

# Summary of Actions Alaska Board of Game

## INTERIOR REGION BOARD OF GAME MEETING March 10-21, 2006 Princess Riverside Lodge, Fairbanks, AK

### **DESIGNATED REPORTERS: Rita St.Louis**

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

#### **PROPOSAL NO. 1**

**ACTION: Carried as Amended**

**DESCRIPTION:** Lengthen beaver season to Sept. 25 through June 10 in Units 21B and 21D.

**AMENDMENTS:** A firearm may be used to take beaver through the season.

**DISCUSSION:** The board supported lengthening the season from September 25 through June 10 in Units 21B and 21D which is consistent with trapping seasons in other Units.

#### **PROPOSAL NO. 2**

**ACTION: Carried as Amended**

**DESCRIPTION:** Modify beaver season to no closed season and no limit for beaver in Unit 20.

**AMENDMENTS:** Modify the season from Sept 25 to May 31 with a bag limit of 25 per season. Firearm may not be used to take beaver in Unit 20B and 20D, and underwater traps and snares may be used during September 25-October 31 and April 15 – May 31.

**DISCUSSION:** The board supported extending the season and agreed that no conservation issue existed. The amended proposal provides ample opportunity for people with various uses and various needs.

#### **PROPOSAL NO. 3**

**ACTION: Carried**

**DESCRIPTION:** Allow shooting of 5 beavers/day in Unit 25 in Sept & Oct.

**DISCUSSION:** The board concluded that adding a firearm season and raising the bag limit allows increased opportunity and does not significantly impact the take. People do not often take beaver but when they do it would be beneficial to take more than two at a time. Winter trapping is light and the population is not going to be jeopardized.

#### **PROPOSAL NO. 4**

**ACTION: No Action**

**DESCRIPTION:** Allow hunters to use firearms to take beaver in 21D during the trapping season.

**DISCUSSION:** Board members took no action on this proposal in light of the action taken on Proposal one.

#### **PROPOSAL NO. 5**

**ACTION: Carried**

**DESCRIPTION:** Allow the use of firearms for trapping beaver in Unit 22 from Sept. 15 – Oct. 31.

**DISCUSSION:** The board discussed the consistency with trapping seasons in other units and agreed the proposal will not significantly increase the harvest.

**PROPOSAL NO. 6**

**ACTION: Failed**

**DESCRIPTION:** Allow 660 conibear style traps with a jaw spread of 26 inches for underwater harvest of beavers in Unit 21D.

**DISCUSSION:** The board was concerned with the safety issue of using this style of trap above water and the potential of trapping non target species. The board felt this was an “overkill” tool and not necessary for trapping beaver, nor would it help the trapping industry.

**PROPOSAL NO. 7**

**ACTION: No Action**

**DESCRIPTION:** Lengthen beaver season to September 1; salvage either meat or pelt in 21D.

**DISCUSSION:** Board members took no action due to the action taken on Proposal one.

**PROPOSAL NO. 8**

**ACTION: Carried as Amended**

**DESCRIPTION:** Extend beaver trapping season in GMU 12 & 20E, modify bag, methods, and salvage requirements.

**AMENDMENTS:** Extend season by five more days.

**DISCUSSION:** Based on department information, the board concluded that this extension would have minimal impact on the population and would allow for more opportunity.

**PROPOSAL NO. 9**

**ACTION: Carried as Amended**

**DESCRIPTION:** Prohibit the use of lead shot for hunting any birds in Unit 26.

**AMENDMENTS:** This amendment clarified that only nontoxic shot approved by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is allowed for taking upland game birds.

**DISCUSSION:** The board appreciated the local residents for submitting the proposal. Use of lead shot is illegal for waterfowl, and this would extend into upland birds. There was some discussion about price of steel shot and the phenomenal mark up in its sale. There is a strong cultural imperative to look after the land. Education will be the main tool to implement this change.

**PROPOSAL NO. 10**

**ACTION: Failed**

**DESCRIPTION:** Create Unit 19 bison drawing hunt for people who take 2 bears from specific area.

**DISCUSSION:** The board discussed the new incentives to take bears already in place. Furthermore the proposal would create unnecessary administrative challenges such as assuring the origin of where the bear was taken. The board was concerned with issues related to regulating, abuse, and qualification.

**PROPOSAL NO. 11**

**ACTION: Tabled as Amended**

**DESCRIPTION:** Classify black bear as furbearers and allow trapping and sale of hides.

**AMENDMENTS:** Authorize experimental program in 19D east of the EMMA with the following: Aldridge-type of foot snares, cable size ¼” or larger, 2. power foot snares on ground, 3. all snares in cubbies, 3. orientation program required, 4. check snares a minimum of every 48 hours, 5. permits required, 6. April 15 through June 15 with an unlimited bag limit for any bear.

**DISCUSSION:** Board members discussed the potential to help the moose population if the proposal passed and felt it is worth trying in a small, experimental area. Discussion from January statewide meeting was referenced.

**PROPOSAL NO. 12**

**ACTION: Failed**

**DESCRIPTION:** A scent lure may be used for bear while afloat in a boat or raft.

**DISCUSSION:** The board expressed concerns for the safety of people and property with passage of the proposal. Even though scent lures are not technically bait, they would attract bears as though they were bait. It was felt that the suggestion is likened to a “traveling bait station.”

**PROPOSAL NO. 13**

**ACTION: Failed**

**DESCRIPTION:** No bear baiting within 3 miles of a permanent dwelling or recreational facilities.

**DISCUSSION:** The board agreed this issue should be taken up at a statewide meeting. Current regulations are adequate.

**PROPOSAL NO. 14**

**ACTION: Tabled**

**DESCRIPTION:** Allow same day airborne hunting of black bears over bait.

**DISCUSSION:** The board agreed the proposal should be addressed at a future meeting with the other tabled proposals concerning predator control plans.

**PROPOSAL NO. 15**

**ACTION: No Action**

**DESCRIPTION:** Allow black bear trapping in Unit 21D.

**DISCUSSION:** Board members took no action due to the action taken on Proposal 11.

**PROPOSAL NO. 16**

**ACTION: No Action**

**DESCRIPTION:** Increase black bear bag limit to 5 for residents, 3 for nonresidents in Unit 19.

**DISCUSSION:** Board members took no action due to the action taken on Proposal 17.

**PROPOSAL NO. 17**

**ACTION: Carried as Amended**

**DESCRIPTION:** Convert registration black bear permit hunt in Unit 19D to general season.

**AMENDMENTS:** Eliminate registration permit in Unit 19A and increase bag limit to five in Units 19A and 19D.

**DISCUSSION:** The board agreed this proposal stays within intensive management goals and provides opportunities for residents and non residents to hunt. A five bear bag limit is not an extreme change but might increase harvest. The board referenced a translocation experiment which proved that moose populations grew when bear were removed.

**PROPOSAL NO. 18**

**ACTION: Failed**

**DESCRIPTION:** Eliminate black bear sealing requirement in Unit 19D.

**DISCUSSION:** Without a sealing requirement, critical bear harvest information would not be collected. The board acknowledged that some bears would be passed up by keeping the sealing requirement, but since this was not a conservation issue, they expressed more concern with losing data by not imposing sealing requirements.

**PROPOSAL NO. 19**

**ACTION: Failed**

**DESCRIPTION:** Require GPS coordinates for bait stations in lower Goodpaster River valley.

**DISCUSSION:** The board felt this was more of an education issue. There were very few people who baited bear in this area. They suggested the Goodpaster Homeowners Association give the GPS

coordinates as well as a map of cabin locations to the issuing Fish and Game Office so the bear baiters would know the exact location along the river.

