

~~For Nicholas Alsea~~

Martin Nicolai
Kwethluk, AK

RC92

Comments for the Alaska Board of Game for the March, 2016 meeting in Fairbanks from Kwethluk, Incorporated and shareholders

Proposal 5 92.990 (a)(26)– support

Passing this proposal will be a little bit more aligned with Alaskan traditions of using all duck parts (minus the feathers and bones) for consumption.

Kwethluk, Incorporated and its shareholders supports this proposal.

Proposal 56 – support

See the above. Choosing antlers and horns over meat to transport first must never be the case when hunting in Alaska.

Kwethluk, Incorporated and its shareholders supports this proposal.

Proposal 65 - against

Brown/Grizzly Bear meat are most edible in the Spring and early Summer, and late Fall when they have stopped eating fish.

Kwethluk, Incorporated and its shareholders are against this proposal.

Proposals 69 – against

We are concerned about those who live in rural areas and practice having their dogs to accompany them while hunting or traveling. They hear and sense things before the hunter does. Most of these dogs are locally raised and have not been taken out of the State. This proposal would be more relevant to those who use the road systems for hunting. One thing we must remember is that we've had non-local dogs transported into the State for the Iditarod for over 40 years and so far, we have not heard reports of any negative outcome affecting the environment on the 1,000 mile trail from Anchorage to Nome.

Kwethluk, Incorporated and its shareholders are against this proposal.

Proposals 70 & 71 – support

Kwethluk, Incorporated and its shareholders supports these proposals.

Proposal 72, 73 & 74 - against

In most rural villages in Alaska, subsistence gathering and hunting is taught to young men and women to enable them to gain the experience and knowledge of becoming successful in providing for themselves and their families. When hunting large game, the younger members of a family is usually given a smaller caliber rifle than what the adults have and it could be a 222, 22-250 or a 223. After they learn to handle a rifle safely and responsibly and have learned to shoot effectively and have grown a little more, then they are allowed a larger caliber rifle to hunt with. This has been our practice ever since we started using guns to hunt. If this proposal passes, it will put a strain and hardship to those living in the villages in passing on hunting knowledge to the younger generation.

Kwethluk, Incorporated and its shareholders are against these proposals.

Proposal 79 – against

This proposal might be good for certain parts of the State that are in the road system but it will not work well in rural areas. For example, in units 18 & 19 in the Kuskokwim areas, there are some trappers who set their traps far away from their villages and are not able to check on them every day. But they get to check on their traps two or three times a week and all of what they catch, they eat or give away.

Kwethluk, Incorporated and its shareholders are against this proposal.

Proposals 103 & 104 – against

Not fair to single out subsistence hunters in requiring them to report detailed hunting.

Kwethluk, Incorporated and its shareholders are against this proposal.