

ALASKA BOARD OF GAME Southeast Region Meeting January 11-15, 2019 | Petersburg, Alaska

MEETING SUMMARY

The Board of Game (board) convened the Southeast Region meeting on Friday, January 11, 2019 in Petersburg at the Sons of Norway Hall. Six of seven board members were present: Chairman Ted Spraker, Vice-Chairman Nate Turner, Stosh Hoffman, Karen Linnell, Larry Van Daele, and Tom Lamal; one seat was vacant.

The meeting opened with introductions and board member ethics disclosure statements, followed by agency reports. The list of agency reports is provided on page seven. Public testimony began Friday, January 11 at 1:30 PM, and concluded Saturday, January 12 at 2:50 PM. The board heard from 30 testifiers, ten of whom were advisory committee representatives (see RC 21).

Board deliberations began Saturday afternoon, following public testimony. The board considered 56 proposals, adopting 28, and deferring one to a future meeting. Board action for each proposal is provided below as: C = carried; CA = carried as amended; F = Failed; D = deferred; and NA = no action.

The meeting material and audio are available on the meeting website at: <u>www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=gameboard.meetinginfo&date=01-11-2019&meeting=</u> <u>petersburg</u>.

Regionwide & Multiple Units

The audio for board discussion on this section begins Saturday, January 12 at 2:53:16 PM.

- <u>C (6-0)</u> PROPOSAL 1: Allow the use of crossbows in restricted-weapons hunts for the Southeast Region.
- F(0-6) PROPOSAL 2: Allow the feeding of deer in the Southeast Region
- <u>F (0-6)</u> PROPOSAL 3: Modify the salvage requirement for deer in Units 1-5
- <u>F (0-6)</u> PROPOSAL 4: Allow the harvest of game from a boat in Units 1-5
- <u>F (0-6)</u> PROPOSAL 5: Shorten the hunting seasons and change the bag limit for moose in the Southeast Region

- <u>F (0-6)</u> PROPOSAL 6: Change the salvage requirement for black bear in Units 1-5
- $\underline{F(0-6)}$ PROPOSAL 7: Eliminate the black bear sealing requirement for resident hunters in the Southeast Region
- <u>CA (6-0)</u> PROPOSAL 8: Rescind the guide requirement for nonresidents hunting black bear in the Southeast Region. *The board adopted an amended proposal to allow nonresident hunters accompanied by resident relatives within the second-degree of kindred in Units 1-3, to hunt using a general season harvest ticket.*
- <u>CA (6-0)</u> PROPOSAL 9: Change the nonresident black bear permit hunts for Units 1B, 1C, and 1D to general season hunts. *The board adopted the proposal to change the black bear permit hunts to general season hunts for with an amendment to include permit hunt DL016 in Unit 1A.*
- <u>C (5-1)</u> PROPOSAL 49: Increase the "up to number" for drawing permits (DL029) for nonresident black bear hunters without a guide on Kuiu Island in Unit 3
- <u>C (5-1)</u> PROPOSAL 50: Increase the "up to number" for drawing permits (DL030) for unguided nonresident black bear hunters on Kupreanof Island in Unit 3
- <u>F (0-6)</u> PROPOSAL 10: Require sealing of coyote in Units 1-5
- <u>C (4-2)</u> PROPOSAL 11: Extend the trapping season for beaver in Units 1-5
- <u>NA</u> PROPOSAL 12: Modify the trapping season for beaver in Unit 1. *The board took no action because the author requested it be withdrawn*.
- <u>F (2-4)</u> PROPOSAL 13: Require identification tags for traps and snares in Units 1-5
- <u>F (0-6)</u> PROPOSAL 14: Require trappers to post identification signs for traps and snares in Units 1-5.
- <u>NA</u> PROPOSAL 15: Lengthen the hunting season for waterfowl in the Southeast Region. *The board took no action because it does not have authority to extend the season beyond the federal framework.*
- <u>CA (4-2)</u> PROPOSAL 16: Shift the hunting season for migratory game birds in Units 1–4. *The board adopted an amended proposal to set the season dates of Sept. 16 Dec. 31 in even numbered years, and Sept. 1 Dec. 16 in odd numbered years.*

<u>Sitka Area – Unit 4</u>

The audio for board deliberations on this section begins Sunday, January 13 at 1:30:39 PM, following the area overview provided by ADF&G.

