



Memorandum

To: Jerry Burnett
Chair
Alaska Board of Game

From: Captain Brent Johnson
Northern Detachment Commander
Alaska Wildlife Troopers

Date: February 20, 2024

Subject: AWT Comments, Eastern Interior Board of Game Meeting

Chairman Burnett, please see the attached comments from the Department of Public Safety, Division of Alaska Wildlife Troopers concerning proposals before the board during the upcoming Eastern Arctic/Eastern Interior Board of Game meeting.

Proposal 52: AWT is not opposed to increasing opportunity to harvest furbearers but is concerned that in many locations there are concurrent open seasons for big game animals. It would be difficult for Troopers to determine if a person contacted in the field with NVG's or a FLIR optic was only hunting furbearers. The person could just as easily be targeting moose, bison, or caribou during an open season that is occurring during the same dates and in the same GMU's as an open furbearer season.

Proposal 113: AWT is opposed to this proposal as written. "Treeline" is not defined in statute or regulation. A suggested change would be to identify mile markers that identified the start and stop areas of the ¼ mile closed zone.

Proposal 115: AWT opposes this proposal as written. AWT does not generally support having different salvage requirement regulations in different portions of the same GMU or neighboring GMU's. This proposal does not identify affected GMU's and only lists a specific hunt for a specific caribou herd. Additionally, examples provided in the proposal of areas where the proponent would not want viscera left are technically considered part of the "field" under current regulation. This issue could instead be addressed as a permit hunt condition for this particular hunt via the authority found in 5AAC 92.052(24).

Proposal 174/175: AWT opposes changing the boundary of this controlled use area due to the confusion it could cause to hunters. River and stream banks are a natural boundary that is easy to see both from the air and the ground during all seasons.