

SUMMARY OF ACTIONS
BOARD OF GAME
MARCH 2 - 12, 2001
Anchorage, Alaska

DESIGNATED REPORTER: Sherry Wright and Joe Chythlook

This summary of actions is for information purposes only and not intended to detail, reflect or fully interpret reasons for Board actions.

PROPOSAL NO. 1

ACTION: Carried

DESCRIPTION: Change the Unit 6 beaver season opening date from Dec. 1 to Nov. 10.

DISCUSSION: The department reported the beaver population could support additional harvest. The board agreed that a Nov. 10 season opening would align the beaver and land otter seasons in Units 5, 6 and 7.

PROPOSAL NO. 2

ACTION: No action due to proposal 7

DESCRIPTION: Lengthen the beaver season in Unit 9.

PROPOSAL NO. 3

ACTION: No action due to proposal 7

DESCRIPTION: Open beaver season November 10 when general trapping season opens.

PROPOSAL NO. 4

ACTION: No action due to proposal 7

DESCRIPTION: Change beaver trapping season opening date in Unit 9E from Jan.1 to Nov. 10.

PROPOSAL NO. 5

ACTION: Carried

DESCRIPTION: Lengthen beaver season by opening the season earlier (Sept. 25 - May 15) in Units 13 and 16.

DISCUSSION: The department indicated that Unit 13 has a liberal beaver season that allows for harvest when other trapping seasons are not open. The Department of Transportation in the Cantwell area reported beavers along the road system are a problem. The board discussed that in Units 13 and 16 water beaver traps must be submerged from Sept. 25 - Nov. 9.

PROPOSAL NO. 6

ACTION: Carried

DESCRIPTION: Eliminate closed seasons and bag limits for beaver hunting and trapping for residents and nonresidents in Unit 16B.

AMENDMENT: Open season Sept. 25 - May 15 in all of Unit 16 (to match those dates in Unit 13) with no bag limit. Underwater traps or snares must be used Sept. 25 - Nov. 9.

DISCUSSION: The board heard testimony about concern of beaver creating pike habitat, while native stocks of fish continue to decline. The department indicated that the previous season produced no increase in the harvest. The department reported that this population is healthy and can support additional harvest.

PROPOSAL NO. 7

ACTION: Carried

DESCRIPTION: Align the Unit 9 beaver season with the Unit 17 season, and allow additional opportunity to harvest beavers in Unit 9 using firearms.

DISCUSSION: The department reported that the beaver population in Unit 9 could support a higher harvest. The board agreed with the department that aligning the trapping seasons in Units 9 and 17 would minimize confusion.

PROPOSAL NO. 8

ACTION: Carried

DESCRIPTION: Change the closing date for trapping coyote in Unit 6 to Apr. 30 to align the closing date unit wide.

DISCUSSION: The board agreed with the department recommendations that aligning trapping seasons across the state will help eliminate confusion in the regulations.

PROPOSAL NO. 9

ACTION: Carried

DESCRIPTION: Increase the trapping bag limit for red fox in Unit 14C.

AMENDMENT: Exclude the Chugach State Park.

DISCUSSION: The department reported no biological concern for red fox in this unit. The board determined that this proposal aligns the season in Units 14A and 14B and provides additional trapping opportunity.

PROPOSAL NO. 10

ACTION: Failed

DESCRIPTION: Align mink and marten seasons in Units 14A and 14B, Nov.10 - Jan. 31.

DISCUSSION: The department stated that marten populations are still recovering and that a longer season could lead to over harvest. The board discussed that there is not an over abundance of marten and the habitat in Units 14A and 14B is marginal.

PROPOSAL NO. 11

ACTION: Carried

DESCRIPTION: Change the closure of mink and weasel trapping season from Jan. 31 to Feb. 28 in Unit 6.

DISCUSSION: The department reported that mink and weasel are abundant in Unit 6. The board agreed to align the mink and weasel seasons with the existing marten season.

PROPOSAL NO. 12

ACTION: Failed

DESCRIPTION: End bison hunt on Ahtna Land.

DISCUSSION: The department reported it would like to see this hunt continued. The board agreed they would also like to see the opportunity to hunt this herd continued. The board gave direction to the department to highlight the need to respect private lands in its handy-dandy regulation brochure.

PROPOSAL NO. 13

ACTION: Carried

DESCRIPTION: Change the opening date for hunting black bear in Units 6A and 6B from Aug. 31 to Aug. 20.

AMENDMENT: One bear in Units 6A and 6B from Aug. 20 - June 30 for resident and nonresident hunters.

DISCUSSION: The department believes that the population can withstand additional harvest. The board discussed that the earlier season date may also provide goat hunters in this unit an opportunity to take a black bear.

PROPOSAL NO. 14

ACTION: Failed

DESCRIPTION: Allow proxy hunting for black bear until July 1 in Unit 7.

DISCUSSION: The department reported that additional harvest might be detrimental to the bear population in Unit 7. The Board of Game previously authorized that the proxy law applies only in situations where the game is harvested primarily for food and that currently moose, caribou and deer are the only animals listed for proxy hunts.

PROPOSAL NO. 15

ACTION: Failed.

DESCRIPTION: Extend the black bear baiting season in Units 14A and 14B.

DISCUSSION: The department reported that there is no biological concern at this time for black bear in Units 14A and 14B. The board discussed that this proposal as written could result in an unacceptably high harvest that may cause a decline in black bear density.

PROPOSAL NO. 16

ACTION: Carried as amended

DESCRIPTION: Allow residents and nonresidents to harvest one bear from the day after Labor Day weekend to June 30 in Unit 14C.

AMENDMENT: Add Icicle to Creek and to occur within the upper region only until June 15.

DISCUSSION: The department indicated it has discretionary permit authority. The department reported that a black bear hunt in the Eagle River Management Area where sheep hunting is allowed would likely reduce the number of bear problems in the park and adjacent subdivisions.

PROPOSAL NO. 17

ACTION: Carried as amended

DESCRIPTION: Change spring black bear hunting season closing date in Unit 14C from May 20 to May 31.

AMENDMENT: From Labor Day through May 31.

DISCUSSION: The department and the board agreed that extending the season through May 31 would enable hunters to see more bears and still limit the overlap between hunters and non-hunters in the park.

PROPOSAL NO. 18**ACTION: Carried as amended**

DESCRIPTION: In Units 6A and 6B allow nonresidents to harvest one brown bear per year, instead of one bear every four years.

AMENDMENT: Add Unit 6C

DISCUSSION: The department stated they are seeking means to increase bear harvest in Unit 6.

PROPOSAL NO. 19**ACTION: Failed**

DESCRIPTION: Open a fall registration hunt for brown bears on Montague Island in Unit 6D for resident and nonresidents from Oct. 15 - Nov. 31.

DISCUSSION: The board heard testimony from deer hunters that they encounter nuisance bears near public cabins. The board expressed concern about opening a season because there are a few cabins in the area where bears cause problems. The department suggested allowing a registration hunt rather than a DLP kill or unreported shootings of bear by deer hunters. The board decided that it would be best to err on the conservation side and wait until the next cycle when the bear population will likely increase to 100 animals.

PROPOSAL NO. 20**ACTION: Failed**

DESCRIPTION: Shift brown bear season dates ten days earlier.

DISCUSSION: According to department staff the present regulations for the Kodiak fall brown bear season have been in place since 1976. The board and the department agreed that the proposed change would result in pregnant sows becoming more vulnerable due to denning chronology. The board believes the current season dates protect the pregnant females and that an earlier season opening would result in a higher number of female bears taken.

PROPOSAL NO. 21**ACTION: Failed**

DESCRIPTION: Change the closing date for the fall hunting season for brown bears in Unit 9B from Oct. 21 - Oct. 10.

DISCUSSION: The board discussed that the weather and safety issues are a factor in Unit 9B. The board determined that weather and safety factors are at the discretion of the commercial operator.

PROPOSAL NO. 22**ACTION: Failed**

DESCRIPTION: Expand the Western Alaska Brown Bear Management Area by including Unit 9C.

DISCUSSION: The department reviewed the new information regarding contemporary brown bear use in Unit 9C and concluded that there was little change from the 1987 data reviewed by the Board when they made a negative C & T finding for the area. The board determined that Unit 9C is adjacent to Unit 9B where subsistence users could take one bear every year.

PROPOSAL NO. 23**ACTION: Failed**

DESCRIPTION: In Unit 9C, allow the harvesting of one bear every regulatory year by permit open season: Sept. 20 - Oct. 31, Apr. 15 - May 25.

DISCUSSION: The department reported that the bear population in Unit 9C is healthy. Public Safety staff stated this proposal would make regulations more complex and harder to enforce. The board members discussed that there has been an increase in harvest of bears in the area in the last two years. The board indicated it has a long record of being conservative with brown bear seasons and would like to maintain that record.

