

ALASKA BOARD OF GAME
Western Arctic/Western Region Meeting
Kotzebue National Guard Armory | Kotzebue, Alaska
January 26-29, 2024

Preliminary Actions on Proposals

Updated 1/31/24

C = Carry; CA = Carry as amended; F = Fail; D = Defer; T = Table; NA = No Action

Regionwide & Multiple Units (6 proposals)

- F** **Proposal 1:** Open an archery-only registration permit hunt in Units 23 and 26 for resident hunters when it is determined sheep hunting can be allowed in those areas.
- CA** **Proposal 2:** Reduce the bag limit for taking caribou in Units 21D Remainder, 22, 23, 24B Remainder, 24C, 24D and 26A to four caribou per year, only one of which may be a cow. *The board amended the proposal with RC021 as substitute language, which: makes it applicable to the northwestern portion of Unit 23 and the southwestern portion of Unit 26A; changes the resident bag limit to 15 caribou per year by registration permit only, only one of which may be a cow, and resident season dates of July 1 – June 30.*
- F** **Proposal 3:** Close nonresident caribou hunting in Units 21D Remainder, 22, 23, 24B Remainder, 24C, 24D, and 26A.
- NA** **Proposal 4:** Align caribou seasons in Unit 26A and Unit 23, and reduce the bag limit. *The board took no action due to the action on Proposals 2 and 3.*
- NA** **Proposal 5:** Reduce the bag limit for caribou for RC907 resident hunters in Units 23 and 26A, and change the nonresident hunt to a registration permit with additional restrictions. *The board took no action due to the action on Proposals 2 and 3.*
- C** **Proposal 190:** Reauthorize the current resident tag fee exemptions for brown bear in Units 18, 22, 23 and 26A.

Bethel Area – Unit 18 (12 proposals)

- CA** **Proposal 6:** Close the Mulchatna caribou herd to hunting for five to ten years in Unit 18. *The board adopted a 3-year hunting closure for Unit 18, which aligns with the board's 3-year cycle.*
- CA** **Proposal 7:** Lengthen the resident only registration moose hunt RM617 in Unit 18 by two weeks to end October 15. *The board amended the proposal to change the bag limit to 1 bull, excluding male calves. ADF&G indicated that permits can be made available in Tuntutuliak.*

- NA Proposal 8:** Extend season dates for moose hunting in hunt RM617 in Unit 18. *The board took no action due to the action on Proposal 7.*
- C Proposal 9:** Liberalize the bag limit for moose in Unit 18.
- CA Proposal 10:** Liberalize the bag limit for moose in Unit 18. *The board amended the proposal to provide “up to 100” permits for antlerless and “up to 100” permits for antlered.*
- C Proposal 11:** Reauthorize the resident antlerless moose season in Unit 18.
- F Proposal 12:** Establish a minimum caliber requirement for hunting moose in Unit 18.
- CA Proposal 13:** Increase the bag and possession limits for ptarmigan in Unit 18. *The board amended the proposal to change the bag limit to 25 per day / 50 in possession.*
- F Proposal 14:** Open a hunt for muskox in a portion of Unit 18, with permits available to residents only, made available in communities closest to the herd.
- NA Proposal 15:** Allow the subsistence take of muskox in a portion of Unit 18. *The board took no action due to the action on proposal 14.*
- C Proposal 16:** Lengthen the wolf trapping season in Unit 18 by one month to end on April 30.
- C Proposal 17:** Increase the brown bear bag limit in Unit 18.

Nome Area – Unit 22 (12 proposals)

- F Proposal 18:** Open the caribou season in a portion of Unit 22A.
- NA Proposal 19:** Change the trophy destruction requirements for muskox taken in Unit 22 subsistence hunts. *The board took no action due to the action because horn destruction is a discretionary authority by ADF&G. The board adopted findings (RC030 providing direction to the department.*
- NA Proposal 20:** Change the bag limit for Tier II muskox hunts in Unit 22 to one muskox every two years. *The board took no action due to lack of authority because the change is contrary to the statute and regulations for providing Tier II opportunity.*
- F Proposal 21:** Establish season dates for the harvest of cow muskox in the TX095 and TX096 Tier II hunts in Unit 22C, beginning August 1st and ending October 31st.
- F Proposal 22:** Establish a minimum caliber for moose hunting in Unit 22A and a portion of Unit 22B.
- F Proposal 23:** Revisit the Amount Reasonably Necessary for subsistence uses for moose in Unit 22.

CA **Proposal 24:** Modify the winter season for moose in Unit 22A. *The board amended the proposal to change the season dates for the RM841 to 8/1 - 9/30 and 12/1 - end of February.*

F **Proposal 25:** Close the nonresident moose hunting season in Unit 22C.

