Proposal 44: Address customary and traditional use findings for migratory birds and waterfowl in Units 12, 19, 20, 21, 24, and 25; and develop regulations to provide reasonable opportunities for subsistence uses.

5 AAC 99.025(a) Customary and traditional uses of game population(s)

Effect of the proposal

– **NO EFFECT**. The Board has already determined there are customary and traditional uses of migratory game birds throughout their ranges in Alaska. The Board has adopted regulations that allow the fall season harvest of migratory birds.

Department position

– **NEUTRAL**

44-1

1

Current Regulations

- At its November 2017 meeting the Board established a positive customary and traditional use finding for migratory game birds in all units with a harvestable portion except within nonsubsistence areas (5 AAC 99.025(a)(12)(I))
- The Board has established regulations for the taking of migratory birds during a fall season within the framework established by the US Fish and Wildlife Service, including season dates and bag limits.

44-2

2

Proposal 44

- 5 AAC 99.025(a)(12) Customary and traditional uses of game population(s)

Effect of the proposal

– NO EFFECT

Department position

– NEUTRAL

Public proposal

– Stony Holitna AC **OPPOSED**
– McGrath AC **TOOK NO ACTION**
– Central Kuskokwim AC **SUPPORTED**

44-3

3

Proposal 45

Ban moose, reindeer, caribou urine – Reg. 3

Prohibit Use of Moose, Caribou, & Reindeer Urine as Scent Lure in Region 3

Proposed by: Grayling, Anvik, Shageluk, Holy Cross Advisory Committee

Recommendation: SUPPORT

Consider: defer & consider on statewide basis in 2021

4

4

Proposal 45

Ban moose, reindeer, caribou urine – Reg. 3

Effect of Proposal

- Add moose, caribou, and reindeer urine to prohibited scent lures
  - ✓ Region 3 only
  - ✓ Deer & elk urine already banned statewide
  - ✓ Moose/caribou/reindeer urine wasn't available before
  - ✓ Does not ban synthetic scents
- Decrease chance of introducing Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD)

5

5

Proposal 45

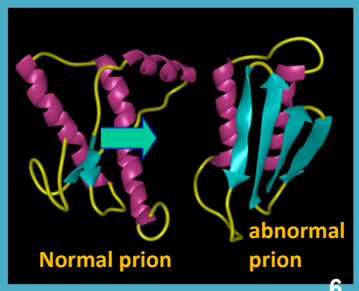
Ban moose, reindeer, caribou urine – Reg. 3

Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD)

100% Fatal disease of the Central nervous system of North American cervids: moose, caribou/reindeer, deer, elk

Infectious prion protein

- leads to 'holes' in brain
- Causes muscle wasting, behavior changes & <u>death</u>
- Also called *Transmissible spongiform encephalopathy* (TSE)



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Proposal 45

Ban moose, reindeer, caribou urine – Reg. 3

In Alaska, CWD is *Not Present* in Free-ranging Cervids (moose, caribou, reindeer, deer, elk)

…as far as we know

7

7

Proposal 45

Ban moose, reindeer, caribou urine – Reg. 3

Concerns About Urine Lures

- Evidence of infectious CWD prions in urine
- Long-term accumulation & persistence
- Alaska's moose, caribou, reindeer, deer, elk can be infected
- Urine lure is preventable risk source
  - Farmed cervid movements account for many new CWD introductions
  - Moose urine from Canada & lower 48 is marketed in Alaska

8

8

Proposal 45

Ban moose, reindeer, caribou urine – Reg. 3

More Concerns

- CWD expanding in free-ranging populations outside Alaska
  - No effective eradication / disinfection
    - ✓Only high temperature incineration
  - Management = mass-culling
  - New cases = movement of farmed animals

9

9

Proposal 45

Ban moose, reindeer, caribou urine – Reg. 3

CWD Prevention is Key

- Deer & elk urine lures banned in Alaska in 2017
  - Moose urine not available then
- New: Moose urine imports are likely cause of CWD spread from North America to Norway
  - EU bans import of cervid urine from North America due to CWD concerns

10

10

Proposal 45

Ban moose, reindeer, caribou urine – Reg. 3

Manufacture of Urine Scents

- Contain urine from farmed cervids
- Contaminated by
  - Feces & saliva
  - Other infectious diseases possible (Leptospirosis, Brucellosis, TB, Johnes Disease)
- No standards to ensure disease-free
- No requirement for
  - CWD-free farm
  - Surveillance
  - Monitoring

11

11

Proposal 45

Ban moose, reindeer, caribou urine – Reg. 3

Prohibit Use of Moose, Caribou, & Reindeer Urine as Scent Lure in Region 3

Proposed by: Grayling, Anvik, Shageluk, Holy Cross Advisory Committee

Recommendation: SUPPORT

Consider: defer & consider on statewide basis in 2021

12

12

Proposal 46

Bear Control – Reg. 3

Establish Bear Control in Each Unit Throughout Region 3

Proposed by: Public

Recommendation: NEUTRAL

13

13

Proposal 46

Bear Control – Reg. 3

Effect of Proposal

- Department to conduct 22 feasibility assessments for bear predation control
  - ✓ Moose (18 populations)
  - ✓ Caribou (4 herds)
- Board decides whether bear control would be advisable & feasible for each population