PROPOSAL NO. 24**ACTION: Failed**

DESCRIPTION: In Unit 9C, open brown bear hunting under a drawing permit in an area of state-owned land east of the McNeil River State Game Sanctuary boundary.

DISCUSSION: The board discussed that biologically this proposal would not have an impact on the bear population. The board determined that there is opportunity to harvest brown bears in surrounding areas for both resident and non-resident hunters. The board, in its discretion, placed a 5- year moratorium on proposals that deal with hunting of brown bears in the surrounding areas.

PROPOSAL NO. 25 **ACTION:** **No action due to Proposal 24**
DESCRIPTION: In Unit 9C, open all state lands lying east of the eastern boundary of McNeil River Game Refuge and all state lands lying north of federal lands in Katmai National Park, including adjacent tidelands to the hunting of brown bear.
DISCUSSION: See discussion on Proposal 24.

PROPOSAL NO. 26 **ACTION:** **Failed**
DESCRIPTION: In Unit 9E, allow the harvest of one bear every regulatory year, with open seasons from Sept. 25 - Oct. 1, and Apr. 15 - May 25.
DISCUSSION: The department reported that if adopted this proposal would have implications on brown bear populations and dynamics of management objectives. The board agreed that the proposed season dates would more than double the hunting time and that bear harvest would increase. The board members indicated that a brown bear management plan exists in adjacent units..

PROPOSAL NO. 27 **ACTION:** **Failed**
DESCRIPTION: In Unit 9E, allow the harvest of one bear every regulatory year, with open seasons from Sept. 25 - Dec. 31 and Apr. 15 - May 25.
DISCUSSION: The staff reported this proposal, if adopted, it would require issuing registration permits to hunters. The department indicated to the board it believes there would be problems in logistics and administering this type of a regulation, and that it would be an impractical tool to monitor harvest. The board agreed with staff assessment and that noted that the local advisory committees and public were opposed.

PROPOSAL NO. 28 **ACTION:** **Failed**
DESCRIPTION: In Unit 9E, allow residents to harvest one bear every year.
DISCUSSION: The board agreed this proposal was similar to the proposals 26 and 27 and they were not prepared to direct the department to change the brown bear management scheme at this time.

PROPOSAL NO. 29 **ACTION:** **Carried**
DESCRIPTION: Extend the spring season for brown bear in Unit 11 from Aug. 10 - June 15.
DISCUSSION: The department reported that the proposal aligns seasons in Units 11 and 13 and helps alleviate regulatory confusion.

PROPOSAL NO. 30 **ACTION:** **Failed**
DESCRIPTION: In Unit 11, allow residents and nonresidents to harvest one bear every regulatory year between Sept. 1 - Oct. 31 or Apr. 25 - May 31.
DISCUSSION: The board heard from the department that liberalizing the brown bear bag limit in Unit 11 could detract from the on-going efforts to reduce bear numbers in Unit 13.

PROPOSAL NO. 31 **ACTION:** **Carried**
DESCRIPTION: In Unit 13, allow the harvesting of one bear every regulatory year from Aug.10--June 15.
AMENDMENT: One bear every four years in Unit 13E, that portion within the Denali State Park Management Area.
DISCUSSION: The board discussed that there are three different seasons in the area and that aligning the seasons in the park area would help eliminate confusion.

PROPOSAL NO. 32 **ACTION:** **Failed**
DESCRIPTION: Create a brown bear drawing permit hunt in Unit 14C from Sept.15 - May 25.
DISCUSSION: The board heard reports that brown bear hunting has been closed in Chugach State Park since 1973. The department reported that brown bears might be hunted in the remainder of Unit 14C

PROPOSAL NO. 33 **ACTION:** **Failed**
DESCRIPTION: Increase the brown bear bag limit to two bears in a portion of Unit 13 from Aug. 10 - June 15.
DISCUSSION: The board determined successful brown bear hunters in Unit 13 generally only want one bear.

PROPOSAL NO. 34**ACTION: Carried****DESCRIPTION:** In Unit 16B, allow residents and nonresidents to harvest one bear every regulatory year from Aug. 10—May 25. One bear would count against the bag limit in other units.**DISCUSSION:** The department and the board discussed that Unit 16B is a remote area and accessible only by aircraft. The department reported that the earlier opening previously adopted by the board has attracted little interest.**PROPOSAL NO. 35****ACTION: Carried****DESCRIPTION:** Extend the brown bear season in Unit 14B from May 25 to May 31. Also open Sept. 1 instead of Sept. 15.**DISCUSSION:** Department staff indicated that the inaccessibility to most of Unit 14B that the trend in bear populations would remain stable or slightly decline depending on the actual harvest.**PROPOSAL NO. 36****ACTION: Carried****DESCRIPTION:** Allow residents and nonresidents to harvest one brown bear every regulatory year in Unit 17, from Sept. 20 - May 31.**AMENDMENT:** Open general hunting season through winter months with existing start and end dates Sept. 10 - May 25.**DISCUSSION:** The board discussed the existing brown bear season dates in Units 17A and 17B and 17C. The department reported that the brown bear population in Unit 17 is healthy. The board agreed there is no biological reason to delay the season opening dates in Units 17A and 17C.**PROPOSAL NO. 37****ACTION: No action due to Proposal 36****DESCRIPTION:** Change the Unit 17 brown bear hunting season dates to Aug. 20--May 31.**PROPOSAL NO. 38****ACTION: No action due to Proposal 36****DESCRIPTION:** Allow residents and nonresidents to harvest one bear every four regulatory years in Unit 17B, between Sept. 15 - Oct 10 or April 15 - May 25.**PROPOSAL NO. 39****ACTION: Failed****DESCRIPTION:** In Unit 9B from Jan. 1- Apr. 15, allow hunters to harvest caribou the same day they have flown, except that portion in the Lake Clark and Newhalen drainages.**DISCUSSION:** The department commented that the winter same-day-airborne hunting regulation was put in place to allow for more harvest and to slow the growth of the herd. The board agreed that with the SDA hunting in the New Halen/Lake Clarke area local subsistence needs can be met with the present seasons and bag limits.**PROPOSAL NO. 40****ACTION: Failed****DESCRIPTION:** Allow nonresidents to harvest 1 caribou Aug.1 - Apr.15 or 2 caribou, with no more than one bull being taken Aug. 1 - Nov. 30.**DISCUSSION:** The department pointed out that the management scheme for the Mulchatna herd encourages harvest because of the size of the herd and its unpredictable movement. The board agreed adoption of this proposal is contrary to management objectives.**PROPOSAL NO. 41****ACTION: Carried****DESCRIPTION:** Caribou seasons and bag limits for 2001: Residents: one caribou, Sept. 1 - Sept. 30 or Nov. 1 - Mar. 31; nonresidents: one bull Sept. 1 - Sept. 30. Caribou seasons and bag limits for 2002: Residents one caribou Sept. 1 - Sept. 30 or Nov. 1—Mar. 31; nonresidents one bull Sept. 1 - Oct. 10.**AMENDMENT:** One caribou Aug. 10 - Sept. 30 and Nov. 15 - Mar. 31. Nonresident: one bull Sept. 1 - Sept. 30 during odd years, Sept. 1 - Oct. 10, during even years. Delete additional resident/non-resident season proposed.**DISCUSSION:** The staff explained the proposal intent is to create a staggered season. The board agreed to the amended language and determined the amendment would keep the management objectives within the subsistence use patterns, address the user conflict concerns, and tune up the seasons.

PROPOSAL NO. 42

ACTION: Failed

DESCRIPTION: Lengthen the resident caribou hunting season in Unit 9D and change the nonresident bag limit.

DISCUSSION: The board took action on Proposal 41.

PROPOSAL NO. 43

ACTION: Carried

DESCRIPTION: Reopen the caribou hunting season on Unimak Island in Unit 10 and align the season dates with the Unit 9D caribou season.

AMENDMENT: Nonresident open season: Sept. 1 - Sept. 30; Resident: Nov. 15 - Mar. 31.

DISCUSSION: The department reported the 1000 caribou on the island are close to a sustainable number. The one caribou versus one bull provides taking of cows to keep the herd from exceeding the sustainable goal. The board agreed that it would align dates for the same herd in Unit 9D.

PROPOSAL NO. 44

ACTION: No action due to Proposal 43

DESCRIPTION: In Unit 10, Unimak Island only; allow residents to harvest one caribou Aug. 10--Oct.10; allow nonresidents to harvest one bull caribou Sept. 1 - Oct. 10.

PROPOSAL NO. 45

ACTION: Failed

DESCRIPTION: Create an open second season for caribou beginning November 10 in Unit 13.

DISCUSSION: The department indicated that a rut occurs in the month of Oct. and that bull caribou taken during the rut have a problem of palatability. The board expressed concern of wanton waste.

PROPOSAL NO. 46

ACTION: No action due to Proposal 48

DESCRIPTION: Change the hunting regulations to allow for drawing permits for the Nelchina caribou herd and make the subsistence requirements more realistic.