**PROPOSAL NO. 20**

**ACTION: Failed**

**DESCRIPTION:** Prohibit bear baiting within ½ mi of Goodpaster R. from Tanana R to south fork.

**DISCUSSION:** It was concluded that because of the meandering nature of the Goodpaster River, the ½ mile limit on bear baiting would not be legal and difficult to enforce.

**PROPOSAL NO. 21**

**ACTION: Failed**

**DESCRIPTION:** Temporarily reclassify grizzly bears as furbearers in intensive management areas.

**DISCUSSION:** Action was already taken on a similar proposal at January Statewide meeting. Trapping was discussed in other proposals.

**PROPOSAL NO. 22**

**ACTION: Tabled**

**DESCRIPTION:** Allow the sale of grizzly and black bear hides taken in Unit 20E.

**DISCUSSION:** The board referenced past discussions from the January Statewide meeting at which the board adopted regulations to allow the selling of hides, and therefore, tabled the proposal.

**PROPOSAL NO. 23**

**ACTION: Tabled**

**DESCRIPTION:** Allow same day airborne bear hunting, sale of hides, and harvest of female and young bears.

**DISCUSSION:** The board referenced past discussions from the January Statewide meeting. The proposal was tabled until a future meeting to be discussed with the other tabled proposals regarding predator control plans.

**PROPOSAL NO. 24**

**ACTION: Failed**

**DESCRIPTION:** Create any moose drawing hunt in 20A for people who take 2 bears from specific area.

**DISCUSSION:** The board discussed the potential administrative challenges to implement the proposal. The board acknowledged fairness issues such as participation in one hunt allows participation in another. Other hunters would be disadvantaged.

**PROPOSAL NO. 25**

**ACTION: Failed**

**DESCRIPTION:** Make wounded moose or bear part of bag limit.

**DISCUSSION:** The board noted that similar proposals have come before it in the past. They agreed that the proposal provides important ethical standards for hunters; however the board did not support the proposal since it is specific for Unit 19.

**PROPOSAL NO. 26**

**ACTION: Tabled**

**DESCRIPTION:** Lengthen grizzly & wolf seasons through calving season.

**DISCUSSION:**

**PROPOSAL NO. 27**

**ACTION: Tabled**

**DESCRIPTION:** Include bears in predation control Implementation Plan for Unit 19D East.

**DISCUSSION:** The proposal was tabled until a future meeting to be discussed with the other tabled proposals regarding predator control plans.

**PROPOSAL NO. 28**

**ACTION: Carried as Amended**

**DESCRIPTION:** Lengthen brown bear season to Aug. 10-June 30 in remainder of Unit 20.

**AMENDMENTS:** Season extension only applies to Unit 20F.

**DISCUSSION:** The board supported the proposal which makes the season length consistent with 20D and 20E.

**PROPOSAL NO. 29**

**ACTION: Carried**

**DESCRIPTION:** Eliminate brown bear tag fee in Unit 25C.

**DISCUSSION:** Adopting this proposal is consistent with the intensive management goals for the Fortymile caribou herd. Eliminating bear tag fees is another way of encouraging more brown bear harvest.

**PROPOSAL NO. 30**

**ACTION: Carried**

**DESCRIPTION:** Reauthorize the brown bear tag fee exemptions in Region II.

**DISCUSSION:** The board acknowledged there is not a conservation problem for this bear population, and with the intensive management goals, taking a few more brown bears would help the moose and caribou populations.

**PROPOSAL NO. 31**

**ACTION: Carried**

**DESCRIPTION:** Eliminate brown bear tag fee in 21E.

**DISCUSSION:** The board supported the proposal and was optimistic that local hunters will be encouraged to take more bear with the elimination of the fee. The board noted that 21E is an intensive management area did not sense that a conservation concern existed.

**PROPOSAL NO. 32**

**ACTION: Carried**

**DESCRIPTION:** Reauthorize the brown bear tag fee exemptions in Region V.

**DISCUSSION:** The board agreed there is not a conservation issue for this region.

**PROPOSAL NO. 33**

**ACTION: Carried**

**DESCRIPTION:** Reauthorize the current resident tag fee exemptions for brown bear in Region III.

**DISCUSSION:** The board noted the low percentage of harvest except along the road systems. The tag fee waiver will only have a slight increase in bear harvest. The board commented that most AC's are in favor of this proposal.

**PROPOSAL NO. 34**

**ACTION: Carried**

**DESCRIPTION:** Eliminate brown bear tag fee in 19A.

**DISCUSSION:** The board agreed this proposal will be another step towards encouraging the take of brown bears in 19A.

**PROPOSAL NO. 35**

**ACTION: Carried**

**DESCRIPTION:** Eliminate Unit 21B grizzly tag fee.

**DISCUSSION:** The board noted that harvest objectives are not being met, sow numbers are not being reduced, and there is difficulty in finding licensed vendors in the area. Board members agreed that this will provide an opportunity to increase the harvest of bears. The loss of income to the state from tag fees will be minimal. The department recommended “do not adopt” because the area is not an intensive management area. The original purpose of the tag fee was to discourage incidental taking bears which is no longer an issue.

**PROPOSAL NO. 36**

**ACTION: Carried as Amended**

**DESCRIPTION:** Increase brown bear bag limit to 2 in Unit 19D.

**AMENDMENTS:** Increase brown bear bag limit to 2 in Unit 19D and retains current season.

**DISCUSSION:** Board members agreed the proposal was well thought out by the McGrath Advisory Committee. Although a dramatic increase in harvest is not anticipated by passing the proposal, it will help. If the harvest doubles, the number of bears taken will be within limits of what department says is sustainable.

**PROPOSAL NO. 37**

**ACTION: Failed**

**DESCRIPTION:** Open brown bear season Sept. 1 in Unit 20A.

**DISCUSSION:** The board expressed concern about the potential population decline by extending the season. Bear harvest is already above the estimated maximum sustained yield. Proportions of female harvest are high. Increased hunter densities are likely to result in additional harvest.

**PROPOSAL NO. 38**

**ACTION: Failed**

**DESCRIPTION:** Lengthen brown bear season in Units 21 & 24.

**DISCUSSION:** The board agreed that ample of opportunity currently exists. This proposal would take seasons in other units out of alignment of which a lot of effort has already been made into simplifying bear seasons.

**PROPOSAL NO. 39**

**ACTION: Failed**

**DESCRIPTION:** Allocate percent of 20A caribou drawing permits to guided hunters.

**DISCUSSION:** The board discussed their action of adopting a policy during the meeting regarding the allocation of permits to guided hunters which requires the following: Allocations will be determined on a case by case basis and will be based upon the historical data of nonresident and resident permit allocation over the past ten years. Unit 20A does not have a historical basis to consider. The board was cautious about change the allocation and the impact it would have on guides.

**PROPOSAL NO. 40**

**ACTION: Carried**

**DESCRIPTION:** Align caribou seasons/bag limits with new subunit boundaries in Unit 24.

**DISCUSSION:** The proposal is a regulatory housekeeping measure that adjusts the regulations to match the newly established subunits for Unit 24 which the board adopted at the Statewide meeting.

**PROPOSAL NO. 41**

**ACTION: No Action**

**DESCRIPTION:** Modify seasons and bag limits for caribou in Mulchatna herd.

**DISCUSSION:** Board members took no action on this proposal in light of the action taken on Proposal 159.

**PROPOSAL NO. 42**

**ACTION: Failed**

**DESCRIPTION:** Change sheep bag limit for residents to 7/8 curl.

**DISCUSSION:** The board noted that the “7/8 curl” issue was discussed at January Statewide meeting and the board not support. The board agreed it should not be changed for this region.

**PROPOSAL NO. 43**

**ACTION: Carried**

**DESCRIPTION:** Align sheep seasons/bag limits with new subunit boundaries in Unit 24.

**DISCUSSION:** The board agreed the proposal is straightforward and adjusts the regulations to match the newly established subunits for Unit 24.

