

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH & GAME
Boards Support Section
PO Box 25526
Juneau AK 99802-5526



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JUNEAU, AK

**ALASKA BOARD OF GAME
FALL 2001 MEETING
NOVEMBER 2—6, 2001
KOTZEBUE, ALASKA**

FIRST CLASS MAIL

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O.E.O

**U.S. Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240**

If you are a person with a disability who may need a special accommodation in order to participate in the process on the proposed regulations, please contact the Boards Support Section at (907) 465-4110 no later than October 19, 2001 to make any necessary arrangements. To correspond by text telephone (TDD) call 1-800-478-2028.

**ALASKA BOARD OF GAME
FALL 2001 PROPOSAL BOOK**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>PAGE</u>
PROPOSAL TOPICS LIST	i
REVIEWER LETTER (Instructions for Commenting on Proposals).....	ii - iii
BOARD OF GAME TENTATIVE FUTURE MEETING SCHEDULE ...	iv
BOARD OF GAME'S MEETING CYCLE	v - vi
BOARD OF GAME MEMBERS	vii
BOARDS SUPPORT SECTION (Offices and Personnel).....	viii
AGENDA	ix
PROPOSALS	1-37

<u>PROPOSAL TOPICS</u>	<u>PAGE(S)</u>
Fur Bearer Trapping	1-2
Brown Bear	2-9
Caribou	10-12
Moose	12-26
Musk Oxen	26-30
Dall Sheep	30-31
Wolf	31-32
Beaver	32
Hunter Education and Orientation Requirements	32-33
Unlawful Methods of Taking Big Game; Exceptions	33-34
Identified Big Game Prey Populations and Objectives	34-35
Salvage of Game Meat, Furs, and Hides	35-36
Controlled Use Areas	36-37

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

REVIEWER LETTER

DEAR REVIEWER:

The attached packet of regulatory proposals will be considered by the Alaska Board of Game at its **Fall 2001** meeting concerning hunting and use of game in the Arctic Region, **November 2 - 6, 2001** at the Armory in Kotzebue, Alaska. The proposals generally concern changes to hunting regulations in Arctic Alaska.

Before taking action on these proposed changes to the regulations, the board would like your written comments and/or oral testimony on any effects the proposed changes would have on your activities.

The proposals in this packet are presented as brief statements summarizing the intended regulatory changes. In some cases, where confusion might arise or where the regulation is complex, proposed changes are also indicated in legal format. In this format, underlined words are additions to the regulation text and capitalized words or letters in square brackets [XXXX] are deletions.

You are encouraged to read all proposals presented in this packet, as some regulations have statewide application and may affect all regions of the state.

After reviewing the proposals, you may send written comments to:

ATTN: BOG COMMENTS
Alaska Department of Fish and Game
Boards Support Section
P.O. Box 25526
Juneau, Alaska 99802-5526
FAX - (907)465-6094

Comments may be submitted at any time until the public testimony period for that proposal and/or its subject matter is closed at the meeting and deliberation by the board begins. As a practical matter, you are encouraged to have all written comments presented to the above Juneau address by **October 19, 2001**. Receipt by this date will assure that your written comments will be published in the board workbook. Comments received after October 19 will be presented to board members at the time of the meeting, but will not be printed in the board workbook. Written comments will also be accepted during the board meeting, and of course, public testimony during the meeting is appreciated.

When making comments regarding these proposals, on the first line list the PROPOSAL NUMBER to which your comment pertains and whether you favor or oppose the proposal. This will assure that the comments are noted by the board members in relation to the proper proposal(s).

(continued on next page)

The following guidelines will greatly assist the board in understanding your concerns:

Written comments will be hole-punched and copied to go into the board workbook. Therefore, please use 8 1/2 x 11 paper and leave at least a 1 1/2 inch margin on the left side and a 1-inch margin on the right side, top and bottom. If typed, please make sure the print is dark. If handwritten, use dark ink and write legibly. Briefly explain why you are in favor of or opposed to the proposal.

If you plan to testify, a written copy of your testimony is helpful, but is not required. Again not required, but 25 copies of your written testimony is also helpful.

ADVISORY COMMITTEES: In addition to the above, please make sure the meeting minutes reflect why the committee voted as it did. If the vote was split, include the minority opinion. A brief description--a couple of sentences--will do. Detail attendance, number in attendance (e.g., 12 of 15 members) and what interests were represented (such as guides, hunters, trappers, etc.).

Additional proposal booklets may be obtained at offices of the Department of Fish and Game.

A tentative agenda for the Fall 2001 meeting of the Board of Game is shown on page **ix**. A roadmap showing a tentative order in which proposals will be considered will be available in early October. During the meeting, a recorded telephone message will be available, with current updates on the board's agenda and roadmap. That phone number is 465-8901 (Juneau) or 1-800-764-8901 outside of Juneau.

If you are a person with a disability who may need a special accommodation in order to comment on the proposed regulations, please contact the Boards Support Section at 465-4110 no later than October 19, 2001. To correspond by text telephone (TDD), call 1-800-478-2028.

Sincerely,

BOARDS SUPPORT SECTION

ALASKA BOARD OF GAME TENTATIVE MEETING SCHEDULE
--

	<u>Dates & Location</u>	<u>Topic</u>
FALL 2001	November 2 – 6, 2001 Kotzebue, AK	Arctic Region
	Proposal Deadline: Aug. 10, 2001 Comment Deadline: Oct. 19, 2001	
Winter 2002	January 18 – 23, 2002 Anchorage, AK	Statewide
	Proposal Deadline: Oct. 26, 2001 Comment Deadline: Jan. 4, 2002	
Spring 2002	March 8 – 18, 2002 Fairbanks, AK	Interior Region
	Proposal Deadline: Dec. 7, 2001 Comment Deadline: Feb. 22, 2002	

For information about the Board of Game, contact:

Alaska Department of Fish and Game
 Boards Support Section
 PO Box 25526
 Juneau, Alaska 99802-5526
 Phone: (907) 465-4110
 Fax: (907) 465-6094

For information on the Board of Game's past, current, and upcoming meetings and actions, including proposal forms, access our web site at:

<http://www.state.ak.us/local/akpages/FISH.GAME/boards/bordhome.htm>

*See Board of Game's meeting cycle on pages v- vi for list of statewide regulations that will be considered during the Winter 2002 meeting.

ALASKA BOARD OF GAME MEETING SCHEDULE

The board meeting cycle generally occurs from October through March. The board considers changes to regulations on a region-based schedule. Each region will be discussed on a two-year cycle. When the regional area is before the board, the following regulations are open for consideration within that region:

- Trapping Seasons and Bag Limits -- All species
- General and Subsistence Hunting Seasons and Bag Limits -- All species
(Except antlerless moose hunts as noted below)
- Identified Big Game Prey Populations and Objectives
- Wolf Predation Control Implementation Plans
- Bag Limit for Brown Bears
- Areas Closed To Hunting
- Closures and Restrictions in State Game Refuges
- Management Areas
- Controlled Use Areas
- Areas Closed To Trapping

Regulations which are specific to an area (e.g., 5 AAC 92.066. Permit for Access to Walrus Islands State Game Sanctuary) will be taken up when the board is scheduled to consider regulations in that region.

Two statewide regulations will be taken up annually, at the spring meeting: Reauthorization of Antlerless Moose Hunts, and Brown Bear Tag Fees. Proposals for changes to these regulations will be considered each spring.

Other statewide regulations will not be taken up every meeting cycle. Statewide regulations are scheduled to be reviewed on a four-year cycle, distributed between winter meetings scheduled to occur every other year. The list of statewide regulations and the associated meeting cycle is attached.

<u>Area</u>	<u>Cycle**</u>		
SOUTHEAST-REGION I Game Management Units: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5	Fall 2002	Fall 2004	Fall 2006
SOUTHCENTRAL-REGION II Game Management Units: 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17 All GMUs: Brown Bear Tag Fees Reauthorization of Antlerless Moose Hunts	Spring 2003	Spring 2005	Spring 2007
ARCTIC AND WESTERN-REGION V Game Management Units: 18, 22, 23, 26A	Fall 2001	Fall 2003	Fall 2005
INTERIOR-REGION III Game Management Units: 12, 19, 20, 21, 24, 25, 26B, 26C All GMUs: Brown Bear Tag Fees Reauthorization of Antlerless Moose Hunts	Spring 2002	Spring 2004	Spring 2006
<p>**THE MEETING CYCLE REPEATS ITSELF ON TWO-YEAR INTERVALS This schedule was adopted October 20, 1995; updated August 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001</p>			

Alaska Board of Game Winter Meeting Schedule

STATEWIDE REGULATIONS: 5 AAC 92

CYCLE “A”: Winter 2002, 2006, 2010, 2014, etc.

- .001 Application of this Chapter
- .002 Liability for Violations
- .003 Hunter Education and Orientation Requirements
- .004 Policy for Off-Road Vehicle Use for Hunting and Transporting Game
- .005 Policy for Changing Board Agenda
- .010 Harvest Tickets and Reports
- .011 Taking of Game by Proxy
- .012 Licenses and Tags
- .016 Muskoxen Tag Fees
- .018 Waterfowl Conservation Tag
- .019 Taking of Big Game for Certain Religious Ceremonies
- .020 Application of Permit Regulations and Permit Reports
- .025 Permit for Exporting a Raw Skin
- .028 Aviculture Permits
- .029 Permit for Possessing Live Game
- .031 Permit for Selling Skins and Trophies
- .033 Permit for Sci, Ed, Propagative, or Public Safety Purposes
- .034 Permit to Take Game for Cultural Purposes
- .039 Permit for Taking Wolves Using Aircraft
- .047 Permit for Using Radio Telemetry Equipment
- .104 Authorization for Methods and Means Disability Exemptions
- .106 Intensive Management of Identified Big Game Prey Populations
- .110 Control of Predation by Wolves
- .165 Sealing of Bear Skins and Skulls
- .170 Sealing of Marten, Lynx, Beaver, Otter, Wolf, and Wolverine
- .200 Purchase and Sale of Game
- .210 Game as Animal Food or Bait
- .220 Salvage of Game Meat, Furs, and Hides
- .230 Feeding of Game
- .250 Transfer of Muskoxen for Sci and Ed Purposes
- .450 Description of Game Management Units
- .990 Definitions

STATEWIDE REGULATIONS: 5 AAC 92

CYCLE “B”: Winter 2000, 2004, 2008, 2012, etc.

