC group would support changing the length of the non-resident hunt to Sept 1-Sept 20.</p> <p>James Nicholai: I think the non-resident season from Sept 1-Sept 30 is too long.</p> <p>Earl Samuelson: Inquires about the department's position on changes, when you go to the airport, it's sad to see dirty and sour moose, if the non-resident hunter comes in and wastes the meat from the non-resident hunters, that is being disrespectful. If they show they can do it on their own, I don't mind shortening the season. They show they can do it on their own.</p> <p>Motion to amend the non-resident season to September 1-September 20.</p> <p>James Nicholai: Seconded</p>



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Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal
24	Allow the harvest of brown bear at bear bait stations in Unit 18		
Supported as amended	8	1	<p>Earl Samuelson: Motion amended Henry Parks: Seconded Phil Perry: Explains bear baiting for black bears and that we have 4 bait stations a year. Explains use behind bears. It wouldn't change the season for bears or bag limits. Earl Samuelson: Inquires about adding resident versus non-resident. Henry Parks: I do understand the language and do support the proposal. We go out to our fish camps there are more incidents with bears coming into camps. I support this proposal. John Twitchell: this is the first time I have seen brown bears, our ancestors didn't use bait stations, I don't think we should jump on the band wagon with every proposal. This is the first time I have heard of using this method. Sometimes we don't have a lot of bear activity. I don't think we should be regulating ourselves more. James Nicholai: We do work on salmon in the summer time, a lot of people in fish camps have lost their fish to bears, some people think it is necessary to remove black bears and brown bears to protect their camps. I am in support of this proposal. I don't know about the scent. I do like the spirit of proposals and predator control. Kwethluk: I do not agree to this proposal, we from Kwethluk when we hunt brown bears we do not use bait stations it is only for sport hunters. Earl Samuelson: The words residents and non-residents in this proposal, it bothers me. Questions about making this for residents only. Earl Samuelson: Motioned to: add Unit 18 as follows: <b>Residents only</b> under second paragraph Henry Parks: Seconded Earl Samuelson: Motion to support as amended</p>
25	Open a nonresident draw hunt for caribou in Units 18 and 19		
Opposed	0	9	<p>Earl Samuelson: Motion to adopt James Nicholai: Seconded Discussion: Earl Samuelson: This one worries me, to my knowledge our caribou herd has been low in numbers and it is slowly coming back, it would allow non-residents to come in and we still haven't seen the herd like we once saw it. This region needs to see their herd grow before we see non-resident hunters come in to hunt. Phillip Perry: Explains the board is going to ask taking this proposal up at the Unit 17 region board meeting. We are going to ask to delay this for a year. The Mulchatna herd is much lower than it used to be, it's now at 30-35,000 caribou. The number of animals available for harvest is lower than it used to be, it is probably premature to have a non-resident season with a restricted resident season. It is not an official position, but it would be good for the advisory committee to consider their vote. Earl Samuelson: Motions for unanimously oppose</p>





## Alaska Board of Game Arctic/Western Meeting

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Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal
74	<b>Hunting Seasons and bag limits for moose</b>		
Supported	10	0	Earl Samuelson: Move to adopt Henry Parks: Seconded Discussion: Earl Samuelson: Our people do go hunting around Aniak. Phillip Peter: Explains seasons, with bulls with spikes or forks on each side, over 50 inches. It liberalizes the bulls to three brown tines. This is a common antler restriction throughout the state, it was proposed by the Central Kuskokwim AC.
75	<b>Intensive Management Plans VIII</b>		
Supported	10	0	Motion: Earl Samuelson Henry Parks: Seconded 21 E a lot of people from the tundra villages go up there to hunt.
76	<b>Hunting seasons and bag limits for moose</b>		
Supported	10	0	Earl Samuelson: Motion to adopt James Nicholai: Seconded Earl Samuelson: Tundra villages go up to the big lake up there to hunt, so it would affect our villages.
80	<b>Controlled Use Area</b>		
Opposed	0	10	Earl Samuelson: Motioned to adopt Henry Parks: Seconded I know the Holitna River is in the controlled use area, one of the ways is reducing horse power for erosion control and help rebuild moose populations. I don't know the moose numbers or the reason for restricting more than 40 horse power. Henry: The king salmon are in danger right now a good percentage of king salmon go up that part of the river. Earl: I do believe the motor restriction is for moose but it doesn't restrict you going there if you are not hunting. For conservation needs I like the 40 horse restriction. The locals wanted that. The more boats up there it affects the fish. John Twitchell: This restriction is only during the moose season, I like this restriction.
81	<b>Controlled Use Area</b>		
Opposed	0	10	Earl Samuelson: Moved to adopt Proposal 81 George Berry: Seconded Earl Samuelson: I know you can go to the controlled use area as long as you are on a scheduled. I don't understand why they want to put more designated communities. I wanted to learn more about this I don't understand why they want to do this. Phillip Perry: Explains the intent of the controlled use area, they are mostly



# Alaska Board of Game Arctic/Western Meeting

January 6-9, 2017, Bethel

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>designed to restrict aircraft.</p> <p>Earl Samuelson: I think it is going to weaken the controlled use area. This one is meant to open the door/airway to let people go through and hunt moose. Does fish and game support this?</p> <p>Phil Perry: I don't know, this is outside my area and we don't have official comments.</p> <p>Earl Samuelson: I would like to remain neutral on this proposal.</p>
83	0	10	See comments proposal 25