14

14

Proposal 46

Bear Control – Reg. 3

Intensive Management (IM)

- Population-specific
  - ✓ Includes
    - ❑ Habitat improvement
    - ❑ Increase moose/caribou harvest
    - ❑ Predation control
- Board decides
  - ✓ Can IM help meet pop. & harvest objectives?
    - ▪ ADF&G Feasibility Assessment
      - ❑ Summarize biological & management info
      - ❑ Gauge potential that IM will work

15

15

Proposal 46

Bear Control – Reg. 3

How IM Action is Determined

5 AAC 92.106 IM of big game prey populations

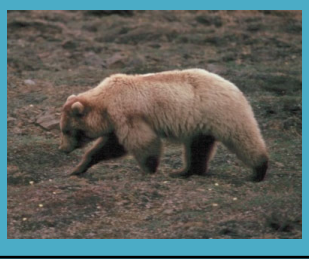
(1) Criteria to identify populations important for high human consumptive use:

(A) Avg. historic harvest of ≥100 caribou or moose

(B) Accessibility

(C) Used mostly for food

(D) Hunter demand



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Proposal 46

Bear Control – Reg. 3

How IM Action is Determined, cont.

5 AAC 92.106 IM of big game prey populations

(2) Criteria for population & harvest objectives

(A) Effects of weather, habitat capability, diseases, parasites
(B) Viable predator populations
(C) Habitat for other species
(D) Effects on subsistence users
(E) Cost, feasibility, & potential effectiveness of IM
(F) Land ownership
(G) Accessibility to harvest
(H) Other relevant factors

17

17

Proposal 46

Bear Control – Reg. 3

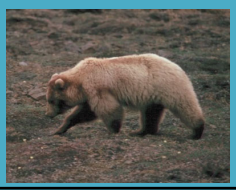
How IM Action is Determined, cont.

5 AAC 92.106 IM of big game prey populations

(3) Board will find a population is depleted when:

(A) Sustainable harvest is less than IM harvest objective
(B) Population is less than the IM population objective

(4) Board determines whether depleted population may result in a significant reduction in allowable harvest



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Proposal 46

Bear Control – Reg. 3

How IM Action is Determined, cont.

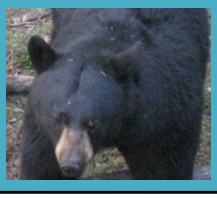
5 AAC 92.106 IM of big game prey populations

(5) Board will not consider as significant:

(A) If reduced take is ≥ IM harvest objective;

(B) Reduced take expected to be

- short-term & temporary,
- needed to conserve the population



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Proposal 46

Bear Control – Reg. 3

How IM Action is Determined, cont.

5 AAC 92.106 IM of big game prey populations

(6) To reverse significant reduction in allowable harvest, use these tools

- Habitat management
- Predation control

Take-home:

- IM determined after 5 previous criteria are considered
  - Purpose: achieve desired harvest of prey population
- Non-IM program to prevent population extirpation
  - Unit 26B Muskox

20

20

Proposal 46

Bear Control – Reg. 3

How IM Action is Determined, cont.

Board of Game decided

- **Positive Intensive Management (IM) findings**
  - ✓ **for 18 moose & 4 caribou populations**
  - ✓ **Regulation 5 AAC 92.108**
    - **Important for high levels of consumptive use by humans**
    - **Population and harvest objectives stated**

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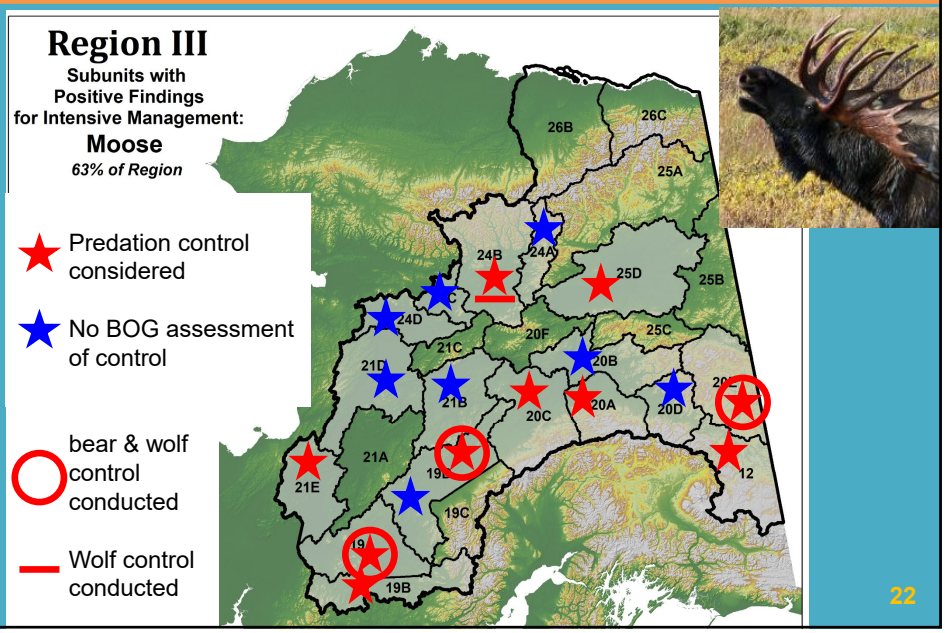
Proposal 46

