

Department of Fish and Game

Boards Support Section Headquarters Office

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Alaska Board of Game DATE: January 13, 2023

PHONE NO: (907) 465-6098

FROM: Kristy Tibbles, Executive Director SUBJECT: Meeting dates for the 2023/2024 Board of

Game Meeting Cycle

The 2023/2024 Alaska Board of Game (board) meeting dates and locations are expected to be set by the board during the January 19, 2023, Work Session. The topics on the board's schedule for this meeting cycle are the Western Arctic / Western Region (Units 18, 22, 23 and 26A), and the Interior and Eastern Arctic Region (Units 12, 19, 20, 21, 24, 25, 26B & 26C.)

The following considerations have been used by the board in past years when setting meeting dates and locations.

- The meeting dates are based on the duration of past meetings, needed to address that region's issues.
- The meetings begin on a Friday to accommodate the public for providing testimony over the weekend which is traditional practice by the board.
- The schedule takes into consideration the timing for the needs of the Department of Fish and Game such as surveying/data collecting, conflicts with hunting seasons, the legal review process for new regulations, and publishing the hunting regulations handbook.
- Duration between meetings need to be at least four weeks apart.
- The board's ACR deadline is November 1, and at least 30 days public notice is required for any that are accepted by the board.
- The options take into consideration the meeting dates for the Board of Fisheries to minimize overlap for agencies, advisory committees, and public participants. The Board of Fisheries tentative meeting dates in 2024 are:

January 9-12, 2024: Kodiak Finfish

February 23 – March 7, 2024: Upper Cook Inlet Finfish]

Another factor for the board to consider is the need to schedule a Joint Board meeting. The Joint Board Committee met December 20, 2022 and is recommending a Joint Board regulatory

meeting occur late March 2024. The committee recommendation is provided in the meeting workbook.

Options for the 2023/2024 Board of Game Meeting Cycle

The dates provided below are options for the 2023/2024 meeting schedule that reflect the above-mentioned considerations. In addition to the regulatory meetings, the board's schedule includes a one-day work session prior to the first regulatory meeting, and a web-conference to consider agenda change requests (ACRs) following the November 1st annual deadline. The meeting date for considering ACRs is usually determined later as the deadline approaches.

The Western Arctic / Western Region meeting is expected to be four days based meetings, and the Interior and Eastern Arctic Region meeting has ranged from eight to nine days. The following page provides past information for each of these meetings including the numbers of proposals and testifiers, that may be helpful for setting this schedule.

Western Arctic / Western Region Meeting (4 days)

January 19 – 22, 2024 January 26 – 29, 2024

Interior & Eastern Arctic Region Meeting (8 days)

March 8 - 15, 2024 March 15 - 22, 2024

State & Federal Holidays: 1/15/24 0 Martin Luther King, Jr Day; 2/19/24 – Presidents' Day; 3/25/24 – Seward's Day. Also, 1/7/24 - Russian Orthodox Christmas and 1/14/24 – Russian Orthodox New Year.

The deadline for the 2023/2024 meeting cycle will be Monday May 1, 2023.

With regard to the annual deadline, the board's long-term schedule states: *if May 1, every preceding year. If May 1 falls on a weekend, the deadline is the Friday before.* The board may choose to consider revising this provision for the long-term schedule, given recent confusion with the 4/29/22 proposal the current meeting cycle.

<u>Historical Information for the Western Arctic / Western and Interior & Eastern Arctic Meetings.</u>

| Western Arctic / Western Region In | nformation | | |
|------------------------------------|------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| Past Meeting Dates | Locations | No. of Proposals | No. of Testifiers |
| January 17 – 20, 2020 (4 days) | Nome | 44 | 33 |
| January 6-9, 2017 (4 days) | Bethel | 50 | 33 |
| January 10-13, 2014 (4 days) | Kotzebue | 38 | 25 |
| November 11-14, 2011 (4 days) | Barrow | 41 | 15 |
| November 13-16, 2009 (4 days) | Nome | 29 | 23 |

| Interior & Eastern Arctic Region Meet | ing Information | I | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| Past Meeting Dates | Locations | No. of Proposals | No. of Testifiers |
| March 6 – 14, 2020 (9 days) | Fairbanks | 124 | 94 |
| February 17-25, 2017 (9 days) | Fairbanks | 119 | 67 |
| February 14 – 21, 2014 (8 days*) | Fairbanks | 94 | 52 |
| March 2-11, 2012 (9 days*) | Fairbanks | 143 | 85 |
| February 26 – March 7, 2020 (10 days) | Fairbanks | 145 | 82 |

^{*}Mtgs were scheduled for ten days but finished in early)

State of Alaska 2023 STATE CALENDAR

State Holidays

| State Hon | uayo |
|------------|--------------------------------------|
| Date | Holiday |
| 01/01/2023 | New Year's Day (observed 01/02/2023) |
| 01/16/2023 | MLK Jr.'s Birthday |
| 02/20/2023 | Presidents' Day |
| 03/27/2023 | Seward's Day |
| 05/29/2023 | Memorial Day |
| 07/04/2023 | Independence Day |
| 09/04/2023 | Labor Day |
| 10/18/2023 | Alaska Day |
| 11/11/2023 | Veterans' Day (observed 11/10/2023) |
| 11/23/2023 | Thanksgiving Day |
| 12/25/2023 | Christmas Day |

Please refer to appropriate collective bargaining unit agreement for more information regarding holidays.





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State of Alaska 2024 STATE CALENDAR

State Holidays

| Date | Holiday | | | | |
|------------|--------------------|--|--|--|--|
| 01/01/2024 | New Year's Day | | | | |
| 01/15/2024 | MLK Jr.'s Birthday | | | | |
| 02/19/2024 | Presidents' Day | | | | |
| 03/25/2024 | Seward's Day | | | | |
| 05/27/2024 | Memorial Day | | | | |
| 07/04/2024 | Independence Day | | | | |
| 09/02/2024 | Labor Day | | | | |
| 10/18/2024 | Alaska Day | | | | |
| 11/11/2024 | Veterans' Day | | | | |
| 11/28/2024 | Thanksgiving Day | | | | |
| 12/25/2024 | Christmas Day | | | | |

Please refer to appropriate collective bargaining unit agreement for more information regarding holidays.





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