- .035 Permit for Temporary Commercial Use of Live Game
- .040 Permit for Taking Furbearers with Game Meat
- .041 Permit to take Beavers to Control Damage to Property
- .043 Permit for Capturing Wild Furbearers for Fur Farming
- .049 Permits, Permit Procedures, and Permit Conditions
- .050 Required Permit Hunt Conditions and Procedures
- .051 Discretionary Trapping Permit Conditions and Procedures
- .052 Discretionary Permit Hunt Conditions and Procedures
- .062 Priority for Subsistence Hunting; Tier II Permits
- .068 Permit Conditions for Hunting Black Bear with Dogs
- .070* Tier II Subsistence Hunting Permit Point System
- .075 Lawful Methods of Taking Game
- .080 Unlawful Methods of Taking Game; Exceptions
- .085 Unlawful Methods of Taking Big Game; Exceptions
- .090 Unlawful Methods of Taking Fur Animals
- .095 Unlawful Methods of Taking Furbearers; Exceptions
- .100 Unlawful Methods of Hunting Waterfowl, Snipe, and Cranes
- .130 Restriction to Bag Limit
- .135 Transfer of Possession
- .140 Unlawful Possession or Transportation of Game
- .150 Evidence of Sex and Identity
- .160 Marked or Tagged Game with Cubs Prohibited
- .260 Taking Cub Bears and Female Bears
- .400 Emergency Taking of Game
- .410 Taking Game in Defense of Life or Property
- .550 Areas Closed to Trapping

*The Board accepted an agenda change request to add 5 AAC 92.070—Tier II Subsistence Hunting Permit Point System at its Winter 2002 meeting.

ALASKA BOARD OF GAME

(Revised August, 2001)

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George Matz 14345 Cody Circle Anchorage, AK 99516	3/1/2004
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Dana Pruhs 2431 Wellington Court Anchorage, AK 99517	3/1/2003
Greg Roczicka, CHAIR P.O. Box 513 Bethel, AK 99559	1/31/2002
Julie A. K. Maier 2140 Twin Flower Drive Fairbanks, AK 99709	3/1/2003
Greg Streveler P.O. Box 94 Gustavus, AK 99826	1/31/2002
Ben Grussendorf 1221 Halibut Point Road Sitka, AK 99835	3/1/2004

NOTE: All written comments to proposals published in this proposal booklet must be sent to the ADF&G Boards Support Section at the address below in order to be included and published in the Board of Game's Fall 2001 board workbook. Written comments regarding the proposals in this proposal booklet may not be published if the comments are sent to individual board members.

Board members may also be reached at:

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
Boards Support Section
P.O. Box 25526
Juneau, AK 99802-5526

BOARDS SUPPORT SECTION

ADVISORY COMMITTEE COORDINATORS

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Board Meeting Recording:

Phone: 465-8901 (in Juneau)
1-800-764-8901 (outside of Juneau)

TDD

Phone: 1-800-478-2028

TENTATIVE AGENDA
BOARD OF GAME
November 2 - 6, 2001
ARMORY, KOTZEBUE, AK

[NOTE: This is a tentative agenda for this meeting of the Board of Game. It is subject to variance throughout the course of the meeting. At the discretion of the chair, additional periods of public testimony may be set. Also, evening sessions may be scheduled as necessary. A more detailed agenda will be available in October.]

Friday, November 2

8:30 am

OPENING BUSINESS

Call to Order; Introductions of Board Members and Staff
Purpose of Meeting (overview)

STAFF REPORTS

1:00 pm or at conclusion of staff reports

PUBLIC TESTIMONY BEGINS - This is the primary time for testimony on all issues before the Board of Game. At the chair's discretion, there may be additional sessions.

TO TESTIFY BEFORE THE BOARD ON PROPOSALS BEING CONSIDERED AT THIS MEETING, YOU MUST COMPLETE A BLUE TESTIMONY CARD. PUBLIC TESTIMONY WILL CONTINUE UNTIL ALL THAT SIGN UP HAVE TESTIFIED.

<p>DEADLINE FOR <u>SIGN-UP</u> TO TESTIFY IS: 2:00PM, SATURDAY NOVEMBER 3</p>
--

Saturday, November 3

8:30 am

Continue public testimony

At the conclusion of public testimony the Board will begin deliberation on the proposals.

Sunday, November 4 through Tuesday, November 6

8:30 am

Continue Board Deliberation on proposals

Miscellaneous Business, if any

(The Board schedule will generally be: 8:30 AM - 12 noon and 1:00 - 5:00 PM with lunch from noon until 1:00 PM. This schedule is subject to change at the discretion of the chair.)

PROPOSAL 1 - 5 AAC 84.270(5). FUR BEARER TRAPPING and 5 AAC 85.060(4) HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR FUR ANIMALS. Amend these regulations for lynx in Unit 23 as follows:

1. Trapping regulations:
 - A. Change the season to Nov. 1—Apr. 15 (consistent with Units 22 and 26).
 - B. Establish “no limit” for lynx trapping.
2. Hunting regulations – Change the season to Nov. 1—Apr. 15 (consistent with Units 22 and 26).

5 AAC 84.270(5) FUR BEARER TRAPPING

UNIT	OPEN SEASON	BAG LIMIT
(5) Lynx		
...		
Units 22, <u>23</u> , and 26	Nov. 1 – Apr.15	No limit.
[UNIT 23]	[DEC. 1 – JAN. 15]	[THREE PER SEASON]
...		

5 AAC 85.060(4) HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR FUR ANIMALS

Units and Bag Limits	Resident Open Season (Subsistence and General Hunts)	Nonresident Open Season
(4) Lynx		
...		
[UNIT 23]	[DEC. 1 – JAN. 15]	[DEC. 1 – JAN. 15]
[2 LYNX]		
...		
Units 22, <u>23</u> , and 26 2 lynx	Nov. 1 – Apr. 15 (General hunt only)	Nov. 1—Apr. 15

ISSUE: Lynx have recently become abundant in portions of Unit 23 in response to increasing snowshoe hare numbers. We do not quantify lynx abundance in Unit 23 and fur sealing information is of limited value as an index of lynx abundance because compliance with sealing requirements has historically been poor for residents of Unit 23. Also, restrictive hunting and trapping regulations have discouraged people from attempting to harvest lynx despite recent increases in abundance. The increased lynx population is reflected in higher incidental catches

of lynx by trappers targeting other species in recent years. Also, reports from the public and opportunistic observations by department staff indicate lynx are currently very abundant in the Selawik drainage, and increasing in the Kobuk drainage where snowshoe hare numbers have been high for several years. Snowshoe hares are increasing in other portions of Unit 23 and lynx are likely to increase there soon as well.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Trapping and hunting opportunities will be unnecessarily lost.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Pelt quality is expected to be very good throughout the proposed season.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Hunters and trappers who want more opportunities to harvest lynx.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Propose this change for only the Selawik and Kobuk drainages where snowshoe hare and lynx populations have reached or are approaching peak levels. We rejected this alternative because lynx populations in other portions of the unit may increase and peak before the next opportunity to change these regulations during the Fall 2003 Board of Game meeting.

PROPOSED BY: Upper Kobuk Advisory Committee and Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-01F-G-025)

PROPOSAL 2 - 5 AAC 85.020(20). HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR BROWN BEAR. Amend this regulation in Unit 22 as follows:

1 bear every year for subsistence in all of Unit 22; 1 bear every 3 regulatory years for residents; 1 bear every 4 regulatory years by permit for nonresidents.

I prefer the solution that aligns regulation with respect for the bear population but at the same time removes bear from the peninsula that are threats to humans or property and other wildlife populations that are depended on for nutritional needs as well as having opportunities to hunt from a resource that is doing well. Nonresidents should remain status quo as their needs do not equal the needs of subsistence and resident hunters, and concerns arise in terms of breeding and reproduction that nonresidents may have little concern for. My ancestors were impressive hunters of the bear, yet at the same time respected the bear for its unique physical and mental characteristics.

ISSUE: The problem is one of predator control and hunter control. Grizzly bears on the Seward Peninsula are doing well probably as a result of good habitat and conservative hunting regulations. Residents should be allowed to harvest 1 bear every 3 regulatory years. Nonresidents should be allowed to harvest 1 bear every 4 years by permit; nonresident status quo. Subsistence hunters under registration should be able to harvest 1 bear every 4 regulatory years in all of Unit 22; subsistence status quo but inclusion of Unit 22C.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Interactive management of predators to address moose populations in Unit 22 could be better utilized and needs to be better understood. Nonresidents typically harvest large bears and considering that these bears might be removed from the population raises concerns of breeding and reproduction. Residents typically harvest bears in the same manner but may also hunt for the meat raising little concern when meat is utilized. Subsistence hunters typically harvest small bears or bears perceived as threats to life or property and are required to salvage the meat.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED?

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Residents will benefit from being able to take advantage of a wildlife resource that is doing well. Nonresidents will remain status quo. Subsistence hunters will be able to take advantage of a wildlife resource that is doing well in all of Unit 22.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? I have not determined those that are likely to suffer.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? I have not considered other solutions.

PROPOSED BY: Austin Ahmasuk (HQ-01F-G-046)

PROPOSAL 3 - 5 AAC 85.020(16). HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR BROWN BEAR. Amend this regulation in Unit 18, within the Western Alaska Brown Bear Management Area, as follows:

Units and Bag Limits	Resident Open Season	Nonresident Open Season
Unit 18, <u>North of the South bank of the Kashunuk River including the Yukon River and its sloughs</u> 1 bear every 4 regulatory years <u>25</u>	<u>Sept. 1—May 25</u> [SEPT 10—OCT 10, MAY 10—MAY 25]	<u>Sept. 1—May</u> [SEPT 10—OCT 10, MAY 10—MAY 25]

ISSUE: There does not appear to be a biological reason for a shorter season in Unit 18 than adjacent units (look below). Anecdotal information from hunters and local residents indicates a very healthy and growing brown bear population in Unit 18.

Brown bear seasons in adjacent units:

- Units 17A and 17C: Sept. 10—Oct. 10 and Apr. 15—May 25,
- Unit 17B: Sept. 20—Oct. 10 and Apr. 15—May 25,
- Units 19A, 19B, 19C, and 19D: Sept. 1—May 31,
- Units 21A, 21B, and 21C: Sept. 1—May 31,
- Unit 21D: Sept. 1—June 15,
- Units 22A and 22B: Sept. 1—May 31

Further, there have been more reports of bears raiding fish camps along the Yukon River. Mt. Village, Pitkas Point, St. Mary's, Pilot Station, Marshal, Russian Mission, Emmonak and Alakanuk have all reported problems.

Nonresident brown bear hunters cannot increase. There is one guide with the permit to conduct brown bear hunts in the Northern portion of the Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge. This guide is allowed to take no more than five hunters per year. The USFWS has no plans to increase the number of permits or hunter quota. While increasing the length of the brown bear season might result in an increase in harvest, it will most likely be from resident hunters.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? A) Continued lack of hunter opportunity, B) Continued lack of opportunity for over-snow access during present season, C) Biological data for brown bear in Unit 18 is sparse. The low number of animals harvested, less than ten in most years, does not give the kind of harvest data that is used to set seasons in other units.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED?

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? The residents in Unit 18 and the biologist who collects the harvest data. A) Hunting under the general season regulations, the hunter has a choice of whether to salvage the meat or the hide. If hunting under the WABBMA subsistence permit, the hunter is required to salvage all the meat. Few hunters on the Yukon want to eat the meat; they would rather keep the hide. B) Hunting in April allows over-snow access, with minimal to no damage to the tundra. C) Hunting in April will almost certainly result in a very high proportion of males harvested. D) Moose hunters could harvest a brown bear, provided they have a brown bear tag. E) Alignment with adjacent units is less confusing, which is a Board of Game goal. F) Problem bears that raid camps could be taken by hunting license rather than DLP, and salvaged for the hunter(s) if season starts earlier in the fall. G) Through hunters in Unit 18 asking for more brown bear hunting tags, the local biologist could get better results than present with more information from hunters.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? More conservative brown bear season dates: Sept. 1—Oct. 10 and Apr. 1—May 25.

