

ALASKA BOARD OF GAME
Statewide Regulations Meeting
Pike's Waterfront Lodge, Fairbanks, Alaska
March 4-10, 2022

Meeting Summary

The Board of Game (board) convened the Statewide Regulations meeting on Friday, March 4, 2022 in Fairbanks, Alaska at Pikes Waterfront Lodge. Seven board members were present: Chairman Jerry Burnett, Vice-Chairman Stosh Hoffman, Orville Huntington, Allen Barrette, Lynn Keogh, Jake Fletcher and James Cooney.

The meeting opened with introductions and board member ethics disclosure statements, followed by agency reports. The list of agency reports is provided on page 10. Public testimony began Friday, March 4 at 1:30 p.m. and concluded Monday, March 7 at approximately 9:30 a.m. The board heard from 106 testifiers which included 34 remote testifiers, 22 advisory committee representatives, and one regional advisory council representative. (See Record Copy #60 for the complete list).

Board deliberations began Monday morning, following the conclusion of public testimony. The board considered 118 proposals, adopting 51. Thirteen of the adopted proposals were annual reauthorizations for antlerless moose hunts and brown bear tag fees. Board action for each proposal is provided below as: C = carried; A = amended; CA = carried as amended; F = failed; and NA = no action.

The meeting material and audio are available on the meeting website at:
www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=gameboard.meetinginfo&date=03-04-2022&meeting=fairbanks.

Definitions

The audio for board deliberations on this section begins March 7, at 10:05:47 AM.

F (0-7) **Proposal 101:** Change the definition for bows to include crossbows.

F (0-7) **Proposal 102:** Establish a definition for “primitive weapons” to include crossbow, longbow, shotgun, and muzzleloader.

F (0-7) **Proposal 103:** Clarify whether hay and grain are considered as “hunting gear”.

F (0-7) **Proposal 230:** Change the definition for "full-curl horn".

CA (7-0) **Proposal 231:** Change the definition of edible meat for cranes, geese, and swans. *The board amended the proposal to allow salvage for human use in addition to human consumption.*

F (0-7) **Proposal 104:** Modify the definition of “deleterious exotic wildlife” with several housekeeping changes.

NA **Proposal 105:** Add roof rat (*Rattus rattus*) and house mouse (*Mus musculus*) to the list of “deleterious exotic wildlife”. *The board took no action due to the action and discussion on Proposal 104.*

F (0-7) **Proposal 106:** Provide a definition for “feral”.

F (0-7) **Proposal 107:** Add unconfined and unrestrained domestic cats to the definition of “deleterious exotic wildlife”.

CA (7-0) **Proposal 271:** Establish a definition for “position” as it applies to using a snowmachine totake game. *The board amended the with RC 38 which states: “a snowmachine may be used to approach and pursue wolves and wolverine, but may not come in in contact with a live animal;”.*

Falconry

The audio for board deliberations on this section begins March 7, at 1:37:23 PM.

C (7-0) **Proposal 108:** Increase opportunity for nonresident take for certain eyas raptors for falconry.

C (5-2) **Proposal 109:** Modify the microchip requirements for live raptors exported from Alaskaby nonresidents.

C (7-0) **Proposal 110:** Extend the nonresident season for acquiring passage raptors.

C (7-0) **Proposal 111:** Limit nonresident take of raptors to one bird every four years and limit unsuccessful permittees from applying the following year.

F (0-7) **Proposal 112:** Increase nonresident opportunity for acquiring raptors.

F (0-7) **Proposal 113:** Modify the regulations for nonresident take of raptors for falconry including increased number of nonresidents permits and expansion of the season to year-around.

NA **Proposal 114:** Change the nonresident season for acquiring a passage raptor. *The board took no action due to the action on Proposal 110.*

Hunter Education

The audio for board deliberations on this section begins March 7, at 2:20:23 PM.

C (7-0) **Proposal 115:** Remove the hunter education requirement for beneficiaries using proxy hunters.

C (7-0) **Proposal 116:** Remove the crossbow certification requirement for people born before January 1, 1986.