PROPOSAL NO. 47

ACTION: No action due to Proposal 48

DESCRIPTION: Develop a fair drawing system in Unit 13 for applicants of Nelchina caribou hunts.

PROPOSAL NO. 48

ACTION: Failed

DESCRIPTION: Establish a drawing permit system for caribou hunts - one bull per household in Unit 13.

DISCUSSION: The department reported they issued 2000 permits in the year 2000. Reasonable opportunity does not exist, since this is a Tier II hunt. The board determined this action would eliminate the winter season and is illegal.

PROPOSAL NO. 49

ACTION: Failed

DESCRIPTION: Allow for only one Tier II caribou permit per household in Unit 13.

DISCUSSION: The board discussed that in addition to limiting the amount of caribou permits it would also eliminate the winter seasons. The board heard testimony from members of the public who did not obtain a permit, and reports from the department staff in the Glenallen office from permit holders who were not familiar with the Nelchina hunt and were not sure where to hunt. The department of law advised the board that if changes are made to the Tier II permit scoring system that they would best be addressed a statewide meeting.

PROPOSAL NO. 50

ACTION: Carried

DESCRIPTION: Replace the cow caribou drawing permit hunt in the Killey River herd with a registration permit hunt and change the season dates and bag limits and change bull drawing hunt to allow two cows.

DISCUSSION: The department reported lichens are heavily used by caribou and the nutritional status of this herd has declined and the caribou may be over grazing their range. The board agreed that this herd might increase beyond its carrying capacity.

PROPOSAL NO. 51

ACTION: Carried

DESCRIPTION: Allow for a resident registration hunt for moose in Unit 17A in fall to shift dates to start and end five days later.

AMENDMENT: Change the season to Aug. 25 - Sept. 20.

DISCUSSION: The staff gave background information on Unit 17A moose and about the moose management plan that is currently being discussed between the department; Fish and Wildlife Service; local advisory committees, Bristol Bay Federal Regional Council, and residents of the area. The department reported that

moose numbers have not reached the agreed to number of 600 moose to allow a winter hunt. The board supports the fall season based on the information presented. The board stressed their commitment to the committee planning process for this moose herd.

PROPOSAL NO. 52

ACTION: Carried as amended

DESCRIPTION: Change caribou season in Unit 17A from an emergency order to definitive season dates.

AMENDMENT: Add all drainages west of Right Hand Point; resident hunters: 5 caribou; however, no more than 2 bulls may be taken from Oct. 1 - Nov. 30; resident open season: Aug. 1- Mar. 31, no open season for nonresident hunters.

DISCUSSION: The board agreed the intent of the proposal to open the area that was previously opened by emergency order authority may still be utilized in all drainages west of Right Hand Point. The department reported that the current regulations allow them to open caribou season in Unit 17A when large numbers of Mulchatna caribou come into the area. The board determined that the Mulchanta Caribou herd is large and that the management strategy is to encourage harvest and that delaying the season results in reduction of hunting opportunity.

PROPOSAL NO. 53

ACTION: No action due to Proposal 186

DESCRIPTION: Reduce the maximum harvest from four deer to three deer and shorten the season from Dec. 30 - Nov. 30.

PROPOSAL NO. 54

ACTION: Failed

DESCRIPTION: Change the bag limit in Unit 8 from one buck to one deer during Nov. 1 - Nov.14 on the Kodiak road system.

DISCUSSION: The department expressed concern about the decline in deer populations in Unit 8. A subcommittee was formed and it was determined the deer population is significantly below management objectives. The board agreed with the conclusions of the committee, and that this proposal is inconsistent with the committee recommendations.

PROPOSAL NO. 55

ACTION: Carried as amended

DESCRIPTION: Change the mountain goat permit dates in Unit 15C on the Kenai Peninsula.

AMENDMENT: Lengthen drawing permit hunts to end Oct. 15 and start the registration hunts on Nov. 1. Prohibit the taking of nannies with kids.

DISCUSSION: The department believes that due to the interest in this hunt that the proposal may help alleviate over crowding in the areas.

PROPOSAL NO. 56

ACTION: Carried

DESCRIPTION: Prohibit the harvesting of nanny mountain goats that are accompanied by kids in Units 7 and 15.

DISCUSSION: The department indicated that they believe most ethical hunters do not take nanny goats accompanied by kids. The board indicated that the criteria used for sows with cubs should be used for goats. The board discussed that education can be used to address the concerns raised in this proposal which public safety officials reported is hard to enforce.

PROPOSAL NO. 57

ACTION: Failed

DESCRIPTION: In Units 7, 8, 13, 14, and 15 specify a number or percent of the total mountain goat permits to be allocated to guided nonresident hunters.

DISCUSSION: The board expressed concern for populations in areas where there is a subsistence demand that is not being met and that this proposal could cause a significant reduction in resident harvest.

PROPOSAL NO. 58

ACTION: Failed

DESCRIPTION: Allocate three nonresident permits per guide use area where they are overlapped by the state goat areas in Unit 8, SW of a line extending from Uyak Bay to Three Saints Bay.

DISCUSSION: The department pointed out this proposal, as written, would allocate a percentage of drawing permits to non-resident hunters on Southwest Kodiak. The Department of Law commented that this might be construed as favoring nonresidents versus residents. The department staff also pointed that that there is potential

complication as there is a proposal before the federal subsistence board requesting goats be considered a customary and traditional resource for residents of Kodiak, and that all federal lands on Kodiak be open to goat hunting by registration permit. The board agreed that an additional federal subsistence hunt would seriously impact the integrity of the hunts.

PROPOSAL NO. 59 **ACTION: Carried as amended**

DESCRIPTION: Create a drawing permit hunt in Unit 14C with up to 10 permits issued per year for season from Sept. 5 - Oct. 15.

AMENDMENT: Add Eagle River drainage, up to 40 permits overall in Unit 14 C.

DISCUSSION: The department reported that the Eagle River drainage area goat population is high. The board stated this proposal would reduce hunter confusion and resource user conflicts and benefits all users.

PROPOSAL NO. 60 **ACTION: Carried**

DESCRIPTION: Provide a goat drawing permit hunt in Penguin Creek and Bird Creek drainages.

AMENDMENT: Add Bird Creek Drainage, open day after Labor Day , up to 10 permits for area.

DISCUSSION: See discussion on Proposal 59.

PROPOSAL NO. 61 **ACTION: Failed**

DESCRIPTION: Extend the season dates for goat in Unit 14C from Oct. 15 - Oct 31.

DISCUSSION: Anchorage Advisory Committee withdrew proposal.

PROPOSAL NO. 62 **ACTION: No action due to Proposal 59**

DESCRIPTION: Establish a mountain goat hunt in Eagle River Valley vicinity--Icicle Creek.

PROPOSAL NO. 63 **ACTION: Carried**

DESCRIPTION: Reauthorize the existing cow moose season at Berners Bay.

DISCUSSION: The department indicated there is little interchange of moose in or out of this area. Department surveys indicate the moose have neared carrying capacity in the last decade.

PROPOSAL NO. 64 **ACTION: Carried**

DESCRIPTION: Reauthorize the existing antlerless moose season at Nunatak Bench.

DISCUSSION: The department reported a hunt was reopened for this population in 1995. In their report they also stated that the female segment of the herd is capable of sustaining low levels of harvest and that taking cows is necessary to continue herd growth.

PROPOSAL NO. 65 **ACTION: Failed**

DESCRIPTION: Change the nonantlered moose hunt in Bering River, Unit 6A West from a drawing hunt to a registration hunt.

DISCUSSION: Proposal was withdrawn.

PROPOSAL NO. 66 **ACTION: Carried**

DESCRIPTION: Reauthorize the antlerless moose season in Unit 6A.

DISCUSSION: The department reported that numbers suggest the take of moose are consistently about half of the harvest objective. The board also heard from the department that the moose population has not changed over the last 10 years and that bull:cow ratios are good.

PROPOSAL NO. 67 **ACTION: Carried as amended**

DESCRIPTION: Allow Alaska residents to harvest any size bull moose in Unit 6A.

AMENDMENT: Resident hunters: 1 bull with spike-fork antlers

DISCUSSION: The board discussed that the proposal as amended will maintain the trophy hunt while allowing residents to take small yearlings.

PROPOSAL NO. 68 **ACTION: Failed**

DESCRIPTION: Prohibit taking moose the same day airboats are used for transportation and establish an identification number system for airboats in Unit 6A.

DISCUSSION: The board discussed that this area is designated for optimum harvest and that the current population is above the management objectives. The department reported that harvest control is not a problem in Unit 6A, and because access is difficult, airboats are the most efficient method of travel.