PROPOSED BY: Ted Hamilton (HQ-01F-G-013)

PROPOSAL 4 - 5 AAC 85.020(20). HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR BROWN BEAR. Amend this regulation in Unit 22 as follows:

Provide for harvest of 1 bear per regulatory year by resident hunters.

ISSUE: Reduce prey population (bear).

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Moose populations will continue to decline.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Improves moose populations, decreased bear populations likely.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Moose population hunters wishing to harvest more bear.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Bear populations may decrease.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? One bear every two years rejected due to desire to increase moose populations.

PROPOSED BY: Northern Norton Sound Advisory Committee (HQ-01F-G-018)

PROPOSAL 5 - 5 AAC 85.020(20). HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR BROWN BEAR. Amend this regulation in Unit 22 as follows:

Open general and subsistence hunts in all of Unit 22 to Aug. 1 instead of Sept. 1.

ISSUE: Reduce prey population (bear) by targeting female bear without cubs.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Moose populations will continue to decline.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Improves moose populations, decreased bear populations likely.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Moose population. Hunters wishing to harvest bears.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Bears.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Allow for harvest of female bears with cubs, rejected as to ethical considerations.

PROPOSED BY: Northern Norton Sound Advisory Committee (HQ-01F-G-017)

PROPOSAL 6 - 5 AAC 85.020(20). HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR BROWN BEAR. Amend this regulation for nonresident hunters in Unit 22 as follows:

Increase number of permits for DB690 from 8 to 12.

ISSUE: Currently nonresident grizzly bear hunters are limited to eight potential permits under DB690 (Units 22D and 22E). The number of bears harvested is often less than the permits issued. Increasing the permits would allow for more nonresidents having opportunity to hunt grizzly bear. There is no conflict with other residents or local residents of the areas requested for change.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Grizzly bear populations will continue to increase at the expense of decreasing moose populations. Loss of hunting opportunity for nonresident hunters in an area with no conflict with resident and subsistence hunters.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Currently the resident and subsistence regulations are minimal and the overall grizzly bear harvest is minimal. The nonresident opportunity is unnecessarily restrictive.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Nonresident hunters, overall health of moose population, local economy, local berry pickers, private property owners.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Request dismantle of permit system. This would create numerous issues and complications. Simply increasing available permits would solve problem. In years to come the permits could be reduced, if necessary.

PROPOSED BY: Brian Simpson (HQ-01F-G-010)

PROPOSAL 7 - 5 AAC 85.020(20). HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR BROWN BEAR. Amend this regulation in Unit 22 as follows:

If resident season for grizzly bear is opened to Aug. 1 in Unit 22, nonresident season will also open Aug. 1 (or in whatever subunit action is taken for residents).

ISSUE: This proposal is contingent if the Board of Game extends the resident grizzly season from Sept. 1—May 31 to Aug. 1—May 31. In that case, this proposal requests the nonresident season to open Aug. 1—May 31. There is no biological reason to have more restrictive seasons (projected if no action is taken) for nonresidents who already have a limited drawing permit system in place.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Restrictive season for nonresidents, with no reason or conflicts identified or justified with other user groups.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes, nonresidents wishing to sport fish and hunt grizzly bear could then do so. Also problem bears that interfere with local cabin owners and berry pickers could be targeted for hunting.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Nonresident hunters, local property owners, local economy.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one, because this proposal would follow and complement opening resident seasons, and would not be applicable if the resident action fails to materialize.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Not request a parallel action for residents. No reason not to, except to have more complicated regulations.

PROPOSED BY: Brian Simpson (HQ-01F-G-009)

PROPOSAL 8 - 5 AAC 85.020(20). HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR BROWN BEAR. Amend this regulation in Units 22A, 22B, 22C, 22D, and 22E as follows:

Residents and nonresidents, 1 bear per regulatory year (nonresident by permit in Units 22B and 22C – DB 685, Units 22D and 22E – DB 690).

ISSUE: Overpopulation of brown bear in Unit 22.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Most likely the moose population will continue to decline.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED?

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Bear hunters and moose hunters.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?

PROPOSED BY: Bob Hannon (HQ-01F-G-039)

PROPOSAL 9 - 5 AAC 85.020(21). HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR BROWN BEAR. Amend this regulation in Unit 23 as follows:

Unit 23: Residents: 1 bear every regulatory year
Nonresidents: 1 bear every regulatory year by permit DB 781 or DB 791

ISSUE: Overpopulation of brown bear in Unit 23.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Most likely the moose population will continue to decline.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED?

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Bear hunters and moose hunters.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?

PROPOSED BY: Bob Hannon (HQ-01F-G-038)

PROPOSAL 10 - 5 AAC 85.020(21). HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR BROWN BEAR. Amend this regulation in Unit 23 as follows:

Nonresident hunters: 1 bear every 4 regulatory years by permit, however, another brown/grizzly bear may be harvested the following regulatory year in a separate game management unit.

ISSUE: Nonresident hunters, and more specifically, older retired nonresident hunters must wait four years to harvest a brown/grizzly bear in another game management unit after harvesting a brown/grizzly bear in Unit 23.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Many hunters miss out on hunting opportunities in other game management units as a result of failing physical abilities and often health, while waiting four years to harvest a Kodiak or Alaska Peninsula brown bear.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Resource quality and harvest level would remain status quo.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? More opportunity would be given to hunters particularly ones who have worked all their life to afford a trip.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? None.

PROPOSED BY: Dave Leonard (HQ-01F-G-015)

PROPOSAL 11 - 5 AAC 85.020(21). HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR BROWN BEAR. Amend this regulation to extend the resident subsistence and general hunting seasons for brown bear in Unit 23 from Aug. 1—May 31.

Units and Bag Limits	Resident Open Season (Subsistence and General Hunts)	Nonresident Open Season
<p>(21)</p> <p>Unit 23, that portion in the Northwest Alaska Brown Bear Management Area</p> <p>RESIDENT HUNTERS: 1 bear every regulatory year by registration permit 1 bear every regulatory year</p> <p>NONRESIDENT HUNTERS: 1 bear every 4 regulatory years by drawing permit only; up to 48 permits may be issued in combination with the remainder of Unit 23</p> <p>Remainder of Unit 23</p> <p>RESIDENT HUNTERS: 1 bear every regulatory year</p> <p>NONRESIDENT HUNTERS: 1 bear every 4 regulatory years by drawing permit only; up to 48 permits may be issued in</p>	<p><u>Aug.</u>[SEPT] 1 – May 31 (Subsistence hunt only) <u>Aug.</u>[SEPT] 1 – May 31</p> <p><u>Aug.</u>[SEPT] 1 – May 31</p>	<p>Sept. 1 – Oct. 10 Apr. 15 – May 31</p> <p>Sept. 1 – Oct. 10 Apr. 15 – May 31</p>

combination with that portion
of Unit 23 in the Northwest
Alaska Brown Bear Management
Area

ISSUE: Brown bear numbers are currently high throughout Unit 23. We suspect they are substantially contributing to the decline of moose at least in the Noatak drainage. Brown bears are reportedly damaging remote camps and are widely perceived as a threat to people. This proposal is a continuation of the process initiated about 1990 to incrementally liberalize brown bear regulations in Unit 23.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Moose populations may decline, remote property will be damaged and people will feel threatened by bears. The number of brown bears killed in DLP will increase.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Not applicable.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Resident hunters who desire additional opportunities to harvest a brown bear will benefit. Resource users who do not want to encounter brown bears afield, near their camps or near communities will benefit. This change may also benefit moose populations in Unit 23 by reducing predation on calves and adults.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? People who want to maintain high numbers of brown bears in Unit 23. Although this proposal is intended to reduce brown bear numbers in Unit 23, we do not believe it will harm the bear population. Brown bears are currently abundant and this change is likely to result in only a modest increase in harvests.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?

1. Propose no change and allow two more years to evaluate previous changes to brown bear hunting regulations. We rejected this because many residents of Unit 23 want brown bear numbers reduced. In addition, liberalizing brown bear regulations is a component of moose management in Unit 23.
2. Propose to eliminate the \$25.00 resident tag fee. We rejected this because some advisory committee members feared this could cause brown bears to be over harvested.
3. Propose 'no closed season' for resident brown bear hunters in Unit 23. We rejected this because some advisory committee members feared this could result in the over harvest of brown bears. Advisory committees agreed to reevaluate this option in the future if brown bear numbers remain high.
4. Replace the fall and spring nonresident brown bear drawing permit hunts with a registration permit hunt. Rejected because we prefer to evaluate the effects of the proposed regulation change before we propose this change.
5. Increase the bag limit for the subsistence hunt to two brown bears annually. We rejected this because few hunters would harvest more than one brown bear annually. Also, we prefer to evaluate the effects of the proposed change before proposing additional changes.

PROPOSED BY: Noatak/Kivalina Advisory Committee, Kotzebue Sound Advisory Committee
and Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-01F-G-023)

PROPOSAL 12 - 5 AAC 85.025(13). HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR CARIBOU. Amend this regulation in Unit 18, south of the Yukon River, to provide the following:

Units and Bag Limits	Resident Open Season	Nonresident Open Season
RESIDENT HUNTERS: 5 caribou	<u>Aug. 1—Mar. 31</u> [SEASON TO BE ANNOUNCED]	

ISSUE: Emergency order regulations.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Continue to have emergency order regulations, that are expensive to administer and that were designed for protecting the Kilbuck (Qavilnguut) herd that is no longer discrete. With the current emergency order system hunters are always uncertain about the season.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes. This proposal addresses improving the quality of the resource harvested by providing residents in Unit 18, south of the Yukon River an opportunity to:

- Have an established season with specific dates: (Aug. 1—Mar. 31). An August 1 start date is the same as in Unit 18, north of the Yukon River under federal subsistence regulations. Under state game regulations in Unit 18 north of the Yukon River residents have opportunities to harvest any caribou from July 1—May 15 and bull caribou from May 16—June 30.
- Harvest bull caribou, prior to the rut which would relieve harvesting pressure on cow caribou during the rut.
- An earlier season would also relieve pressure on the small but growing moose population in Unit 18, south of the Yukon River, by allowing residents in Unit 18 opportunities to fill their freezers with caribou meat before moose season opens, which may reduce the numbers of hunters needing to go out for moose meat.
- Allow opportunistic harvests of caribou while participating in other fall season activities.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Residents in Unit 18, state and federal wildlife managers, an established season would streamline management for both the state and federal game managers.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? A similar proposal for establishing a federal subsistence season for residents of Unit 18, south of the Yukon River has been submitted to the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta Regional Advisory Council and the Qavilnguut (Kilbuck) Caribou Herd Working Group for their review and consideration.

