

Thursday, January 12, 2023 9:26 AM

The proposals will be presented in numerical order

PG 5 Proposal 1 Hunter Education

Support-0 Oppose-7 Abstain-2

Discussion: Believe the BOG should address. Should be state wide if adopted.

PG 5 Proposal 2 Hunter Orientation for goats in SE units

Support-2 Oppose-7

Discussion: An hour online? Maybe not an issue, no current problem. Ross ADF&G hunters have been doing well in harvest.

PG 6 Proposal 3 Remove requirement to seal black bear skulls in units 1-4

Support-0 Oppose-9

Discussion: Skulls are key component of management, tooth for aging.

PG 6 Proposal 4 Change brown bear bag limit in unit 1 to one bear every two years

Reviewed and supported

PG 7 Proposal 5 Change water fowl season unit 1-4 by creating a split season

Support-4 Oppose-4 Abstain-1

Discussion: Can be just as complex or more with what we have now. Many wolf trappers wait a month or two to make sets for water fowl season to be over on December 15 every other year. This is something that trappers and water fowl hunters currently share their ethics together on.

PG 8 Proposal 6 Lengthen river otter season in units 1-4 to align with unit 5

Support-1 Oppose-8 Abstain-1

Discussion: November 10 is too early for otter primness. Later but not earlier.

PG 8 Proposal 7 Extend martin trapping to align with wolverine in units 1-5

Support-0 Oppose-9

Discussion: ADF&G says there is no biological concern. Martin will not be totally prime that early (November 10) in Southern Southeast.

PG 9 Proposal 8 Extend martin trap season 1&2

Support-9 Oppose-0

PG 9 Proposal 9 Extend wolverine season to March 15 in units 1-5

Support-8 Oppose-1

Discussion: In the spring of 2009 the trapper lost 74 days of the wolverine season because ADF&G thought (with no proof) we were taking denning females. Like wolves, wolverine den in higher areas and in Southeast primarily trapped the beaches and I've never got one showing it had pups or sign of milk. Two years prior the hunters were given 71 days in the fall from November 10 back to September 1st. I believed this was proposed by guides. Wolverine never fell into the same season of mink, martin or otter but did fall in with wolves to the end of April. All I ask is to give back 15 days of March to the trappers.

There is a typo in the proposal book where it says 41 days in print. This is not a biological problem. If the proposal is adopted the trapper will still have lost 45-46 days of what he had.

PG 16 Proposal 18 Establish a fall drawing permit hunt for elk on Zarembo, Bushy, Shrubby and Kashevarof Island in unit 3

Support-9 Oppose-0

Discussion: Do elk affect deer population on the islands? Amend season from September 15 - October 15 to October 1 - October 15. Be conservative on number of permits.

PG 17 Proposal 19 Seasons and bag limits for elk

Support-9 Oppose-0

Discussion: Change hunt structures for elk on Etolin Island.

PG 17 Proposal 20 Split Etolin Island into two hunt areas for elk.

Support-8 Oppose-0 Abstain-1

Discussion: By splitting the island may provide better elk data.

PG 25 Proposal 27 Areas closed to trapping, 100 yards along hiking trails and drivable surfaces on Wrangell Island.

Support-0 Oppose-8 Abstain-1

Discussion: We had Senator Sullivan's help when we stopped existing trail buffers here in Ketchikan Borough and found no true issues with traps. Most trails were trapline trails created years back.

PG 28 Proposal 32 Restrict a goat hunter that shoots a nanny to not hunt the next year in unit 1D

Support-0 Oppose-9

Discussion: Impact other units in Southeast Alaska?

PG 36 Proposal 42 Hunting season for deer, bucks only, in Unit 1A, extend from November 30 to December 31

Support-1 Oppose-7 Abstain-1

Discussion: Why does ADF&G support this? Proposed by a guide. ADF&G supported us in the past when we proposed ending the season at the end of November because it's bucks only and the rut is about over, meat value is very low and trophy value starts to go away due to shedding of the antlers. If a four month season isn't long enough, people have a problem within themselves.

Most units with a December season don't have the wolf predation problem we have in 1A.

If the harvest data increased lately in unit 1A it's because hunters in 1A lost opportunity in unit 2 and are hunting more in 1A.

PG 36 Proposal 43 Season's and bag limit for goats, increase resident bag limit to two goats in unit 1A

Support-9 Oppose-0

Discussion: To take two goats by a resident, two flights will be a very high cost, only 30% taken now are taking off of Revillagigedo Island where the goats were transplanted. This gave more opportunity to residents.

PG 38 Proposal 44 Extend goat season 1A to include January

Support-6 Oppose-3

Discussion: ADF&G don't think harvest would be very high but maybe stressful on the ones hunted. Some are against beach hunting but would be easier to recover the harvested goat.

PG 39 Proposal 45 Raise population objective on wolves in unit 2

Support-0 Oppose-9

Discussion: efforts like these aren't going to go away. We see this in other areas and for other species. We've been hunting and trapping wolves for many years and there are still good numbers. We aren't ever going to eliminate them.

PG 41 Proposal 46 Lengthen hunting season for wolves in unit 2 to open September 1st

Support-9 Oppose-0

Discussion: Looks to align state with federal season in unit 2. Will provide more opportunity and more data.

PG 41 Proposal 47 Wolf harvest in unit 2 to be reported in 48 hours

Support-0 Oppose-9

Discussion: Much of unit 2 is not on the road system and out of cell range. This is

a major safety issue for trappers and hunters. We witness many storms here and I'm sure many trappers ect would risk the weather to make the report in time. If a trapper was way layed or even killed because of weather in unit 2 or even unit 1A it wouldn't be the first time.

PG 42 Proposal 48 Change population objectives for unit 2 on wolves
Support-0 Oppose-9 Department opposes

PG 43 Proposal 49 Change estimate on wolf population in unit 2
Support-0 Oppose-9 Department opposes

PG 46 Proposal 50 Change population estimate by excluding outer islands of unit 2
Support-0 Oppose-9 Department opposes
Discussion: Wolves swim

PG 47 Proposal 51 Harvest quota for wolves in unit 2 based on percentage of wolf population
Support-0 Oppose-9
Discussion: Used the 31 days of March for trapping wolves to gather better data.

PG 49 Proposal 52 Make harvest quota 20% to 35% of estimated wolf population in unit 2
Support-0 Oppose-9 Department opposes
Discussion: Department already has the management strategy with public input.

PG 50 Proposal 53 Establish an estimated unreported mortality rate for unit 2 wolves to establish the harvest quota.
Support-0 Oppose-9
Discussion: This just goes to show how many avenues they are pursuing to accomplish their goals. (Alaska Wildlife Alliance)

PG 52 Proposal 54 Create a wolf sanctuary in 2/3 of unit 2
Support-0 Oppose-9
Discussion: We feel this shows the true colors of the Alaska Wildlife Alliance's nine proposals on wolves in unit 2. For one, they are against trapping and hunting of wolves in Southeast and number 2 they have no knowledge of history or what or where wolves come from here and how durable they are. The depart opposes as well.