**PROPOSAL NO. 44**

**ACTION: Tabled**

**DESCRIPTION:** Allocate percent of sheep drawing permits to nonresident hunters in TMA.

**DISCUSSION:** The board tabled the proposal due to the discussion on Proposal 72 and the newly adopted policy on nonresident permit allocation.

**PROPOSAL NO. 45**

**ACTION: Failed**

**DESCRIPTION:** Establish deer season in Units 11, 12, 13, 20, 25.

**DISCUSSION:** The board questioned which species of deer are moving north; there have been sightings of both mule and whitetail deer. The board did not want to set a season until there are enough deer to harvest. The department does not support opening seasons for potentially desirable species that may be naturally dispersing into new areas.

**PROPOSAL NO. 46**

**ACTION: Carried**

**DESCRIPTION:** Reauthorize the antlerless moose hunt in Gustavus portion of Unit 1C.

**DISCUSSION:** The board acknowledged severe habitat overuse and the department’s data indicating the moose are entering this winter is a relatively poor condition compared to other coastal moose in Alaska. The board noted the opposition to this hunt by local residents but agreed it is a biological issue that needs to be addressed.

**PROPOSAL NO. 47**

**ACTION: Carried**

**DESCRIPTION:** Reauthorize the antlerless moose hunt in the Berner’s Bay portion of Unit 1C.

**DISCUSSION:** Board members agreed that the department provided sufficient data to support the proposal.

**PROPOSAL NO. 48**

**ACTION: Carried**

**DESCRIPTION:** Reauthorize the antlerless moose hunt in Unit 5A, Nunatak Bench.

**DISCUSSION:** It was noted that this hunt is managed separately from 5A. Board members agreed that the department provided sufficient data to support the proposal.

**PROPOSAL NO. 49**

**ACTION: Carried**

**DESCRIPTION:** Reauthorize the antlerless moose hunt in Unit 6A.

**DISCUSSION:** Board members agreed that the department provided sufficient data to support the proposal.

**PROPOSAL NO. 50**

**ACTION: Carried**

**DESCRIPTION:** Reauthorize the antlerless moose hunt in Unit 6C.

**DISCUSSION:** Board members agreed that the department provided sufficient data to support the proposal.

**PROPOSAL NO. 51**

**ACTION: Carried**

**DESCRIPTION:** Reauthorize the antlerless moose hunt in Unit 6B.

**DISCUSSION:** Board members agreed that the department provided sufficient data to support the proposal.

**PROPOSAL NO. 52**

**ACTION: Carried**

**DESCRIPTION:** Reauthorize antlerless moose season in Placer River drainage; Unit 7 and 14C.

**DISCUSSION:** Board members agreed that the department provided sufficient data to support the proposal.

**PROPOSAL NO. 53**

**ACTION: Carried**

**DESCRIPTION:** Reauthorize antlerless moose hunt in the Fort Richardson MA in Unit 14C.

**DISCUSSION:** Board members agreed that the department provided sufficient data to support the proposal.

**PROPOSAL NO. 54**

**ACTION: Carried**

**DESCRIPTION:** Reauthorize the antlerless moose hunt in the Birchwood MA; remainder of 14C.

**DISCUSSION:** Board members agreed that the department provided sufficient data to support the proposal.

**PROPOSAL NO. 55**

**ACTION: Carried**

**DESCRIPTION:** Reauthorize the antlerless season on Elmendorf Air Force Base in Unit 14C.

**DISCUSSION:** Board members agreed that the department provided sufficient data to support the proposal.

**PROPOSAL NO. 56**

**ACTION: Carried**

**DESCRIPTION:** Reauthorize antlerless moose hunt in the Anchorage MA in Unit 14C.

**DISCUSSION:** Board members agreed that the department provided sufficient data to support the proposal.

**PROPOSAL NO. 57**

**ACTION: Carried**

**DESCRIPTION:** Reauthorize the antlerless portion of the drawing permit in the upper Ship Creek drainage.

**DISCUSSION:** Board members agreed that the department provided sufficient data to support the proposal.

**PROPOSAL NO. 58**

**ACTION: Carried**

**DESCRIPTION:** Reauthorize the antlerless moose season in Unit 14A.



**DISCUSSION:** Board members agreed that the department provided sufficient data to support the proposal.

**PROPOSAL NO. 59**

**ACTION: Carried**

**DESCRIPTION:** Reauthorize antlerless moose season in a portion of Unit 15C.

**DISCUSSION:** Board members agreed that the department provided sufficient data to support the proposal.

**PROPOSAL NO. 60**

**ACTION: Carried**

**DESCRIPTION:** Reauthorize antlerless moose season in portion of 15A, the Skilak Loop MA.

**DISCUSSION:** Board members agreed that the department provided sufficient data to support the proposal.

**PROPOSAL NO. 61**

**ACTION: Carried**

**DESCRIPTION:** Reauthorize the antlerless moose season on Kalgin Island in Unit 16B.

**DISCUSSION:** Board members agreed that the department provided sufficient data to support the proposal.

**PROPOSAL NO. 62**

**ACTION: No Action**

**DESCRIPTION:** Close moose season in Holitna drainage, Units 19A and 19B.

**DISCUSSION:** The board agreed to take No Action based on their action on Proposal 70.

**PROPOSAL NO. 63**

**ACTION : No Action**

**DESCRIPTION:** Issue permits for RM640 in all Unit 19 villages with C&T determination.

**DISCUSSION:** The board agreed to take No Action based on their action on Proposal 70.

**PROPOSAL NO. 64**

**ACTION: No Action**

**DESCRIPTION:** Close moose season in 19A and the Holitna drainage in 19B.

**DISCUSSION:** The board agreed to take No Action based on their action on Proposal 70.

**PROPOSAL NO. 65**

**ACTION: No Action**

**DESCRIPTION:** Shorten or close moose seasons in Units 19A & 19B.

**DISCUSSION:** The board agreed to take No Action based on their action on Proposal 70.

**PROPOSAL NO. 66**

**ACTION: No Action**

**DESCRIPTION:** Retain the closed season for nonresidents in 19A.

**DISCUSSION:** The board agreed to take No Action based on their action on Proposal 70.

**PROPOSAL NO. 67**

**ACTION: No Action**

**DESCRIPTION:** Reestablish moose seasons in Units 19A & 19B.

**DISCUSSION:** The board agreed to take No Action based on their action on Proposal 70.

**PROPOSAL NO. 68**

**ACTION: Carried as Amended**

**DESCRIPTION:** Extend moose season to Sept. 30 in 19D upstream from Selatna & Black Rivers.

**AMENDMENTS:** The board adopted language to extend the sunset date for the Upper Kuskokwim Controlled Use Area from 2006 to 2008.

**DISCUSSION:** The board did not extend the moose hunt season as proposed; however they agreed that by extending the sunset clause until 2008 there would be more opportunity to monitor the moose populations in 19D.

**PROPOSAL NO. 69**

**ACTION: No Action**

**DESCRIPTION:** Close Oskawalik River to moose hunting in Units 19A & 19B.

**DISCUSSION:** The board agreed to take No Action based on their action on Proposal 70.

**PROPOSAL NO. 70**

**ACTION: Carried as Amended**

**DESCRIPTION:** Retain nonresident closure; close resident moose hunting and implement a Tier II hunt in portions Unit 19A.

**AMENDMENTS:** The language was amended to change the boundaries from those in the original proposal to exclude the George River drainage but to include the Downey River drainage for the 'No open season' area. Retained the Sept. 5-20 season in the remainder of 19B for nonresidents. Adopted ANS range 19A to 175-225 and the ANS range to 20-24 for 19B.