- <u>F(0-6)</u> PROPOSAL 17: Reserve waterfowl hunting areas in the Sitka area for local hunters.
- $\underline{C(5-1)}$ PROPOSAL 18: Increase the bag limit for deer in Unit 4 Remainder
- <u>CA (6-0)</u> PROPOSAL 19: Close an area around the Greens Creek Mine road system and mine infrastructure in Unit 4 to hunting. *The board adopted an amended proposal which eliminated the proposed closed area and restricted the B Road to walk-in only hunting by prohibiting the use of wheeled vehicles and carts.*

Juneau, Haines, Skagway, & Yakutat Areas – Units 1C, 1D, & 5

The audio for board deliberations on this section begins Sunday, January 13 at 3:52:31 PM, following the area overview provided by ADF&G.

- <u>C (6-0)</u> PROPOSAL 20: Change the bag limit for deer on Douglas Island in Unit 1C
- <u>C (6-0)</u> PROPOSAL 21: Amend the area closed to hunting along the Douglas Highway in Unit 1C
- <u>CA (6-0)</u> PROPOSAL 22: Eliminate the Douglas Island Management Area in Unit 1C. *The board amended the proposal to retain the management area and increase the harvest cap from three to five wolves.*
- <u>F (0-6)</u> PROPOSAL 23: Expand the archery-only registration permit hunt area for goat in Unit 1C
- <u>C (6-0)</u> PROPOSAL 24: Clarify the boundary description for the RG014 mountain goat hunt area in Unit 1C
- <u>CA (6-0)</u> PROPOSAL 25: Restructure the moose hunt in Unit 5A Remainder to align with the federal subsistence regulations. *The board adopted the proposal with the season dates of 9/30-11/15 for the area east of the Dangerous River with an amendment to remove the reference about federal lands being closed to nonlocals.*
 - <u>C (6-0)</u> PROPOSAL 26: Reauthorize the antlerless moose season in Unit 5A, Nunatak Bench
 - C (6-0) PROPOSAL 27: Reauthorize the antlerless moose seasons in Unit 1C
 - <u>F (0-6)</u> PROPOSAL 28: Issue permits for using bait or scent lures to hunt black bear in Unit 1C. *The board directed ADF&G to issue permits outside the Haines and Juneau boundaries under their discretionary permit authority. (Deliberations on this proposal also occur on Tuesday, January 15 at 1:16:12 PM.)*

- <u>NA</u> PROPOSAL 29: Shift the hunting season for waterfowl in Unit 1C. *The board took no action on the proposal due to action on proposal 16.*
- <u>CA (5-1)</u> PROPOSAL 30: Create a youth hunt for waterfowl in the Unit 1C Mendenhall Wetlands State Game Refuge. *The proposal was amended to create a youth only hunt for the first two days of the season in the in the entire refuge.*
- <u>C (6-0)</u> PROPOSAL 31: Allow the use of submerged traps in the Juneau closed area in Unit 1C
- $\underline{F(0-6)}$ PROPOSAL 32: Modify the regulations to close trapping and restrict the use of certain traps near roads and trails within the Skagway Borough in Unit 1D

Ketchikan Area & Prince of Wales Island – Units 1A & 2

- The audio for board deliberations on this section begins Monday, January 14 at 11:30:26 AM, following the area overview provided by ADF&G.
- <u>CA (4-2)</u> PROPOSAL 33: Open a drawing hunt for mountain goat on the Cleveland Peninsula in Units 1A and 1B. *The board adopted the proposal to establish a goat drawing hunt, 8/1-12/31, with a bag limit of one male goat, and amended it to allow up to six permits be issued. (Deliberations on this proposal also occur on Tuesday, January 15 at 1:31:52 PM.)*
- <u>NA</u> PROPOSAL 34: Open a registration hunt for mountain goat on the Cleveland Peninsula in Units 1A and 1B. *The board took no action on proposal 34 due to the discussion and action on proposal 33*.
- <u>C (6-0)</u> PROPOSAL 35: Change the hunt structure for Revillagigedo Island mountain goat in Unit 1A
- <u>F (3-3)</u> PROPOSAL 36: Increase the bag limit for deer in Unit 1A
- F (0-6) PROPOSAL 37: Reduce the harvest objective for deer in Unit 1A from 700 to 350–400
- <u>NA</u> PROPOSAL 38: Extend the trapping season for beaver in Unit 1A. *The board took no action due to the action on proposal #11,*
- <u>F (0-6)</u> PROPOSAL 39: Shorten the hunting season for deer in Unit 2
- <u>F (0-6)</u> PROPOSAL 40: Decrease the nonresident bag limit for deer in Unit 2
- <u>F (0-6)</u> PROPOSAL 41: In Unit 2, require harvest tickets for deer be attached at the time of harvest
- <u>NA</u> PROPOSAL 42: Increase the annual harvest of wolves in Unit 2. *The board took no action due to a request from the author to withdraw it.*