CA (7-0) **Proposal 117:** Require hunters to possess proof of completion of required educational certifications in the field. *The board amended the proposal to allow a cited hunter to provide proof of possessing certification to the authorities within 30 days.*

C (7-0) **Proposal 118:** Add a new paragraph requiring completion of crossbow hunter certification course at time of permit application.

Proxy Hunting

The audio for board deliberations on this section begins March 7, at 3:22:15 PM.

C (7-0) **Proposal 119:** Include muskox on the list of species that can be taken under a proxy permit.

C (7-0) **Proposal 120:** Allow proxy hunting for moose.

Unlawful Methods

The audio for board deliberations on this section begins March 7, at 3:46:18 PM and continues on March 8.

F (0-7) **Proposal 121:** Allow the use of dogs to hunt big game.

F (1-6) **Proposal 232:** Allow the use of dogs to recover wounded furbearers.

F (0-7) **Proposal 166:** Amend the requirement for licenses and tags to include game legally taken with dogs and cats.

F (0-7) **Proposal 122:** Lower the minimum draw weight for bows for hunting big game.

NA **Proposal 233:** Eliminate the requirement for peak draw weight of bows or establish peak draw weight for taking species. *The board took no action due to the action and discussion on Proposal 122.*

F (2-5) **Proposal 123:** Allow electronic range finders mounted on bows be used for hunting big game.

NA **Proposal 124:** Allow use of integrated bow sights\laser range finders for hunting big game with bows. *The board took no action due to the action and discussion on Proposal 123.*

F (0-7) **Proposal 125:** Allow the use of crossbows for hunting big game in weapons restricted hunts.

F (0-7) **Proposal 126:** Allow the use of muzzleloaders equipped with scopes in the taking of big game.

CA (7-0) **Proposal 127:** Allow air rifles for hunting big game. *The board amended the proposal with RC43 which allows the use of air guns, .35 caliber or larger for taking deer and caribou.*

F (0-7) **Proposal 128:** Prohibit the use of mechanical powered body suit or devices.

F (0-7) **Proposal 129:** Require the use of expanding (soft point) bullets for big game hunting, excluding wolf and wolverine.

C (7-0) **Proposal 130:** Prohibit use of urine from any species of the deer family as bait or scent lures.

C (7-0) **Proposal 131:** Allow the use of game bird wings and backs to be used for trapping bait.

- NA **Proposal 132:** Allow bird wings and parts to be used for trapping. *The board took no action due to the action on Proposal 131.*
- C (7-0) **Proposal 133:** Add bow and arrow as a legal method for taking beaver.
- NA **Proposal 100:** Remove requirement that traps and snares for beaver be submerged. *The board took no action as a result of the discussion on the proposal and realizing the regulatory change is not necessary.*
- F (0-7) **Proposal 234:** Allow use of stationary game cameras that transmit photos wirelessly.
- F (0-7) **Proposal 134:** Allow the use of cameras or sensory devices to monitor trap locations for trapping.
- F (0-7) **Proposal 235:** Allow the use of artificial light while hunting small game animals that have no closed seasons and no bag limit.
- F (0-7) **Proposal 135:** Repeal the restriction on the use of aircraft for locating Dall sheep for hunting.
- NA **Proposal 136:** Rescind the restriction on use of aircraft for locating Dall sheep for hunting. *The board took no action based on the action on Proposal 135.*
- NA **Proposal 137:** Repeal the restriction on the use of aircraft for locating Dall sheep for hunting. *The board took no action based on the action on Proposal 135.*
- F (0-7) **Proposal 138:** Restrict aircraft use for locating Dall sheep for hunting, for all open seasons.
- F (0-7) **Proposal 139:** Restrict the use of aircraft for making multiple, consecutive approaches near Dall sheep for hunting.

Permits for Bear Baiting

The audio for board deliberations on this section begins March 8, at 10:48:04 AM.

- NA **Proposal 140:** Increase the number of bait station sites temporarily from 10 to 20 per guideuse area. *The board took no action at the request of the proposer.*
- F (0-7) **Proposal 141:** Require bear baiting sites to be at least one mile apart.
- F (0-7) **Proposal 236:** Require ADF&G to notify bear bait station registrants of other bait stations within a one-mile radius of desired bait station location.
- F (0-7) **Proposal 237:** Clarify that ADF&G will not issue permits to use bait or scent lures near prohibited areas already defined in regulation.

