

Department of Fish and Game

DIVISION OF WILDLIFE CONSERVATION Central/Southwest

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November 21, 2016

An Agenda Change Request (ACR 11) has been submitted to the Alaska Board of Game requesting to change 5 AAC 92.130, Restrictions to bag limit. The proponent is asking the board to eliminate the shared bag limit for guide required species of resident relatives accompanying nonresident relatives within the second degree of kindred.

With respect to the board's Agenda Change Request (ACR) acceptance criteria (5 AAC 92.005):

- (A) The department is unaware of any conservation concerns that require immediate board action to address a biological concern or a loss of hunting opportunity.
- (B) The department is unaware of an error in regulation.
- (C) The department is unaware of any unforeseen effects of regulations that should be addressed in a change to a regulation.

The department has no recommendation regarding whether or not the board should accept this ACR because consideration of the proposed regulation is primarily allocative and does not address biological concerns for game populations. The proponent suggested there was an error, and that the board does not have the authority to adopt those regulations.

The board met on October 23, 2016 and voted to expand the scope of Proposals 19 and 49 for the 2017 Arctic/Western and Interior-Northeast regional meetings to have statewide applicability. As a result, the notice for those meetings was updated to reflect the expanded scope of the proposals and no agenda change is necessary. If the board wants to have the final action be applied on a statewide basis, they will need to amend Proposal 19 or 49 to do that. If this ACR is accepted, it will generate a proposal that specifically states the shared bag limit will be undone on a statewide basis.

When the board passed the original proposal that created this regulation the department asked for a delay of two years to implement the new regulation because of the complexity involved in tracking the shared bag limit of residents and nonresidents within second degree of kindred.

If this ACR is not accepted, and if the board does not amend the proposals in the Arctic/Western and Interior-Northeast regions to be applicable on a statewide basis, the next regularly scheduled Statewide board meeting will take place in the winter/spring of 2017/2018.

Sincerely,

Bruce Dale, Director

Division of Wildlife Conservation