**DISCUSSION:** Given the dangerously low moose numbers, the board agreed that the challenge is immense. The board had lengthy discussion on different options to avoid Tier II and to provide opportunity for the various users. Many of the local users clearly did not want a Tier II situation, but after reviewing extensive research and thereby establishing the ANS for 19A and 19B, the board found compelling legal evidence for a Tier II hunt in the downriver portion of 19A. The board discussed including Lime Village in the entire Tier II hunt and the history of the establishment of the Lime Village Management Area. After discussing the history of extensive use in the Holitna and Hoholitna drainages together with trying to oblige the local residents of the upriver villages, the board closed a portion of 19A to all hunting. It was determined that 19B provides ample opportunity for subsistence as well as some non resident opportunities.

**PROPOSAL NO. 71**

**ACTION: Failed**

**DESCRIPTION:** Modify nonresident moose bag limit in portion of 20B.

**DISCUSSION:** The board agreed there is not a biological or conservation issue and noted that access is limited. Moose are not being over harvested in this remote area.

**PROPOSAL NO. 72**

**ACTION: Carried as Amended**

**DESCRIPTION:** Allocate permits to nonresidents in TMA. Require guide-client agreement.

**AMENDMENTS:** Resume nonresident allocation of "up to 10%", hunts to be guided or with next of kin, and the conditions of the recently adopted board policy on nonresident permit allocation is to be applied. (Effective 2007)

**DISCUSSION:** Discussion focused on the problem of a large number of permits being allocated to nonresidents. The number of applications has been much higher and a larger percent has gone to nonresidents due to the ability of applicants to apply on the internet. This hunt is a highly valued hunt for residents so the board wanted to make sure residents have a good chance of receiving permits. Furthermore, the board felt that a conservation issue exists. Guided hunters generally are more successful, so with increasing guided hunters the success rate is going up as well.

**PROPOSAL NO. 73**

**ACTION: Failed**

**DESCRIPTION:** Expand moose archery season to all of Unit 20B, season to Sept. 30.

**DISCUSSION:** The department commented that areas adjacent to the FMA already provide 101 consecutive days of bow hunting opportunity. The board agreed there is ample opportunity to hunt with bow and arrow from September 1 to September 30 and did not support establishing a special the season. The intent of the proposal is to alleviate overcrowding in the FMA; the board felt that providing more opportunity would not decrease crowding.

**PROPOSAL NO. 74**

**ACTION: No Action**

**DESCRIPTION:** Expand moose archery season to all of Unit 20B, season to Sept. 30.

**DISCUSSION:** The board agreed to take No Action based on their action on Proposal 73.

**PROPOSAL NO. 75**

**ACTION: Carried**

**DESCRIPTION:** Reauthorize the antlerless moose hunt in Unit 20B; create new drawing hunt.

**DISCUSSION:** The board agreed that the department gave a thorough argument to liberalize archery season, to increase antlerless hunt opportunities, and to take more moose to reduce road kills. Furthermore, with the 3-4 moose per square mile, the board was concerned about over-utilizing browse if the moose population was not reduced.

**PROPOSAL NO. 76**

**ACTION: Failed**

**DESCRIPTION:** Modify moose antler restrictions & season length in Unit 20A.

**DISCUSSION:** The board did not support this proposal based on the action on Proposal 85.

**PROPOSAL NO. 77**

**ACTION: Failed**

**DESCRIPTION:** Modify moose bag limit & allow shotguns in 20B, (FMA).

**DISCUSSION:** The board did not support this proposal based on a previous action to liberalize the bag limit. The board was also concerned with perceived safety issues, including the new loads one can get for shotguns.

**PROPOSAL NO. 78**

**ACTION: No Action**

**DESCRIPTION:** Allow shotguns and muzzleloaders for moose hunting in 20B, (FMA).

**DISCUSSION:** The board agreed to take No Action based on their action on Proposal 77.

**PROPOSAL NO. 79**

**ACTION: No Action**

**DESCRIPTION:** Expand Creamer's muzzleloading antlerless moose hunt to 20B, (FMA).

**DISCUSSION:** The board agreed to take No Action based on their action on Proposal 77.

**PROPOSAL NO. 80**

**ACTION: Failed**

**DESCRIPTION:** Establish any bull, by primitive weapon, by drawing permit only for 20A moose.

**DISCUSSION:** Because "primitive weapon" is undefined, and because there are already muzzleloader opportunities in the other areas of Unit 20, the board did not pass this proposal.

**PROPOSAL NO. 81**

**ACTION: Failed**

**DESCRIPTION:** Establish resident muzzleloader permit for antlerless moose in 20B; Chena R. drainages EAST of FMA 10/1-11/30.

**DISCUSSION:** While acknowledging a need for increased harvest, the board felt it has been accomplished by action taken on other proposals. They opposed special hunt opportunities when it is counter productive to having restrictive harvest method. Muzzleloaders have ample opportunity from September 1 to September 30 in the antlerless hunt.

**PROPOSAL NO. 82**

**ACTION: Failed**

**DESCRIPTION:** Change archery hunt on upper Chena & Salcha in 20B to primitive weapon.

**DISCUSSION:** The definition of “primitive weapons” was not clear. Moose are not over harvested in this area, nor is there a safety concern. The board felt since this is a remote area there is still ample opportunity.

**PROPOSAL NO. 83**

**ACTION: Carried**

**DESCRIPTION:** Modify number of brow tines required in Healy Lignite MA.

**DISCUSSION:** The board felt that since it is more difficult to get a bull with a bow, this proposal would provide more hunting opportunity. The board agreed there is low hunting pressure in this area, violations would be negligible, and enforcement would not be an issue. The board found no conservation concerns.

**PROPOSAL NO. 84**

**ACTION: No Action**

**DESCRIPTION:** Modify bag limit to any bull in Bison Range Youth hunt.

**DISCUSSION:** The board agreed to take No Action based on their action on Proposal 88. Proposal 88 modifies the bag limit to include antlerless moose in the existing drawing hunt.

**PROPOSAL NO. 85**

**ACTION: Carried**

**DESCRIPTION:** Modify general seasons and antlerless moose seasons in Unit 20A.

**DISCUSSION:** The board agreed with the department that the population exceeds the IM objectives. The increased harvest should improve distribution, reduce hunter densities along the road systems, and reduce social conflicts. Each hunt zone in Unit 20A would have its own permit. With the archery season, the department has addressed the Advisory Committee concerns. There will be increased opportunity with a longer season.

**PROPOSAL NO. 86**

**ACTION: No Action**

**DESCRIPTION:** Modify general seasons and antlerless moose seasons in Unit 20A.

**DISCUSSION:** The board agreed to take No Action based on their action on Proposal 85.

**PROPOSAL NO. 87**

**ACTION: Failed**

**DESCRIPTION:** Reinstate the Unit 20B, Tier II permit hunt in the Minto Flats Management Area.

**DISCUSSION:** The board acknowledged the harvestable surplus at 120-180 moose and the ANS at 40-60 moose. The annual harvest of 100 moose far exceeds the ANS which does not support the need for a Tier II hunt. The board discussed the problem of the distribution of the permits in local communities. The Department of Law commented that a lottery drawing system for a subsistence

hunt does not provide reasonable opportunity. It was noted that the residents of Minto and Nenana did not have the opportunity to meet to discuss this proposal.

**PROPOSAL NO. 88**

**ACTION: Carried as Amended**

**DESCRIPTION:** Modify general season; reauthorize and modify antlerless moose seasons in 20D.

**AMENDMENTS:** Open antlerless moose hunt in Unit 20D from October 1 – October 15 instead of September 1 – 15. Limit nonresident hunters to one antlerless moose in 20D per lifetime of hunter. Increase number of permits from 75 to 200 to be reflected in both areas of the Unit 20D regulations.