Bear Control – Reg. 3



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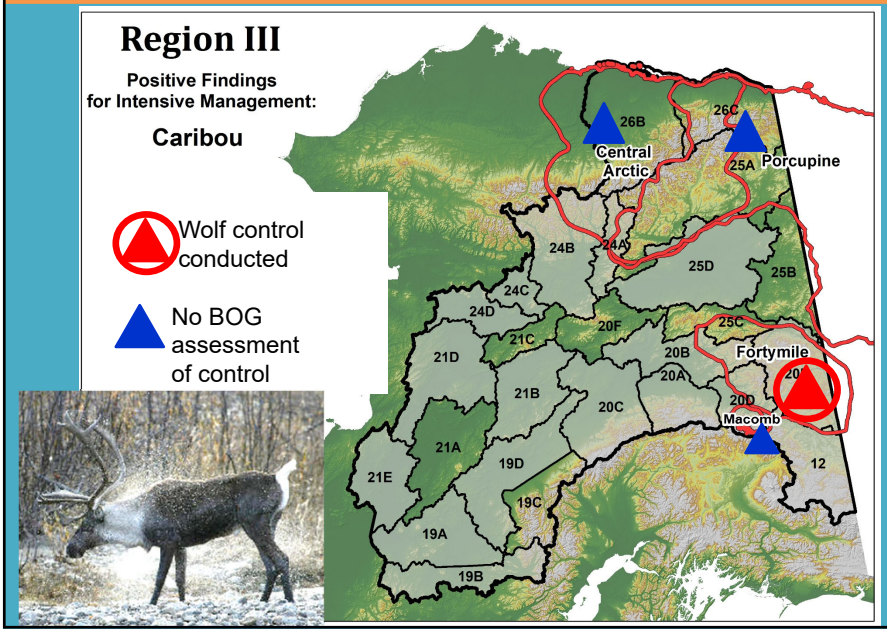
Proposal 46

Bear Control – Reg. 3



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Proposal 46

Bear Control – Reg. 3

IM & non-IM plans considered in 2020

- **Board routinely considers feasibility of doing IM actions**
  - ✓ **8 case-specific predation control proposals:**
    - ❑ 75 – Units 21D and 24 moose (wolves & bears)
    - ❑ 76 – Unit 21 non-IM caribou (habitat & bears)
    - ❑ 86 – Fortymile caribou (wolves)
    - ❑ 88 – Units 12, 20D, & 20E moose (wolves)
    - ❑ 96 – Unit 19D-East moose (wolves & bears)
    - ❑ 104 – Unit 19A moose (wolves & bears)
    - ❑ 105 – Unit 19A moose (wolves)
    - ❑ 106 – Unit 19A moose (bears)

24

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Proposal 46

Bear Control – Reg. 3

Region III, Intensive Management Populations

Moose:

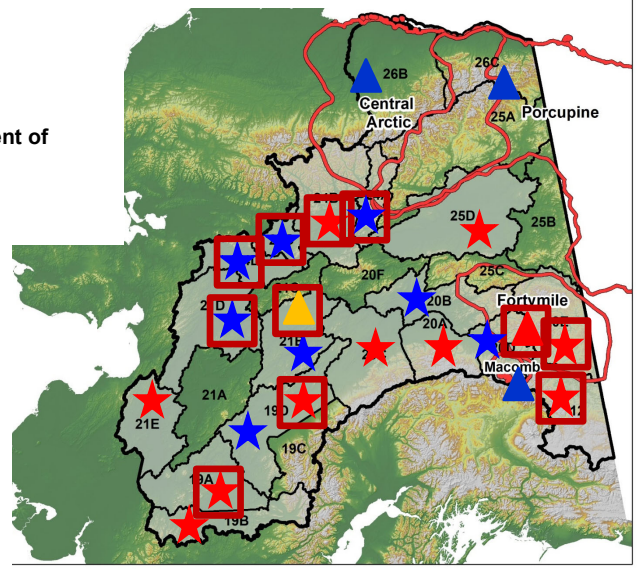
- Predator control considered
- No BOG assessment of control

Caribou:

- Predation control considered
- No BOG control assessment
- Non-IM population considered

Both Species:

- Consider at this meeting



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Proposal 46

Bear Control – Reg. 3

To determine an IM action:

- **Case-by-case at population level**
  - ✓ **Feasibility of the action**
    - Biology of prey and predator populations
    - Habitat
    - Land ownership
    - Program cost
    - Social concerns
    - Accessibility to hunters
  - ✓ **Effective size of bear control programs**
    - Successful bear reduction in small vs large areas

26

26

Proposal 46

Bear Control – Reg. 3

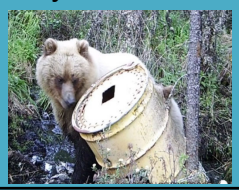
Previous IM Bear Control in Region 3

- **3 IM bear predation control programs**
  - ✓ Combined with wolf control
  - ✓ Goal: boost moose calf survival

2 small (each less than 540 mi²)

- ✓ Conducted by department
- ✓ Expensive & time intensive
- ✓ Target bears in specific areas
- ✓ Rapid bear population recovery

1 large (2,700–4,050 mi²)



- ✓ Conducted by public
- ✓ Discontinued due to inadequate take

27

27

Proposal 46

Bear Control – Reg. 3

Establish Bear Control in Each Unit Throughout Region 3

Proposed by: Public

Recommendation: NEUTRAL

28

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Proposal 47

prohibit nonresident hunting of IM populations – Reg. 3

Prohibit nonresident hunting of prey animals in Intensive Management units until IM objectives are reached

Recommendation: NEUTRAL

Proposed by: Public

29

Proposal 47

prohibit nonresident hunting of IM populations – Reg. 3

What would the proposal do?

