

*Note: The Board of Game deferred this proposal from the November 2017 Statewide Regulations Meeting to the February 2018 Central/Southwest Region Meeting.*

**PROPOSAL 57 – 5 AAC 85.072(i)(2). Community subsistence harvest hunt area and permit conditions.** Change the definition of “community” or “group” for community subsistence harvest hunts as follows:

**5 AAC 92.072(i)(2) is entirely repealed and readopted to read:**

**(2) a “community” or “group” is a mutual support network of people who routinely (at least several times each year) provide each other with physical, emotional, and nutritional assistance in a multi-generational and inter/intra familial manner to assure the long-term welfare of individuals, the group, and natural resources they depend on.**

Existing 5 AAC 92.072(i)(2)

(2) a “community” or “group” is a group of people linked by a common interest in, and participation in uses of, an area and the wildlife populations in that area, that is consistent with the customarily and traditional use pattern of that wildlife population and area as defined by the board.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** The Board of Game requested this proposal during the March, 2017 board meeting concerning caribou and moose hunting in Units 11, 12 and 13. During that meeting, the board received several public comments from community subsistence harvest hunt participants about the effectiveness of the program. Testimony also emphasized the importance for natural resource conservation to ensure long term sustenance and customary and traditional uses. The board agreed a modification to the definition of community/group is necessary to more accurately reflect the intent of the community subsistence harvest hunt regulations and further clarify how the community hunt is distinguished from the individual Tier I hunt. The customary and traditional use pattern described in regulation (92.072 subsection c), and the Board of Game findings #2006-170-BOG and #211-184-BOG, remain in effect and are an important element of the Copper Basin Community Subsistence Harvest hunt.

The board encourages input from the public on the current and proposed definitions to be considered at the November 2017 Statewide Regulations meeting.

**PROPOSED BY:** Board of Game (HQ-F17-056)

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