Permits for Possessing Live Game

The audio for board deliberations on this section begins March 8, at 11:29:37.

- C (7-0) **Proposal 142:** Add emu to the to the list of animals allowed to be possessed without a permit.

- NA **Proposal 143:** Add emu to the to the list of animals allowed to be possessed without a permit. *The board took no action due to the action on Proposal 142.*
- F (0-7) **Proposal 144:** Exempt “sterilized community cats” from the list of species prohibited from being released into the wild.
- NA **Proposal 145:** Classify *F. catus* as deleterious exotic wildlife and prohibit their release into the wild, feeding, and maintaining unconfined populations. *The board took no action due to the action and discussion on the previous proposals.*
- F (0-7) **Proposal 238:** Modify the regulations to recognize Czechoslovakian Vlcak as a standard dog breed to be possessed in Alaska without a permit.
- C (7-0) **Proposal 268:** Prohibit the possession of swine other than *Sus scrofa domesticus*.

Hunting and Other Permits

The audio for board deliberations on this section begins March 8, at 1:32:26 AM and continues on March 9.

- F (0-7) **Proposal 146:** Limit big game registration permits to one per species, per year.
- F (0-7) **Proposal 239:** Require all resident registration permit hunts be available for application online.
- NA **Proposal 152:** Require all drawing permit hunts available to residents be available for application online. *The board took no action due to the action on Proposal 239.*
- C (5-2) **Proposal 147:** Allow the sale of prepared game trophies under a permit. *The board reconsidered the proposal on Thursday, 3/9 at 08:38:44.*
- NA **Proposal 148:** Allow persons over the age of 65 to sell trophies and rugs. *The board took no action because the board cannot discriminate based on age.*
- F (0-7) **Proposal 240:** Allow the sale of a game skin or trophy from a revokable trust.
- C (6-1) **Proposal 149:** Create separate Dall sheep permit draw for second-degree-kindred hunters in areas that limit the number of nonresident hunters.
- F (0-7) **Proposal 150:** Increase the number of times a hunter may apply for drawing permit hunts for each species.
- F (0-6-1) **Proposal 151:** Require all hunters to apply for permit hunts and pay the application fee during the application period.
- F (0-6-1) **Proposal 241:** Remove allocations between guided and non-guided nonresident hunters.
- F (0-7) **Proposal 153:** Establish a bonus point system for bison and muskox drawing hunts.
- CA (7-0) **Proposal 154:** Direct ADF&G to issue an additional permit when a party application is drawn as last permit. *The board amended the proposal to allow ADF&G to exceed the total number of permits allocated for hunts in 5 AAC Chapter 85.*

- CA **Proposal 242:** Allow hunting permits to be reissued for military personnel under "any official military deployment". *The board amended the proposal with RC 52 which allows the transfer of hunting permits for deployed military for specific orders including humanitarian aid, peace-keeping, increased security, and homeland defense. The audio continues on 3/9/22 at 08:33:49 AM.*
- C (7-0) **Proposal 243:** Update 5 AAC 92.050 to recognize changes made by the Alaska Legislature regarding the transfer of drawing permit hunts.
- CA (7-0) **Proposal 155:** Establish a protocol for ADF&G to issue "any bull" resident moose permit insective harvest hunts. *The board amended the proposal to replace "shall" with "may".*
- C (7-0) **Proposal 156:** Allow qualified crossbow hunters the ability to apply for Methods and Means Exemption permits for archery only hunts.
- C (7-0) **Proposal 157:** Amend the language in the existing regulation for authorizing methods and means disability exemptions to be more consistent with the statute.
- F (0-7) **Proposal 158:** Allow dog mushers to be eligible to receive game from the state by permit for use as dog food.
- F (0-7) **Proposal 244:** Eliminate all community subsistence harvest hunts.

Salvage and Sealing Requirements

The audio for board deliberations on this section begins March 9, at 8:48:18 AM.