Prohibit nonresident hunting for prey species under an active intensive management (IM) predation control plan

- **until minimum IM population & harvest objectives are reached.**

30

Proposal 47

prohibit nonresident hunting of IM populations – Reg. 3

Effect of Proposal

- Base nonresident seasons only on IM population and harvest objectives in 5AAC 92.108
  - When predation control is active
- Eliminate nonresidents regardless of:
  - Harvestable surplus
  - Customary & Traditional use findings (C&T)
    - ✓ Amount Reasonably Necessary for Subsistence Opportunity (ANS)
  - Impact of nonresident seasons

31

31

Proposal 47

prohibit nonresident hunting of IM populations – Reg. 3

Region III, Intensive Management Populations

Moose:

★ Predation control considered

★ No BOG assessment of control

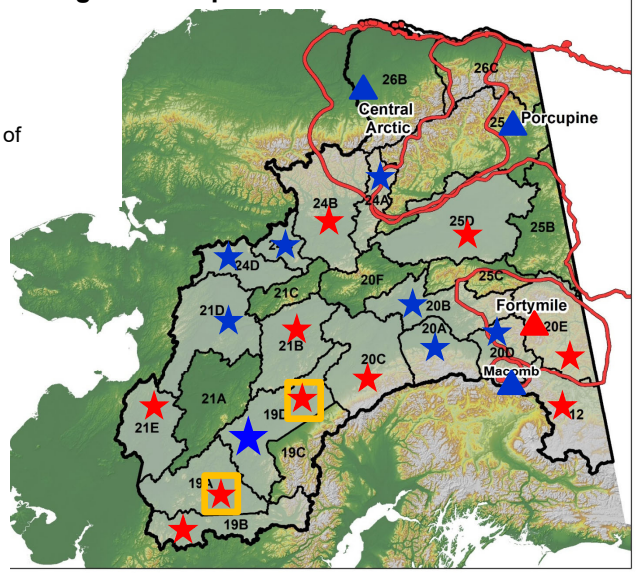
Caribou:

▲ Predation control considered

▲ No BOG assessment of control

Both Species:

□ Active Predation Control:



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Proposal 47

prohibit nonresident hunting of IM populations – Reg. 3

Effect of Proposal

- Eliminate nonresident moose hunts:
  - Unit 19A (no nonresident season)
  - Unit 19D East (no nonresident season)
- May eliminate future nonresident hunts:
  - Inactive predation control
    - Unit 21E for moose (nonresident draw)
    - Fortymile caribou (restricted nonresident bag & season)

33

33

Proposal 47

prohibit nonresident hunting of IM populations – Reg. 3

Prohibit nonresident hunting of prey animals in Intensive Management units until IM objectives are reached

Recommendation: NEUTRAL

Proposed by: Public

34

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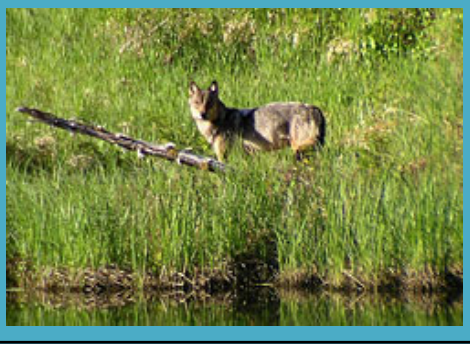
Proposal 48

Wolf Seasons– Reg. 3

Lengthen Wolf Hunting Seasons in Most of Region 3

Recommendation: SUPPORT

Proposed by: Public



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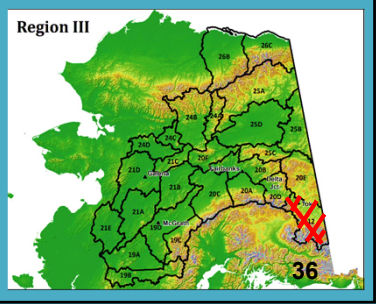
Proposal 48

Wolf Seasons– Reg. 3

What would the proposal do?

- Lengthen wolf hunting seasons
  - ✓ Region 3 (except Unit 12)
- Change starting date to August 1
- Ending dates remain the same
  - ✓ April 15,
  - ✓ April 30, or
  - ✓ May 15



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Proposal 48

Wolf Seasons– Reg. 3

Current Wolf Hunting Regulations:

Residents and nonresidents

- Units 19, 20 remainder, 21, 24, 25;
  - ✓ August 10–May 31
- Unit 12 (not part of proposal);
  - ✓ August 10–May 31; bag limit 10
- Unit 20C Stampede Area;
  - ✓ August 10–April 15, bag limit 10
- Units 26B & 26C;
  - ✓ August 10–April 30, bag limit 10

37

37

Proposal 48

Wolf Seasons– Reg. 3

Expected effects:

- Regionwide wolf harvest
  - Currently less than 1 wolf/day during August 10–31
- Adding August 1–9 to wolf hunting
  - Increases hunter opportunity
  - Not expected to significantly change wolf harvest
  - No biological concern for wolves
- Expect no effect on
  - ✓ wolf, sheep, & caribou populations

38

38

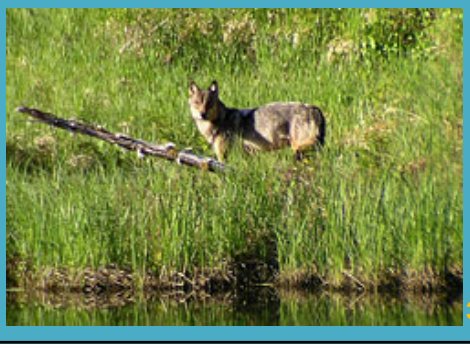
Proposal 48

Wolf Seasons– Reg. 3

Lengthen Wolf Hunting Seasons in Most of Region 3

Recommendation: SUPPORT

Proposed by: Public



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Proposal 49

Allow the use of crossbows in archery-only hunt areas for hunters possessing permanent identification cards in the Interior and Eastern Arctic Region.

Proposed by:

Public

Department Recommendation:

NEUTRAL

Proposal 49 40

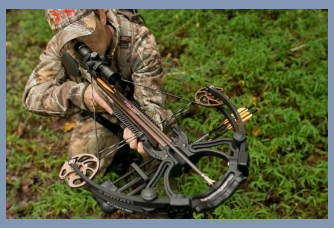
40

Proposal 49 - Crossbows

What would the proposal do?

Residents 60 years or older with a Permanent hunt-fish-trap Identification Card (PID)

- **Use crossbows in archery-only hunts in Region III**
- **No need for methods and means exemption**
- **Certification would remain a requirement**



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Proposal 49

Allow the use of crossbows in archery-only hunt areas for hunters possessing permanent identification cards in the Interior and Eastern Arctic Region.

Proposed by:

Public

Department Recommendation:

NEUTRAL

42

Proposal 50

Establish registration archery-only hunts for bull moose in the Interior and Eastern Arctic Region units that have general moose seasons.

Proposed by:

Public

Department Recommendation:

OPPOSE because not all populations in Region III can sustain more harvest

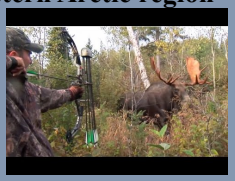
NEUTRAL regarding the allocation of harvest between user groups

43

Proposal 50 - Archery Only Moose

What would the proposal do?

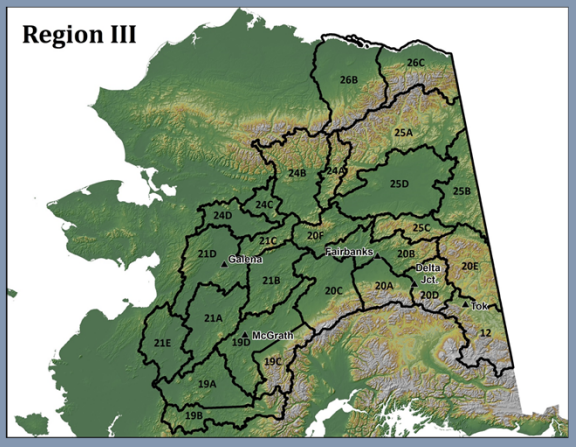
Create a conventional bowhunting-only registration permit and extend the moose season by 10 days in the Interior and Eastern Arctic region units that are managed by a harvest ticket



- **Creates a new conventional bowhunting-only season**
  - **10 additional days at the end of each harvest ticket season**
- **Current antler restrictions and sex requirements would remain**
- **Could alter ability of biologists to manage for maximum sustained yield**

44

Proposal 50 - Archery Only Moose



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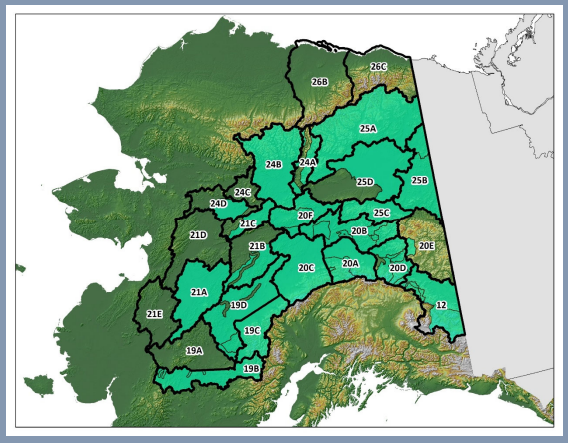
Proposal 50 - Archery Only Moose



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Proposal 50 - Archery Only Moose

- **Season extensions and allocation best addressed at population level**
  - **May benefit some populations but impede others**
  - **Could affect areas where managers are trying slow harvest**
  - **Could help managers slow or stabilize growth**
  - **Higher susceptibility of bulls during rut**
  - **Disproportionate success**
- **Area biologists use regulations as tools to maximize opportunity while maintaining optimal population size**
  - **Analyses of long-term S&I relates to specific areas**

47

Proposal 50

Establish registration archery-only hunts for bull moose in the Interior and Eastern Arctic Region units that have general moose seasons.