- <u>CA (6-0)</u> PROPOSAL 43: Change the harvest management strategy for wolf in Unit 2. *The board* adopted the proposed management strategy as shown in RC 11, page 4, and repealed the 14-day reporting requirement. The board amended the proposal to set a spring population objective of 135 to 180 wolves.
- \underline{C} (4-2) PROPOSAL 44: Extend the trapping season for wolf in Unit 2.

Petersburg & Wrangell Areas – Units 1B & 3

The audio for board deliberations on this section begins Tuesday, January 15 at 8:34:01 AM, following the area overview provided by ADF&G.

- <u>CA (6-0)</u> PROPOSAL 45: Extend the resident deer season on Mitkof, Woewodski, and Butterworth Islands in Unit 3. *The board amended the proposal to include the Lindenburg Island area described in proposal 46, and changed the season dates for the combined area to 10/1 11/7, for residents only.*
- <u>NA</u> PROPOSAL 46: Extend the resident deer season on Kupreanof Island in the Lindenberg Peninsula area in Unit 3. *The board took no action due to the action on proposal 45*.
- <u>C (6-0)</u> PROPOSAL 47: Eliminate the general season elk hunt in Units 1-3
- <u>CA (6-0)</u> PROPOSAL 48: Change the bag limit and open a fall season for brown bear hunting in Unit 3. The board adopted the fall season dates, 9/15-12/31, and amended the bag limit to one bear ever four regulatory years. (Deliberations on this proposal also occur on Tuesday, January 15 at 1:40:28 PM.)
- <u>C (6-0)</u> PROPOSAL 52: Repeal the shorter harvest reporting and sealing requirements for black bears taken by nonresidents on Kuiu Island in Unit 3
- <u>NA</u> PROPOSAL 51: Modify the black bear sealing requirement for nonresident hunters in Unit 3. *The board took no action due to the action on proposal 52*.
- <u>CA (6-0)</u> PROPOSAL 53: Modify the hunting area description within the Petersburg Management Area in Unit 3. *The board amended the proposal to change the archery season dates to* 10/1–12/15, and adopted RC 23 which clarified the boundary of the management area.

Proposals for other Regions

The audio for board deliberations on this section begins Tuesday, January 15 at 10:46:39 AM.

- <u>D (6-0)</u> PROPOSAL 149 Establish seasons and bag limits for mule deer statewide, excluding Sitka black-tailed deer. *The board deferred the proposal to the Southcentral Region meeting scheduled for March 2019.*
- <u>C (5-1)</u> PROPOSAL 151 Create a winter any-moose season for residents during March in a portion of Unit 21D, to be announced by the department.

Proposals 149 and 151 are not found in the proposal book. They are available online at: <u>www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=gameboard.meetinginfo&date=01-11-</u>2019&meeting=petersburg.

Proposals outside the board's authority

The audio for board deliberations on this section begins Tuesday, February 15 at 3:19:04 PM.

<u>NA</u> PROPOSAL 142 – Brown bear management strategy for Unit 4.

Miscellaneous Actions

The audio for board deliberations on this section begins Tuesday, January 15 at 3:22:10 PM.

The board added Unit 3 brown bear to the customary and traditional use finding for Unit 1B brown bear, with an ANS (amount reasonably necessary for subsistence) of one bear. (*Vote:* 6-0)

The board adopted findings (RC 27) that provide recommendations to ADF&G for allocating Nelchina caribou harvests. (*Vote:* 6-0)

The board considered a resolution by the Ketchikan Gateway Borough which requested the board to take emergency measures to govern trapping in Ketchikan region. A motion for a finding of an emergency failed. (*Vote: 0-6*).

The meeting adjourned at approximately 4:15 pm.

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List of Oral Reports

Friday, January 11, 2019

- 1. Southeast Region Subsistence Research Overview, Lauren Sill, ADF&G (Audio log: 09:07:16 AM)
- 2. Southeast Region Overview, Tom Schumacher, ADF&G (Audio log: 09:30:33 AM)
- 3. Southeast Region Research Overview for the Division of Wildlife Conservation, Susannah Woodruff, ADF&G (Audio log: 11:04:56 AM)