

RC 030

Robert Cassell Testimony March 7, 2020 in Support of Proposal #62

I read in the February 2020 Alaska Fish & Wildlife News about how fish and wildlife is supposed to be managed in a Public Trust Doctrine. Public Trust Doctrine states that all fish and wildlife and their habitat are held in trust for the residents. In Alaska, the legislature has delegated the role of trustee to the Board of Fish and the Board of Game, occasionally passing laws to guide these boards.

Some of you may recall I was in this exact position 3 years ago, testifying on this same issue of allocating 50% of the trophy moose permits to non-residents, making 7 of the 10 non-resident permits "must be guided," to benefit one commercial hunter (who at that time sat on the Board of Game).

This form of "management" ...

- does not pass the smell test
- is a clear example of cronyism
- is a form of corruption
- and is a clear violation of the Public Trust Doctrine

RHAK has proposed a 90% allocation of the trophy moose permits for the residents of the state to correct this abuse of the Public Trust Doctrine.