**DISCUSSION:** The board acknowledged the number of permits has been debated in the Delta Community and board members respect the advisory committee's desires. However, the board supported increasing the number of permits because it gives the department the flexibility to harvest additional antlerless moose if there is a biological need to do so. The board also commented on their responsibility to manage the resource for all users

**PROPOSAL NO. 89**

**ACTION: No Action**

**DESCRIPTION:** Create drawing permit hunts for moose in Units 21B, 21C, 21D, and 24.

**DISCUSSION:** This proposal was acted on two years ago and the board agreed not to take any action on it at this time.

**PROPOSAL NO. 90**

**ACTION: Carried**

**DESCRIPTION:** Create nonresident drawing permit hunt with shorter season in 21E.

**AMENDMENTS:** Retain antler restriction (50-inch with 4 or more brow tines on one side). Of the 100 permits for nonresidents, allocate 20% for guided hunts and at least 80% for nonguided hunts. Delay implementation until the Fall, 2007.

**DISCUSSION:** The board appreciated the proactive efforts of the Yukon-Innoko Moose Management team. The board thought by keeping the antler restrictions for nonresidents, and because it is a limited permit draw, up to 100 non resident permits should be issued. Of those, up to 20% of permits go to guided hunters at least 80% to unguided. One of the concerns expressed was not to reduce harvest, but to cap it and still provide hunting opportunities.

**PROPOSAL NO. 91**

**ACTION: Carried**

**DESCRIPTION:** Modify moose season and bag limits in 21A.

**AMENDMENTS:** Retain the current resident season and shorten the nonresident season to Sept 5-20 season to coincide with a proposed non resident season in 21E.

**DISCUSSION:** The board noted there are indications of a declining moose population. Harvest is down and the number of hunters is increasing. Between September 20 -25, the bulls are in rut and more vulnerable. Board members voiced concerns about harvestable surplus (extrapolated from 21E and refuge data) and about the lack of recent surveys to tell what is really happening. Much of the population is not accessible. Only a few roads are useable. Transporters are the main vehicle for getting hunters in. The department recommended that being conservative would be reasonable. Further concern was voiced that resident opportunity was reduced more than nonresident opportunity.

**PROPOSAL NO. 92**

**ACTION: Failed**

**DESCRIPTION:** Open and align winter antlered bull hunt in Unit 21E with season in Unit 18.

**DISCUSSION:** Based on recommendations by the Advisory Committees and the Yukon-Innoko Moose Management Group, the board did not support the proposal.

**PROPOSAL NO. 93**

**ACTION: Failed**

**DESCRIPTION:** Reauthorize antlerless moose hunting seasons in Unit 21D.

**DISCUSSION:** The board noted the concerns by the Advisory Committees that if this hunt were not approved, it would be difficult to reinstate. The board discussed the involvement of the Advisory Committees with the authorization process for antlerless moose hunts.

**PROPOSAL NO. 94**

**ACTION: No Action**

**DESCRIPTION:** Establish moose drawing permit in 21A, allocate portion of permits to nonresidents.

**DISCUSSION:** The board agreed to take No Action based on their action on Proposal 95.

**PROPOSAL NO. 95**

**ACTION: Failed**

**DESCRIPTION:** Extend moose season to Oct. 1 in 21A, 21B, 21D, 21E, and 24.

**DISCUSSION:** It was noted that emergency petitions were submitted last fall asking the board to extend the moose hunt seasons of which the board did not support. Bulls are in the middle of rutting season, and mature bulls more vulnerable, and the meat is not good. Since there is a low bull:cow ratio, the number of bulls is skewed toward yearling bulls which breed 2-3 weeks later, thus causing late born calves which are small and vulnerable during the winter season. The board believes the conservation concerns are greater than the need to have a longer hunt. The board noted the support and opposition by Advisory Committees.

**PROPOSAL NO. 96**

**ACTION: Carried as Amended**

**DESCRIPTION:** Align Unit 21A and 21B moose season with new subunit boundary.

**AMENDMENTS:** Adopted a split season, Aug. 22-Aug. 31, and Sept. 5 – 25 for resident and nonresident hunters in the Nowitna corridor, within two miles on each side of the river. The proposed December season was eliminated. Unit 21A was addressed in Proposal 91.

**DISCUSSION:** The board discussed the access to the Nowitna corridor by hunters and the impact narrowing the corridor would have on users. The board commented that the entire drawing pool of up to 300 permits goes both to residents and non residents and discussed the breakdown of users in the area. Some years the permit allocation might be skewed to one or the other, thus reducing opportunity for the group that did not get so many permits.

**PROPOSAL NO. 97**

**ACTION: Tabled**

**DESCRIPTION:** Allocate portion of drawing permits in 21B to guided nonresidents.

**DISCUSSION:** Based on the general policies set by the board regarding guided hunts, and because the board did not have historical data to base decisions on, they agreed that delaying a year would be a cautious approach.

**PROPOSAL NO. 98**

**ACTION: Failed**

**DESCRIPTION:** Restrict applicants to one of the two Koyukuk moose hunts each year.

**DISCUSSION:** The board indicated the reason for this proposal may be to satisfy the frustration of hunters who do not get permits. It was discussed whether or not this proposal would affect the drawing.

**PROPOSAL NO. 99**

**ACTION: Failed**

**DESCRIPTION:** Allocate nonresident drawing permits for moose in Unit 21B.

**DISCUSSION:** The board felt this proposal may not be necessary or at least premature due to regulations currently addressed. The drawings have already been awarded for this next season. Since there are no historical use patterns and because of the recently reestablished boundaries, the board decided to wait to see what happens. They suggested an agenda change request for the Anchorage meeting if the moose hunting and harvest do not meet goals.

**PROPOSAL NO. 100**

**ACTION: No Action**

**DESCRIPTION:** Require both antlers to be forfeited during the December season in Unit 21D.

**DISCUSSION:** The board agreed to take No Action based on their action on Proposal 95.

**PROPOSAL NO. 101**

**ACTION: Carried**

**DESCRIPTION:** Reauthorize the antlerless moose hunt in 22D.

**DISCUSSION:** Board members agreed with the information provided by the department to support the antlerless moose hunt.

**PROPOSAL NO. 102**

**ACTION: Carried**

**DESCRIPTION:** Reauthorize the antlerless moose hunt in Unit 23.

**DISCUSSION:** Board members agreed with the information provided by the department to support the antlerless moose hunt.

**PROPOSAL NO. 103**

**ACTION: Carried**

**DESCRIPTION:** Align moose seasons with the new subunit boundaries in Unit 24.

**DISCUSSION:** This is mainly a housekeeping proposal because of the Unit 24 boundary changes that were adopted by the Board at the January, Statewide meeting.

**PROPOSAL NO. 104**

**ACTION: Carried**

**DESCRIPTION:** Establish Intensive Management Objectives for the four new subunits of Unit 24.

**DISCUSSION:** The board recently adopted boundary changes to Unit 24 at the January, Statewide meeting. The board supports the Intensive Management objectives proposed by the department for the newly established subunits. The board agreed that each population is important for consumptive use and meets the IM objectives.

**PROPOSAL NO. 105**

**ACTION: Failed**

**DESCRIPTION:** Reauthorize the antlerless moose hunting seasons in Unit 24.

**DISCUSSION:** The board acknowledged the concerns by the Advisory Committees that it may be difficult to reinstate an antlerless moose hunt in the future. Since an antlerless hunt is not a probability

in the near future, the board preferred to reauthorize it at a later date. Furthermore, this notifies the public there is a population problem in this area.

**PROPOSAL NO. 106**

**ACTION: Failed**

**DESCRIPTION:** Allow only local subsistence hunting within ten miles of Chandalar Airstrip, 25A.

**DISCUSSION:** The board noted that there are only a few moose in this area and hunting patterns show very little hunting by non local residents.

