Note: This proposal is also scheduled for the Western Arctic/Western Region meeting as Proposal 28.

PROPOSAL 78

5 AAC 85.025. Hunting seasons and bag limits for caribou.

Eliminate the registration caribou permit RC907 and general season caribou harvest ticket requirement for North Slope residents as follows:

We would like the Board of Game to rescind RC907 and harvest ticket requirements for North Slope resident hunters because residents of Unit 23 (Point Hope), Unit 24B (Anaktuvuk Pass), and Unit 26A, B, and C currently already report their caribou harvest to the North Slope Borough Department of Wildlife Management. Most people on the North Slope are very hesitant to report their harvest to agencies that are outside of their region. Because of this, the data that the department receives is poor and of little use for management purposes.

Possible language could include a sentence similar to one in the 2016-2017 Hunting Regulations on page 14. This language would read something like: "If you reside in the North Slope Borough and hunt caribou in Unit 23 north of including Singoalik River drainage or in Unit 24B including Contact Creek south to the confluence of the Ekokpuk drainage with the John River, or in Unit 26 A, B, or C neither a harvest ticket nor registration permit is required."

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? RC907 and harvest ticket requirements for residents of portions of Unit 23 (Point Hope) and Unit 24B (Anaktuvuk Pass) and Unit 26 A, B, and C are not resulting in the collection of good caribou harvest data. The North Slope Borough Department of Wildlife Management (DWM) already successfully collects that information. The DWM traveled to all of the communities on the North Slope and held public meetings during which the residents overwhelmingly supported the DWM to continue to collect harvest data rather than using state harvest tickets or registration permits.