PROPOSED BY: Native Village of Kwinhagak (HQ-01F-G-012)

PROPOSAL 13 - 5 AAC 85.025(13). HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR CARIBOU. Amend this regulation in Unit 18, south of the Yukon River, to provide the following:

Units and Bag Limits	Resident Open Season	Nonresident Open Season

RESIDENT HUNTERS:

up to 5 caribou

to be announced

NONRESIDENT HUNTERS:

1 bull

Sept. 1—Oct. 1

[NO OPEN SEASON]

ISSUE: There is no nonresident season for caribou south of the Yukon River.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Local and state economies will continue to suffer.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED?

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Local residents, guides, air taxis, and State of Alaska via license revenue and taxes.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? None.

PROPOSED BY: Chris Goll

(HQ-01F-G-005)

PROPOSAL 14 - 5 AAC 85.025(17). HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR CARIBOU. Amend this regulation in Unit 22 as follows:

A permanent caribou season consistent with other seasons in Unit 22. Bulls: no closed season. Cows: July 1—May 15. Unit 22E east of and including the Sanaguich drainage, north to the Chukchi Sea and east to Goodhope Bay.

ISSUE: No permanent caribou season in Unit 22E.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Lack of opportunity for residents of Unit 22E to harvest caribou that are accessible from the communities of Shishmaref and Wales.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Currently, opportunity to harvest a healthy population is unnecessarily restricted. Opening a permanent season would benefit the residents of Unit 22E.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Residents of Unit 22E.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Nobody.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?

PROPOSED BY: Native Village of Shishmaref IRA Council

(HQ-01F-G-021)

PROPOSAL 15 - 5 AAC 85.025(17). HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR CARIBOU. Amend this regulations in Unit 22D as follows:

Provide for all of Unit 22D being open for caribou. Same season and bag limits as in current regulation for open areas in Unit 22D.

ISSUE: Increase opportunity to harvest caribou due to change in migration patterns of Western Arctic herd.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Hunters will be denied opportunity to harvest.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes, Western Arctic Caribou Herd is increasing. Provides for harvest to keep herd healthy and prevents overgrazing of habitat.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Hunters.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Caribou.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Open Unit 22D east of Cobblestone and north of Imuruk Basin of Tuksuk Channel. Rejected due to loss of subsistence opportunity.

PROPOSED BY: Northern Norton Sound Advisory Committee (HQ-01F-G-020)

PROPOSAL 16 - 5 AAC 85.045(20). HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR MOOSE. Change this regulation in Unit 22 as follows:

One bull with spike-fork antlers or 50-inch antlers, or antlers with 3 or more brow tines on at least one side. (Change from current no-antler restrictions for resident hunters.) Keep season the same as current regulations.

ISSUE: Decreasing moose populations in Units 22D and 22B. Poor bull:cow ratio.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Moose population will continue to decline.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes, would allow for increase in bull:cow ratio and decrease harvests.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Moose.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Users who harvest moose would have decreased opportunity to harvest.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Reduce harvest season. Rejected because wish to keep opportunity and long hunting season.

PROPOSED BY: Thomas S. Sparks (HQ-01F-G-002)

PROPOSAL 17 - 5 AAC 85.045(20). HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR MOOSE. Amend this regulation for resident moose hunters in Unit 22B as follows:

Unit 22B restricted to subsistence hunting through the end of October 2001.

The new regulation should reflect a preference for subsistence rural hunters whose families depend on hunting moose and other animals as a primary source of their yearly meat provisions.

ISSUE: The early closure of the moose hunting season for Unit 22B will have an adverse affect on subsistence hunting for people of White Mountain.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? People in White Mountain usually do not start getting their moose until the end of September or the early part of October. Many people rely on subsistence moose hunting for most of their supply of meat. People who cannot afford the expense of meat in the store due to lack of employment and high cost will be adversely affected.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED?

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? People, particularly Native people who have depended on subsisting off the land since time immemorial and who still depend on subsistence as a major food source.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? People in Nome who also like to hunt for subsistence; however, many of those people have access to jobs and lower cost meat at their stores.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?

PROPOSED BY: White Mountain Tribal Council (HQ-01F-G-041)

PROPOSAL 18 - 5 AAC 85.045(20). HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR MOOSE. Amend this regulation to eliminate the nonresident hunting seasons in Unit 22.

I prefer the solution that enables regulation to restrict hunting pressure and removes nonresident hunting pressure from the equation to allow the moose population to rebound, and allocate the resource as it rightfully should be. Successful breeding is likely occurring but can only be enhanced if nonresidents are prohibited from harvesting prime breeding bulls and the season is shortened for everyone, but allows a fall hunt and winter hunt with a closed season to occur during times when moose are generally not used. Villages may be using moose later in the year such as during times when moose migrate to lower elevations where they can be harvested easier but the villages need to be consulted further for that determination. The new regulation for Unit 22 should prohibit nonresident hunting.

ISSUE: The problem is a declining moose population and difficult hunting seasons. I feel nonresidents are having impacts on the moose population and should be prohibited in regulation from future hunts. Human populations are increasing and there leaves little opportunity for subsistence and resident moose hunters who live intricately with the wildlife resources of Unit 22. Nonresidents are successfully removing prime bulls and meat from the region that would not

otherwise be removed. Consequently we are in the situation today with competitive hunting seasons and low moose populations.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? The moose population may be in jeopardy as the department has indicated in some areas, and continued nonresident hunting pressure may not be beneficial. There may be successful breeding but it may be disrupted. Large bulls, the prime breeders sought after by nonresidents, are being removed. The nonresident season should be eliminated and subsistence and resident hunters should be allowed the preference in light of the fact that the moose population in some portions of Unit 22 may be in jeopardy.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED?

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Subsistence and resident hunters are likely to benefit. As further information is gathered concerning the effect of natural predators and human hunters future hunts would include nonresidents at a level they would be happy with and that meets the needs of the environment. Persons who wish to view moose are also likely to benefit from viewing moose at higher population levels if this regulation increases populations.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Nonresident hunters are likely to be negatively impacted.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Nonresident permit moose hunt – rejected for reasons of biological need. The moose population needs the large bulls for reproduction; subsistence and resident hunters need them for their own needs that fall well above the needs of nonresidents considering low numbers and difficult hunting seasons on the part of subsistence and resident hunters.

PROPOSED BY: Austin Ahmasuk (HQ-01F-G-044)

PROPOSAL 19 - 5 AAC 85.045(20). HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR MOOSE. Amend this regulation to clarify the definition of the hunt area east of the Darby Mountains in Unit 22B, and establish a registration hunt, and shorten the moose hunting season in the portion of Unit 22B west of the Darby Mountains. (See companion proposal 21.)

Units and Bag Limits	Resident Open Season (Subsistence and General Hunts)	Nonresident Open Season
(20)		
...		
Unit 22B, that portion east of <u>the Darby Mountains</u> , and including the drainages of the Kwiniuk, Tubutulik,[AND] Koyuk, <u>and Inglutalik</u> Rivers		

RESIDENT HUNTERS: Aug. 1-Sept. 30

1 bull

Nov. 1-Dec. 31

NONRESIDENT HUNTERS:

Nov. 1-Dec. 31

1 bull with 50-inch antlers or antlers with 4 or more brow tines on one side

Remainder of Unit 22B

RESIDENT HUNTERS:

1 antlered bull by registration permit only; during the period Dec. 1 – Dec. 31 a season up to 10 days may be announced by emergency order

Aug. 20 -Sept. 14 Dec. 1-Dec. 31 (To be announced) [AUG. 1-SEPT. 30] [DEC. 1- JAN. 31]

NONRESIDENT HUNTERS:

1 bull with 50-inch antlers or antlers with 4 or more brow tines on one side by drawing permit only; up to 8 permits may be issued

Sept.1-Sept. 14[30]

...

ISSUE: The department believes it is necessary to significantly reduce moose harvests in heavily hunted road accessible areas of Unit 22B because of recent trends in declining moose numbers, very low recruitment, and declining bull:cow ratios. Our objective is to reduce harvests by approximately 25 percent in the portion of Unit 22B west of the crest of the Darby Mountains (same as the “Remainder of Unit 22B” in the regulatory section). Since the road system in Unit 22 extends to an adjoining area in Unit 22D, we are proposing similar seasons and bag limits for portions of Unit 22D (see companion proposal 21 for moose in Unit 22D) to maintain consistent regulations along the road system in Unit 22.

In western Unit 22B, a moose census in 1999 indicated the moose population had declined by 50 percent since the early 1990s and we believe the population is still declining. Recruitment since the 1990s has been below 10 percent and fall 2000 composition surveys found 6 calves:100 adults. In October 1999 the Board of Game eliminated the cow season in all of Unit 22B and attempted to reduce harvest by shortening the resident and nonresident seasons. However, the shortened seasons reduced harvest by only 4 percent, and additional restrictions are necessary.

For the current regulatory year 2001-2002, the moose hunting season in the areas identified in this proposal (and in companion proposal 21 for moose in Unit 22D) were shortened by emergency order to a 26-day season from Aug. 20-Sept. 14. Based on input at a public meeting held to discuss moose management in the Nome area, we recommend adopting a regulation that uses the same season as outlined in the emergency order. To ensure that the desired harvest reduction occurs, we recommend establishing a registration permit hunt in Unit 22B west of the Darby mountains with a quota to be announced by the department. A short winter registration hunt, with a season and quota to be announced by emergency order, is recommended to meet the needs of subsistence users who rely on snowmachines for transportation. Announcing the season

by emergency order allows adjustments for harsh weather conditions that affect hunting effort and success.

Western Arctic Caribou Herd have wintered on the northern and central Seward Peninsula in recent years, making this an opportune time to reduce moose harvests when alternative game meat is available to hunters. However, this season reduction may limit subsistence opportunity and the board may want to consider closure of the nonresident season to better satisfy subsistence need.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Moose harvest will not be reduced and the population will continue to decline.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Not applicable.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? People who will be hunting moose in the future.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? People who hunted during the times when the season will now be closed, especially the winter hunts by snowmachine.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? We considered complete closure of the moose season, but this was rejected because subsistence hunting of moose is very important to local residents in Unit 22B.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-01F-G-026)

PROPOSAL 20 - 5 AAC 85.045(20). HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR MOOSE. Amend this regulation in Units 22B and 22D as follows:

Provide a general hunt Aug. 20—Sept. 14, bull only with less than 3 brow tines. Registration hunt Sept. 15—Sept. 30 bulls only with brow tines of 3 or greater on one side. Location: Unit 22D within Kuzitrin and Pilgrim River drainages (including Tougarot) and Unit 22D southwest. Unit 22B, entire Fish River and all of subunit west of Fish River, registration permits to be handed out locally.

ISSUE: Decline of moose population in Units 22B and 22D.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Moose populations will continue to decline.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes, this proposal provides for increased recruitment by restricting harvest rates.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Moose and hunters, due to likely increase in recruitment.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Hunters will have decreased harvest opportunity.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Bulls with 3 brow tines or antlers with 50 inches or fork, rejected due to inability to find fork configuration in subunits.