Adjournment:

Minutes Recorded By: *Paul Higgs*

Minutes Approved By: *John H. ...*

Date: 12-14-16



**Lower Kobuk Advisory Committee Meeting & Elections**  
**12/21/16/2016**  
**Noorvik IRA**

- I. Call to Order: 11:38 pm
- II. Roll Call: Glenn Miller, Larry Westlake (Vice Chair), Bill Zibell, Wilbur Howarth Sr., Lonnie Tebbits  
Members Absent: Leonard Brown  
Number Needed for Quorum on AC: 5  
List of User Groups Present:
- III. Approval of Agenda:  
Bill Moved  
Seconded: Wilbur
- IV. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: 12/8/16  
Glenn: Motioned to adopt minutes  
Lonnie: Seconded  
Minutes Approved
- V. Fish and Game Staff Present: Brandon Saito (Wildlife Conservation), Carmen Daggett (Boards), Jill Klein (Liason)
- VI. Guests Present: Garfield Sampson, Les Sampson, Pauline Cleveland
- VII. Old Business:  
Public Comments & Concerns:  
  
Pauline Cleveland: Asked questions about non local hunters and regulations and surrounding non-local hunters and fisherman.  
  
Elections:  
  
Wilbur Howard: Nominate Lee Ballot Sr., Lonnie Tebbits  
Lonnie Tebbits: Nominate Bill Zibell  
Bill Zibell: Nominated Billy Mullik  
Larry Westlake: Chair, Lee Ballot: Vice Chair, and Secretary: Glenn Miller  
Seconded: Lonnie Tebbits
- VIII. New Business:  
Brandon Saito: Western Arctic Caribou Herd Update  
Wilbur Howarth: Explains the scheduled flights go directly up the river  
Larry Westlake: Explains other flights that occur on the hunting season  
I think the hunting season on the Kobuk is very short we should put in something like that.  
Every little thing is important.  
Les Sampson: Expresses concern about how caribou are counted.



Glenn Miller: Inquires about the predation around the young calves. Explains about the numbers of wolves in the area. I haven't seen any grizzly bears around this fall. We have seen lots of wolves.

Brandon: Explains the calving ground information and calf survival. Calf recruitment is higher than adult mortality.

Bill Zibell: Inquires about what percentage of cows come back through Onion Portage? I was wondering if we should be collaring in other areas. They cross at Soniqtuq every year it is consistent. How many are you collaring and what is the survival rate? Most of the animals are dying from natural mortality.

Brandon Saito: Moose Update explains 7500 moose population with harvestable surplus around 650 moose.

Larry Westlake: I think our caribou herd has been going further and further South predators have been high around Selawik. The RAC is already proposing to close federal public lands. You close one area and it concentrates people on the State Lands. That is going to affect us even more in this area. It is going to have to be the whole region to shut it down. We don't know how much it is going to help the caribou herd, I think it will help the moose, not sure on the caribou.

Bill Zibell: Inquires how many non-resident permits are being issued and how many of them are guided?

Brandon: Not all of the permits get used there is about 6 guided permits.

Bill Zibell: There are a lot more Kotzebue people coming up to hunt moose, 500% increase in moose numbers. Not sure what their success rate.

Brandon: Explains the projections from 2500 moose before and 1500 moose is the projection if it follows the same pattern as the Selawik. 450 is the harvestable surplus and the ANS is 350-400 moose.

Glenn Miller: when we look at the Noatak drainage, there are a lot of people from Kotzebue staying and camping and harvesting. There is a lot of traffic from Kotzebue.

Brandon Saito: Explains the Delta has one of the lowest bull:cow ratios. Our bull:cow ratios are still 40 bulls:100 cows, calf recruitment is good.

Lee: I think our moose harvest success was exceptionally good, almost everyone got a moose. The traffic held us up until we were able to get caribou.

Garfield: Inquires about the RM880.

#### MOU DISCUSSION:

Larry Westlake: Inquires about item 6, what kind of studies does the state and feds have on predator control, we have a problem with a declined herd the public has to know what is going. We don't know what is going on really.



Jill Klein: The FSB has their own predator philosophy on section 2 on the Guiding Principles.

Glenn Miller: I have been up here a long time and I mainly deal with Fish and Game, explains polar bear studies We have a large percentage of federal lands in the area and research happening but that information is not being shared at the ground level. Inquires about a liason with the general public meetings. Requests more data sharing between the state and federal governments with the general public.

## Alaska Board of Game Arctic/Western Meeting January 6-9, 2017, Bethel

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal
1	Evaluate a separate amount reasonably necessary for subsistence for the Teshekpuk caribou herd		
Support	6	0	Glenn: Motioned to support Bill: Seconded
2	Modify the hunt structure of the Western Arctic and Teshekpuk caribou herds		
Support	6	0	Glenn Miller: Offers to help disseminate information as a vendor. Bill: Moved Seconded: Lonnie Discussion: Need to have a lot of dissemination work and public education.
3	Remove the exception to harvest tickets and reports for caribou		
Support	6	0	Glenn: Motion to support
4	Institute no-fly zones for caribou hunting in Units 21D, 22, 23, 24, & 26A		
Opposed	0	6	Larry Westlake: This won't work about us, we are weekend hunters. The altitude restriction worked better. Bill Zibell: Explains it is better if they don't buzz the caribou. Brandon Saito: Explains the differences in control on lands. Larry Westlake: There were lots of people landing on the sandbars and landing on state lands in federal closure areas. If maybe on the South Side like we proposed. Glenn Miller: We should write a proposal to fine if they aren't following the pilot orientation. Brandon: Harassing wildlife is illegal, meat care if done poorly. Larry Westlake: We don't have a no fly zone. Lee Ballot: Can we make a recommendation on altitude. A lot of these folks are not caring what day it is they are catching the migration. Brandon: If they get their caribou early. Bill Zibell: Asking pilots to be more courteous when they are flying. Glenn Miller: Motioned to oppose Lee Ballot: Seconded Opposed