- F (0-7) **Proposal 159:** Change the sealing and reporting requirements to business days instead of calendar days.
- F (0-7) **Proposal 160:** Clarify the wanton waste regulation to specify that game animals taken by domestic pets must be reported and salvaged for human consumption.
- F (0-7) **Proposal 161:** Change the salvage requirement for sheep, goat and deer to all meat on the outside of the ribs.
- F (0-7) **Proposal 245:** Eliminate the requirement to salvage rib meat on the bone for moose, caribou and bison.
- C (6-1) **Proposal 162:** Require the salvage of the meat or hide of snowshoe hare.
- F (3-4) **Proposal 246:** Change the sealing method for Dall sheep to avoid damage to horns.

Bag Limit

The audio for board deliberations on this section begins March 9, at 9:59:27 AM.

- F (0-7) **Proposal 163:** Count wounded big game animals towards the hunter's bag limit for all units and require additional action in the field from hunters that attempt to take game.

- F (2-5) **Proposal 164:** Count wounded big game animals towards nonresident hunter's bag limit for all units, excluding the one sheep and one bear every four years.
- C (7-0) **Proposal 165:** Apply auction permit holder's bag limit to the year the animal is taken.

Miscellaneous Topics and Game Management Unit Boundaries

The audio for board deliberations on this section begins March 9, at 11:02:59 AM.

- F (0-7) **Proposal 167:** Add cats and dogs (and wild birds from April 1 to September 30) to the list of species that may not be intentionally or negligently fed outdoors without a permit.
- F (0-7) **Proposal 168:** Adopt a new regulation that specifies the Board of Game will not require guides for nonresidents hunting moose, caribou or black bear.
- F (0-7) **Proposal 169:** Prohibit the harvest of white animals.
- F (0-7) **Proposal 247:** Discontinue lethal taking of wolves under predation control implementation programs.
- C (7-0) **Proposal 248:** Allow nonresident youth to harvest big game on behalf of an adult permit holder.
- C (7-0) **Proposal 170:** Modify the Unit 1C and Unit 4 boundaries.
- C (7-0) **Proposal 171:** Divide Unit 19A into two subunits.
- NA **Proposal 266:** Change the boundary for Game Management Units 21C and 21D to match the Koyukuk/Nowitna/Innoko National Wildlife Refuge designated guide use areas. *The board took no action due to the request by the author to withdraw it.*

Region Specific Hunts & Topics

The audio for board deliberations on this section begins March 9, at 2:06:23 PM and continues in March 10.

- CA (7-0) **Proposal 193:** Establish a hunt for muskox within a portion of Unit 26A. *The board amended the proposal to include the western portion of Unit 26A in the existing customary and traditional finding for Unit 23 North and West of the Kobuk River drainage, and a Tier II hunt was established with up to 15 permits available.*
- CA (7-0) **Proposal 265:** Change the Unit 22E registration moose hunt to a drawing hunt with specific application conditions. *The board amended the proposal to allow up to 25 permits to be issued.*
- F (0-7) **Proposal 196:** Allow ADF&G to utilize a targeted hunt for registration caribou hunts (RC830 & RC 867) in Units 20 and 25.
- F (0-7) **Proposal 267:** Limit or restrict all nonresident sheep hunting in Unit 19C. *The board reconsidered this proposal on 3/10 at 09:49:32.*

- C (7-0) **Proposal 270:** Open an antlerless moose hunt in a portion of Unit 20E.
- F (0-7) **Proposal 173:** Repeal the Dalton Highway Corridor Management Area.
- CA (7-0) **Proposal 172:** Clarify the legal use of highway vehicles, snow machines and off-road vehicles in the Dalton Highway Corridor Management Area (DHCMA) for hunting and trapping. Clarify the use of firearms, and transport of furbearers and trapping bait when trapping in the DHCMA. *The board adopted substitute language found in RC 58 which removes restrictions on transporting game and hunting equipment by motor vehicle.*
- C (7-0) **Proposal 22:** Determine customary and traditional uses of the Nushagak Peninsula caribou herd in Game Management Units 17A and 17C.
- C (7-0) **Proposal 269:** Create a tiered hunt structure and open a hunt for the Unimak Island caribou herd.
- F (7-0) **Proposal 199:** Prohibit trapping within 50 yards of multi-use trails and trailheads in Units 13, 14, and 16.