Proposed by:

Public

Department Recommendation:

OPPOSE because not all populations in Region III can sustain more harvest

NEUTRAL regarding the allocation of harvest between user groups

48

Proposal 51

Remove the bag limit restriction of one sheep every four years for nonresidents over the age of 60 for the Interior and Eastern Arctic Region.

Proposed by:

Public

Department Recommendation:

NEUTRAL

49

Proposal 51 - Nonresident >60

What would the proposal do?

Nonresidents 60 years or older would be able to hunt sheep every year rather than every four years in the Interior and Eastern Arctic.

- **Sheep are managed by full-curl bag limit**
- **~5% of successful nonresidents returned to Alaska within 4 years (Prior to 2016; Statewide)**
- **Of returning hunters, 0.3% were 60 or older**
- **Nonresidents harvest ~205 sheep per year in Region III**
- **2016 – Nonresidents began every 4-year restriction**

50

Proposal 51

Remove the bag limit restriction of one sheep every four years for nonresidents over the age of 60 for the Interior and Eastern Arctic Region.

Proposed by:

Public

Department Recommendation:

NEUTRAL

51

Proposal 52

Change the nonresident general season sheep hunts in Unit 20 remainder and Unit 19C to drawing permit hunts.

Proposed by:

Public

Department Recommendation:

NEUTRAL

52

Proposal 52 - Sheep Drawing Permit

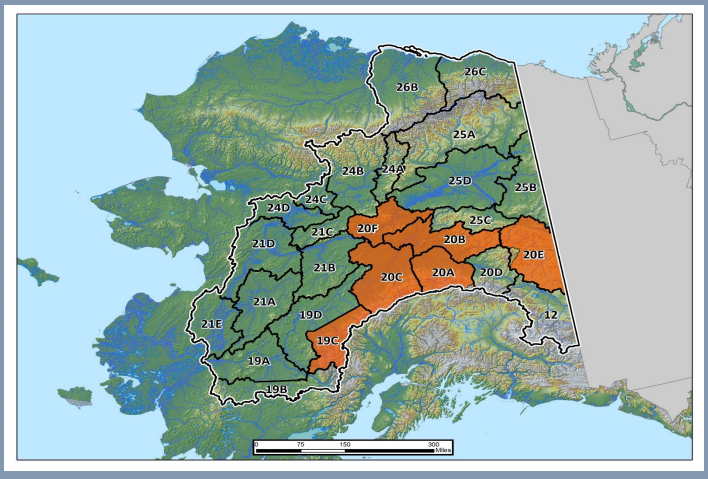
What would the proposal do?

Implement drawing hunts in the place of nonresident harvest ticket sheep hunts in Unit 20 remainder and Unit 19C and limit the allocation to 50 permits for each hunt.

- **Nonresidents only eligible for 50 permits in Unit 19C and 50 permits in Unit 20 remainder**
- **Nonresidents only eligible for permit every 4 regulatory years**
- **Residents continue hunting with HT in both locations or by RS380 in 19C**

53

Proposal 52 - Sheep Drawing Permit



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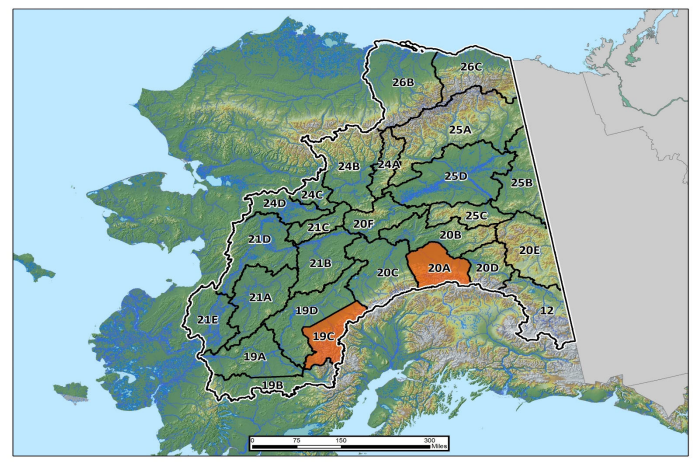
Proposal 52 - Sheep Drawing Permit



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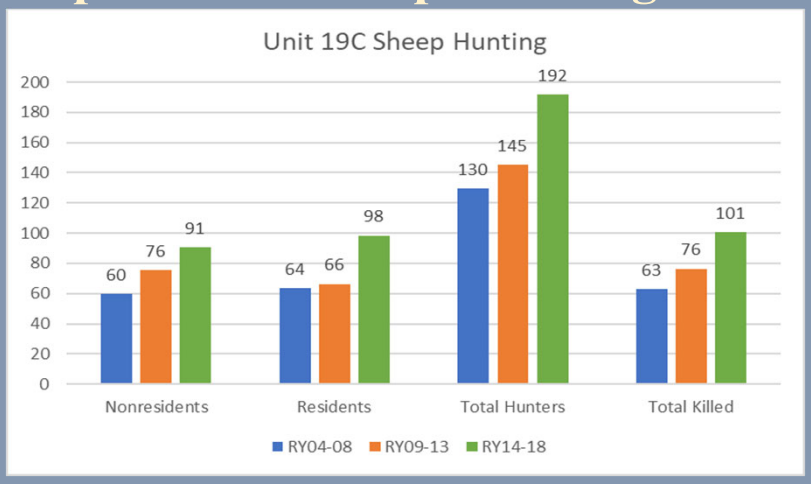
Proposal 52 - Sheep Drawing Permit