## Alaska Board of Game Arctic/Western Meeting

January 6-9, 2017, Bethel

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal
5	Change "general season" to "subsistence" for Arctic/Western Region black bear hunts having positive customary and traditional use findings		
Support	6	0	Glenn Miller: Motioned to support Lonnie: Seconded Glenn Miller: Subsistence is a good word to increase
6	Clarify the resident general and subsistence hunting seasons and the nonresident general hunting seasons for caribou in Interior/Northeast Arctic and the Arctic/Western Regions		
Support	6	0	Glenn: motioned Billy: Seconded
8	Prohibit nonresident hunting of any prey species under intensive management in the Arctic/Western Region until harvest and population objectives are met		
Support	6	0	Glenn: We have this wolf population in Kiana we need to reduce the numbers. Finding people and availability of gas. I would rather have us to go get animals than having other people coming in and getting. Glenn Motioned to Support Billy: Seconded Motion carries
9	Special Provisions for Dall Sheep and Mountain Goat drawing permit hunts		
Opposed	0	6	Glenn Miller: Motioned to oppose until sheep numbers number improve. Billy: Seconded
10	Establish a ten percent non-resident sheep permit allocation for the Arct		
Opposed	0	6	
11	Remove the exception to harvest and reports for sheep.		
Opposed	0	6	
12,13,14, 15	Establish a 10% nonresident sheep harvest allocation cap and change all nonresident sheep hunts to draw permit hunts in the Arctic/Western Region.		
Opposed	0	6	Until the sheep numbers come back we need to keep the hunt closed down till the numbers improve. Glenn Miller: Motion to oppose Lonnie: Seconded
16	Establish a 90/10 percent allocation for resident and nonresident drawing permits for sheep, moose, caribou, and brown bear as follows		
Opposed	0	6	-This would decrease brown bear take on nonresidents Bill: Motion to oppose Billy: Seconded



## Alaska Board of Game Arctic/Western Meeting

January 6-9, 2017, Bethel

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal
17	Change the definition of "edible meat" for game birds		
Support	6	0	Larry: They used to eat the intestines of the ptarmagin dipped in seal oil. We eat everything but the feathers. Glenn Miller: Explains the amount of bird hunting down there. I am all for taking as much as you can from game. Glenn: Motioned to support Bill: Seconded Motion carries
18	Reauthorize resident tag fee exemptions for brown bear in Units 18, 22, 23 and 26A		
Support	6	0	Bill: motioned to support Billy: Seconded
19	Remove the bag limit restriction for resident relatives accompanying nonresident second degree of kindred		
Support	6	0	Bill: Motioned to support Lonnie: Seconded Motion carries
36	Reauthorize the antlerless moose hunting seasons in Unit 23		
Opposed	0	6	Bill: I was thinking we should oppose cow moose hunting. Brandon: Last year 21 cows were being taken, cows are really susceptible harvest. Larry: Especially during the decline of other meat. Bill: Motion to oppose Glenn: seconded
37	Lengthen the nonresident fall hunting season for brown bear in Unit 23		
Support	6	0	Bill Motioned to support 37,38,39. Seconded: Billy
38	Lengthen the nonresident fall hunting season for brown bear in Unit 23		
Support	6	0	
39	Lengthen the nonresident fall hunting season for brown bear in Unit 23		
Support	6	0	
40	Increase the resident bag limit for brown bear in Unit 23		
Support	6	0	Glenn Miller: Motioned to support Billy: Seconded
41	Require a guide-client agreement to apply for a nonresident brown bear drawing permit in Unit 23		
No Action			Glenn Miller: Move to take no action because it already exists Billie: Seconded
42	Allow the use of bait for black and brown bear hunting in Unit 23		
Support	6	0	Bill: They used to do that years ago. Larry: They don't have the stuff we have no a days, snow machine, boats etc. Larry: Inquires about black bears.



## Alaska Board of Game Arctic/Western Meeting

January 6-9, 2017, Bethel

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal
			Bill: There are more black bears this last year than the last 15 years not as many brown bears. Larry Westlake there was a very good berry season. Bill: I like that idea. They use popcorn and molasses. Bill: Motion to support Lee: Seconded
43	Allow the use of snow machines to position and harvest brown bears and furbearers in Unit 23		
Support	6	0	Glenn Miller: Motion to support Billie: Seconded
44	Modify the area of the Noatak Controlled Use Area in Unit 23		
No Action			Larry: That is going to put pressure to the Squirrel River and on us. Glenn: Didn't they have a big camp there. Larry: That is a lot of land. Let's not take any action on that one. Bill Zibell: Motion to take no action Billie: Seconded
45	Require big game hunting camps to be three miles apart within and near the Noatak Controlled Use Area		
Support as amended	6	0	Larry: In the mountains this would be different, that is our elders proposal in Kiana and it is common sense and it supports the migration to move camps to the South side of the river. Glenn: motioned to amend to support the Noatak and Kivalina AC amendments suggested to move the camps to the South side of the river. Billie: Seconded

Glenn Miller: Appointed to attend the BOG

Larry Westlake: What are we going to do to reduce our harvest

Glenn Miller: How do we account for people are hunting for elders.