PROPOSAL 21 - 5 AAC 85.045(20). HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR MOOSE. Amend this regulation to establish a registration hunt and shorten the moose hunting season in portions of Unit 22D, as follows:

Units and Bag Limits	Resident Open Season (Subsistence and General Hunts)	Nonresident Open Season
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(20)

...

Unit 22D, that portion within the Kougarak, Kuzitrin and Pilgrim River drainages

RESIDENT HUNTERS:

1 antlered bull by registration permit only

Aug. 20-Sept. 14
[AUG. 1-JAN. 31]

NONRESIDENT HUNTERS:

1 bull with 50-inch antlers or antlers with 4 or more brow tines on one side by drawing permit only; up to 6 permits may be issued in combination with Unit 22D Southwest

Sept.1-Sept. **14**[30]

Unit 22D Southwest, that portion west of the Tisuk River drainage, west of the west bank of the unnamed creek originating at the unit boundary opposite the headwaters of McAdam's Creek to its confluence with Canyon Creek, and west of the west bank of Canyon Creek to its confluence with Tuksuk Channel

RESIDENT HUNTERS:

1 antlered bull

Aug. 20-Sept. 14

NONRESIDENT HUNTERS:

1 bull with 50-inch antlers or antlers with 4 or more brow tines on one side by drawing permit only; up to 6 permits may be issued in combination with Unit 22D, that portion within the Kougarok, Kuzitrin and Pilgrim River drainages

Sept. 1-Sept. 14

...

ISSUE: The department believes it is necessary to significantly reduce moose harvests in heavily hunted road accessible areas of Unit 22D because of recent trends in declining moose numbers, very low recruitment, and declining bull:cow ratios. Our objective is to reduce harvests by approximately 50 percent in the Kougarok, Kuzitrin and Pilgrim River drainages in Unit 22D. Since the road system in Unit 22 extends to an adjoining area in Unit 22B, we are proposing similar seasons and bag limits for portions of Unit 22B (see companion proposal 19 for moose in Unit 22B) to maintain consistent regulations along the road system in Unit 22.

In the Kougarok, Kuzitrin and Pilgrim River drainages in Unit 22D, the most recent moose census is from 1997 and it shows the population stabilized following a 35 percent decline between 1988 and 1993. However, 1999 and 2000 spring recruitment surveys and fall 2000 composition surveys revealed low recruitment and low calf:adult ratios in the Kougarok, Kuzitrin and Pilgrim River drainages. The population is still believed to be declining. Additionally, a November 2000 composition survey found the bull:cow ratio had declined to 16 bulls:100 cows. In 2000, harvest and hunter success rates dropped off, and staff and local hunters are concerned about declining numbers of moose, poor calf survival, the low bull:cow ratio, and scarcity of mature bulls. In October 2000, the department closed the season by emergency order in this area because of high harvests.

The southwestern portion of Unit 22D is not an area that produces or supports many moose. However, the Nome-Teller Road bisects this area and it is desirable to have uniform regulations along the Nome road system so harvest restrictions in one area do not displace hunters to other road accessible areas that cannot support additional harvest.

For the current regulatory year 2001-2002, the moose hunting season in the area identified in this proposal (and companion proposal 19 for moose in Unit 22B) were shortened by emergency order to a 26-day season from Aug. 20-Sept. 14. Based on input at a public meeting held to discuss moose management in the Nome area, we recommend adopting a regulation that uses the same season as outlined in the emergency order. To insure that the desired harvest reduction occurs, we recommend establishing a registration permit hunt in the Kougarok, Kuzitrin, Pilgrim drainages in Unit 22D with a quota to be announced by the department.

Western Arctic Herd caribou have wintered on the northern and central Seward Peninsula in recent years, making this an opportune time to reduce moose harvests when alternative game meat is available to hunters. However, this season reduction significantly limits subsistence opportunity and the board may want to consider closure of the nonresident season to better satisfy subsistence need.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Moose harvest will not be reduced and the population will continue to decline.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Not applicable.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? People who will be hunting moose in the future.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? People who hunted during the times when the season will now be closed, especially the winter hunts by snowmachine.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? We considered complete closure of the moose season, but this was rejected because subsistence hunting of moose is very important to local residents in Unit 22D.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-01F-G-027)

PROPOSAL 22 - 5 AAC 85.045(20). HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR MOOSE. Amend this regulation to shorten the resident and nonresident moose hunting seasons in Unit 22E and change the resident bag limit, as follows:

Units and Bag Limits	Resident Open Season (Subsistence and General Hunts)	Nonresident Open Season
(20)		
...		
Unit 22E		
RESIDENT HUNTERS: <u>1 antlered bull</u> [1 MOOSE; NO PERSON MAY TAKE A COW ACCOMPANIED BY A CALF]	Aug. 1-<u>Dec. 31</u> [MAR 31]	
NONRESIDENT HUNTERS: 1 bull with 50-inch antlers or antlers with 4 or more brow tines on one side		<u>Sept. 1-Sept. 14</u> [AUG.1-MAR.31]
...		

ISSUE: An April 2001 moose census in Unit 22E showed the moose population declined by 23 percent to 152 moose compared to the previous census in 1996, and it declined by 33 percent since 1990. The 2001 recruitment rate was estimated at 8 percent. Local hunting activity shows that harvest patterns have shifted, and late winter harvest of cows from the small resident moose population has increased in recent years as bulls have become more difficult to find in the fall portion of the season. Since 1994, 95 percent of the reported moose harvest in Unit 22E was by unit residents from Shishmaref and Wales. The communities of Shishmaref and Wales share the

department's concern and recommended closing the cow season, shortening the resident season to five months, and shortening the nonresident season to two weeks.

Given the need to significantly reduce subsistence harvest and eliminate the harvest of cows, we recommend that if a nonresident season is retained, it be significantly shortened, as shown above. During a public meeting held by the department, Wales recommended and supported a full-closure of nonresident moose hunting in Unit 22E.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? The small resident moose population in Unit 22E may be reduced to very low numbers.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Not applicable.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Future Unit 22E moose hunters.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? In the short term, those who want to harvest a cow or hunt moose in the late winter.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? We considered closing the season (no hunting), a shorter general season hunt, a registration hunt, and a Tier II permit hunt, but the department and unit villages agreed to recommend the season and bag limit in this proposal with the understanding that a census will be conducted next year, and further restrictions may be necessary in the future if the population continues to decline.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-01F-G-028)

PROPOSAL 23 - 5 AAC 85.045(21) HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR MOOSE. Change this regulation to prohibit the take of calf moose throughout Unit 23.

Units and Bag Limits	Resident Open Season (Subsistence and General Hunts)	Nonresident Open Season
<p>(21)</p> <p>Unit 23, that portion north of and including the Singoalik River drainage</p> <p>RESIDENT HUNTERS: 1 moose; a person may not take a calf or a cow accompanied by a calf</p> <p>NONRESIDENT HUNTERS: 1 bull with spike-fork or 50-inch antlers or antlers</p>	<p>July 1 – Mar. 31</p>	<p>Sept. 1 – Sept. 20</p>

with 4 or more brow tines on one side

Unit 23, that portion in the Noatak drainage

RESIDENT HUNTERS:

1 moose; however, antlerless moose may be taken only from Nov. 1 through Mar. 31; **a** [NO] person may **not** take a **calf or a** cow accompanied by a calf

Aug. 1 – Sept. 15
Oct. 1 – Mar. 31

NONRESIDENT HUNTERS:

1 bull with spike-fork or 50-inch antlers or antlers with 4 or more brow tines on one side

Sept. 1 – Sept. 15

Remainder of Unit 23

RESIDENT HUNTERS:

1 moose; a person may not take a **calf or a** cow accompanied by a calf

Aug. 1 – Mar. 31

NONRESIDENT HUNTERS:

1 bull with spike-fork or 50-inch antlers or antlers with 4 or more brow tines on one side

Sept. 1 – Sept. 20

ISSUE: There is little long-term quantitative information regarding moose populations in most portions of Unit 23. Moose calf recruitment averaged only 9 percent annually in the Noatak drainage during 1997-2001, while adult mortality averaged at least 15 percent annually during 1992-1997. We think the disparity between adult mortality and recruitment has not been as great elsewhere in Unit 23 in recent years. However, recruitment in the Tagagawik drainage was only 8 percent in 2001. Also, moose in adjoining subunits (e.g., Units 22B and 22E) have declined by roughly 50 percent. Brown bears appear to be abundant throughout Unit 23, and black bears abundant in the middle and upper Kobuk. Although not common, calves are occasionally taken by hunters. Restricting the take of calf moose throughout Unit 23 is an attempt to minimize recruitment problems by conserving calves. This helps to ensure that natural mortality is the only factor affecting the recruitment of calves in Unit 23. Applying the restriction to all of Unit 23 allows regulations to be consistent with the three areas of Unit 23 that have different moose hunting regulations.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? The bag limit will allow the take of calf moose and this could reduce recruitment in the future.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? This proposal is intended to afford additional protection to moose rather than maintain or increase the quality of hunting in Unit 23.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? In the long term all users of moose in Unit 23, and especially the Noatak drainage, will benefit.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Resident hunters who want to harvest a calf.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? 1) Propose no change. We rejected this alternative because we want to prevent hunting from depressing calf recruitment in Unit 23. 2) Eliminate the calf season for only the Noatak drainage. We rejected this to prevent harvests from contributing to low recruitment elsewhere in Unit 23 in the future, and to maximize regulatory consistency within and among units.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-01F-G-030)

PROPOSAL 24 - 5 AAC 85.045(21) HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR MOOSE. Amend this regulation for that portion of Unit 23 within the Noatak drainage as follows:

Units and Bag Limits	Resident Open Season (Subsistence and General Hunts)	Nonresident Open Season
(21)		
...		
Unit 23, that portion in the Noatak drainage		
RESIDENT HUNTERS: 1 moose; however, antlerless moose may be taken only from Nov. 1 through Dec. [MAR.] 31; no person may take a cow accompanied by a calf	Aug. 1 – Sept. 15 Oct. 1 – <u>Dec. 31</u> [MAR 31]	
NONRESIDENT HUNTERS: 1 bull with spike-fork or 50-inch antlers or antlers with 4 or more brow tines on one side		Sept. 6 – Sept. 15 [SEPT. 1 – SEPT. 15]
...		

