



THE STATE
of ALASKA
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

Department of Public Safety

DIVISION OF ALASKA WILDLIFE TROOPERS
Office of the Director

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January 9, 2024

Chairman Burnett
Alaska Board of Game
P.O. Box 115526
Juneau Ak, 99811-5526

Dear Chairman Burnett:

The following comments give a brief description of the positions that the Department of Public Safety, Division of Alaska Wildlife Troopers have on the proposals that are up for consideration at the January 2024 Western Arctic and Western Region regulations meeting in Kotzebue.

In general, when the board considers seasons and or bag limit changes, the Alaska Wildlife Troopers request that every effort possible be made to align the season dates and bag limits with adjacent game management units and/or sub units. This is mainly due to enforceability of multiple seasons in multiple locations as well as consistency of the regulations for the public. When the board considers proposals having to do with allocation or biological concerns, AWT is generally neutral in position.

AWT recognizes that regulations are developed by the Alaska Boards of Fish and Game through the public process to support management plans. Further, all management plans rely upon public compliance with regulations to achieve success. Enforcement is a crucial element needed to ensure long-term compliance with regulations by the public. The Alaska Wildlife Troopers request the board recognize that the division has limited resources and man power and any new regulation scheme or area restrictions may place an additional burden on AWT.

Comments on specific proposals are included in this letter.

Thank you for your time,

Brent Johnson

Captain Brent Johnson
Alaska Wildlife Troopers

Proposal 2, 4, 5, 36 & 37: This would be difficult for AWT to enforce under the current harvest/registration tag system. Currently ADF&G does not produce a tag limited to a single sex in hunts with a bag limit of more than one animal per day/year. AWT would have no way to determine during a field check if a hunter had previously harvested one or more cows that season. Evidence of sex regulations under 5AAC 92.150 would not apply, as the hunt would not be restricted to one sex.

Proposal 9: AWT supports efforts to align state and federal seasons/bag limits to reduce hunter confusion.

Proposal 12 & 22: AWT opposes these proposal(s) as written. To reduce enforcement confusion AWT would suggest a statewide regulation if the board feels such an action necessary. AWT does not support having different methods & means regulations in different portions of the same GMU or neighboring GMU's. This could cause enforcement difficulties and add additional complexity to the regulations. These unit/sub-unit boundaries are often easily crossed and share common hunts.

Proposal 42: AWT supports consolidation of permits within the same GMU to reduce hunter confusion and unintentional violations due to a hunter possessing the incorrect permit.