Brandon: Explains proxy system and how limited it is. Explains the restrictions on proxy hunters.

Larry Westlake: I think we should consider it and try to work with the big game hunter and make them see that we are trying to do something also. We could bring it down to four caribou per day.

Glenn Miller: Last year I got 7 caribou last year for Emma and kids and it lasted us the whole year. The big families.

Larry Westlake: We have tradition of sharing, we don't need to get five caribou a day. We could do four a day. We have to help with the declining of our herd. That is the bottom line.

Glenn: I know we

Bill: I have seen people with semiautomatic guns herd shooting, that needs to be talked about and stopped. Maybe we should change it to bolt action. If you can't hit a caribou with five shots with a bolt action maybe you shouldn't be shooting. I don't like to limit people.

Glenn: We do what we have to do to conserve the herd. We will be in a dire situation.

Brandon: Talked about community limit.





Glenn: Explains the logistical management and people need to be honest. I know in Kiana people are good, but there are lot of people coming in and exerting outside pressure.

Lee: Even if we change it to four a day, I don't think it will be changing anything.

Bill: I think the season cap is something to think about.

Glenn: I think our community is supportive of each other and our young guys are really good.

I would be willing to write a proposal. Look at the personal cap.

Larry Westlake: I am thinking about four a day, and maybe consider a cap later if we need it.

Bill: Talked about the 1970s and the caribou decline and the restrictions that occurred during the time period. Cut a little at a time is better than a huge bang.

Glenn Miller: We could do some predator control.

Larry Westlake: We need to put a bounty on wolves. There were a group of caribou that were chased by black bears, then brown bears and then 40 wolves.

Bill Zibell: Explains you would need about \$1000 per wolf in order to get people. Wolves are the most difficult to trap.

Larry Westlake: Some pilots made good money doing.

Bill Zibell: Explains stories from old time bounty hunting for wolves.

Adjournment: 3:06 pm

Minutes Recorded By: \_\_\_\_\_

Minutes Approved By: glenn a miller

Date: 12/21/2016



Mat Valley Fish & Game Advisory Committee  
November 30, 2016  
MTA Palmer

**Call to Order:** Herman Griese/acting chair: meeting called to order at 7:00 PM

**Roll Call:**

**Members Present:** Stephen Bartelli, Mike Buirge, Herman Griese, Chap Lipse, Herb Mansavage, Terry Nininger, Hans Nordstrom, David Young, Birch Yuknis, Chris Watchus.

**Members Absent:** Andy Couch, (excused), Jehnifer Ehmann, (excused), Mel Grove, Tom Deland (excused), Bob Marshall, Darren Spano, (excused), Randy Talvi, (excused)

**Number Needed for Quorum on AC:** 10 members present: quorum met

**Department Staff/Guests:** Tim Peltier, ADFG area biologist, Rod Arno, Alaska Outdoor Council, Neil DeWitt, Anchorage AC, Frank Neumann, Anchorage AC, Gary Stevens, John Winsor, Patricia Winsor, Daniel Treat, Joanie Nininger

**Approval of Agenda:** Birch Yuknis: motion to approve: Steve Bartelli, seconded. Agenda approved

**Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:** 10/2616: Motion to approve-Birch Yuknis, seconded, Steve Bartelli: minutes approved without changes. 11/16/2016: Motion to approve-Birch Yuknis, seconded Steve Bartelli: minutes approved without changes.

**Persons to be heard:** Rod Arno discussed Ahtna and subsistence hunting in the Copper River Basin. There is a 4-day BOG meeting in Glennallen to look at proposals for a subsistence hunt. Rod indicated that having a meeting in Glennallen, where lodging would likely be a problem as BOG & staff will likely take most of the available motel rooms, was unfortunate, especially given that about 70% of the folks that hunt in this area come from Anchorage & the Valley. Regarding new board member Karen Linnell, Chairman Spraker determined that Linnell will not to be conflicted out of this meeting. On another issue, Sally Jewel has signed a MOA, (Memorandum of Agreement) for co-management with Ahtna groups to look at Alaska native allocations and to set allocation of harvest on federal lands, working on co-management with 8 Ahtna communities. Rod said this will need to be watched closely. Implications of co-management conflicts with terms of ANCSA, where native groups gave up their aboriginal rights. This MOA could change the overall management scheme. Right now the state does not have to participate -but Rod is not sure what will happen going forward. Herman Asked: does this include all the checkerboard lands? Rod-yes this would include these lands. Steve: can the state legally participate? Rod: the state can't participate but this is an Alaska native priority-a whole new level. If not challenged, then that will be the way it is. Rod also mentioned that Mead Treadwell's name is in the hat for Secretary of Interior. Bob Gilliam also has name on the list. Rod will send a copy of the MOA to Herman and Jehnifer. Daniel Treat from Glacierview: the community hunt in Glacierview has only 1 person locally that participates-but the hunt gets a lot of pressure from town. It is creating a



lot of stress on the local folks. Daniel mentioned that one guy from [the Valley?] said he shot 7 bulls and passed them out to others. It's hard on the resource and hard on the people who live there.