F **Proposal 26:** Lengthen the nonresident moose hunting season in Unit 22E by two weeks, to open on August 15.

C **Proposal 27:** Align the resident seasons for brown bear in Unit 22D and 22E with those in Unit 22B.

CA **Proposal 28:** Change the Unit 22D and 22E nonresident brown bear drawing permit hunt to a general season hunt. *The board amended the proposal to keep the drawing hunt and increase permits “up to 40”.*

CA **Proposal 29:** Increase the number of brown bear drawing permits available in Unit 22B for DB685 to 40 permits, or change DB685 to a registration permit. *The board amended the proposal to keep the drawing hunt and increase the permits “up to 40”.*

Utquigvik Area – Unit 26A (6 proposals)

C **Proposal 30:** Extend the trapping season to year-round for muskrat in Unit 26A.

C **Proposal 31:** Liberalize the moose bag limit in a portion of Unit 26A and expand the hunt area.

CA **Proposal 32:** Change the boundaries of the Anaktuvuk Pass Controlled Use Area and allow the City of Anaktuvuk Pass, the Nunamiut Corporation, and the Naqsrarmiut tribe to set the dates the CUA is in effect. *The board amended the proposal as shown in RC027, with a northern boundary to the south bank of the Colville River, the western boundary to the east bank of the Killik River (boundaries for the eastern and southern boundaries remain the same as in the proposal). The board added a sunset clause of 9 years; removed language that gave authority outside of the department to set dates; clarified that the CUA will retain the existing dates, and that the CUA is applicable to caribou, furbearer, sheep and bear.*

F **Proposal 33:** Reduce the Unit 26A sheep bag limit for residents to one ram with full-curl horn or larger every four regulatory years.

NA **Proposal 34:** Open an archery-only registration permit hunt in portions of Unit 26A for residents only when it is determined sheep hunting can be allowed in those area. *The board took no action due to the action on Proposal 33.*

CA **Proposal 35:** Change the Unit 26A and Unit 26B muskox hunt area boundaries to match federal hunt boundaries, and expand the state hunt areas. *The board amended the proposal to align the boundary for the customary and traditional use finding area with the proposed boundary.*

Kotzebue Area – Unit 23 (8 proposals)

CA **Proposal 36:** Reduce the caribou bag limit for residents in Unit 23 from five caribou per

day to four caribou total, only one of which may be a cow. *The board amended the proposal to include Unit 22, and adopted RC026 which changes resident bag limit to 15 per year only one of which can be cow for both Unit 22 and Unit 23.*

NA **Proposal 37:** Reduce the caribou bag limit for residents in Unit 23 from five caribou per day to four caribou total, only one of which may be a cow. *The board took no action due to the action on proposal 36.*

CA **Proposal 38:** Close all nonresident caribou hunting in Unit 23. *The board amended the proposal to open a nonresident drawing hunt with up to 300 permits, effective regulatory year 2025. .*

CA **Proposal 209:** Establish a target hunt for musk ox in Unit 23. *The board amended the proposal to open a subsistence hunt with a bag limit of 1 bull, June 1- Oct. 31, up to 4 permits.*

CA **Proposal 39:** Lengthen the brown bear hunting season in Unit 23 for residents to no closed season. *The board amended the proposal to increase the nonresident bag limit to two bear.*

NA **Proposal 40:** Lengthen the brown/grizzly bear hunting season in Unit 23 for residents to year-round. *The board took no action due to action on Proposal 39.*

NA **Proposal 41:** Lengthen the brown/grizzly bear hunting season in Unit 23 for residents to year-round. *The board took no action due to action on Proposal 39.*

C **Proposal 42:** Consolidate the nonresident brown bear registration permits into a single, unit-wide fall registration permit and a single, unit-wide spring registration permit.

Proposals Outside the Board of Game's Authority

The Board of Game did not discuss the following proposals because they do not have authority to take regulatory action.

_____ **Proposal 201:** Allow non-residents to kill a grizzly on an over the counter permit without the requirement of a guide.

_____ **Proposal 202:** Change the nonresident license and tag requirements.

_____ **Proposal 203:** Monitor predator populations carefully and implement more aggressive controls when populations increase beyond a balanced level.

_____ **Proposal 204:** Make all Unit 23 moose hunts for non-federally qualified subsistence users, archery only.

_____ **Proposal 205:** Do not publicize in a publicly accessible format, the names of the winners of drawing permits.

_____ **Proposal 206:** Cap the numbers of sheep and moose that can be taken by a guide within their GUA for all GUAs in Alaska.