ISSUE: Several sources suggest moose have substantially declined in the middle to lower Noatak drainage since about 1990. Telemetry information collected in this area during 1992-1997 indicated adult cow mortality averaged about 15 percent annually. Spring censuses conducted during 1997-2001 indicated recruitment averaged about 9 percent annually and that density declined approximately 40 percent from 0.56 moose/mi² in 1999 to 0.33 moose/mi² in 2001. Moose density in the middle-lower Noatak and upper Squirrel drainages recently dropped below the minimum population objective of 0.50 moose/mi² identified for Unit 23. Census data are consistent with reports from local residents, some long-term guides and transporters, as well as opportunistic observations by department staff. Natural mortality has appeared to be limiting moose abundance in the Noatak drainage more than human harvests. The winter of 1990-1991 was very severe and many moose starved. Since then brown bears and wolves have appeared to be abundant throughout the drainage, and we believe brown bear predation on calves has reduced recruitment. Moose harvests in the Noatak have been relatively low and have declined since the 1996-1997 regulatory year. Annual harvests since 1996-97 have ranged from 26-57 moose of which only 1-5 have been cows. Of the total five-year harvest since 1996-97, 15 percent was taken by residents of Unit 23, 42 percent was taken by nonlocal residents and 44 percent was taken by nonresidents. Regulatory changes proposed here are likely to only stabilize the population or slow the decline but not reverse it. These proposed changes represent a continuation of incremental reduction in seasons and bag limits begun in 1990 to prevent harvests from significantly contributing to this decline.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? The Noatak moose population may continue to decline. This could cause the harvestable surplus of moose to become insufficient to meet subsistence and general hunt needs.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? This proposal is intended to afford additional protection to moose rather than maintain or increase the quality of hunting in Unit 23.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? In the long term all users of moose in the Noatak drainage will benefit.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Resident hunters who want to harvest an antlerless moose during January-March will suffer. Some nonresident hunters will suffer from the shortened season in the Noatak drainage, and guides who operate in this drainage may have fewer nonresident clients and less time to schedule hunters. Users in other portions of Unit 23 may experience higher numbers of hunters if they are displaced from the Noatak drainage by these restrictions.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?

1. Propose no change. We rejected this alternative because we want to prevent or minimize hunting from contributing to the decline of moose in the Noatak drainage, and because we prefer to incrementally restrict moose seasons and bag limits rather than wait until drastic action becomes necessary.
2. Eliminate nonresident moose hunting in the Noatak drainage with no other change. We rejected this because the harvestable surplus of moose in this drainage is still more than adequate to meet subsistence needs. We believed this would unnecessarily restrict nonresident hunters and severely impact some guides. Also, protecting cows and calves

(currently open only to resident hunters) is probably the most important thing we can do to prevent harvests from contributing to this decline.

3. Establish a drawing permit hunt for nonresident moose hunters in the Noatak drainage. We rejected this because guides felt this would prompt nonresident hunters to go to areas where drawing permits were not required.
4. Restrict only resident antlerless moose seasons in the Noatak drainage. We rejected this because residents believe nonresident hunters should share some of the regulatory burden of restricting harvests.
5. Eliminate the antlerless season in the Noatak drainage. We rejected this because although few cows are currently being taken with a five-month antlerless season, some subsistence hunters still consider it important to retain even limited opportunity to take antlerless moose. If moose continue to decline in the Noatak we will consider eliminating the antlerless season in the future.

PROPOSED BY: Noatak/Kivalina Advisory Committee, Kotzebue Sound Advisory Committee and Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-01F-G-029)

PROPOSAL 25 - 5 AAC 85.045(21). HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR MOOSE and 5 AAC 92.003. HUNTER EDUCATION AND ORIENTATION REQUIREMENTS. Amend these regulations in Unit 23 as follows:

Nonresidents: Must possess an Alaskan Hunter Safety Education Card or be accompanied by a licensed guide in Alaska when hunting moose in a game management unit with antler restrictions, such as Unit 23, 50-inch spread or at least 4 brow tines on at least one side.

ISSUE: Harvesting and not recovering sublegal moose by unsupervised nonresident drop off hunters.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? With the internet, the number of drop off moose hunters has increased dramatically. Many of these hunters cannot judge a “legal” moose. (Brow tine and/or width configuration.) Out in the field more and more moose are shot by mistake and left behind.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes, wounded and/or unrecovered moose would decrease dramatically.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Resource managers, guides, and locals.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Air transporters to some extent, although they would still remain busy hauling caribou hunters and doing extra flying for guide operations.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Nonresident permit drawing. I saw this as an added unnecessary expense at this point.

PROPOSED BY: Dave Leonard (HQ-01F-G-016)

PROPOSAL 26 – 5 AAC 85.045(24). HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR MOOSE. Amend this regulation in Unit 26A to increase the moose hunting area and lengthen the season dates. (See companion proposal 38.)

Units and Bag Limits	Resident Open Season (Subsistence and General Hunts)	Nonresident Open Season
(24)		
Unit 26A, that portion in the Colville River drainage downstream from and including [THE MOUTH OF] the [ANAKTUVUK] Chandler River		
1 bull	<u>Aug. 1 – Sept. 14</u> [AUG. 1-AUG. 31]	No open season
Remainder of Unit 26A		
<u>1 bull</u>	<u>Sept. 1 – Sept. 14</u>	<u>No open season</u>

...

ISSUE: The moose population in Unit 26A declined by approximately 75 percent in the early 1990s. In response to the decline, and to help the population recover, the hunt area, season and bag limit were greatly reduced. Calf recruitment improved beginning in 1997 and counts indicate the population in the trend count area has steadily increased from a low of 152 moose in 1996 to 333 moose in 2001. Most of the population increase has taken place in the core area of the Colville River from the mouth of the Killik River to the mouth of the Anaktuvuk River, and on lower sections of the Anaktuvuk and Chandler rivers. Population growth has been slower on the upper Colville, Anaktuvuk, and Chandler rivers. Moose numbers have increased in the core area so that a limited increase in the bull harvest is possible without detracting from continued population recovery. However, it would be best to allow the population in the upper Colville, Anaktuvuk, and Chandler drainages to increase further before resuming hunting in those areas. If the controlled use area is extended to restrict aircraft during Sept. 1—Sept. 14, as proposed in the companion proposal, moose hunting will be primarily limited to this core area because the upper drainages are very difficult to reach other than by aircraft.

Since 1996 hunters have been restricted to hunting in the Colville River drainage downstream from the mouth of the Anaktuvuk River, where the density is low due to limited browse availability and hunting. The moose density is now much higher in the core area above the mouth of the Anaktuvuk River. It would be advantageous to spread the hunting effort to the area of higher moose density rather than to continue concentrating it on the lower Colville River.

Increasing the length of the season would also allow people to hunt later in the year when temperatures are cooler and the chance of meat spoilage is less.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Some opportunity to harvest bull moose will be lost. Hunting will be restricted to an area of low moose density in the unit downstream

from the mouth of the Anaktuvuk River. Hunters will be forced to hunt in August when temperatures are warmer and the chance of meat spoilage is greater.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Improved meat care will occur with cooler temperatures associated with the proposed Sept. 1—Sept. 14 hunting season.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Hunters who have access to a boat or other ground transportation in the hunt area will have a larger hunt area and longer season.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? If this proposal and the companion proposal are passed, hunters who would use aircraft to hunt would be excluded initially, but would benefit in future years by more moose in the upper drainages.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? No regulatory change was rejected because increased hunting opportunity can be accommodated. Allowing use of aircraft was rejected because the population is not large enough to support a significant increase in hunting pressure, as would occur with use of aircraft.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game and North Slope Borough Dept. of Wildlife Management (HQ-01F-G-031)

PROPOSAL 27 - 5 AAC 85.050(1). HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR MUSK OXEN. Amend this regulation in Unit 18 to increase the number of registration permits available for muskoxen on Nelson Island as follows:

Units and Bag Limits	Resident Open Season (Subsistence and General Hunts)	Nonresident Open Season
(1)		
...		
Unit 18, Nelson Island	Feb.1 - Mar. 25 (General hunt only)	Feb. 1 - Mar. 25
1 musk ox by registration permit only; up to <u>42</u> [30] permits will be issued on a first-come, first-served basis.		
...		

ISSUE: The department and five villages have a cooperative management plan for Nelson Island muskoxen that calls for a 12 percent harvest rate when the population is over 300 animals. During the most recent census on July 28, 2001, we counted 306 muskoxen. Since the population may exceed 300 animals in some years, we are applying the 12 percent harvest rate on a population of 350 animals to obtain the upper limit of 42 permits.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? The department will not be able to follow the Nelson Island Muskox Herd Cooperative Management Plan when the population exceeds 300 animals.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Not applicable.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Residents of the villages on or near Nelson Island that desire to harvest muskox.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? We considered submitting a proposal that included the guideline of a 12 percent exploitation rate when the population exceeds 300 animals. We decided that changing the number of permits from up to 30 to up to 42 (12 percent of 350) would be simpler.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-01F-G-035)

PROPOSAL 28 - 5 AAC 85.050(2). HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR MUSK OXEN. Amend this regulation in Unit 22E to increase the harvest rate for muskoxen from 5 percent to up to 8 percent, maintain a Tier II subsistence hunt, and establish a resident drawing hunt, as follows:

Units and Bag Limits	Resident Open Season (Subsistence and General Hunts)	Nonresident Open Season
(2)		
...		
Unit 22E		
1 musk ox per regulatory year by Tier II subsistence hunting permit only; however, cows may be taken only during the period Jan. 1-Mar. 15; up to <u>50</u> [23] musk oxen may be taken; however, not more than <u>25</u> [9] cows may be taken; the total harvest may not exceed <u>50</u> [23] musk oxen in Unit 22E	Aug. 1 – Mar. 15 (Subsistence hunt only)	No open season
<u>1 bull 4-year-old or older</u>	<u>Feb. 1 – Mar. 15</u>	<u>No open season</u>

by drawing permit only,
up to 10 permits may be issued

...

ISSUE: Residents of Shishmaref and Wales requested an increased harvest rate of muskoxen in Unit 22. Many Unit 22E residents (local residents) do not value muskoxen as highly as other species, and would like to slow or stop growth of the population near communities and on traditional hunting areas. Some local residents feel that muskoxen compete with people for berries and greens, frighten people, and are difficult to haze away from cabins and subsistence use areas. However, local residents would also like to increase utilization of the growing muskox population at a time when: 1) opportunity to hunt moose has been reduced due to declining moose numbers, 2) reindeer numbers are dwindling, and 3) the presence of caribou is uncertain. State and federal managers and unit residents recommend increasing the harvest rate in Unit 22E from 5 percent to up to 8 percent for both the Tier II and drawing permit hunts, with the harvest being divided equally between bulls and cows. The most recent census in spring of 2000 counted 461 muskoxen in Unit 22E with a 12.5 percent annual growth rate between 1992 and 2000. The increased harvest rate is expected to slow, but not stop, growth of the population in Unit 22E, which is consistent with the Seward Peninsula Muskox Management Plan. The Seward Peninsula Muskox Cooperators Group will consider requests to further slow or cap population growth at their next meeting.

Subsistence muskox hunters in Unit 22E have developed a preference for harvesting young bulls because older bulls were found to be tough and less palatable. They expect cows, which are legal to hunt for the first time in 2001-2002, will also provide desirable meat. Since mature bulls (4-year-old or older) are generally not selected by subsistence hunters in Unit 22E, they constitute an underutilized part of the muskox population. Therefore, a drawing permit hunt may be established on that segment of the population. It is recognized that a drawing permit hunt may result in economic benefits to Wales and Shishmaref, and provide a means to reduce the number of mature bulls from the subunit. Up to 6 percent of the estimated number of mature bulls in Unit 22E would be allotted to the drawing hunt. The remaining available harvest (2 percent) of mature bulls would be allocated to the subsistence hunt in the event that a young bull or cow cannot be found by Tier II permittees.