Board of Game Proposals: Herman asked that each proposal be brought to the floor by an AC member and seconded by another AC member prior to discussion:

Alaska Board of Game Arctic/Western Meeting January 6-9, 2017, Bethel			
Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal
3	Remove the exception to harvest tickets and reports for caribou		
Support	10	0-0	Birch Yuknis brings proposal to the floor: seconded by Steve Bartelli Rod Arno: the problem is the declining herd on North Slope. How can you tell if you have a conservation problem if you don't know what the harvest number is? Tim Peltier, ADFG: the Department is neutral on the proposal. Birch-Department needs to keep consistent. Mike Buirge: how can they determine how the herd is doing if you don't get the data?
4	Institute no-fly zones for caribou hunting in Units 21D, 22, 23, 24, & 26A		
Support	0	10-0	Birch to the floor/Seconded by Steve Neil DeWitt: He didn't consider moose or bear in the proposal as written so it will fail. Steve will oppose the proposal because of the aircraft issue-is there other noise that effects the caribou? Neil-boat noise is OK. Hans: agrees with Steve-their concern is not the aircraft but the person who is in the aircraft.
9	Establish a ten percent nonresident sheep permit allocation for the Arctic/Western Region		



## Alaska Board of Game Arctic/Western Meeting

January 6-9, 2017, Bethel

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal
Support	10	0-0	<p>Birch to the floor/Seconded by Steve            Steve: since he has been on the AC not one sheep proposal of 10-15-20% has ever been adopted by the board. We should take no action and not waste our time. Herb Mansavage: should we try for above 20%? Steve: we've spent a lot of time and never got the consideration from the board. Mike-because the board shoots it down do we want to make the argument for a maximum allocation? Steve is in agreement. Dave-we can't cut out complete because of the Pitman- Robertson funds (federal). Hans is in general agreement-for the maximum allocation of 10%. Mike-propose to amend all those over 10% amend to 10%. Herman-believes we should act on the 90/10 and take no action on others. Tim/ADFG: the only way you can get a 90/10 would be to go to a drawing permit. Herb-maybe we should consider a 25%-because residents are already only getting 45% of sheep.</p>
10	Establish a ten percent nonresident sheep permit allocation for the Arctic/Western Region		
No action			Take no action-no objection
	Remove the exception to harvest tickets and reports for sheep		
11	Remove the exception to harvest tickets and reports for sheep		
Support	10	0-0	Birch to the floor/Seconded by Steve
12	Establish a ten percent nonresident sheep harvest allocation cap and change all nonresident sheep hunts to draw permit hunts in the Arctic/Western Region		
No action			Take no action
13	Establish a 25% cap on nonresident harvest of Dall sheep and make all general hunts for nonresidents draw hunts in the Arctic/Western Region		



## Alaska Board of Game Arctic/Western Meeting

January 6-9, 2017, Bethel

Propo sal Numbe r	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amende d, Oppose, No Action	Numbe r Suppor t	Numb er Oppos e	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal
No action			Take no action
14	Establish a nonresident sheep harvest cap of 12% for the Arctic/Western Region		
No action			Take no action
15	Restrict the harvest of Dall sheep in the Arctic/Western Region to one every five years		
No action			Birch to the floor/Seconded by Steve Chad-is this enforceable? Herman-a hunter of a sublegal animal is subject to enforcement by an enforcement officer of a magistrate. Steve is not opposed: this is something that might help solve a problem. If it helps a dwindling resource he is not opposed to it. Mike: this seems more statutory than regulatory for BOG. Hans has problem supporting -this is not an exact science-Tim/ADFG is neutral: it will not have much of an impact because so many hunters go to this area. Birch-not allowed to hunt in just in this area or state wide? Herman: It is not specified if statewide. Birch moves to take no action-no objections.
16	Establish a 90/10 percent permit allocation for resident and nonresident drawing permits for sheep, moose, caribou, and brown bear		
No action			Take no action
17	Change the definition of "edible meat" for game birds		
Oppose	0	10-0	Birch to the floor/Seconded by Steve Herman: The standard for most hunters is to breast out the meat on smaller birds. In larger bird it's a decision made by the hunter.
19	Remove the bag limit restriction for resident relatives accompanying nonresident second degree of kindred		



## Alaska Board of Game Arctic/Western Meeting

January 6-9, 2017, Bethel

Propo sal Numbe r	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amende d, Oppose, No Action	Numbe r Suppor t	Numb er Oppos e	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal
Support	9	1-0	Birch to the floor/Seconded by Steve Herman: we commented on this last time. Steve-we did support this proposal last time. Herman does not support because it is an unnecessary change.
41	Require a guide-client agreement to apply for a nonresident brown bear drawing permit in Unit 23		
Oppose	0	10-0	Birch to the floor/Seconded by Steve Birch is opposed-let the free market do its thing. If I draw a permit out of state, then I get info from outfitters who I can choose. Dave-putting the cart before the horse. Dave also referenced Dave Montgomery who said that if a guide could not go with a client then the client could not get another guide. Steve was more concerned about the anti-hunting group: they can put in for drawing and if they get the drawing it goes in the garbage. An actual hunter has skin in the game.
43	Allow the use of snow machines to position and harvest brown bears and furbearers in Unit 23		
Oppose	3	7-0	Birch to the floor/Seconded by Steve Tim: ADFG has no biological concerns: Dept. is neutral. Mike opposes-fair chase issue.
45	Require big game hunting camps to be three miles apart within and near the Noatak Controlled Use Area		
Oppose	0	10-0	Birch to the floor/Seconded by Steve Birch is opposed-don't know how it could be enforced. Hans is oppsed-3miles is a pretty long way. Tim: ADFG is neutral -if they did support they would ask for guidance on how to enforce. Dave-if it was a choke point all the camps would need to be there: if not others would not have a place to camp. Herman: is it 3 air miles or river miles? Who determines who is there first?