PROPOSAL NO. 69**ACTION: Carried****DESCRIPTION:** Reauthorize the antlerless moose season in Unit 6B.**DISCUSSION:** The department reported that no hunt will be authorized in the next regulatory year due to poor calf recruitment in the winter of 1998. The department stated that it anticipates opening the hunt when populations recover.**PROPOSAL NO. 70****ACTION: Carried****DESCRIPTION:** Increase the number of bull permits available and reauthorize the antlerless moose season in Unit 6C.**DISCUSSION:** The department noted that in 1995 it established a population objective of 400 moose by 2006 in Unit 6C. Census results may indicate the population objective may be achieved early. The department indicated it might increase the number of bull permits issued, up to 40, to stabilize the population at the new objective.**PROPOSAL NO. 71****ACTION: Failed****DESCRIPTION:** Change the moose hunting season in Unit 6B to Sept. 1 - Oct. 5 with special transportation restrictions from Sept. 1 - Sept. 15.**DISCUSSION:** The board discussed keeping the season the same to keep conflict at a minimum because of the Sept. 1 waterfowl season opening. The department indicated that waterfowl hunters are allowed the use of motorized access in the same areas where moose hunters would be prohibited. There was discussion that Unit 6B was a designated area to maximize hunter opportunity.**PROPOSAL NO. 72****ACTION: Carried****DESCRIPTION:** Reauthorize the antlerless moose season in a portion of Units 7 and Unit 14C, Portage Valley.**AMENDMENT:** Remove nonresident portion of hunt.**DISCUSSION:** The department reported that without the antlerless hunt the population would likely increase and habitat may be over browsed. The board agreed that viewing is an important activity in this area. The board indicated that the amendment relates to the antlerless portion of the hunt only**PROPOSAL NO. 73****ACTION: Failed****DESCRIPTION:** Create a 36-inch antler maximum limit on moose taken during the December season in Units 9C, 9D, and 9E.**DISCUSSION:** Staff suggested this proposal may have been written in response to the hunting pattern in the winter of 1999. The board extended the winter season in 1999 (a time when moose drop their horns) in response to the Lake Iliamna AC, making the hunt less attractive for trophy hunters. Division of Public Safety reported that this regulation could result in more moose hunting violations. The board agreed with staff assessment and viewed the proposal as a user conflict issue.**PROPOSAL NO. 74****ACTION: Carried****DESCRIPTION:** Reauthorize the antlerless moose season in Unit 9C.**DISCUSSION:** The department reported that the population could sustain a harvest of several cows.**PROPOSAL NO. 75****ACTION: Carries****DESCRIPTION:** Increase the number of drawing permits available for moose in Unit 9D.**DISCUSSION:** The department indicated this proposal is to increase the number of permits issued under the regular drawing and to eliminate the alternate list which is the way most drawing permit hunts are conducted. The board agreed with department staff that with the "up to 20 permits" language there is no concern of over harvest.**PROPOSAL NO. 76****ACTION: Failed****DESCRIPTION:** Change the opening season date for moose in Unit 9E to Sept. 1.**DISCUSSION:** The department indicated that opening the season Sept. 1 might lead to more nonlocals hunting in Unit 9E because of pending restrictions on moose hunting in Southcentral Alaska. The board assessed that moose in Unit 9E have low productivity.

PROPOSAL NO. 77 **ACTION: Failed**
DESCRIPTION: Modify season dates, antler restrictions, and harvest limit for the Dec. moose hunt in Unit 9E to prevent it from becoming a trophy hunt.
DISCUSSION: The board opposed this proposal for the same reasons discussed in Proposal 73. The board also indicated that the additional 50-inch minimum and 36-inch maximum antler size could cause confusion.

PROPOSAL NO. 78 **ACTION: No action due to Proposal 76**
DESCRIPTION: Change the season dates for moose hunts in Unit 9E.

PROPOSAL NO. 79 **ACTION: Carried**
DESCRIPTION: Modify antler restrictions in Unit 13.
DISCUSSION: The department staff discussed with the board that they had experimented on a variety of antler restrictions on moose hunts in the area (spike-fork, spike-fork/50-inch, etc). The department presented information to the board that indicates the existing spike-fork, 50-inch with 3 brown tines does not protect an adequate portion of the bulls to keep the bull:cow ratio within management objectives

PROPOSAL NO. 80 **ACTION: No action due to Proposal 79**
DESCRIPTION: Modify antler restrictions in Unit 13 to help increase bull:cow ratio.

PROPOSAL NO. 81 **ACTION: No action due to Proposal 79**
DESCRIPTION: Modify antler restrictions in Unit 13 to help increase bull:cow ratio.

PROPOSAL NO. 82 **ACTION: No action due to Proposal 98**
DESCRIPTION: Change the antler requirement for harvesting of bull moose in Unit 14 to "any bull".

PROPOSAL NO. 83 **ACTION: Carried as amended**
DESCRIPTION: Change the antler restrictions, hunting regulations, and harvest number for moose in Unit 13 to prevent the destruction of trails and the waste of moose meat.
AMENDMENT: Exclude nonresident portion of hunt in Unit 13; delay implementation until 2002 season.
DISCUSSION: The board discussed its previous considerations to cut down hunter effort and increase predator control. The board heard from the department that a drawing permit hunt would deny 3000 hunters an opportunity to hunt moose in Unit 13. The department also indicated there is a positive customary and traditional finding for moose in Unit 13, and that a drawing hunt for subsistence is not consistent with AS 16.05.258. The board discussed at length a Tier II hunt for his unit. Discussion centered on when the board must take action, defined in statute, to go into a Tier II hunt.

PROPOSAL NO. 84 **ACTION: No action due to Proposal 98**
DESCRIPTION: Change the antler requirement for harvesting of bull moose in Unit 14 to "any bull".

PROPOSAL NO. 85 **ACTION: No action due to Proposal 32**
DESCRIPTION: Create a spring and fall grizzly bear hunt in Unit 14C, Chugach State Park Management Area.

PROPOSAL NO. 86 **ACTION: Carried**
DESCRIPTION: Reauthorize the drawing permit hunts for antlerless moose in Unit 14A and lower number of permits.
DISCUSSION: The board heard from the department that the hunt should continue in this unit so that the population does not grow beyond its habitat.

PROPOSAL NO. 87 **ACTION: Failed**
DESCRIPTION: Reauthorize the antlerless moose season in the Anchorage Management Area in Unit 14C.
DISCUSSION: The board heard from the department that moose in Unit 14C move into the metro area during January and February where high densities of moose cause severe over browsing and cause conflict with humans. The department indicated that the Municipality of Anchorage is planting moose browse in medians throughout the city. The board discussed the department's attempt to educate through the Anchorage Living with Wildlife program.

PROPOSAL NO. 88

ACTION: Carried

DESCRIPTION: Reauthorize the antlerless moose season in the Birchwood Management Area and the remainder of Unit 14C, and lengthen season in portion of the remainder of Unit 14C.

DISCUSSION: The department reported that the extension of the season to Sept. 30 aligns the seasons with those in Unit 14B with other users.

PROPOSAL NO. 89

ACTION: Carried

DESCRIPTION: Reauthorize the antlerless moose hunt on Elmendorf Air Force Base in Unit 14C.

DISCUSSION: The board heard from the department that the density of hunters at Fort Richardson has reached maximum manageable levels and that the Elmendorf hunt provides additional hunter opportunity.

PROPOSAL NO. 90

ACTION: Carried

DESCRIPTION: Reauthorize the antlerless moose season in the Fort Richardson Management Area in Unit 14C.

DISCUSSION: The department reported that this population is close to exceeding carrying capacity and recommended reauthorization of this cow hunt.

PROPOSAL NO. 91

ACTION: No action due to Proposal 98

DESCRIPTION: Modify the hunting regulations for moose in Units 14A and 14B.

PROPOSAL NO. 92

ACTION: Carried as amended

DESCRIPTION: This proposal seeks to establish a reasonable hunting opportunity where all hunters can easily and clearly tell if the moose they are looking at is legal. This establishes an early season archery-only hunt and late season for any antlered bull in Units 14 and 16.

AMENDMENT: Remove all hunts except an archery-only hunt Aug. 10 - Aug. 17; spike-fork, 50-inch with 3 brow tines or greater bulls.

DISCUSSION: The board discussed adding five days at the end of the season, which is an attractive time for moose hunters. The board discussed the amendment that aligns the season dates with the archery season in Unit 14.

PROPOSAL NO. 93

ACTION: No action due to Proposal 98

DESCRIPTION: Modify moose hunting regulations in Unit 14 so hunters can easily tell if bull moose are legal.

PROPOSAL NO. 94

ACTION: No action due to Proposal 98

DESCRIPTION: Modify moose hunting regulations in Units 14 and 16.

PROPOSAL NO. 95

ACTION: No action due to Proposal 92

DESCRIPTION: Re-establish a seven-day any antlered moose legal season in Units 14 and 16.

PROPOSAL NO. 96

ACTION: No action due to Proposal 98

DESCRIPTION: Modify moose hunting regulations and season dates in Units 14A, 14B, and 16A.