The 1998 Board of Game finding on the amount necessary for subsistence use of muskox on the Seward Peninsula was based in part on village testimony that 40-52 muskoxen were needed by Wales and Shishmaref to provide reasonable opportunity for subsistence. Considering current population growth and a harvest rate up to 8 percent, it may be several years before 40 muskox are available in the harvestable surplus. The board may want to review the amount necessary for subsistence.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Opportunity for subsistence and general season hunting will be lost because the Unit 22E muskox population can sustain additional harvest. Unit 22E residents will continue to be frustrated by our lack of responsiveness to their concerns about increasing numbers of muskox.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Subsistence hunters will have improved quality of harvest by choosing young bulls and cows when they are hunting. Drawing permit hunters will be able to select larger and older bull muskox.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Residents of Unit 22E who want to hunt more muskoxen for subsistence and who desire to slow or stabilize muskox population growth, and other residents of Alaska who want the opportunity to hunt for trophy muskoxen on the Seward Peninsula. Additionally, residents of Unit 22E may benefit if they choose to provide services to drawing permittees and/or charge fees to access private lands.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one. However, some residents of Unit 22E are concerned about the potential impact of non-local muskox hunters in their area.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Maintain the status quo, increase the number of Tier II subsistence permits, or establish a Tier I subsistence hunt.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-01F-G-033)

PROPOSAL 29 - 5 AAC 85.050(3), HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR MUSK OXEN. Consider a customary and traditional finding and establish a muskox hunt in Unit 26A, as follows:

Units and Bag Limits	Resident Open Season (Subsistence and General Hunts)	Nonresident Open Season
(3)		
<u>Unit 26A</u>		
1 muskox	Aug. 1-Mar. 31 <u>(Subsistence hunt only)</u>	No open season
...		

ISSUE: The population of muskoxen originating from the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge has continued to expand their range westward. In recent years the population has expanded westward from Unit 26B into Unit 26A. The Tier II muskox hunt area, which is currently defined as “Unit 26B west of the Dalton Highway” should be enlarged to allow people to harvest muskoxen that now reside across the game management unit boundary in Unit 26A.

However, before a Tier II hunt can be established, the Board must find the population has been used for customary and traditional purposes. A positive finding has been determined for the population in Unit 26B west of the Dalton Highway, but no such determination has been established for Unit 26A.

Currently, regulation 5 AAC 92.046 allows the commissioner to issue permits to harvest dispersing muskoxen in Unit 26A. This proposal will not affect 5 AAC 92.046, because department policy will expand the Tier II permit muskox hunt area to a limited area along the border of Units 26A and 26B. Additionally, 5 AAC 92.046 is intended to apply in caribou hunting areas surrounding villages and near camps that are distant from the Tier II permit

muskox hunt area that the department will establish in response to this proposal. If the muskox population continues to expand westward throughout Unit 26A, it is possible that 5 AAC 92.046 can eventually be replaced by a subsistence hunt.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? People will not be able to hunt some muskoxen from the population that they have been hunting in recent years because the animals will have moved across a game management unit borderline.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Not applicable.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? People with Tier II muskox permits and other people from North Slope communities will benefit because harvested muskoxen are generally shared within the community. Enforcement officers will not be required to determine whether muskoxen were taken on the legal side of the game management unit boundary.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? We considered continued management of the hunt area restricted to Unit 26B; but rejected it because it is better management policy to base the harvest on the population rather than game management unit boundaries. In addition, a hunt limited to Unit 26B would create enforcement problems for the officers who would have to determine which side of the line animals were harvested on.

Another solution considered was to expand the hunt area to only a limited portion of Unit 26A. This was rejected because the department has the authority to limit the hunt area based on management concerns and the distribution of the population. By avoiding a regulation that limits the hunt to a portion of Unit 26A, the issue will not need board action in the future when muskoxen continue to expand their range farther westward into Unit 26A.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-01F-G-034)

PROPOSAL 30 - 5 AAC 85.055(20). HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR DALL SHEEP. Housekeeping proposal to correct codified language and align sheep seasons in Units 23 and 26A as follows:

Units and Bag Limits	Resident Open Season (Subsistence and General Hunts)	Nonresident Open Season
(9)		
Unit 23, that portion north of Rabbit Creek, Kiyak Creek, and the Noatak River, and west of the Aniuk River (“DeLong Mountains”)		

RESIDENT HUNTERS: Aug. 10 – Apr. 30
1 sheep by registration [AUG. 1]
permit only (Subsistence hunt only)

ALL HUNTERS: Aug. 10 – Sept. 20 Aug. 10 – Sept. 20
1 ram with
full-curl horn or larger
by drawing permit only,
provided that the harvestable
surplus is greater than 9
sheep in combination with
that portion of Unit 26A,
west of the Etivluk River

...

ISSUE: During the Oct. 1997 Board of Game meeting in Nome, sheep seasons on both sides of the Brooks Range (Units 23 and 26A) were modified. The season dates for the Unit 23 “Delong Mountains” was codified incorrectly, with a starting date of Aug. 1 instead of Aug. 10. This proposal will correct that error.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? The sheep season for the Delong Mountains will be longer than intended.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Not applicable.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Sheep hunters that will no longer have different season starting dates on opposite sides of the same mountain range.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Hunters who thought the season began before other traditional sheep hunting seasons.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-01F-G-036)

PROPOSAL 31 - 5 AAC 85.056(2). HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR WOLF.
Amend this regulation in Unit 23 as follows:

Unit 23: Residents and Nonresidents: No limit Aug. 10—May 10

ISSUE: The wolf population is increasing in Unit 23 and it would be consistent to put “no limit” on a hunting license since trapping is that way. Also extend the season 10 days in the spring.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Wolf predation is increasing on sheep and moose at this time and at present levels these populations cannot afford the increase.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes, it will help enhance the ungulate population, specifically sheep and moose.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Locals and nonlocals.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Same-day airborne hunting. I did not think it would fly.

PROPOSED BY: Dave Leonard (HQ-01F-G-014)

PROPOSAL 32 - 5 AAC 85.060(6). HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR FUR ANIMALS. Amend this regulation to include a season for hunting beaver in Unit 22.

Establish hunting season for beaver in all of Unit 22, season to begin Aug. 1—Sept. 30. Limit of 20 per year.

ISSUE: Increase beaver population. Lack of opportunity to hunt beaver for meat by hunting regulations.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Beaver will continue to increase. People who wish to harvest beaver for meat will not be provided opportunity.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Beavers taken by trapping have little opportunity for consumption due to trapping under ice. By allowing a hunting season, resource will be better utilized.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Individuals wishing to harvest beaver for meat.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Trappers may be displaced by hunters (so few trappers that it will be minimal).

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Increase season for trapping beaver during ice free months so people could rely on good meat rejected due to incidental take of non-target species.

PROPOSED BY: Thomas S. Sparks (HQ-01F-G-003)

PROPOSAL 33 - 5 AAC 92.003. HUNTER EDUCATION AND ORIENTATION REQUIREMENTS. Amend this regulation to include Unit 23.

A nonresident hunter in Unit 23 must attend a department-approved hunter orientation course (to include trophy recognition, meat care, and applicable fish and game statutes and regulations) or must be accompanied by a registered guide or resident family member within the second degree of kindred.

ISSUE: We would like the board to address the problem of wanton waste/failure to salvage all the edible meat of a big game animal in Unit 23 by nonresident hunters.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? The division believes waste related crimes involving big game animals will continue to increase and tensions between local residents in this area and nonresident hunters will continue to build.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED?

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? All people who use Alaska’s big game resources. This regulation will reduce the amount of negligent violations on the part of nonresident hunters. This will promote Alaskan values of use of big game animals as food and reduce conflict between local and nonresident user groups.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Nonresident hunters will be encumbered by having to plan for and complete this course prior to hunting. Department employees will be affected by having to host these courses. Big game transporters could be affected if they choose to host these courses.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? We considered recommending that all hunters who do not reside in Unit 23 must complete this course. This would unnecessarily impact a large volume of hunters who historically violate fish and game statutes and regulations of this nature the least. This problem is primarily associated with seasonal, nonresident hunters who travel to Alaska to hunt in the fall.

PROPOSED BY: Division of Fish and Wildlife Protection (HQ-01F-G-042)

PROPOSAL 34 - 5 AAC 92.085(8)(D). UNLAWFUL METHODS OF TAKING BIG GAME; EXCEPTIONS. Amend this section by adding caribou in Unit 22 to the list of big game animals a person can take the same day they have been airborne.

ISSUE: The Western Arctic Caribou Herd numbers more than 400,000 animals and is growing. The department believes population pressure will eventually cause the herd to decline. The hunting season is now open year-round and legal bag limits allow each hunter to harvest more than a thousand caribou per year.

The requirement to camp prior to taking or assisting in taking a caribou is not needed for conservation or as an allocation tool. The allowable harvest is large enough to accommodate all users, including those who want to take a caribou the same day they have been airborne.

Allowing same day as airborne caribou hunting would disperse hunters who now concentrate where caribou cross highways by creating opportunities for some hunters to hunt in remote areas and at times where terrain or weather make camping prior to hunting impractical and hazardous.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Hunters who wish to take caribou the same day they have been airborne will be prohibited from doing so for no valid management purpose.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED?

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Hunters who wish to take or assist in taking a caribou the same day they have been airborne.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one; there are more than enough caribou to accommodate all users.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Applying this exception to portions of the WACH range.

PROPOSED BY: Tim Smith (HQ-01F-G-011)

PROPOSAL 35 - 5 AAC 92.108. IDENTIFIED BIG GAME PREY POPULATIONS AND OBJECTIVES. Amend this regulation to provide population and harvest objectives for those moose and caribou populations in Units 18, 22, 23 and 26A that were identified as important for high human consumptive use.

Population	Finding	Population Objective	Harvest Objective
...			
Caribou Herds			
...			
[KILBUCK]	[POSITIVE]		
...			
Teshkepuk	Positive	<u>15,000 – 28,000</u>	<u>900 – 2,800</u>
...			
Western Arctic	Positive	<u>>200,000</u>	<u>12,000 – 20,000</u>
...			
Moose			
...			
GMU 18	Positive	<u>1,000 – 2,000</u>	<u>60 – 200</u>
...			
GMU 22	Positive	<u>5,100 – 7,300</u>	<u>300 – 750</u>
GMU 23	Positive	<u>3,500 – 9,200</u>	<u>210 – 920</u>

...

ISSUE: Board determinations of population and harvest objectives for western and northwestern Alaska moose and caribou populations as required by the intensive management statute (AS 16.05.255(e)-(h)) were deferred to the November 2001 board meeting. Completion of these determinations is necessary in order for the intensive management statute to be fully implemented. To the best of our knowledge, the Kilbuck Caribou Herd no longer exists as a viable herd. Therefore, we recommend that the "Positive" finding be reconsidered.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? The intensive management statute and regulation will not be fully implemented.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Not applicable.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Not applicable.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Not applicable.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Not applicable.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-01F-G-024)

PROPOSAL 36 - 5 AAC 92.220. SALVAGE OF GAME MEAT, FURS AND HIDES. Amend this regulation to include Unit 23 as follows:

Meat of a big game animal taken in Unit 23 during the time of Aug. 10—Sept. 30, must remain on the bones of the hindquarters and front shoulders until removed from the field or is processed for human consumption.