## Alaska Board of Game Interior Region Meeting

Feb. 17-25, 2017, Fairbanks

Propo- sal Numbe- r	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amende- d, Oppose, No Action	Numbe- r Suppor- t	Numb- er Oppos- e	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal
47	Change the definition of "edible meat" for game birds		
Oppose	0	10-0	Birch to the floor/Seconded by Steve
48	Allow the use of crossbows in restricted-weapons hunts		
Support- ed as amend- ed	10	0-0	Birch to the floor/Seconded by Steve Herman-some hunts are restricted because of safety issues. There is no safety training for cross bows. Steve-in the past we have supported the use of cross bows-would like to see another weapon in the arsenal-but we need a mandatory safety course. Steve make a motion to amend/seconded Hans to include requirement for a cross bow education program. Tim: ADFG has had discussions of developing a cross bow education program-Tim thinks they will have something formulated by next summer. Amendment passes: 10-0-0: Proposal passes 10-0-0.
49	Remove the bag limit restriction for resident relatives accompanying nonresident second degree of kindred		
Support	10	0-0	Birch to the floor/Seconded by Steve AC will be voting on both proposals 49 & 50.
50	Remove the bag limit restriction for resident relatives accompanying nonresident second degree of kindred for the Interior Region		
Support			See proposal 49 above.
51	Prohibit nonresident hunting of any prey species under intensive management in the Interior/Northeast Arctic Region until harvest and population objectives are met		



## Alaska Board of Game Interior Region Meeting

Feb. 17-25, 2017, Fairbanks

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal
Support	10	0-0	Birch to the floor/Seconded by Steve Tim: <i>He believes</i> department is neutral because the proposal is allocative in nature. Birch: give prey to the residents-non-residents can still hunt the predators. Herman-you can harvest some of the prey, excess bulls, before reaching your objective. Hans-believes the residents should have a preference. Herman: Alaska makes most of their money with non-resident hunts. Steve-its allocative and he supports.
52	Establish a ten percent nonresident drawing permit allocation cap in the Interior/Northeast Arctic Region for Dall sheep, moose, brown bear, and caribou		
Oppose	0	10-0	Birch to the floor/Seconded by Steve Herman-knows no reason to have this allocative issue for other species. (vs. #9)
57	Establish a nonresident sheep harvest cap of 12% for the Interior/Northeast Arctic Region		
No action			Birch to the floor/Seconded by Steve Take no action-no objections
58	Establish a 25% cap on nonresident harvest of Dall sheep and make all general hunts for nonresidents draw hunts in the Interior/Northeast Arctic Region		
No action			Take no action-no objections
59	Establish a ten percent nonresident sheep permit allocation for the Interior/Northeast Arctic Region		
Support	9	1-0	Birch to the floor/Seconded by Steve AC will be voting on proposals 59/60/61/62: Herman is opposed-although the intent is the same in all the proposals, there are specific differences in each of the proposals.
60	Establish a ten percent nonresident sheep permit allocation for the Interior/Northeast Arctic Region		





## Alaska Board of Game Interior Region Meeting

Feb. 17-25, 2017, Fairbanks

Propo sal Numbe r	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amende d, Oppose, No Action	Numbe r Suppor t	Numb er Oppos e	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal
Support			See proposal 59 above
61	Establish a ten percent nonresident sheep permit allocation for the Interior/ Northeast Arctic Region		
Support			See proposal 59 above
62	Establish a ten percent nonresident sheep harvest allocation cap and change all nonresident sheep hunts to drawing permit hunts in the Interior/Northeast Arctic Region		
Support			See proposal 59 above
63	Remove the restriction on the use of aircraft for spotting Dall sheep in the Interior/Northeast Arctic Region		
Support	10	0-0	Birch to the floor/Seconded by Steve Birch: this proposal is specific to spotting-207 was for aircraft in general. But Dave supports. Hans-suports-207 did nothing to measurably improve hunting. Steve supports-it penalizes one user group-last time he spoke to enforcement they had not written one citation. Chad notes that it is not enforceable.

### Board of Game Discussion:

Birch: he was not opposed to Linnell until Spraker said she had no conflict of interest. Steve confirms: he has no problem with her being on the board but she should have recused herself under her own will. Steve says it makes him wonder about the whole group. Hans: it shows she has a lack of judgement. Herman: BOG members frequently vote on proposals where they live and hunt or trap without conflict-many are hunters or trappers. Dave: why can't they go through regular sequence-why a special meeting? Herman-what bothers me more is that they moved the meeting to Glennallen. Herman proposes that Birch dog the minutes of the BOG meeting, and watch for interpretation from their legal department, and then draft a letter for our 12/7 meeting. Steve: what should be the content of the letter? Conflict of interest? Glennallen meeting location? Steve notes what Rod said that 70% of users come from this area. Rod also mentioned there would be no places to stay with the BOG & department taking all the housing.