PROPOSAL NO. 97

ACTION: No action due to Proposal 98

DESCRIPTION: Eliminate the Dec., spike-fork bull moose season in Units 14A, 14B, and 16A, and increase the number of Nov. 1 - Nov. 15 any-bull drawing permits in Units 14B and 16A.

PROPOSAL NO. 98

ACTION: Carried

DESCRIPTION: Lengthen the late, fall spike-fork, 50-inch bull season and eliminate the any-bull drawing permit hunts and late season spike-fork bull hunts in Units 14A, 14B, and 16A.

DISCUSSION: The department presented information that a decline in moose populations occurs due to deep snow and rising predation on the population. The board agreed that this proposal would remove a significant number of hunting days in the area. The board discussed the cooperation of advisory committees in this area to work together on this issue.

PROPOSAL NO. 99

ACTION: No action due to Proposal 98

DESCRIPTION: Establish an any-antlered moose season of up to seven days long in conjunction with a 15-day spike-fork antler, or 50-inch antler, or three-brow tine antler restricted season.

PROPOSAL NO. 100 **ACTION:** **No action due to Proposal 98**
DESCRIPTION: Modify antler restrictions for moose in Units 14 and 16.

PROPOSAL NO. 101 **ACTION:** **No action due to Proposal 92**
DESCRIPTION: Establish a hunting opportunity where hunters can easily and clearly tell if moose are legal.

PROPOSAL NO. 102 **ACTION:** **No action due to Proposal 98**
DESCRIPTION: Modify hunting regulations and season dates for moose in Units 14 and 16.

PROPOSAL NO. 103 **ACTION:** **Carried**
DESCRIPTION: Reauthorize the antlerless moose season in a portion of Unit 15C.
DISCUSSION: The department reported that there is severe over browsing in this area. The department also stated they have initiated a program to improve habitat conditions on the Homer Benchlands moose population. The goals are to reduce the moose population to allow browse to recover.

PROPOSAL NO. 104 **ACTION:** **Carried**
DESCRIPTION: Reauthorize the antlerless moose season in the Skilak Loop Wildlife Management Area of Unit 15A.
DISCUSSION: The department stated that this management area is a wintering area for moose and during severe winters there are more than twice the desired resident population.

PROPOSAL NO. 105 **ACTION:** **No action due to Proposal 113**
DESCRIPTION: Close moose season on Kalgin Island on Sept. 10.

PROPOSAL NO. 106 **ACTION:** **No action due to Proposal 112**
DESCRIPTION: Modify the hunting regulations for moose in Unit 16B to make system more fair and honest.

PROPOSAL NO. 107 **ACTION:** **No action due to Proposal 112**
DESCRIPTION: Modify the hunting regulations for moose in Unit 16B to help increase moose population.

PROPOSAL NO. 108 **ACTION:** **No action due to Proposal 34**
DESCRIPTION: Modify bag limits for brown bear in Units 16A and 16B.

PROPOSAL NO. 109 **ACTION:** **No action due to Proposal 98**
DESCRIPTION: Modify hunting regulations and seasons for moose in Units 16A and 16B.

PROPOSAL NO. 110 **ACTION:** **No action due to Proposal 113**
DESCRIPTION: Terminate all moose hunts in Kalgin Island by Sept. 10.

PROPOSAL NO. 111 **ACTION:** **No action due to Proposal 113**
DESCRIPTION: Modify hunting regulations for moose in Unit 16B--Kalgin Island.

PROPOSAL NO. 112 **ACTION:** **Carried as amended**
DESCRIPTION: Modify hunting regulations and season dates for Tier II subsistence moose hunt in Unit 16.
AMENDMENT: Delete the general season hunt in mainland Unit 16B, establish a fall Tier II season in combination with the winter Tier II hunt.
DISCUSSION: The board recognized the need for fall and winter seasons to meet subsistence needs. The department reported that the bull moose segment in this population is declining and that bull harvest in the next two years and along with the decline will raise concerns about future recruitment, and force an even more restrictive Tier II hunt.

PROPOSAL NO. 113 **ACTION:** **Carried**
DESCRIPTION: Reauthorize the antlerless moose hunt on Kalgin Island in Unit 16B and shorten the season length.
DISCUSSION: The department reported that Kalgin Island has no natural predators. The department reported a concern of over population and deteriorating habitat conditions

PROPOSAL NO. 114 **ACTION:** **Carried**
DESCRIPTION: Require that nonresident moose hunts in Unit 19 be either by registration or drawing permit only for all game management units where moose have been identified as important for providing high levels of human consumptive use.

AMENDMENT: Clarify the area description. Nonresident season Sept. 5 - Sept. 20 by drawing permit only; up to 50 permits may be issued in all of Unit 19A. Nonresident season in Unit 19B by drawing permit only, up to 225 permits may be issued for the Sept. 1 - Sept. 25 season.

DISCUSSION: The department and the board discussed at length the implications of this proposal. The department expressed concerns about nonresident, non-guided hunters being at a disadvantage. The department also discussed with the board costs concerning fee revenues. The board discussed drafting a bill that would allow for reinstatement of the Big Game Guide Services Board. The board agreed this regulation would be implemented for the 2002 season..

PROPOSAL NO. 115 **ACTION: Deferred to the May BOG meeting**

DESCRIPTION: Reopen an area known as the remainder of Unit 19D to moose hunting for nonresident hunters.

PROPOSAL NO. 116 **ACTION: Carried**

DESCRIPTION: Reauthorize the antlerless moose hunting season in Unit 19A.

DISCUSSION: The board heard from the department that recent surveys indicate the population in Unit 19A is capable of sustaining cow hunts.

PROPOSAL NO. 117 **ACTION: Deferred to the May BOG meeting**

DESCRIPTION: Reauthorize moose hunting to nonresidents in the remainder of Unit 19D.

PROPOSAL NO. 118 **ACTION: Deferred to the May BOG meeting**

DESCRIPTION: Reauthorize moose hunting to nonresidents in the southern portion of Unit 19D.

PROPOSAL NO. 119 **ACTION: Carried**

DESCRIPTION: Reauthorize antlerless moose hunting seasons in Unit 20A.

DISCUSSION: The department reported that the moose population is currently stable unit wide.

PROPOSAL NO. 120 **ACTION: Carried**

DESCRIPTION: Reauthorize antlerless moose hunting seasons in Unit 20B within the Fairbanks Management Area and the Minto Flats Management Area.

DISCUSSION: The department surveys indicate a high moose density and high productivity. The antlerless hunt provides opportunity to harvest from the abundant female moose population and helps reduce vehicle/moose collisions and nuisance moose problems.

PROPOSAL NO. 121 **ACTION: Carried as amended**

DESCRIPTION: Reauthorize antlerless moose hunting for the winter season only in Unit 21D.

AMENDMENT: Five-day season to be announced by emergency order during the Feb. 1 - Feb. 28 period for resident hunters.

DISCUSSION: The department reported that recruitment rates are declining and a more conservative approach on the reproductive portion of the population is needed in some areas.

PROPOSAL NO. 122 **ACTION: Carried**

DESCRIPTION: Reauthorize the antlerless moose hunting season in Unit 21E.

DISCUSSION: The department reported that the harvest is minimum and that the population is capable of sustaining an antlerless harvest.

PROPOSAL NO. 123 **ACTION: Carried**

DESCRIPTION: Reauthorize the antlerless moose seasons in Unit 22C, a portion of Unit 22D, and in Unit 22E.

DISCUSSION: The board agreed with department reports that in Unit 22C the registration hunt works well and agreed to retain the antlerless hunt. In Unit 22D, the board discussed that in the most accessible portions of Unit 22D recruitment continues to be low and recommend that the river drainages remain closed to antlerless moose hunting.

PROPOSAL NO. 124 **ACTION: Carried**

DESCRIPTION: Reauthorize the antlerless moose seasons in Unit 23.

DISCUSSION: The department reported that harvest of cows remains low throughout Unit 23.