**PROPOSAL NO. 107**

**ACTION: Carried**

**DESCRIPTION:** Open moose season in 26B.

**AMENDMENTS:** Excluding Canning River drainage, open a resident drawing permit Sept. 1 – Sept. 14, and up to a 14 day resident general season to be announced by Emergency order.

**DISCUSSION:** The board discussed the opportunity for subsistence. Board members agreed it is a short season and moose are available. The board questioned how one determines whether he/she is in Canning River Drainage. The department indicated it is distinct from the ground.

**PROPOSAL NO. 108**

**ACTION: Carried**

**DESCRIPTION:** Establish a pika trapping season in 12 and 20E.

**AMENDMENTS:** No closed season and no bag limit for pika trapping.

**DISCUSSION:** Board members felt there was not adequate information on the pika population and there should be some salvage requirements. There is low hunter and trapper demand for pika. The board agreed to observe what happens with this experimental trapping season. There is limited opportunity to sell the skulls of these little animals.

**PROPOSAL NO. 109**

**ACTION: Failed**

**DESCRIPTION:** Lengthen marten season to March 31 in Unit 19.

**DISCUSSION:** The board agreed that extending the season would impact the marten population and therefore did not support the proposal. It was noted that the quality of the fur goes down after February 28 and it is anticipated that a large proportion of females would be caught later in the year which would negatively impact the population.

**PROPOSAL NO. 110**

**ACTION: Carried**

**DESCRIPTION:** Lengthen fox and wolverine trapping season and modify bag limit in 12 & 20E.

**AMENDMENTS:** Reduced proposed season extension by two weeks with no bag limit for both wolverine and fox.

**DISCUSSION:** The board agreed that with the adoption of the amendment, there will be a low level of trapping pressure on the populations and will eliminate the conservation concern.

**PROPOSAL NO. 111**

**ACTION: Carried**

**DESCRIPTION:** Align the arctic fox seasons in Units 24 and 25 with the red fox season.

**DISCUSSION:** The board agreed that this is a straightforward proposal to align seasons and reduce the problem of by catch.



**PROPOSAL NO. 112**

**ACTION: Carried**

**DESCRIPTION:** Add Units 12 and 20E to the lynx tracking strategy.

**AMENDMENTS:** Extend the season dates March 15.

**DISCUSSION:** The board agreed extending the season would not have a significant impact on the population but adopted the amendment because fur quality goes down later in the year.

**PROPOSAL NO. 113**

**ACTION: Failed**

**DESCRIPTION:** Modify seasons and bag limits for lynx trapping in Unit 20D.

**DISCUSSION:** It was noted that the department monitors lynx populations and already has broad authority to adjust seasons. The board agreed that modifying the season and bag limit was not justified.

**PROPOSAL NO. 114**

**ACTION: Tabled**

**DESCRIPTION:** Allow guides and assistants to take wolves while guiding.

**DISCUSSION:** The board does not have authority to address issue. The proposal requires legislative action.

**PROPOSAL NO. 115**

**ACTION: Tabled**

**DESCRIPTION:** Shorten moose seasons, establish predator control plan in Units 14B and 16A.

**DISCUSSION:** The proposal was tabled until a future meeting to be discussed with the other tabled proposals regarding predator control plans.

**PROPOSAL NO. 116**

**ACTION: Failed**

**DESCRIPTION:** Allow the pursuit of wolves and bears with snowmachine in Unit 20E.

**DISCUSSION:** The board took no action because their action taken at the January, Statewide BOG meeting.

**PROPOSAL NO. 117**

**ACTION: No Action**

**DESCRIPTION:** Implement predator control in Unit 19B.

**DISCUSSION:** The board discussed that there is currently no implementation plan for Unit 19B; the BOG findings are only for 19A. Therefore, the board cannot implement predator control for 19B.

**PROPOSAL NO. 118**

**ACTION: Carried**

**DESCRIPTION:** Lengthen wolf season August 1 through April 30 in Units 21 and 24.

**AMENDMENTS:** Delete references to season, and increase bag limit from 5 to 10

**DISCUSSION:** The board wanted to take out the confusion regarding the alignment of wolf seasons.

**PROPOSAL NO. 119**

**ACTION: Failed**

**DESCRIPTION:** Implement active wolf control in portions of 20D.

**DISCUSSION:** The board acknowledged that the information provided by the department was adequate and indicated that justification for the proposal does not exist. The Fortymile caribou herd is addressed in Proposal 163. The Macomb herd is currently meeting its population objective, but is not reaching the harvest objective.

**PROPOSAL NO. 120**

**ACTION: Carried**

**DESCRIPTION:** Extend the wolf hunting seasons to May 31 for Units 12, 20, and 25.

**DISCUSSION:** The board felt the proposal provides more, but limited opportunity. The season extension would not significantly reduce wolf numbers, but may help increase moose numbers. The AC's support this proposal. The board did not want to pass up the opportunity just because it has a slight impact.

**PROPOSAL NO. 121**

**ACTION: Carried**

**DESCRIPTION:** Allow wolf hunting with bait in Units 12, 20, and 25.

**AMENDMENTS:** Clarification to existing regulation that baiting for hunting is not considered "feeding of animals" under 5AAC 92.230.

**DISCUSSION:** The board discussed the confusion with the prohibition of feeding animals under 5AAC 92.230. Current regulation does not prohibit baiting of animals for hunting.

**PROPOSAL NO. 122**

**ACTION: Tabled**

**DESCRIPTION:** Expand wolf predation control into all of Fortymile caribou herd range.

**DISCUSSION:** The proposal was tabled until a future meeting to be discussed with the other tabled proposals regarding predator control plans.

**PROPOSAL NO. 123**

**ACTION: Carried**

**DESCRIPTION:** Increase the hunting season bag limit for wolves in Unit 21E.

**DISCUSSION:** This proposal is consistent with the seasons in other units.

**PROPOSAL NO. 124**

**ACTION: No Action**

**DESCRIPTION:** Allow the use of snowmachines to take wolves in Unit 21E.

**DISCUSSION:** The board took No Action due to the action taken on Proposal 127.

**PROPOSAL NO. 125**

**ACTION: Carried**

**DESCRIPTION:** Waive nonresident tag, extend season & bag limit for wolf in Unit 21A.

**AMENDMENTS:** Eliminate nonresident tag requirement, retain current hunting season, retain proposed bag limit at 10, and lengthen trapping season for wolves to October 1 to April 20.

**DISCUSSION:** The board does not have authority to change tag fee, but doubling the bag limit should increase opportunity.

**PROPOSAL NO. 126**

**ACTION: Tabled**

**DESCRIPTION:** Amend the Fortymile Nonlethal Wolf predation control Implementation Plan to allow lethal wolf predation control.

**DISCUSSION:** The proposal was tabled until a future meeting to be discussed with the other tabled proposals regarding predator control plans.

**PROPOSAL NO. 127**

**ACTION: Carried**

**DESCRIPTION:** Allow use of snowmachines to position wolves for harvest in Unit 21 and Unit 24.

**AMENDMENTS:** Clarified language to read: "position hunters for harvest of wolves."

**DISCUSSION:** The board agreed that this proposal would not substantially increase wolf harvest beyond the sustainability of the population. This proposal will eliminate some confusion about what is

allowed on snowmachines. On Federal or Park Service land this is not legal. There was some question about where “positioning” and “pursuit” cross. The board acknowledged they are using a “leap of faith” that hunters will use this rule correctly, as it is still illegal to molest the animals. The board said passing this proposal is an attempt to liberalize local hunting rules so aerial hunting is not so necessary.

**PROPOSAL NO. 128**

**ACTION: Carried as Amended**

**DESCRIPTION:** Allow use of snowmachine, ATV, and boats for hunting wolves in 25C.

**AMENDMENTS:** Clarifies the use of snow machines and ATVs for positions a hunter to take wolves, except on National Park Service or National Wildlife Refuge lands.