Members comments: Birch thanks Tim for his time attending the meeting. Herman thanks the Department and others who showed for the meeting, as well as the AC members.



Adjournment: 9:10 PM

Minutes Recorded By: Terry Nininger  
Minutes Approved By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_



Matanuska Valley Fish and Game Advisory Committee Minutes from  
December 21, 2016 7 p.m. start time at MTA building in Palmer

Meeting Called to order by Jehnifer Ehmann

Members present: Terry Nininger, Chris Watchus, Jehnifer Ehmann, Bob Marshall, Andy Couch, Mel Grove, Hans Nordstrom, Herb Mansavage, Dave Young, Mike Buirge

Members Absent: (all excused) Chad Lipse, Birch Yuknis, Darren Spano, Steve Bartelli, Tom DeLand, Herman Griese, Randi Talvi.

Public present: Sam Ivey ADF&G fisheries biologist, Neil DeWitt, Ben Allen arrived at 7:05 p.m.

Public Comment: Neil Dewitt talked about the northwest Arctic caribou and what changes the Board of Game adopted.

Ben Allen — spoke in favor of allowing hatchery king salmon harvest in the Unit 2 of the Susitna River drainage — mentioned that he fishes Unit 2 and often catches hatchery king salmon and would like to have an opportunity to harvest those fish. Also spoke about the proposal that would close Unit 2 king salmon catch and release fishing when no harvest of king salmon is allowed within Unit 2.

Spoke about the proposal that would extend the weir closure area on Little Susitna River during the king salmon fishery.

Jim Creek coho fishery — has mixed feeling does not want to restrict the sport fishery anymore — however — if some additional restriction(s) were also placed on the commercial users this might be a good proposal to support.

Motion to approve minutes from Nov 9. approved without objection or corrections.

Motion to approve minutes from Dec. 7 — Minutes approved without objection or corrections.

Motion to accept agenda — Agenda approved with on changes or objections.

### **Fisheries proposals:**

Proposal 127 One member expressed an intent to see the Kenai River goal reflect an allocation of at least 300,000 sockeye above the upper end of the escapement goal and would like to see the goal simplified. Motion approved 9-0-0.

Proposal 128 One member mentioned that he does not see over escapement as something that needs to be addressed further by liberalizing commercial regulations. We currently have several failures to attain adequate salmon escapements in the Northern portion of Upper Cook Inlet so liberalizing fisheries to harvest more fish indiscriminately could compound this problem. Motion opposed 0-9-0.



Proposal 129 with 8 of 14 stocks of Concern statewide in Upper Cook Inlet and problems attaining minimum escapement goals one member mentioned seeing no need to support this proposal. Motion opposed 0-9-0.

Proposal 130 Member Mike Buirge made it to the meeting. Proposal seems impartial. On felt that all needed to share in conservation issues. Motion failed 1-9-0

Proposal 131 — no Action

Proposal 132 — This common point would allow more area for the drift fishery — this would certainly allow more fish to be harvested by the drift fishery. If this were to be approved one member requested that it be made in concert with an effort to pass more salmon into the Northern Area by restricting drift harvest in Area 2. Motion failed 0-10-0.

Proposal 133 Would allow allocate more harvest opportunity to anyone who could purchase an additional permit — but conversely if some commercial operators with 2 permits were allowed to use additional net — others who only had one net would see their harvests likely reduced. Motion failed 0-10-0.

Proposal 134 Would allow commercial harvest on all regular weekly openings through July 20 — this would take away some of the current sharing of conservation burden — and would allocate more salmon to commercial users no matter what the run strengths before July 20. Motion opposed 0-10-0.

Proposal 135 No Action

Proposal 136 Would allow North Kalifonsky Beach to fish with the Kasilof Section early in the season with a 29 mesh gillnet. The 29 mesh net is an effort to limit king salmon harvest — but allowing commercial harvest. Some felt the commercial allocation would obviously increase. Motion opposed 2-7-1

Proposal 137 One member mentioned he could support if the drift fishery was not allowed to fish in Area 2 beyond the expanded harvest areas during the month of August. Motion opposed 0-10-0.

Proposal 138 This would allocate more fish to the commercial fishery and take away harvest opportunity from the sport fishery. Similar to last proposal. Motion opposed 0-10-0.

Motion 139 Similar to the last two proposals would take current sport allocation and give to commercial harvesters. Motion opposed 0-10-0.

Proposal 140 — would allow set netters using a 29 mesh net longer net length. This is an effort to commercial harvest sockeye in a manner that responsibly harvests less king salmon. Motion approved 8-1-1.

Herb had to leave — back to 9 members.



Proposal 141 Goes further to reduce by catch than the previous proposal — is an effort to reduce commercial king salmon harvest while still allowing sockeye harvest. Motion approved 9-0-0.

Proposal 142 This would allow commercial fishing, but give sport anglers more opportunity to harvest fish that would in these streams. Commercial harvesters could still harvest salmon — but not so many cohos would be taking close to the stream mouths. These are important sport fishery streams. Motion approved 9-0-0.