PROPOSAL NO. 125**ACTION: Carried****DESCRIPTION:** Reauthorize antlerless moose hunting for the winter seasons only in Unit 24.**AMENDMENT:** Remove Mar. 1 - Mar. 10 portion of resident hunt, all drainages to the north of the Koyukuk River upstream from and including the John River drainage, to and including the north fork of the Koyukuk drainage, except that portion of the John River drainage within the Gates of the Arctic National Park.**DISCUSSION:** The department indicated that there was confusion over the antlerless season dates in Units 24 and adjacent Unit 21D that resulted in an over harvest of cows within the Koyukuk Controlled Use Area. The department noted that surveys estimates in Unit 24 indicate that a more conservative harvest on the reproductive portion of the population is necessary. The antlerless season was authorized for the winter hunt only.**PROPOSAL NO. 126****ACTION: Failed****DESCRIPTION:** Modify hunting regulations for Dall sheep in Units 13 and 14.**DISCUSSION:** The department gave evidence that recent harsh winters have decreased the sheep numbers and the competition for the remaining sheep will increase. The board looked at the options presented and agreed that benefits of this proposal would be marginal and difficult to implement.**PROPOSAL NO. 127****ACTION: Carried as amended****DESCRIPTION:** In the preserve portion of Unit 11, change any sheep to 3/4-inch curl ram for non-federal subsistence users.**AMENDMENT:** Eliminate the harvest of ewes - any ram legal.**DISCUSSION:** The department reported that a previous board reviewed this population in 1989 and made a positive customary and traditional use finding for sheep. The Department of Law advised the board to consider whether or not the 3/4-inch curl requirement would allow for a reasonable subsistence harvest. The board agreed that elimination of the ewe harvest could alleviate biological concerns for productivity.**PROPOSAL NO. 128****ACTION: Failed****DESCRIPTION:** Modify the Unit 11 resident sheep bag limit to allow more hunting opportunity without jeopardizing and possibly even enhancing sheep population growth.**DISCUSSION:** The department gave information to the board that indicates unless harvests are drastically under reported hunting is not the reason for the decline in sheep in the area. The board agreed that an any sheep hunt may create a Tier II situation.**PROPOSAL NO. 129****ACTION: Failed****DESCRIPTION:** Open closed areas of Unit 14C, or portions thereof, to a youth-oriented ewe hunt.**DISCUSSION:** The board discussed that Unit 14C offers some of the most popular sheep hunting in the state and at the same time allows many non-consumptive users viewing opportunity.**PROPOSAL NO. 130****ACTION: Failed****DESCRIPTION:** Extend the hunting season for ptarmigan in Unit 13.**DISCUSSION:** The department reported that in 1997 the board adopted a region-wide approach to ptarmigan management. The board indicated there is ample opportunity for harvest.**PROPOSAL NO. 131****ACTION: Failed****DESCRIPTION:** Change the closing date for ptarmigan season from Aug. 10 - Aug. 25 in Unit 13.**DISCUSSION:** See discussion for proposal 130.**PROPOSAL NO. 132****ACTION: Failed****DESCRIPTION:** Modify bag limits for Tribe Mergini (Sea Ducks) in Units 5-7, 9, 10, (Unimak Island only), and Units 14—16 (except Unimak Island).**DISCUSSION:** The department reported that in 1999, US Fish and Wildlife service, and the board responded to concerns about the decline in some species of sea ducks in Alaska by putting modest restrictions on resident and nonresident bag limits. The department stated they do not believe further restrictions are warranted for the coastal zone. The board requested that members of the community, scientists, biologists proceed in further discussions and report back to the board with a consensus of appropriate actions to deal with this proposal. The board chair appointed a committee titled, Kachemak Bay Sea Duck Management Committee.

PROPOSAL NO. 133

ACTION: Failed

DESCRIPTION: Modify bag limits for Tribe Mergini (Sea Ducks) in Units 8 and 10 (except Unimak Island).

DISCUSSION: See discussion for Proposal 132. The department reported that Kodiak has a large wintering bird population. The department reported that scoters and eiders in this area are used for subsistence.

PROPOSAL NO. 134

ACTION: Carried

DESCRIPTION: Establish registration hunt Sept. 1 - Oct. 31 for one Tundra swan in Unit 17.

AMENDMENT: Action is contingent on federal approval.

DISCUSSION: The department indicated support for a hunting season for tundra swans in Unit 17 but federal waterfowl framework regulations do not allow this. The department indicated that if board were to adopt this regulation, the department will seek support from the Pacific Flyway Council and the US Fish and Wildlife service regulation committee to adopt in August of 2001.

PROPOSAL NO. 135

ACTION: Failed

DESCRIPTION: Legalize the hunting of magpies in Units 6 - 17.

DISCUSSION: The department reported that magpies are not considered game birds and under federal law they are protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. The board agreed it does not have the authority to open a general hunting season due to federal restrictions.

PROPOSAL NO. 136

ACTION: Carried

DESCRIPTION: Allow hunters who are 12-15 years of age, and have successfully completed a certified hunter education course, to hunt for a Unit 13 Tier II caribou permit holder, under the direct immediate supervision of the Unit 13 Tier II caribou permit holder.

AMENDMENT: Resident hunter 12 - 17 years of age at the start of the hunt, and successfully completing a certified Hunter Education course, is allowed to hunt on behalf of an adult Unit 13 Tier II caribou permit holder, under the direct immediate supervision of the permit holder, who is responsible for insuring that all legal requirements are met.

DISCUSSION: The board discussed that this regulation will allow young hunters who are currently excluded from legally participating in this hunt.

PROPOSAL NO. 137

ACTION: Failed

DESCRIPTION: Require nonresidents who hunt Dall sheep, mountain goat, or brown bear (except brown bear in Unit 13), to hire and be accompanied in the field by an Alaska licensed guide or be accompanied in the field by an Alaska resident 19 years or older who is within the second degree of kindred.

DISCUSSION: This change requires statutory authority.

PROPOSAL NO. 138

ACTION: Carried as amended

DESCRIPTION: Require nonresident hunters for caribou in Unit 17 to go through an orientation.

AMENDMENT: Delete the trophy recognition and meat care from the education requirement.

DISCUSSION: The department stated the intent of this proposal is to address that a nonresident hunter must attend a department approved hunter orientation course, primarily aimed at trophy recognition and meat care. The department pointed out the cost associated with the present similar program in Unit 19. The board discussed that education equals better protection of the resource.

PROPOSAL NO. 139

ACTION: Carried

DESCRIPTION: Require unguided nonresident hunters for moose in Unit 17B to go through an orientation training.

DISCUSSION: See discussion for Proposal 138.

PROPOSAL NO. 140

ACTION: Failed

DESCRIPTION: Except for those individuals who are physically disabled, you may not hunt or assist someone else to take big game in Unit 13 until 3AM the following day you have been transported off the primary/secondary road system by an off-road vehicle.

DISCUSSION: Public safety officials commented that the area proposed is so huge it would be impossible to enforce. The board agreed that this proposal does not address a biological concern but rather what some consider unethical hunting practices.

PROPOSAL NO. 141 **ACTION: Failed**

DESCRIPTION: Ban the use of off-road vehicles in Unit 13.

DISCUSSION: See discussion for Proposal 140.

PROPOSAL NO. 142 **ACTION: Failed**

DESCRIPTION: Require hunters to obtain a separate harvest ticket to hunt moose in Unit 13.

DISCUSSION: The board stated this proposal should be considered on a statewide basis. The board discussed that, in the past, the legislature has expressed concerns about passing regulations such as this.

PROPOSAL NO. 143 **ACTION: No action due to Proposal 142**

DESCRIPTION: Require hunters to choose either a statewide moose harvest ticket or a restrictive harvest ticket that limits the hunter to moose hunting only in Unit 13.

PROPOSAL NO. 144 **ACTION: Carried as amended**

DESCRIPTION: Reauthorize the brown bear tag fee exemption in the Western Alaska Brown Bear Management Area, the Northwest Alaska Brown Bear Management Area, and the Chignik Brown Bear Management Area.

AMENDMENT: Add Unit 22 for resident tag exemption.

DISCUSSION: The board and the department discussed that tag fees are deterrents for some resident hunters who are primarily hunting for food. The board agreed that the brown bear population is higher than desired and predation on moose calves is believed to be depressing moose populations in many parts of the unit. The board discussed that eliminating the tag fee allows hunters to harvest unit wide.

PROPOSAL NO. 145 **ACTION: Failed**

DESCRIPTION: Reauthorize the exemption of the \$25 tag fee for grizzly bears in Unit 11.

DISCUSSION: The board discussed that eliminating the tag fee for bear in Unit 11 could detract from the ongoing efforts to reduce bear in Unit 13. If the same number of bears are taken in Unit 13 where ungulate numbers are high it would have a greater effect on the ungulate population. The board discussed that, if adopted, the overall impact on bear abundance will be negligible.

PROPOSAL NO. 146 **ACTION: Carried**

DESCRIPTION: Reauthorize the brown bear tag fee exemption in Unit 13.

DISCUSSION: The board determined that it is necessary to reduce brown bear predation on moose calves.

PROPOSAL NO. 147 **ACTION: Carried**

DESCRIPTION: Reauthorize the current exemption for brown bear tag fee in Unit 19D.

DISCUSSION: The department recommended continuing the tag fee exemption.

PROPOSAL NO. 148 **ACTION: Carried**

DESCRIPTION: Reauthorize the current resident tag fee exemption for brown bear in portions of Unit 20D.

DISCUSSION: The board discussed its previous actions that approved intensive management in this area and that reauthorization of the current tag fee exemption in this unit will allow for increased hunting opportunity.

PROPOSAL NO. 149 **ACTION: Carried**

DESCRIPTION: Reauthorize the current resident tag fee exemption for brown bear in Unit 25D.

DISCUSSION: The department stated there is a low harvest of brown bear in this area.