**DISCUSSION:** The board supported the proposal as another way to promote harvesting more wolves by local people.

**PROPOSAL NO. 129**

**ACTION: Carried as Amended**

**DESCRIPTION:** Implement a predator control program in 25D.

**AMENDMENTS:** Allow for snowmachine to position hunters to harvest wolves in lieu of intensive management plan and extend wolf trapping season to October 1 in Unit 25D.

**DISCUSSION:** The board questioned the effectiveness of a predator control program because of the large amount of surrounding federal land. Land status is a major constraining option. This area is not designated as an Intensive Management area, but it is intensively managed. The two amendments would provide extra opportunity to take wolves even though they would not result in a large number of take. Positioning of hunters will be easier relative to using waterways which belong to the state. The board hopes these amendments will help make a difference in the moose population. There are ample opportunities to take bears, but not many are taken.

**PROPOSAL NO. 130**

**ACTION: Failed**

**DESCRIPTION:** Allow wolf hunting with bait in Units 20, 21, 24, and 25.

**DISCUSSION:** This proposal failed because of action taken on Proposal 121.

**PROPOSAL NO. 131**

**ACTION: Tabled**

**DESCRIPTION:** Implement predator control plan for Delta caribou herd.

**DISCUSSION:** The board discussed the declining population. Any predator control plan would have to be strategic and flexible in light of the fact that caribou calve in Unit 13 then move to 20A. The proposal was tabled until a future meeting to be discussed with the other tabled proposals regarding predator control plans.

**PROPOSAL NO. 132**

**ACTION: Failed**

**DESCRIPTION:** Establish community subsistence hunt area near Delta Junction.

**DISCUSSION:** Based on previous testimony by the department, the board agreed there is adequate opportunity to hunt under normal conditions.

**PROPOSAL NO. 133**

**ACTION: Carried**

**DESCRIPTION:** Add discretionary hunting conditions in Creamer’s Refuge.

**DISCUSSION:** This is a housekeeping proposal to add discretionary hunting conditions to Creamer’s Refuge. The department currently manages hunting on Creamer’s Refuge using implied permit hunt authority.

**PROPOSAL NO. 134**

**ACTION: Failed**

**DESCRIPTION:** Classify airboats as fixed wing aircraft in Unit 20.

**DISCUSSION:** The board saw no biological justification and therefore agreed to keep things at the status quo.

**PROPOSAL NO. 135**

**ACTION: Carried as Amended**

**DESCRIPTION:** Eliminate nonresident guides from Unit 12.

**AMENDMENTS:** In the Tok River drainage, upstream from Tok cutoff Bridge, add antler restrictions to resident hunters.

**DISCUSSION:** By law, guiding cannot be restricted to resident guides because it is a commercial activity. The department's presentation of population data provided justification to the board to support the change in antler restrictions for residents.

**PROPOSAL NO. 136**

**ACTION: Failed**

**DESCRIPTION:** Allow firearms with open sights in DHCMA.

**DISCUSSION:** This action requires legislative action; the board has no authority to address this proposal.

**PROPOSAL NO. 137**

**ACTION : No Action**

**DESCRIPTION:** Allow game bird hunting with a shotgun in the DHCMA.

**DISCUSSION:** The board agreed to take no action based on their action on Proposal 136.

**PROPOSAL NO. 138**

**ACTION: Failed**

**DESCRIPTION:** Allow legal access for licensed highway vehicles on Slate Creek Mining Road.

**DISCUSSION:** Expanding vehicle use is inconsistent with the statutory intent of the Dalton Highway Corridor Management Area regulations. Furthermore, the local population of moose could easily be depleted.

**PROPOSAL NO. 139**

**ACTION: No Action**

**DESCRIPTION:** Allow legal access for licensed highway vehicles on Slate Creek Mining Road.

**DISCUSSION:** The board agreed to take No Action based on their action on Proposal 138.

**PROPOSAL NO. 140**

**ACTION: Failed**

**DESCRIPTION:** Allow use of snowmachines in the DHCMA for trapping.

**DISCUSSION:** This proposal failed because use of such motor vehicles is prohibited in the Dalton Highway Corridor Management Area.

**PROPOSAL NO. 141**

**ACTION: Failed**

**DESCRIPTION:** Create controlled use corridor along Shaw Creek/Pogo Road; no use of firearms.

**DISCUSSION:** The board agreed that this is an issue for the Pogo Mine personnel to patrol their road.

**PROPOSAL NO. 142**

**ACTION: Carried as Amended**

**DESCRIPTION:** Modify seasons and salvage requirements, establish controlled use areas in 23.

**AMENDMENTS:** Strike “Controlled Use Area” language.

**DISCUSSION:** This is not a biological problem, but a social problem because of so many people coming into the Kotzebue airport. The board discussed options which included increasing enforcement, reducing staff work loads, establishing a permit system, and the extreme need for hunter education regarding hunting in the area (safety of rising rivers, etc) and proper meat care.

**PROPOSAL NO. 143**

**ACTION: No Action**

**DESCRIPTION:** Close moose hunting above the Oskawalik, mandatory check station below Kalskag on the Kuskokwim Unit 19A.

**DISCUSSION:** The board agreed to take No Action based on their action on Proposal 70.

**PROPOSAL NO. 144**

**ACTION: Failed**

**DESCRIPTION:** Eliminate Koyukuk CUA.

**DISCUSSION:** This was a contentious proposal with several comments. The board noted the support by three of the advisory committees and the AHTNA Corporation. The board inquired about the current moose management plan and charged the Koyukuk Moose Management Committee to develop a plan.

**PROPOSAL NO. 145**

**ACTION: No Action**

**DESCRIPTION:** Remove all motorized vehicle restrictions in the Wood River CUA.

**DISCUSSION:** The board agreed to take No Action based on their action on Proposal 147.

**PROPOSAL NO. 146**

**ACTION: No Action**

**DESCRIPTION:** Allow motorized vehicles and boats in the Wood River CUA.

**DISCUSSION:** The board agreed to take No Action based on their action on Proposal 147.

**PROPOSAL NO. 147**

**ACTION: Failed**

**DESCRIPTION:** Eliminate, modify or shorten restricted use season in the Wood River CUA.

**DISCUSSION:** Some board members were concerned about using motorized vehicles and damaging the country. Opening to motorized vehicles will change the management scenario. Some members felt this is a large enough area to have multiple uses. The board opted to leave motorized restrictions as is and to see how expanded season meets use objectives.

**PROPOSAL NO. 148**

**ACTION: Failed**

**DESCRIPTION:** Restrict guide/outfitters in controlled use areas in 20A.

**DISCUSSION:** The board agreed that most suggestions in this proposal are unconstitutional. The board addressed other issues of this proposal through other proposals.

**PROPOSAL NO. 149**

**ACTION: Failed**

**DESCRIPTION:** Repeal hunter education requirements in Unit 20.

**DISCUSSION:** The board would like to see hunter education increased across the state; this proposal would do away with those efforts.

**PROPOSAL NO. 150**

**ACTION: Carried**

**DESCRIPTION:** Require hunter education course for nonresidents and meat care course for transporters in Unit 23.

**DISCUSSION:** The board acknowledged there is a need to educate hunters. They support the concept and asked the department to decide how to deliver. The board expressed concerns for adequate funding to develop a program. There would be some cost to private persons, but conservation benefits outweigh that cost.