Unit 19C

- **During RY14 – RY18, 91 guided nonresidents took 64 sheep**
- **During RY14 – RY18, 98 residents took 37 sheep**
- **Nonresident sheep hunters in Unit 19C take 64% of sheep**

56

Proposal 52 - Sheep Drawing Permit



57

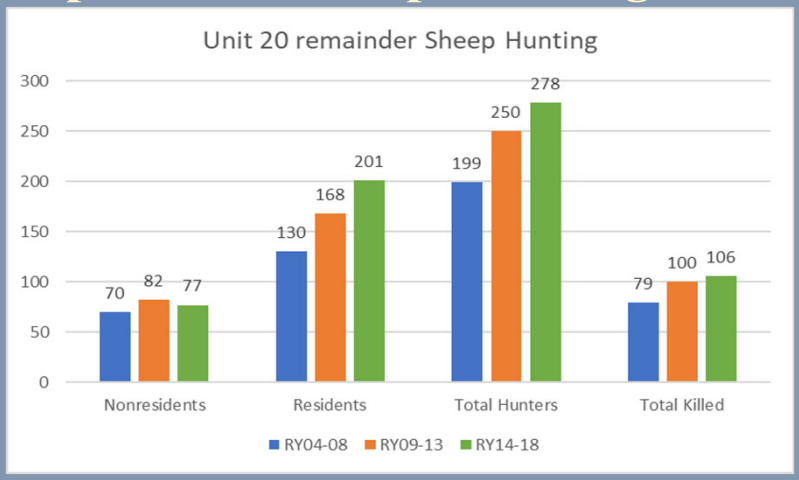
Proposal 52 - Sheep Drawing Permit

Unit 20 remainder

- **During RY14 – RY18, 79 guided nonresidents took 56 sheep**
- **During RY14 – RY18, 237 residents took 57 sheep**
- **Nonresident sheep hunters in Unit 20 remainder take 50% of sheep**

58

Proposal 52 - Sheep Drawing Permit



59

Proposal 52 - Sheep Drawing Permit

- **This proposal may eliminate ~35 nonresident hunters in Unit 19C and ~23 nonresident hunters in Unit 20 remainder**
- **There is no biological concern given the full curl requirements for nonresidents (every 4 regulatory years) and residents**
- **In both locations the department has heard concerns regarding allocation issues**

60

Proposal 52

Change the nonresident general season sheep hunts in Unit 20 remainder and Unit 19C to drawing permit hunts.

Proposed by:

Public

Department Recommendation:

NEUTRAL

61

Proposal 53

Establish an archery only registration permit hunt for Dall sheep in the Interior and Eastern Arctic Region.

Proposed by:

Public

Department Recommendation:

NEUTRAL

62

Proposal 53 - Archery Only Sheep

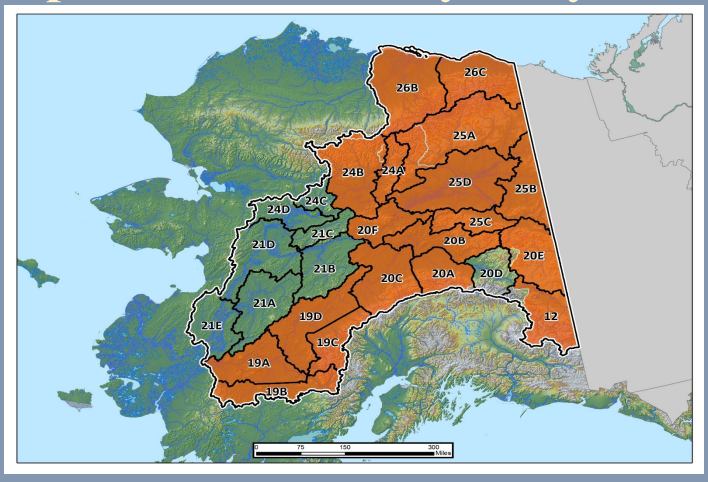
What would the proposal do?

Implement a conventional archery-only sheep registration permit and add 10 days to the beginning of the season in all areas where there is a general harvest ticket sheep hunt.

- **Creates new registration permit for conventional archery only**
- **Adds 10 additional days to the beginning of the season (Aug 1 – 9)**
- **Would overlap with youth hunt (use of firearms permitted; Aug 1 – 5)**
- **Would overlap with time when use of aircraft is legal (Aug 1 – 4)**

63

Proposal 53 - Archery Only Sheep



64

Proposal 53 - Archery Only Sheep

- **Currently, resident and nonresidents can hunt using Harvest Ticket Aug 10 – Sept 20**
- **Nonresident hunters can harvest 1 full-curl ram every 4 years**
- **No biological concern due to full-curl regulations**
- **Season extensions and allocations are best addressed at population level**

65

Proposal 53

Establish an archery only registration permit hunt for Dall sheep in the Interior and Eastern Arctic Region.

Proposed by:

Public

Department Recommendation:

NEUTRAL

66

Proposal 54

Reauthorize resident grizzly/brown bear tag fee exemptions throughout Interior and Eastern Arctic Alaska.

