PROPOSAL 164

5 AAC 92.130. Restrictions to bag limit.
5 AAC 92.010. Harvest tickets and reports.

Count wounded big game animals towards nonresident hunter's bag limit for all units, excluding the one sheep and one bear every four years as follows:

Add section (k) to 5 AAC 92.130 as follows:

• (k) In Units 1-26 a big game animal wounded by a nonresident hunter that animal will count against that hunter’s bag limit. However a wounded brown bear does not count against that person’s one bear every four regulatory years bag limit established in 5 AAC 92.132; and a wounded Dall sheep does not count against the person’s one sheep every four regulatory years bag limit as established in 5 AAC 85.055.

Add section (m) to 5 AAC 92.010 as follows:

• (m) If a nonresident has wounded a big game animal but that animal was not recovered the hunter at the end of a contracted hunt or before leaving the field, the hunter must remove the day and month from their harvest ticket or permit and lock their big game metal locking tag.

• Many outfitters already have this or similar written into their contracts.

• 12 AAC 75.340. PROFESSIONAL ETHICS STANDARDS FOR GUIDES. (d) Field craft standards. (2) use every lawful means at the licensee’s disposal to bag a wounded animal while it is in danger of escaping, or, in a serious emergency, while human life or well-being is endangered.

• Nonresident hunters should be held to the utmost highest standard when hunting big game is concerned.

• It is commonly taught in hunter education courses to take the most ethical shot on an animal yet there is no accountability for making poor judgement calls in the field.

• A nonresident hunting with or without a guide could currently continue to hunt after an animal is wounded but not dispatched or retrieved.

• There are areas of the state that already have a regulation to include wounded game in a person’s bag limit for both residents and nonresidents for certain species. This exemplifies that an expanded version of this type of regulation to hold nonresidents to a standard of ethics that is being taught as well as to protect our game from unreasonable loss is within the powers of the Board of Game.

• All methods of take have some probability of wounding game, however, current trends such as long range shooting have a high potentiality of wounded game. That game deserves the respect of being ethically hunted and dispatched.
• For hunt report filing purposes the report would be filled out as though an animal were taken, however, an additional option for “Was the animal recovered? Yes/No” would be included in the reporting process.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? That any big game wounded by a nonresident be counted against that hunter’s bag limit.

PROPOSED BY: Matanuska Valley Fish and Game Advisory Committee (HQ-F20-012)