**PROPOSAL NO. 151**

**ACTION: No Action**

**DESCRIPTION:** Allow the use of traps and snares to take black bear in Units 21 and 24.

**DISCUSSION:** Based on the action and discussion of Proposal 11, the board decided to take NO Action on this proposal.

**PROPOSAL NO. 152**

**ACTION: Carried as Amended**

**DESCRIPTION:** Create new permit hunts for moose in Unit 21D.

**AMENDMENTS:** Within the Koyukuk CUA, modify resident registration hunt to eliminate the antlerless hunt. Establish both resident and nonresident drawing hunts Sept. 5-25.

**DISCUSSION:** Even though there is an illegal guiding issue, the board emphasized a greater concern for the biological issue. The board agreed the management plan is working and this proposal is one of the tools used to make it work.

**PROPOSAL NO. 153**

**ACTION: Carried as Amended**

**DESCRIPTION:** Allocate portion of drawing permits in 21D to guides and transporters.

**AMENDMENTS:** Outside of the Koyukuk Controlled Use Area, up to 50% of nonresident permits to be allocated for guided hunts and 50% for unguided hunts. This will go into effect in 2007.

**DISCUSSION:** The board agreed that the livelihood of guides were at stake. This proposal fits into the new guidelines policy.

**PROPOSAL NO. 154**

**ACTION: No Action**

**DESCRIPTION:** Allow use of a snowmachine in pursuit and trapping of wolves in 21D.

**DISCUSSION:** The board agreed to take No Action based on their action on Proposal 127.

**PROPOSAL NO. 155**

**ACTION: Carried as Amended**

**DESCRIPTION:** Extend moose season in Unit 21D.

**AMENDMENTS:** For the remainder of Unit 21D, eliminate resident December hunt and add August 22-31 season to registration hunt.

**DISCUSSION:** The shift in hunting seasons would reduce winter hunt dependency where cows are harvested. Also, there are not many non local hunters. The August hunt would have the same antler destruction rules.

**PROPOSAL NO. 156**

**ACTION: Failed**

**DESCRIPTION:** Create a controlled use area in the Mosquito Fork of the Fortymile River.

**DISCUSSION:** The board noted it is the authority and responsibility of DNR to address trespassing and habitat destruction.

**PROPOSAL NO. 157**

**ACTION: Tabled**

**DESCRIPTION:** Modify grizzly bear predation control program to increase effectiveness.

**DISCUSSION:** The proposal was tabled until a future meeting to be discussed with the other tabled proposals regarding predator control plans.

**PROPOSAL NO. 158**

**ACTION: Carried**

**DESCRIPTION:** Create a big game reserve in the entire Holitna drainage.

**DISCUSSION:** This regulation is contingent upon legislative approval, and the board encouraged the sponsor to talk to local senator and representatives to get a statutory designation. Since there are fish habitats, the sponsor must get Board of Fisheries approval too. The board's intent was not to restrict fish and game uses, but to designate the area as being very important to fish and wildlife resources, especially as other proposed uses of the area come up in the future.

**PROPOSAL NO. 159**

**ACTION: Carried as Amended**

**DESCRIPTION:** Modify seasons, bag limits, and methods and means for Mulchatna caribou.

**AMENDMENTS:** Retain current seasons for 19A 19B. Retain same day airborne seasons for 9B, 17B and 17C (1/1-3/15).

**DISCUSSION:** The Mulchatna herd has declined dramatically to 80,000, however, the board was convinced that harvest by hunters has not caused the decline. Fecundity of young cows is low; the bull:cow ratios are low; predation has increased; habitat has diminished; and perhaps other health issues play a role. The board agreed they need to address the entire range of the herd. Both residents and nonresidents would have bag limit and hunting seasons reduced. By removing same day aerial hunting, the board felt an unnecessary hardship would be placed on hunters and the change in harvest would be no more than 200 animals. The board discussed the imperative to get back to 100,000 animals.

**PROPOSAL NO. 160**

**ACTION: Carried**

**DESCRIPTION:** Shorten appeal period for denial of permit.

**DISCUSSION:** People need to be given ample time for due process. Appeals as short as 30 days are often considered routine and fair for the process. The board thought 60 days is equitable and provides enough time for delays with the rural mail service. It takes time to educate the public that reporting is mandatory, and not discretionary.

**PROPOSAL NO. 161**

**ACTION: Carried as Amended**

**DESCRIPTION:** Restrict proxy hunting to specific hunts.

**AMENDMENTS:** 1. Mandatory antler destruction of both proxy hunter's and beneficiary's animal. 2. For moose, proxy hunting is only allowed for antlerless hunts, Tier II hunts and any bull hunts. 3. Unit 13, proxy hunting is restricted by limiting proxy hunters to one proxy per hunt per species per season and requiring proxy hunters for Tier I caribou to also have a Tier II permit. 4. Proxy hunting is prohibited for specific hunts. (See RC 110)

**DISCUSSION:** The board referenced their action taken and the discussion during the Statewide meeting in January. The board discussed abuses of the proxy hunting system; in general it works in rural areas, but is abused in the urban areas, specifically Unit 13 for the Nelchina caribou. Opportunity is taken from others and there is circumvention of the Tier II process, as well as circumvention of harvest restrictions in certain registration hunts. Those abusing the proxy system are using it as a means for trophy hunting. The board discussed enforcement of antler destruction and agreed to require it for both the hunter's and proxy's animal. The board inquired with the Department of Law

whether the board has the authority to allow “2<sup>nd</sup> degree kindred” be proxy hunters. The board discussed the impact to all users of the restrictions placed on proxy hunting in Unit 13.

**PROPOSAL NO. 162**

**ACTION: Tabled**

**DESCRIPTION:** Update predator control plan for Unit 19A.

**DISCUSSION:** The proposal was tabled until a future meeting to be discussed with the other tabled proposals regarding predator control plans.

**PROPOSAL NO. 163**

**ACTION: Tabled**

**DESCRIPTION:** Update existing predator control implementation plan for Units 12 and 20E.

**DISCUSSION:** The proposal was tabled until a future meeting to be discussed with the other tabled proposals regarding predator control plans.

**PROPOSAL NO. 164**

**ACTION: Tabled**

**DESCRIPTION:** Update existing predator control implementation plan for Unit 19D-East.

**DISCUSSION:** The proposal was tabled until a future meeting to be discussed with the other tabled proposals regarding predator control plans.

**PROPOSAL NO. 165**

**ACTION: Tabled**

**DESCRIPTION:** Update predator control plan for Unit 13.

**DISCUSSION:** The proposal was tabled until a future meeting to be discussed with the other tabled proposals regarding predator control plans.

**PROPOSAL NO. 166**

**ACTION: Tabled**

**DESCRIPTION:** Update predator control plan for Unit 16B.

**DISCUSSION:** The proposal was tabled until a future meeting to be discussed with the other tabled proposals regarding predator control plans.

**PROPOSAL NO. 167**

**ACTION: No Action**

**DESCRIPTION:** Restrict proxy hunters to two per season per species.

**DISCUSSION:** The board agreed to take No Action based on their action on Proposal 161.

**Emergency Regulations: Unit 18 Muskox Hunting Season on Nunivak Island**

The board received information that a series of events has resulted in hunters being unable access the airport at Mekoryuk in order to hunt in the Nunivak Island spring muskox hunt which occurs from February 1 – March 15. The Mekoryuk Airport runway was unusable from March 2<sup>nd</sup> until March 8<sup>th</sup> due to mechanical breakdowns of the airport maintenance equipment, preventing drawing permit hunters from harvesting muskox. The board discussed the impact on the population and referenced their recent action taken in November to increase the harvest. The board agreed that harvest is necessary to prevent the herd from further increasing above management objectives. The board also noted the financial impact to hunters who were waiting at the airport and unable to hunt. The board referenced their rejections of past emergency petitions requesting season extensions for various hunts due to poor weather conditions. Unlike some of the past petitions, it was agreed upon that a biological issue exists and it is necessary that the



harvest objectives be met. The board supported extending the season to March 31 by emergency opening by the department.