Proposed by:

Department

Department Recommendation:

SUPPORT

67

Proposal 54 - Bear Tag Fee

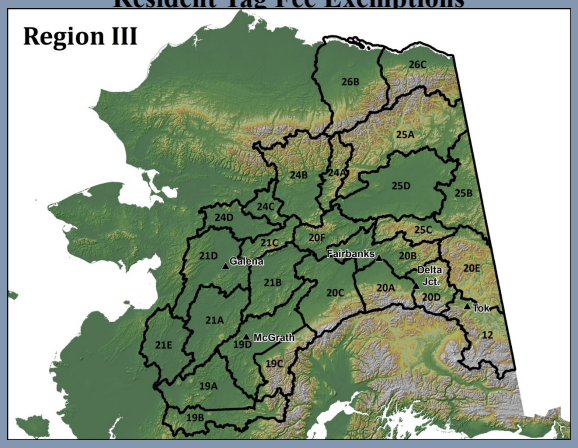
What would the proposal do?

- **Reauthorize resident tag fee exemptions in Region 3 (Units 12, 19, 20, 21, 24, 25, 26B, and 26C)**
- **Continue the $25 resident tag fee exemption in Region 3**

68

Proposal 54 - Bear Tag Fee

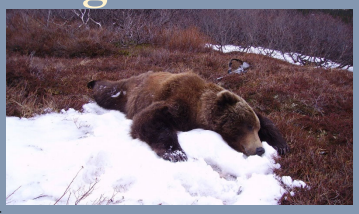
Resident Tag Fee Exemptions

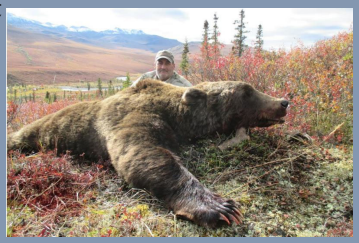


69

Proposal 54 - Bear Tag Fee

- **Simplifies resident regulations**
- **Increases opportunity**
- **Seasons and bag limits regulate harvest**
- **Easier for hunters**
- **Incidental grizzly harvest**





70

Proposal 54

Reauthorize resident grizzly/brown bear tag fee exemptions throughout Interior and Eastern Arctic Alaska.

Proposed by:

Department

Department Recommendation:

SUPPORT

71

Proposal 55

Allow the use of dogs for hunting lynx in Units 12 and 20.

Proposed by:

Public

Department Recommendation:

NEUTRAL

72

Proposal 55 - Dogs For Lynx

What would the proposal do?

Taking lynx with the aid of dogs will become a legal method in Units 12 and 20 for residents and nonresidents.

- **Season would begin October 15 and end December 31**
- **Same bag limit as trapping season**
- **Misaligns current seasons**

73

Proposal 55 - Dogs For Lynx

- **Currently, dogs may not be used to pursue lynx under hunting or trapping regulations**
- **Aid of dogs for hunting fur animals is only allowed in Unit 20D for coyotes (no closed season or bag limit)**
  - **Must register with the department**
  - **Only 1-2 registrations a year since inception; 0 coyotes harvested**
- **If adopted, we recommend season dates remain aligned with hunting regulations to avoid confusion**

74

Proposal 55

Allow the use of dogs for hunting lynx in Units 12 and 20.

Proposed by:

Public

Department Recommendation:

NEUTRAL

75

Proposal 56

Establish minimum distance requirements for trapping around dwellings in the Interior and Eastern Arctic Region.

Proposed by:

Public

Department Recommendation:

NEUTRAL

76

Proposal 56 -Trapping Distance

What would the proposal do?

This proposal would make it illegal to trap within one mile of a house, cabin, dwelling, or mailbox in the Interior and Eastern Arctic. Trapping could no longer be used to address wildlife conflicts on private property.

- **Would eliminate opportunity close to all population centers**
- **Homeowners/property owners will no longer have ability to address nuisance animals on their own**
- **Would create patchwork landscape**

77

Proposal 56 - Trapping Distance

- **Currently, no regulations requiring trapping activity to be a certain distance from a house, cabin, dwelling, or mailbox**
  - **Setting traps and snares prohibited within Fairbanks city limits**
  - **Trappers must obtain permission from private landowners**
  - **Responsibility of the trapper to understand land status**
- **ADF&G promotes *Code of Ethics***

78

Proposal 56 - Trapping Distance

Proposal Intent

Reduce user conflict

Considerations

- **Department issues ~25 nuisance permits/year (i.e., Fairbanks area only)**
- **Trapping outside nonsubsistence areas may become inconsistent with typical harvest and use patterns where cabins and other shelters are necessary along traplines**
- **May represent a reduction in opportunity outside of NSAs and create a hard to monitor, checkerboard use area within NSAs where trapping would be legal**

79

Proposal 56 - Trapping Distance

- **Local trappers' pursuit of furbearers that create conflicts is another form of opportunity**
- **Conflict issues include beavers creating dams near homes and roads, squirrels getting into houses and attics, groundhogs digging into foundations and gardens, fox, coyotes, wolves, weasels, and lynx taking pets and livestock**

=

80

Proposal 56

Establish minimum distance requirements for trapping around dwellings in the Interior and Eastern Arctic Region.

Proposed by:

Public

Department Recommendation:

NEUTRAL

81