Reauthorization of Antlerless Moose Hunts and Brown Bear Tag Fee Exemptions for other Regions

The audio for board deliberations on this section begins March 10, at 10:31:54 AM.

- C (7-0) **Proposal 249:** Reauthorize the antlerless moose season in the Twentymile/Portage/Placerhunt area in Units 7 and 14C.
- C (7-0) **Proposal 250:** Reauthorize the antlerless moose seasons in Unit 14C.
- C (7-0) **Proposal 251:** Reauthorize the antlerless moose season on Kalgin Island in Unit 15B.
- C (7-0) **Proposal 252:** Reauthorize the antlerless moose seasons in Unit 15C.
- C (7-0) **Proposal 253:** Reauthorize the resident antlerless moose season in Unit 18.
- C (7-0) **Proposal 254:** Reauthorize a winter antlerless moose season during February in a portion of Unit 19D.
- C (7-0) **Proposal 255:** Reauthorize the antlerless moose seasons in Unit 20A.
- C (7-0) **Proposal 256:** Reauthorize the antlerless moose seasons in Unit 20B.
- C (7-0) **Proposal 257:** Reauthorize the antlerless moose hunting seasons in Unit 20D.
- C (7-0) **Proposal 258:** Reauthorize a winter any-moose season during March in a portion of Unit 21D.
- C (7-0) **Proposal 259:** Reauthorize a winter any-moose season during part of February and March in Unit 21E.
- NA **Proposal 260:** Reauthorize the antlerless moose season in the western portion of Unit 26A. *The board took no action because the advisory committee for that subunit did not approve the hunt as required by statute.*

C (7-0) **Proposal 261:** Reauthorize resident grizzly/brown bear tag fee exemptions throughout Interior and Northeast Alaska.

C (7-0) **Proposal 262:** Reauthorize the current resident tag fee exemptions for brown bear in Units 18, 22, 23 and 26A.

Proposals Outside the Board of Game’s Authority

NA **Proposal 191:** Establish nonresident fees for taking raptors.

NA **Proposal 192:** Reimburse trappers for damage to furs caused by radio collars.

NA **Proposal 263:** Allow the harvest of sea otter.

NA **Proposal 264:** Allow hunters to dispatch wounded waterfowl from motorized boats under power.

Miscellaneous Actions

The audio for board deliberations on this section begins March 10, at 11:37:06 AM.

1. The board discussed the Bear Conservation, Harvest & Management Policy (#2016-214-BOG) and the Wolf Management Policy (#2016-215-BOG), both of which expire March 31, 2022. The board agreed to revisit the policies at the January 2023 Work Session. Revisions will be worked on during the interim and will include updated trend information for bear harvest, acknowledgement of customary and traditional uses for wolves and bear, substituting “harvestable opportunity” for “trophy”, and acknowledgement for the uniqueness of certain species found only in Alaska.
2. The board agreed to send a letter to the ADF&G Commissioner Vincent-Lang to request an informative sheep work session be scheduled for the summer of 2022 at which ADF&G can present recent survey data and management recommendations to the board.
3. The board confirmed the location for the 2023 Southcentral Region meeting originally requested to be held in Kenai, can be expanded to include Soldotna.
4. The board agreed to send a letter to the Big Game Commercial Services Board (BGCSB) expressing concerns for sheep populations around the state to the BGCSB and guides, and the importance of practicing discretion.
5. The board agreed to open future meetings with stating the pledge of allegiance.

The board adjourned the meeting at approximately 12:15 p.m.

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Oral Reports

Friday, March 4, 2022 starting at 09:07:03 AM.

1. State & Federal Agency Updates/Reports
 - ADF&G Division of Wildlife Conservation - Eddie Grasser & Ryan Scott
 - ADF&G Subsistence Section – Caroline Brown
 - US Fish & Wildlife Service – Ryan Mollnow
2. Intensive Management, Tom Paragi, ADF&G
3. ADF&G Education Program Report, Mike Taras, ADF&G
4. Wood Bison Restoration Update, Tom Seaton, ADF&G

Wednesday, March 9, 2022 at 1:31:35 PM

Regional Director Sarah Creachbaum, National Park Service