Proposal 143 There is no abundance information on Susitna River eulachon information. Some felt there is not enough data to justify expanding a commercial fishery. This request would double the commercial harvest. There is on information on if the commercial fishery is primarily harvesting fish headed for specific portions of the drainage. One member did not want to see possible negative impacts to the sport fishery. 0-9-0.

Proposal 14 Would allow snagging of sockeye salmon in all freshwater Cook Inlet lakes. Could have negative impacts on coho salmon. Motion opposed 0-9-0.

Proposal 34 Would allow party fishing during sport fishery. This would increase sport harvests and would likely cause conservation concerns for Upper Cook Inlet salmon. Should not be allowed. Mel felt that a lot of people currently party fish — especially private boaters. Dave Young mentioned that they always follow the rules on his boat. Motion opposed 0-7-2.

Proposal 144 Andy mentioned that he would support as he has known a person who used the proxy to simply catch and release after harvesting a limit of fish. Hans mentioned that even when fishing for a proxy he would like an opportunity to selectively harvest quality fish. Mel mentioned that proxy fishing is like party fishing except that in proxy fishing the person does not even need to be there. Jehnifer has proxy fished for her Grandmother and believes anglers who are proxy fishing should be able to release a fish if it, for example, has wounds or is too small. Motion opposed 0-9-0.

Mel made motion to reconsider proposal 34 — with the opportunity to allow party fishing when fishing with a person who is eligible to have someone fish a proxy permit for them. Point of information is that the person who is being proxy fished for could be present — but could not fish at the same time. Motion to reconsider failed 2- 6- 1.

Proposal 145 Motion opposed 0-8-1. People go fishing to catch fish not to be frustrated by losing them.

Proposal 146 Silly requirement it is hard enough to catch fish. People go fishing to catch fish. Motion opposed 0-9-0.

Proposal 147 No Action.

Proposal 148 No Action.

Proposal 149 One member felt that the author of this proposal has a considerable amount of research and science behind suggestions made in the proposal. Another member felt that if we could not interpret what the proposal is attempting to say it is simply too complicated. Two



members felt that it might be appropriate to take no action. Motion failed 2-1 6. Can not understand what all is being sought by this proposal.

**Game proposals:**

Proposal 155 One member did not understand the idea of the last sentence of this proposal - is the Department going to suggest adjusting objectives before this proposal is to be adopted? Dave supports predator control used in a responsible manner. Motion approved 9-0-0.

Proposal 156 would reauthorize Muchatna caribou intestine management. Motion approved 9-0-0.

Proposal 157 would allow limited harvest of emperor geese. Motion approved 9-0-0.

Mike Buirge mentioned that if we know someone else who would like a position on the AC he is getting busy enough at work that he is planning not to run again.

Dave mentioned he possibly might not run again.

Terry wanted to wish everyone a Merry Christmas.

Jehnifer wished Merry Christmas as well. And in answer to a question by Mel mentioned that elections would be in the spring.

Meeting adjourned at 9:12.



## Matanuska Valley Fish and Game Advisory Committee

Alaska Department of Fish and Game  
Board of Game  
Ted Spraker, Chairman

Mr. Spraker,

We, the Matanuska Valley Fish and Game AC, respectfully request you reconsider the Board of Game's recent decision to move the March 2017 Special Meeting to Glennallen back to Wasilla. We believe the recent decision to move the March 2017 Special Board Meeting on moose and caribou hunting in Units 11, 12, and 13 was inappropriate for the following reasons.

As you yourself stated in the November 28<sup>th</sup> teleconference over 70% of the participants in the Community Subsistence Hunts for the Copper Basin are from Anchorage and the Mat-Su Valley. During the teleconference your Board even discussed the logistical nightmare of having enough services in the greater Glennallen area to support a meeting of this magnitude. There may not be enough bed space for people to stay for a multiday meeting. And, there are not enough local restaurants with appropriate open hours to feed the number of people expected to attend from outside the immediate area. Ms. Tibbles even brought up that the internet connections out there may make it difficult to live stream the meeting. By placing the meeting in Glennallen you may be excluding or at least discouraging the majority of resource users from attending.

A meeting in the original location, Wasilla, is between Anchorage and Glennallen allowing for better access for all participants of these hunts. There are many more services available for participants in the Special Meeting. The internet connection is of higher quality and more reliable in Wasilla/Palmer than Glennallen. A meeting held in Wasilla on this issue better serves the residents of the State rather than a select group of residents.

The Board has set this meeting that was requested by Ahtna in Ahtna's backyard. The limited lodging and dining resources will limit nonlocal input and participation making sure AHTNA will have easy access for representation. If this meeting were intended to expand hunter opportunity and participation there would be little concern, but because the intent is to further limit participation and harvest to Ahtna shareholders the meeting setting will clearly bias the input and likely the Board's decisions.

We are also concerned about the appropriateness of allowing the newly appointed Ahtna board member to vote on the move. We believe Ms. Linnell should have recused herself from the vote to move the meeting, even though you allowed her to vote. Without her vote the move would have failed 3-1-1 as you stated in the November 28<sup>th</sup> teleconference.

All of these actions make it appear as if the Board of Game has already made up its mind on the direction the Board wants to go with the Community Harvest Permit system.



Therefore in closing the Matanuska Valley Fish and Game Advisory Committee respectfully requests that the Alaska Board of Game reconsider the meeting location.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jehnnifer Ehmann".

Jehnifer Ehmann, Chair  
Mat-Su Fish and Game Advisory Committee