PROPOSAL NO. 150 **ACTION: No action due to Proposal 49**

DESCRIPTION: Restrict Tier II Nelchina caribou herds to one per household.

DISCUSSION: The board discussed that the issue of Tier II Permit Scoring should be taken up at the statewide 2002 meeting.

PROPOSAL NO. 151 **ACTION: No action due to Proposal 136**
DESCRIPTION: In Unit 13, when Tier II permits are limited by household, allow any-qualified-to-hunt member of the household harvest the animal allowed by the permit if accompanied in the field by the permit holder.

PROPOSAL NO. 152 **ACTION: No action**
DESCRIPTION: Change the hunting season dates on Walrus Island from Sept. 20 - Oct. 20 to Sept. 10 -Oct. 10.
DISCUSSION: This proposal was withdrawn.

PROPOSAL NO. 153 **ACTION: Deferred to the Fall 2001 BOG meeting**
DESCRIPTION: Airboats may not be used for hunting brown bear by a commercial operation in Unit 9.
DISCUSSION: This proposal was deferred to the Fall 2001 board meeting.

PROPOSAL NO. 154 **ACTION: Carried**
DESCRIPTION: Adopt clarifications between 5 AAC 92.080 (4) and 5 AAC 92.080 (10).
AMENDMENT: ... (4) Unless otherwise provided in this chapter, ... and a snowmachine may be used to take wolves in wolf control implementation areas...and a snowmachine may be used to take game as described in (4) of this section....
DISCUSSION: The department indicated this is a housekeeping proposal to correct confusion for hunters, law enforcement, and the public. The enforcement division wanted to clarify the intent of the board's previous action on this proposal. The board agreed it was not their intent to allow motorized vehicles to be used as a shooting platform. The board also amended 5 AAC 92.990. Definitions. (66) "motorized land vehicle" means any motorized vehicle operated on land, and includes hovercraft and airboats; (67) "boat" means any vehicle, vessel, or watercraft operated in or on water deep enough to float it at rest and includes hovercraft, airboats, personal watercraft, and amphibious vehicles; (68) "inboard motor" includes any motor located within the confines of the boat. The board agreed the amendment to this regulation would clarify the confusion.

PROPOSAL NO. 155 **ACTION: Failed**
DESCRIPTION: Allow communications equipment to be used for safety purposes only, except wolves in areas where wolf control implementation plans have been adopted by the Board of Game.
DISCUSSION: The board discussed that other hunting seasons occur for other species and determined that the use of radios could be abused by people who claim they are hunting wolves. Public safety officials indicated enforcement would be difficult.

PROPOSAL NO. 156 **ACTION: Carried**
DESCRIPTION: Restrict the use of fish or fish parts for baiting black bears in Units 7 and 15.
DISCUSSION: The board expressed support for the Kenai Peninsula Brown Bear Stakeholders Group. One of the group's recommendations was to prohibit use of fish or fish parts for black bear baiting and this recommendation required board action.

PROPOSAL NO. 157 **ACTION: Failed**
DESCRIPTION: Prohibit same-day-airborne caribou hunting in Unit 9B.
DISCUSSION: See discussion for Proposal 39.

PROPOSAL NO. 158 **ACTION: Carried**
DESCRIPTION: Allow same-day-airborne caribou hunting in Unit 8 from Jan. 1—Dec. 31, provided the hunter is at least 300 feet from the airplane at the time of taking.
DISCUSSION: The department reported that the board declared this herd feral with no closed season and unlimited harvest. The board agreed that elimination of SDA restrictions would improve hunter success. The department indicated that that proposal would also align aircraft restrictions for Kodiak reindeer hunters with those in place for deer hunters on the island.

PROPOSAL NO. 159 **ACTION: Failed**
DESCRIPTION: Prohibit shooting of big game from boats in Unit 6.

DISCUSSION: The department requested the board take this issue back to the advisory committees and to the public for further study of biological and ethical concerns.

PROPOSAL NO. 160 **ACTION: Failed**

DESCRIPTION: Allow the use of snowmachines in Unit 17 for the pursuit and harvesting of wolves.

DISCUSSION: The department presented evidence that wolf numbers in Unit 17 are healthy and increasing. The department reported that this action would not significantly increase harvest. The board considered action might cause adverse public perception.

PROPOSAL NO. 161 **ACTION: Carried**

DESCRIPTION: Provide population and harvest objectives for moose, caribou, and deer populations in Units 6-11 and Units 13-17 that are identified as important for high levels of human consumptive use.

AMENDMENT: Unit 14C to a lower harvest objective.

DISCUSSION: See attachment "A" for the population and harvest objectives for moose, caribou, and deer adopted by the board.

PROPOSAL NO. 162 **ACTION: Failed**

DESCRIPTION: Establish an area in Unit 9 for active management of wolf populations.

DISCUSSION: In 1999, the board reduced resident hunting opportunity. The department determined that the population decline is driven as much by nutritional and range factors as much as by predation and concluded that a wolf control program on its own would not reduce mortality on calves and adult caribou enough to reverse the decline. The board agreed with the department's conclusions

PROPOSAL NO. 163 **ACTION: Failed**

DESCRIPTION: Establish a wolf predator control implementation plan for all of Unit 16B.

DISCUSSION: The board discussed predation in this area. A Tier II Permit hunt has been established in this area.

PROPOSAL NO. 164 **ACTION: Failed**

DESCRIPTION: Allow nonresident hunters to harvest one brown bear yearly.

DISCUSSION: The board agreed that there is not good reason for allowing nonresidents more liberal bag limit than locals. The board agreed to continue its conservative approach.

PROPOSAL NO. 165 **ACTION: No action due to Proposal 34**

DESCRIPTION: Allow the harvesting of one brown bear every regulatory year in Units 16A and 16B.

DISCUSSION:

PROPOSAL NO. 166 **ACTION: Carried**

DESCRIPTION: Clarify 5 AAC 92.220(h) and 5 AAC 92.140 in regards to March 2000 District Court decision.

DISCUSSION: The board discussed that this proposal will allow law enforcement officers to cite individuals who possess and transport illegally taken game or parts of game no matter what the circumstances of the take are.

PROPOSAL NO. 167 **ACTION: Failed**

DESCRIPTION: Require hunters to salvage the meat from harvested black bear in Unit 6.

DISCUSSION: The board discussed the quality of meat in the fall is less desirable than in the spring. The board indicated bears are abundant in Unit 6. The board and the department agreed that the most effect method to reduce harvest is to close the spring season earlier.

PROPOSAL NO. 168 **ACTION: Failed**

DESCRIPTION: Impose and enforce standards for approved bear-proof outdoor residential garbage and trash containers.

DISCUSSION: The board heard testimony that there is a problem with bears and residential garbage. The department stated they believe a better approach to nuisance animals is a cooperative effort between municipalities, the department, wildlife protection officers, and public safety officials.

PROPOSAL NO. 169

ACTION: Failed

DESCRIPTION: Prohibit hunting and trapping on or next to roads and designated trails in Units 14A, 14C, and 7.

DISCUSSION: The department reported that hunting and trapping in these units is regulated to avoid user conflicts. The board appointed a committee to seek out comments from a variety of users including affected local advisory committees. The board will then take up the committee's recommendations at its next regularly scheduled meeting in the Southcentral region.

PROPOSAL NO. 170

ACTION: Failed

DESCRIPTION: Create a wildlife viewing sanctuary in Kachemak Bay.

DISCUSSION: The department explained there is a conservative system of management in this area. The board stated the regulations on the Kenai Wildlife Refuge, the Chugach National Forest and Alaska State Parks allow for recreation opportunities.

PROPOSAL NO. 171

ACTION: Failed

DESCRIPTION: Close Overlook Park in Unit 15C to all hunting.

DISCUSSION: The department stated that this area is closed to the discharge of weapons under state parks regulations.

PROPOSAL NO. 172

ACTION: Failed

DESCRIPTION: Create a Kachemak Bay Sea Duck sanctuary or special management area.

DISCUSSION: The board heard testimony for support of this proposal. The board recommended that a committee of scientists, and local concerned citizens put together data specific to the Kachemak Bay area and bring back a sea duck management plan to the board in two years. The board chair assigned a board member to chair this committee.

PROPOSAL NO. 173

ACTION: Failed

DESCRIPTION: Create a management area in Unit 13.

DISCUSSION: The board discussed that this proposal is asking for a closure specifically for public safety reasons. The board stated that in the past they have asked local communities to deal with safety issues. The Department of law advised that the board may not create a regulation that deals only with public safety concerns.

PROPOSAL NO. 174

ACTION: Failed

DESCRIPTION: Create a mountain goat sanctuary in Unit 15C.

DISCUSSION: See discussion on Proposal 170. The board also suggested the proponent could involve the Kachemak Advisory Board.

PROPOSAL NO. 175

ACTION: Failed

DESCRIPTION: Allow hunting with certain handguns in Unit 14.