ISSUE: We would like the board to address the problem of wanton waste/failure to salvage all the edible meat of a big game animal in Unit 23.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? The division believes waste related crimes involving big game animals will continue to increase and tensions between local residents in this area and non-local hunters will continue to build.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED?

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? All people who use Alaska’s big game resources. Alaska enjoys a long history of customary use of big game animals as a food source. This regulation will strengthen this history of customary use and reduce conflict between local and nonlocal resource user groups. This regulation will reduce the amount of big game meat that is wasted annually.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Big game transporters and registered guides could potentially be impacted by having to haul more weight out of the field. Resident and nonresident hunters

would see an increase in price for hunting trips in response to transporters and guides having to haul more weight out of the field.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? We considered recommending this requirement for the whole year, for including the rib cage and brisket as parts of the animal on which the meat must remain on the bone, and that the meat remain on the bone until it arrives at a place of processing. I did not recommend these requirements because this problem is primarily associated with the fall hunting season, the amount of meat on these parts is less than the quarters, and this would unnecessarily punish nonresident hunters who wish to ship their meat home.

PROPOSED BY: Division of Fish and Wildlife Protection (HQ-01F-G-043)

PROPOSAL 37 - 5 AAC 92.540(9). CONTROLLED USE AREAS. Create a new controlled use area in Unit 23 as follows:

Five miles either side of the Kobuk River from Hunt River to Walker Lake including all rivers that drain into the Kobuk River in that area: Hunt River, Redstone River, Shungnak River, Kogoluktuk River, Maunelik River, Pah River, Beaver River and Reed River. No use of airplanes or jet driven boats for hunting during Aug. 1—Sept. 30.

ISSUE: Continued interruptions from low flying airplanes and jet-driven motorboats to point of scaring game from near shore. Sport hunters camp on Native allotments and leave trash behind.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Continued interruption of subsistence hunting and fishing.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED?

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? The local area subsistence users.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Guides for fishing and hunting and weekend fly in fishers and hunters, day fishers and sightseers.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? None, all that has been done is talked about. No one sat down to get the necessary paperwork done for desire of controlled use area.

PROPOSED BY: Upper Kobuk Advisory Committee (HQ-01F-G-040)

PROPOSAL 38 - 5 AAC 92.540(10)(A). CONTROLLED USE AREAS. Amend this regulation to increase the time period when aircraft are not allowed for moose hunting in the Unit 26A Controlled Use Area. See companion proposal 26 to lengthen the moose hunting season and increase the hunt area in Unit 26A.

(10) Unit 26

(A) the Unit 26A Controlled Use Area:

(i) the area consists of Unit 26A;

(ii) the area is closed to the use of aircraft in any manner for moose hunting, including the transportation of moose hunters, their hunting gear, or parts of moose from August 1 through **September 14** [AUGUST 31] and from January 1 through March 31; a hunter may not take a

moose or transport hunting gear or parts of a moose in Unit 26A after being transported by aircraft into the unit; however, this provision does not apply to the transportation of moose hunters, their hunting gear, or parts of moose by regularly scheduled flights to and between villages by air carriers that normally provide scheduled service to this area, and does not apply to transportation by aircraft to or between publicly owned airports.

ISSUE: The Colville River moose population has increased in the core area (the Colville River from the mouth of the Killik River to the mouth of the Anaktuvuk River and the lower Chandler and Anaktuvuk rivers) so that a limited harvest of bulls from this area would not detract from the population recovery. The companion proposal would extend the moose hunting season on the Colville River drainage below the mouth of the Anaktuvuk River to September 14, and would open the moose hunting season in the remainder of Unit 26A between Sept. 1—Sept. 14. However, if the use of aircraft is allowed, hunting pressure may be substantial and harvests could quickly exceed allowable limits. This proposal would allow moose hunters to access Unit 26A by aircraft only at public airports, such as those at Nuiqsut and Umiat.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? If this proposal and the companion proposal are not passed, moose hunters will be unnecessarily limited to hunting during the month of August, aircraft would be restricted during the month of August, and hunting would only be permitted on the Colville River drainage below the mouth of the Anaktuvuk River. Hunters would be forced to hunt when there is more risk of meat spoilage. Additional hunting opportunity will be unavailable.

If this proposal is not passed, but the companion proposal 26 is passed, the moose season would be lengthened 14 days in September. Hunters could use aircraft during Sept. 1—Sept. 4 and this could lead to overharvest.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Not applicable.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Moose hunters who have access to boats or land transportation on the North Slope will benefit.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Hunters who would use aircraft to hunt would be excluded initially, but would benefit in future years when continued moose population increase will presumably allow moose hunters to access Unit 26A by aircraft.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? When considering the extended moose season proposed in the companion proposal, no regulatory change of the controlled use area would allow use of aircraft to hunt moose during September. This was rejected because it would probably lead to overharvest.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game and North Slope Borough Dept. Wildlife Management (HQ-01F-G-032)

**CALL FOR PROPOSALS
WINTER 2002 BOARD OF GAME MEETING**

**STATEWIDE ISSUES
January 18—23, 2002**

The Alaska Board of Game is accepting proposed changes to its regulations pertaining to hunting and the use of game to be considered at the Winter 2002 board meeting.

DEADLINE FOR PROPOSALS: 5 PM, OCTOBER 26, 2001

The following regulations will be considered:

- 5 AAC 92.001 Application of this Chapter
- 5 AAC 92.002 Liability for Violations
- 5 AAC 92.003 Hunter Education and Orientation Requirements
- 5 AAC 92.004 Policy for Off-Road Vehicle Use for Hunting and Transporting Game
- 5 AAC 92.005 Policy for Changing Board Agenda
- 5 AAC 92.010 Harvest Tickets and Reports
- 5 AAC 92.011 Taking of Game by Proxy
- 5 AAC 92.012 Licenses and Tags
- 5 AAC 92.016 Muskoxen Tag Fees
- 5 AAC 92.018 Waterfowl Conservation Tag
- 5 AAC 92.019 Taking of Big Game for Certain Religious Ceremonies
- 5 AAC 92.020 Application of Permit Regulations and Permit Reports
- 5 AAC 92.025 Permit for Exporting a Raw Skin
- 5 AAC 95.028 Aviculture Permits
- 5 AAC 92.029 Permit for Possessing Live Game
- 5 AAC 92.031 Permit for Selling Skins and Trophies
- 5 AAC 92.033 Permit for Sci, Ed, Propagative, or Public Safety Purposes
- 5 AAC 92.034 Permit to Take Game for Cultural Purposes
- 5 AAC 92.037 Permits for Falconry
- 5 AAC 92.039 Permit for Taking Wolves Using Aircraft
- 5 AAC 92.047 Permit for Using Radio Telemetry Equipment
- 5 AAC 92.104 Authorization for Methods and Means Disability Exemptions
- 5 AAC 92.106 Intensive Management of Identified Big Game Prey Populations
- 5 AAC 92.110 Control of Predation by Wolves
- 5 AAC 92.165 Sealing of Bear Skins and Skulls
- 5 AAC 92.170 Sealing of Marten, Lynx, Beaver, Otter, Wolf, and Wolverine
- 5 AAC 92.200 Purchase and Sale of Game
- 5 AAC 92.210 Game as Animal Food or Bait
- 5 AAC 92.220 Salvage of Game Meat, Furs, and Hides
- 5 AAC 92.230 Feeding of Game
- 5 AAC 92.250 Transfer of Muskoxen for Sci and Ed Purposes
- 5 AAC 92.450 Description of Game Management Units
- 5 AAC 92.990 Definitions

The Board of Game will also accept proposed changes to 5AAC 92.070 - Tier II Subsistence Hunting Permit Point System

MAIL OR DELIVER PROPOSALS TO THE FOLLOWING OFFICES:

Aubrey Merritt, ADF&G
P O Box 25526
Juneau, AK 99802-5526
PHONE: 465-2027
FAX: 465-6094

Susan Bucknell, ADF&G
P O Box 689
Kotzebue, AK 99752
PHONE: 442-3420
FAX: 442-2420

Jim Marcotte, ADF&G
1300 College Road
Fairbanks, AK 99701-1599
PHONE: 459-7215
FAX: 474-8558

Joe Chythlook, ADF&G
P O Box 1030
Dillingham, AK 99576
PHONE: 842-5142
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Boards Support Section
P O Box 1788
Bethel, AK 99559-1788
PHONE: 543-4467
FAX: 543-4477

Sherry Wright, ADF&G
333 Raspberry Road
Anchorage, AK 99518-1599
PHONE: 267-2354
FAX: 465-6094

Proposal forms may be obtained from any office of the Boards Support Section. All proposals must contain an original signature. Please print or type the individual's name and an organizational name if appropriate. A fax is acceptable and considered an original. Proposals must be received in one of the above offices by the deadline (a postmark is NOT sufficient for timely receipt). Proposals are reviewed by the board's proposal review committee prior to publication. Language that is emotionally charged detracts from the substance of the proposal. It may draw opposition that may not be germane to the element(s) of the proposal and may elicit nonresponsive charges from the public/board members. The proposal review committee reserves the right to edit proposals containing offensive language. Following publication, proposal booklets will be available to advisory committees and interested members of the public for their review and comments. *If you are a person with a disability who may need a special modification in order to make a proposal, please call Aubrey Merritt (465-2027). To correspond by text telephone (TDD) call 1800-478 2028).*

**ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES AND ALASKA BOARD OF GAME
REGULATION PROPOSAL FORM, P.O. BOX 25526, JUNEAU, ALASKA 99802-5526**

BOARD OF FISHERIES REGULATIONS

- Fishing Area _____
 Subsistence Personal Use
 Sport Commercial

JOINT BOARD REGULATIONS

- Advisory Committee Regional Council Rural

BOARD OF GAME REGULATIONS

- Game Management Unit (GMU) _____
 Hunting Trapping
 Subsistence Other _____
 Resident
 Nonresident

Please answer all questions to the best of your ability. All answers will be printed in the proposal packets along with the proposer's name (address and phone numbers, will not be published). Use separate forms for each proposal.

1. Alaska Administrative Code Number 5 AAC _____ Regulation Book Page No. _____

2. What is the problem you would like the Board to address?

3. What will happen if this problem is not solved?

4. What solution do you prefer? In other words, if the Board adopted your solution, what would the new regulation say?

5. Does your proposal address improving the quality of the resource harvested or products produced? If so, how?

6. Solutions to difficult problems benefit some people and hurt others:

A. Who is likely to benefit if your solution is adopted?

B. Who is likely to suffer if your solution is adopted?

7. List any other solutions you considered and why you rejected them.

DO NOT WRITE HERE

Submitted By: Name

Individual or Group

Address _____ Zip Code _____ Phone _____