DISCUSSION: The board discussed the many safety concerns associated with this proposal.

PROPOSAL NO. 176

ACTION: Failed

DESCRIPTION: Expand the boundary of the Unit 13 Wolf Predation Control Implementation Plan to include the portion west of the railroad.

DISCUSSION: The department reported that there would be no biological consequences to this proposal. The department indicated that the area west of the Alaska Railroad suffers from declining moose and caribou populations. The board discussed that the use of aircraft would not be allowed on federal land in the area and land in the Denali State Park would have restrictions as well.

PROPOSAL NO. 177

ACTION: Failed

DESCRIPTION: Establish a new controlled use area with restricted motor access for big game hunting in Unit 13 for the month of August.

DISCUSSION: The department referred the board to the ORV Committee Report. The report recommends not portioning ORV use in area and space because of enforcement, crowding, and displacement problems

PROPOSAL NO. 178 **ACTION: Failed**
DESCRIPTION: Establish a Talkeetna Mountains Controlled Use Area in a portion of Units 13A and 13E.
AMENDMENT: Prohibit off-road vehicle use in regulatory years 2001/2002 and 2002/2003.
DISCUSSION: See discussion on Proposal 177. The Department of Law reminded the board the legislature has question similar regulations.

PROPOSAL NO. 179 **ACTION: Failed**
DESCRIPTION: Establish a controlled use area for the watersheds of Nicolai Creek and MacArthur River.
DISCUSSION: See discussion for action taken on Proposal 112.

PROPOSAL NO. 180 **ACTION: Failed**
DESCRIPTION: Allow the use of off-road vehicles to retrieve game in the Clearwater Creek Controlled Use Area.

DISCUSSION: The department reported hunters know that motorized access is not allowed to transport game in this area and that they make appropriate hunting plans. Department of Public Safety testified that this regulation would cause problems. The board agreed that if hunters wish to use an ORV to hunt in Unit 13 there are other areas to do it legally.

PROPOSAL NO. 181 **ACTION: Failed**
DESCRIPTION: Allow use of off-road vehicles to retrieve game in the Tonsina Controlled Use Area.
DISCUSSION: See discussion for Proposal 180. The board also discussed that hunting pressure would increase dramatically if hunters were able to use ORVs to pack animals out.

PROPOSAL NO. 182 **ACTION: Failed**
DESCRIPTION: Repeal the Lower Kenai Controlled Use Area.
DISCUSSION: The department reported that the board established this controlled use area in 1995 at the department's request. The justification for the restriction was to stop increasing trend in moose harvest in Unit 15C. The increasing trend, according to the department, was at a time when ATVs were becoming popular in the area. The department reported that when the spike-fork, 50-inch regulation came into effect the season was changed to two, four-day closures.

PROPOSAL NO. 183 **ACTION: Failed**
DESCRIPTION: Expand area covered in Lower Kenai Controlled Use Area.
DISCUSSION: The board heard testimony that there are serious habitat concerns due to ATV use. The department indicated this proposal is a fisheries management decision and not within the normal jurisdiction of the Board of Game and that the Board of Fisheries may not have authority to control ATV use for hunting purposes; this may be an issue for the Joint Board.

PROPOSAL NO. 184 **ACTION: Failed**
DESCRIPTION: Close Overlook Park to all trapping.
DISCUSSION: See discussion on Proposal 171. The board indicated that the Kachemak Bay Conservation Society can work with the state parks on this issue. The board agreed to draft a letter to the Kachemak Bay Conservation Society and ask that they come up with a process to work on this issue locally.

PROPOSAL NO. 185 **ACTION: Failed**
DESCRIPTION: Close designated areas to trapping in Unit 6.
DISCUSSION: The board heard testimony that in the last few years there have been several dogs caught in traps in Unit 6. The board agreed that education is need for trappers and non-trappers in the area. The department indicated it would meet with the Forest Service and with public safety officials to work on education efforts. The board encouraged people on both sides of the issue to try to come up with a compromise. The board also asked that pet owners, trappers, trail advocates, Forest Service and city representatives identify problem areas and try to find agreeable solutions.

PROPOSAL NO. 186 **ACTION: Carried**
DESCRIPTION: Reduce the bag limit for deer in Unit 8.

AMENDMENT: Reduce bag limit to one buck on road system area; in remainder of unit reduce total number of deer allowed from 4 to 3, and reduce the season to one month (Dec.).

DISCUSSION: The department indicated this proposal was a result of cooperative meetings between the Kodiak Advisory Committee, the department, and Fish and Wildlife Service. The department explained that this deer population experienced a serious decline in 1998 and 1999. The decline led to the formation of a committee with the Kodiak AC. The committee reported that a reduction in bag limits is necessary to restore the population as quickly as possible. The committee will revisit the issue in 2003.

PROPOSAL NO. 187 **ACTION: Carried**

DESCRIPTION: Delay the start of the elk hunting season on the Afognak and Ban Island portions of Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge until Oct. 5.

AMENDMENT: Modify a portion of the registration hunt located in Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. Season will open Oct. 5 instead of Sept. 25.

DISCUSSION: The department commented that the intent of the proposal is to align state and federal seasons. The department pointed out that this proposal is the product of a coordinated effort between the Kodiak Advisory Committee, the department, and the Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge to correct a potential situation that could be created by the federal subsistence elk hunt starting three weeks before the other elk hunts on Afognak. The department reported this is a companion proposal to one that was submitted to the Federal Subsistence Board. The board agreed that if both proposals are adopted the state season on federal lands on Afognak would not start until Oct. 5 but the subsistence season would start on Sept. 25 and give subsistence hunters a 10-day advantage.

PROPOSAL NO. 188 **ACTION: Failed.**

DESCRIPTION: Shorten the nonresident moose hunting seasons by five days in Units 13A, 13B, and 13E, lengthen the resident hunt by five days (same areas) and modify the antler restriction for all of Unit 13.

DISCUSSION: See discussion on proposal 79.

PROPOSAL NO. 189 **ACTION: No action**

DESCRIPTION: Ladue River Controlled Use Area, Units 13 and 20 closed from Sept. 1 - Sept. 30

DISCUSSION: Withdrawn by the department.

AGENDA CHANGE REQUESTS:

The board accepted an Agenda Change Request from the Federal Subsistence Board to put shooting from a boat in Game Management Unit 4 on its agenda for the Fall 2001 meeting in Kotzebue.

The board agreed to put the Tier II Permit Scoring System on its Statewide 2001 meeting agenda.

PETITIONS:

The board deferred a petition from the Central Kuksokwim Advisory asking the board to adopt a wolf control implementation plan in Unit 19A to the Special Board of Game meeting on May 20-21, 2001 in Fairbanks.

TENTATIVE MEETING DATES FOR THE UPCOMING BOARD CYCLE:

Fall 2001	Arctic Region	November 2 - 6	Kotzebue
Winter 2002	Statewide	January 18 - 23	Anchorage
Spring 2002	Interior Region	March 8 - 18	Fairbanks

**BOARD OF GAME FINDINGS FOR INTENSIVE MANAGEMENT – SOUTHCENTRAL REGION -
MARCH 2001 (Proposal 161) ATTACHMENT "A"**

DEER population	Finding of importance for high levels of human consumptive use	Population objective	Harvest objective	Comments
GMU 6	Positive	24,000-28,000	2,200-3,000	
GMU 8	Positive	70,000-75,000	8,000-8,500	

CARIBOU population	Finding of importance for high levels of human consumptive use	Population objective	Harvest objective	Comments
Mulchatna	Positive	100,000-150,000	6,000-15,000	
Nelchina				no change
Northern AK Peninsula	Positive	12,000-15,000	800-1,500	
Southern AK Peninsula	Positive	4,000-5,000	200-500	

MOOSE population	Finding of importance for high levels of human consumptive use	Population objective	Harvest objective	Comments
GMU 9B	Positive	2,000-2,500	100-250	
GMU 9C & 9E	Positive	3,000-3,700	165-320	
GMU 12	Positive			no change
GMU 13A	Positive	3,500-4,200	210-420	
GMU 13B	Positive	5,300-6,300	310-620	
GMU 13C	Positive	2,600-3,500	155-350	
GMU 13D	Positive	1,200-1,900	75-190	
GMU 13E	Positive	5,000-6,000	300-600	
GMU 14A	Positive	6,000-6,500	360-750	
GMU 14B	Positive	2,500-2,800	100-200	
GMU 14C	Positive	1,500-1,800	90-270	Amend - lower harvest objectives
GMU 15A	Positive	3,000-3,500	180-350	
GMU 15B	Negative			
GMU 15C	Positive	2,500-3,500	200-350	
GMU 16A	Positive	3,500-4,000	190-360	
GMU 16B (mainland)	Positive	6,500-7,500	310-600	
GMU 17B	Positive	4,900-6,000	200-400	
GMU 17C	Positive	2,800-3,500	165-350	